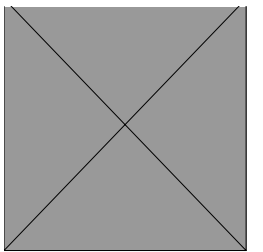


The Informer

Cistercian Preparatory School



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OUT OF THIS WORLD: HOMECOMING 2014 RECAP

This year's ~~Under the Sea~~ Space themed Homecoming was a spectacular success! I must congratulate everyone for their hard work—whether you planned, set-up, or simply attended the dance—in making this year's event more exciting and stupor-inducing-ly awesome than ones in years past. The effort, creativity, and muscles of the students, faculty, monks, and parents made Homecoming THE sure highlight of this year. Since there was too much fun for any one person to handle, here's a simple recap of the weekend.

The Set-Up

Although we couldn't fill the gym with plastic balls and turn it into a ball-pit or scatter Legos all over the floor for an Inferno-themed dance, our Space theme worked like the US Constitution—its strength lay in its incredibly ambiguous, vague, and confusing nature. The three weeks during which the bulk of the set-up happened passed by quickly but eventfully. Sure, we spent most of our time trying to staple black construction paper on top of walls with a deceptively complicated technique of using wood planks, along with indecisively moving walls back and forth, but the work paid off. We managed to create a fantastic movie room with a cool command console and comfy furniture, a spectacular Mos Eisley Cantina with everybody's favorite Star Wars hero (Jar Jar Binks) and an incredible U-shaped bar, a beautifully serene moon room sporting an awesome lander and rover, a clever bag-check room with great quotes and drawings, a rainbow road from Mario, and an eerie city of black and red destruction. Amazingly, only 8 Seniors got lung infections while spray-painting the skyline in the Earth Invasion room! Let's not forget the colorful lights (brought to you by Mr. President's uncle) that illuminated the paint-splattered walls and glow-stick-chandelier. Finally, the senior lounge—called Area 51 but composed of literally anything that didn't fit in the other rooms—provided a candy-filled haven protected by the Space Laser Goat. (Unfortunately, we could not fit in the inflatable pool-bed.)

The Weekend

The Cistercian Hawks won a spectacular victory over Kinkaid, beating the Falcons by over 150 points on the SAT and having more National Merit Semifinalists despite being a smaller school. Kudos to the Black Hand for leading the school with amazing pep rallies, featuring flamethrowers and unfortunately shaped wooden structures, and chants during the game. Thanks also to the cheerleaders for their amazing support. And congratulations to Emily Stone! Not everyone gets to hold the arm of the one and only Daré Odeyingbo (and being Homecoming Queen is cool too, I guess). We left the game victorious and covered in flour and baby powder, and we partied at the Clays' residence, enjoying scrumptious s'mores and chicken.

The costumes we witnessed on Saturday deserve their own paragraph. A posse of Power Rangers led by President Flaherty; the Teletubbies led by Jameson the Sun Baby; superheroes; aliens; Disney characters; Minions from Despicable Me (What? The Minions have nothing to do with Space!); heavenly bodies; Schommer's amazing Rocketeer suit; awkward people in suits; Star Wars; Pokémon; Oh my! Everyone received magical fairy dust from the Italian/French/Spanish Buzz Lightyear (whose alter ego is Father Greg).

Who can complain? We had a competent DJ, a cozy photo booth, space food for days, and apparently not enough casino tables for people who wanted to fake-gamble all night. One of my favorite moments was the Senior Photo and everything preceding and following it. #SKA

The End?

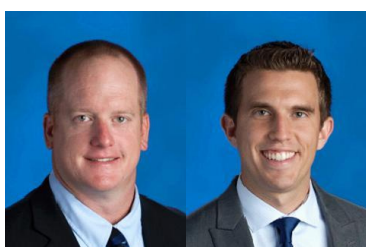
The venue which we worked so hard to set up inevitably had to be taken down. But worry not! I invite the Juniors to try to make next year's Homecoming even more awesome (which won't be possible, by the way). Thanks again for everybody's hard work! It looks like this year's glorious success will put the Impeach James 2014 campaign on hold for the time being. (Sorry, Stewart, the Fourth will come soon). Stay positive, Cistercian—Halloween is on a Friday this year.



-William Song '15
ain't 'bout dis lyfe



INSIDE



Emmanuel Adesanya '17 and Joshua Maymir '15 interview our two new coaches on page 5



Jack Rau '16 discusses the significance of our new 3D Printers on page 6



Alonso Medina '18 talks Synod with Fr. Joseph on the back

THE MUCKRACKER

“*“Fatigue is the best pillow.”*
- Ben Franklin

It’s that time of year again, after homecoming and before any substantial break period, as the first quarter wraps up and the second quarter starts anew (which of course means your teachers cram as many tests as possible in that one sweet week before quarter grades are due). Have a relaxing read about this year’s homecoming dance (I wonder who wrote that one?), our new 3D printers, or the Middle School’s wardrobe crisis. Maybe you want to know about sports, or our new teachers, or that mysterious holiday we call Halloween, too. Then, having enjoyed these fantastic articles, roll up your copy of The Informer and use it as a pillow. You have my permission to sleep on it in any class you wish. Until then, look forward to a juicy November issue, where we will discuss the elections, Thanksgiving, and the meaning of life.

William Song

We’ve been in school for quite a while by now. And you’ve probably noticed there have been a few changes since last year. There are new faces on the coaching staff, new teachers in the math and english departments, and a new window in the chapel. So this issue contains several interviews to acquaint you even better with your new best friends on the faculty and those who you have known for a bit longer. We have also provided a fantastic array of our usual informative recaps of momentous events (HOMECOMING!), advice, reviews, and ratings. Have a great week and enjoy reading the remainder of this fantastic paper.

Joshua Maymir

Halloween

Halloween is just around the corner, and for horror addicts like me it’s the best part of the year. But if you’re of the easily scared type (or your annoying friend surprised you with a picture of Jeff the killer in your desk), you might prefer to keep all the lights on at home. So to offer my help, I’m giving my advice on how not to be scared.

First step is to understand why you’re scared. Every fear has a reason, ranging from a survival instinct to scarring childhood memories. But if you can understand why you’re afraid, that knowledge can act as a security blanket. Take darkness for example. You are afraid because you are at a disadvantage since you can only see in the light. If we were nocturnal, we would be terrified of light instead of darkness. This in turn would result in a shiny slender man, which I now need to look up to see if it exists .

Second step is to look for fakeness in horror. This works especially well with horror movies or myths that you think might just come for you. If you find a flaw in the scare, such as a clearly made up place like Shang Hai, Idaho, or a plot hole in a movie (Just punt the doll for cryin’ out loud!) it becomes as scary as a bed sheet ghost.

Next, become more powerful than that which scares you. This is a personal favorite of mine. Instead of jumping away when your friend startles you, jump back at them with a roar. Beat up a punching bag. Shoot a few rounds with a shotgun (Honestly, call me back when you get a homicidal maniac that uses something besides a machete). Prove to yourself that you can beat up that guy with a chainsaw when he comes to get you.

Lastly, distract yourself. There are several ways of doing this, such as watching videos of a guy failing at life, feeling your epicness as you watch a cement truck get blown to smithereens (thanks Myth busters), or even daydream about your amazing dance moves at homecoming. Do something that will make you feel something besides scared. This will help a lot.

If all this doesn’t help, then you have my permission to go to sleep with the lights on. Sometimes distancing yourself from the darkness is the best solution. But right now, I have a picture of Jeff the killer I need to put in a classmate’s desk.



-Will Novinski ‘18
Novooooo!!!!!!

(End of) October Calendar

Monday 13th Columbus Day-no classes	Friday 17th End of Quarter-noon dismissal Varsity Football @ Houston Episcopal	Tuesday 28th Forms III-IV Parents Meeting
Wednesday 15th Standardized Testing (Forms I-VII) Outing Day (Form VIII)	Saturday 18th MS XC @ Dallas Christian College	Wednesday 29th Forms I-II Parents Meeting
Thursday 16th 7th/8th Football @ All Saints JV Football vs All Saints	Thursday 23rd 7th/8th Football @ ESD JV Football vs ESD	Wednesday 30th 7th/8th Football vs Oakridge JV Football @ Oakridge
	Friday 24th Varsity Football @ ESD	Friday 31st Halloween Varsity Football @ 1st round playoffs OR vs Oakridge
	Saturday 25th SAT Testing Date	

Write for the Infomer!

Email Cistercian.informer@gmail.com with any article submissions. Chances are you’ll see them in the next issue. That includes you, Middle Schoolers!

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By The Numbers

41

Average number of IQ points we have higher than Kinkaid students

15,000

Total profit (in dollars) of Homecoming this year

8

Number of Teletubbies at Homecoming

20

Minutes into the dance until Sandstorm was played

33

Average on the first Audio Exercises in Español IV



Win it with
Nguyen

It’s been a while since I last imparted my wisdom to you, my compatriots. The season of Homecoming has once again come and gone. The decorations have come down and we no longer have an excuse to skip PE “to help set up.” Hal-loween is also fast approaching. I know that you all have missed me as much as I have missed you, so let’s get back to business.

All of the priests saw me dancing at Homecoming and now they keep laughing whenever they see me. What do I do?

You remind me of a younger me, anonymous student whom I’ve never met. To begin, I must comment on the amazing playlist. Nothing beats seeing the teachers’ faces when the music begins. Whenever the monks snicker as you walk down the hall, just SHAKE IT OFF. You owned that dancefloor, so accept your new-found popularity. They may mock you, but that’s just what people say. Keep cruising, my friend. Don’t stop moving. It’s gonna be alright!

I really like my Homecoming date. How do I show her my deep-seated infatuation without, you know, being creepy?

Ah, young love, the bane of all academic endeavors. No need to worry, they don’t call me Phong “The Love Guru who kinda knows what he’s doing sometimes but not really” Nguyen for nothing. The art of romance revolves around the three C’s: Communication, Charm, and Cacodemomania. You already have an intrinsic amount of Charm because you go to Cistercian, and neither you (nor I) know what Cacodemasdfk is, so I’ll just explain Communication. You must learn how to interact with her. Girls don’t like it when guys are overly clingy, but you also don’t want to stray too far. So compromise and meet in the middle. A good way to do this is through text. That way, you can communicate with her without ever actually communicating with her! But be careful, texting is an art that you must learn well if you wish to woo your Thisbe. Always text first. You’ve seen those countless tweets girls

post: “wen bae txts 1st <3”. You need to be that bae. When (or if) she responds, you’re on the right track! But don’t forget the calculating theorem of conversation. If bae texts, then you respond if and only if the time elapsed is greater than or equal to the time it took bae to respond. Basically, if it takes her ten minutes to respond, you wait at least ten minutes. Preferably, you’d wait longer just so she knows that she’s not the only fish you’ve got your eye on.

What are some ways to maximize the yield of sugary sweets this Hallows’ Eve?

This is the one time of year that little siblings are more useful than they are annoying. No one can resist those cute little chubby cheeks. Just walk around with him or her and pretend that basket you’re holding is your sibling’s basket! You’ll look like a charismatic older brother who would much rather go trick-or-treating with your sibling than go study for the English test you have the next day*. You’ll be covered in pity candy before the nights through! And you can stuff that candy in your tear-filled face as you confront the inevitability of your English grade’s destruction. *I was just informed that Halloween is on a Friday this year, so you don’t have to worry about studying for any tests. But save that candy anyway. We all know you’re still going to procrastinate for the next test.

What are you going as for Halloween?

Most of you probably know that I take my inspiration from the great Calvin and Hobbes. This year I’m taking Calvin’s costume and going as “yet another resource consuming kid in an overpopulated planet, raised to an alarming extent by Madison Avenue and Hollywood, poised with my cynical and alienated peers to take over the world when the adults are old and weak!” It saves money and it’s terrifying. But if that doesn’t work out I’ll probably go as a banana.

We asked you, the readers, how you asked your dates to homecoming last month.
Here are our favorite methods:

- Give your date a teddy bear holding a sign that reads, “If you can Bear it, will you go to hoco with me?” (Le Noir Est Monte ’15)
- Ask her face-to-face, then ask your classmate to give her your phone number (because you’ve forgotten it), and then realize that you asked the girl whom that classmate was planning on asking, and then laugh maniacally. (Maximilian Pegasus ’15)
- Paint a painting of her grandparents’ house’s courtyard in Lebanon. (Stew-Bear ’15)
- Go to a Mexican restaurant and, in Spanish, ask the waiter to bring out the previously-prepared cake reading, “Will you go to homecoming with me?” (Guess Who? ’15)
- With your date’s best friend and your fellow red-head, decorate a poster and fill some balloons with helium. Then, tape and tie the poster and balloons to your date’s car. (Dom ’15)
- Infect your date’s computer with a (legal) computer virus, causing a pop-up reading “Will you go to homecoming with me?” to pop up. (Aedipus ’15)
- Decorate her parking lot with chalk and balloons. (The One Who Rows ’15, The One With A Job ’15)
- Serenade her with a few friends to provide sick harmonies. (Nguyening ’15)

- Text her “Hoco?” without any follow-up. (Billy the Sophomore ’17)
- Ask her by pulling a blood-red rose out of thin air, and then discover that during homecoming weekend she has to go to Boston for a math competition. (Yours Truly ’15)
- Give her a box of donuts that reads, “Donut leave me without a homecoming date.” (Bain ’15)
- Get her a mini baseball bat with your names and the words “Homecoming 2014” engraved on one end. (JMK ’17)
- Write “Do you want to blast off to Homecoming” and draw a big smiley face on a coffee cup. (The Other Editor ’15)
- Give her a poster with chemistry puns that reads “Hey [Er]in, what happens when [Ho] and [Co] react? HoCo!” and then get a mole day party. (XRay ’17)
- Give her a cup of Starbucks coffee and a sign reading, “Every girl wants starbucks and a homecoming date. Will you be mine?” (James “All About That Bass” Flegle ’17)
- Ask your date, whose nickname is Charmander, with a poster that says, “Charmander, I choose you!” (William Brown ’17)

Morality Issues in the NFL

Most people would consider the past month to be one of the darkest in NFL history. The widespread reports of domestic violence all over the league left many people wondering if the league office and the organizations themselves have any control over their players.

From the video evidence of Ray Rice assaulting his fiancé to Adrian Peterson whipping his four year old son, domestic violence by NFL players is becoming a routine thing to see in the papers or on television. It made me sick to watch the video of the incident in the elevator between Rice and his new wife. How does a man who many throughout the Baltimore area believed to be an upstanding citizen ever lay a hand on a woman, especially one that he loves? The bigger question is how did the NFL not know about it? They claimed not to have any evidence that would suggest giving Rice a suspension longer than two games... TWO GAMES! Commissioner Roger Goodell's punishment would let him continue to make millions of dollars. The league finally suspended Rice indefinitely after the public outcry for a harsher punishment, but by then the damage was already done.

People, including myself, are calling for the Commissioner to be fired. A man who allowed the situation to tarnish the reputation of the league should be thrown out, adios, bye-bye. Deep down the people know the man is lying when he said he believed the two game punishments was a harsh enough response. Many will question why it was only two games, but we will most likely never know the true reason. Roger Goodell needs to take responsibility for his mistakes, and show the fans that justice can still be seen in the league today.

Since the start of this year there have already been thirteen domestic violence cases brought to public eye, and that is not in-

cluding all the cases for possession of drugs or DWIs. Many fans are wondering why the league cannot prevent these events ahead of time? Why are the punishments so minuscule that it doesn't strike fear into the players? I believe there needs to be a dramatic change in the NFL over its stance on domestic violence. Changing a couple of laws and adding more punishments isn't going to do much. We as a football loving nation need to gather around and put a stop to the situation once and for all. Players, no matter how rich and famous, do not have the right to bring harm to family members or citizens just because they play a sport that is violent by nature.

However there is hope that the league will be able to turn the page on this messy situation. The NFL is immediately implementing a sweeping domestic violence initiative under its personal conduct policy that calls for a six-game suspension for a first offense and a lifetime ban from the league for a second offense. A six-game suspension would be without pay and the length of the penalty could increase in these cases: an employee was involved in a prior incident before joining the NFL; violence involving a weapon; choking, repeated striking, or when the act is committed against a pregnant woman; or in the presence of a child. A second-time offender may petition for reinstatement after one year but there is no assurance the petition will be granted. With these measures, maybe these gladiators of the football field will be able to control the temptation to harm someone else.



-Scott Sklar '15
wouldn't beat
a fly

A Look Ahead to the 2014-15 NBA Season

The 2014 offseason was full of twists and turns, led by none other than LeBron's decision to return to his throne in Cleveland to join forces with All-Star point guard Kyrie Irving, later joined by Kevin Love in a blockbuster trade sending former Jayhawk Andrew Wiggins to Minnesota. And for you Dallas fans, the major event from this summer is that Tyson Chandler, heart and soul of the Mavericks championship team, returned from his sojourn in New York and is back with Dirk to make up one of the best frontcourts the NBA can offer.

The biggest question that could make or break one Chicago's quest for a championship still remains unanswered: Can Derrick Rose stay healthy? If the answer to that question is yes, then the Chicago Bulls will give the Cleveland Cavaliers, led by the new big three, a serious run for their money in the Eastern Conference. The East is an extremely top heavy conference, especially with one of those top teams, the Indiana Pacers, being virtually knocked out of contention with Paul George going down in the Team USA scrimmage. An upstart Wizards team, coming off of a successful playoff campaign just a year ago, led by John Wall and Bradley Beal, could possibly make some noise in the East, but other than that it is a two horse race between Chicago and Cleveland. Coming from someone who won his March Madness group, my predictions mean a lot and aren't meant to be taken lightly. My prediction for the Eastern conference is the Chicago Bulls defeat the Cleveland Cavaliers in one of the greatest series of all time, going seven games with multiple overtime thrillers. The Western conference is where things get interesting. The Spurs are still considered the favorites, and until they run out of whatever pill makes Tim Duncan play like he's 25 again, they should be considered the team to beat. A team with two superstars, Oklahoma City, failed to make many offseason moves to help them gain an edge on the Spurs, and once again it is looking like they are going to disappoint their fans. Golden State, Memphis, Houston, Dallas, The Los Angeles Clipper Ships, and Portland have all reached that point where they should be able to compete with anybody in the conference, but unfortunately most of them will be playing each other in

the first round. Led by Steph Curry and Klay Thompson, Golden State's offense is what will carry them through the playoffs if they are to advance past the first round, likely having to go through Los Angeles, with a dream duo for the pick and roll, Blake Griffin and Chris Paul. Although much improved, the strength of the West will probably force the Mavs to be either a 7 or 8 seed, which means an opening round series against the Spurs or Thunder. Dallas showed that they can hang with San Antonio when they forced the Spurs to 7 games, the only team able to do that in last year's playoffs. A matchup with the ultra athletic Thunder could cause trouble for the older Mavericks, but Oklahoma City is also not afraid to choke some key games away, making either matchup very winnable for the Mavs. Prediction for the West Finals: Spurs defeat Clippers in 6 games. Before we get into the Finals matchup, the Most Valuable Player award will be given to LeBron James, who won't actually deserve it. NBA Finals Prediction: Led by the knees of their superstar point guard, Derrick Rose, the Chicago Bulls will win the Larry O'Brien Trophy, defeating the San Antonio Spurs, as Super Bowl MVP Jay Cutler roots them on from the sidelines.



-William Henry '16
has piegeon-feet

Coach James Burk

Where did you come from?

My Mother’s womb. However if you are referring to a city, then Fort Worth.

What made you come to Cistercian?

God. I prayed for discernment and direction about where to go following JPII and I felt this is where I was lead. I also have known Coach McCarthy and Coach Bruce for a while and looked forward to the opportunity to work for them.

Go-to catchphrase?

Strength, there is no substitute for it and no excuse for lack of it.

Some Hawk football players would say your workouts tend to be on the strenuous side. How do you come up with them?

Some Hawk football players will learn that their bodies will respond to the demands placed upon it. I enjoy studying strength and conditioning and how to help young athletes maximize their genetic potential.

If you could change our mascot what would it be?

I wouldn’t dare think about changing it.

What sports will you be coaching this year?

Football, Strength and Conditioning and the Throws in track and field

Shoe size?

11.5

How do you like teaching Form III Health?

I love it! It is a subject which I feel is relevant and applicable in everyone’s day-to-day life.

What was your worst job ever?

There are no bad jobs, just lazy people that are afraid to work them. But if forced to choose one, it would be the graveyard shift at a tanning salon.

Lastly, are you and Coach Taylor related in anyway?

Although we are both strikingly handsome and very bright, there is no relation beyond our Hawk brotherhood.



-Emmanuel Adesanya ‘17
can’t touch his toes

Coach Adam Hauser

Where did you come from?

Originally- Kansas City; previous city- Houston

What made you come to Cistercian?

The Catholicity of the school. On a practical level, a best friend, who had another friend, was in the graduating class of 2007 from Cistercian—the Cistercian grad told my groomsman, “I loved Cistercian!”

Favorite Book and Quote

Book- The Great Gatsby

Quote- “So, you ask me the name I’m known by, Cyclops? / I will tell you.../ Nobody—that’s my name. Nobody--/ so my mother and father call me, all my friends/

... ‘Nobody? I’ll eat Nobody last of all his friends— I’ll eat the others first! That’s my gift to you!’” (Homer IX: 408-412).

What will you coach this year?

Cross Country, Middle School basketball, Distance Track

Longest distance you have ever run?

15 miles

Least favorite dangerous job?

Elephant pooper-scooper, “nuff” said.

Favorite Lord of the Rings Character?

Aragorn. However, my wife tells me I’m most like Pippin. I don’t know what that means.

Favorite Selfie?

This generation of students are all narcissists. We didn’t even have “selfies” when I was in school... We called them, “Oth-ies” when we took pictures with others...it’s a lost art form.

Most annoying English student?

Fr. Stephen

Snapchat Account Username?

...Is this where you snap your fingers and “chat” with someone at the same time? Fr. Greg hates it when I do that in his office...

And how closely related are you and Bob Haaser?

Ancestry.com was invented because of our close ties. I conjecture he’s just a “great-uncle” though.



-Joshua Maymir ‘15
still goes to camp

A Question of Comfort

As one walks down the Middle School hallway and looks in on each form, most things are the same as last year with a few exceptions such as a new classroom for each form, and a new student here and there. However, the keen eye would notice an extraordinary lack of sports hoodies being worn by the students. This is due to a new rule banning sports hoodies of all kinds for the Middle School students. At first most of the Middle School didn’t believe it, but after further examination of the school handbook, the death of the sports hoodie was set in stone. So, the sports hoodie, the epitome of comfort and style, has been erased from the dress code of the Middle School student. But hope is not lost, as there are other methods of surviving the arctic tundra that is the classroom.

The most obvious and acceptable form of warmth that can be used is the classic Cistercian hoodie. The Cistercian hoodie is a decent option given to us in order to stay warm; however, most students will say the lining is thin and it does not keep you warm during class. Also, the hood is not very useful, because most teachers will not let you wear it in class. So, basically the only things good about the average Cistercian hoodie are that they are in large supply in the lost and found (for all those students who prefer not to buy things) and they are quite effective at covering up missing belts.

The second most obvious option is the Cistercian fleece. Although rarely seen, the Cistercian fleece has a few pros on its side. The fleece is much warmer than the hoodie and you get to stand out from the crowd of hoodie wearers. The fleece is good for those who wish not to succumb to peer pressure and wear a hoodie.

Now that the handbook-approved options, the fleece and the hoodie, have been examined, more creative options must be explored. One very creative option is the black snuggie. The snuggie, a blanket you can wear, is the perfect source of warmth and a testament to one’s class. Although it is a very practical option, the snuggie is just too large to be kept a secret from the teacher. People in the back row may have a better shot of getting away with wearing the snuggie, but more than likely, your attempt at warmth will end with a reprimand from the teacher and laughs from the whole class. However, if you are truly desperate, the inevitable failure that is the snuggie may be worth a shot.

And lastly, the source of warmth that trumps all others both in comfort and style is the sports hoodie. The banned hoodie, the aforementioned epitome of comfort and style, remains the best source of warmth in the classroom. The sports hoodie is the true representation of school spirit by the support of any team, whether it be football, basketball, baseball, soccer, or track. If one chooses to wear the sports hoodie, he will be asked by his form master or teacher to take it off, because it is banned; thus, the sports hoodie will no longer ever be seen in the Middle School hallway while this ban is in place. But, by the grace of God, we might see a redaction of this rule, and the sports hoodie will once again be donned by all first through fourth formers for their own personal comfort and enjoyment.



-Matthew Sawtelle ‘19
sings in the shower

3D Printers Have Arrived

Overshadowed by the completed construction of Founder’s Hall, the science department has added a little upgrade of its own: the acquisition of two new three-dimensional printers. “I asked a year earlier to get the process going so we could get 3D printers,” explained Fr. Mark. “It seemed like this is the right time to get into the 3D printer activities to engage the students and teach them to be responsible for designing and implementing 3D models of things applicable to their classes.”

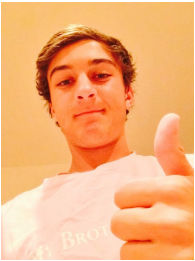
Now for those of you out there who don’t know how a 3D printer works or even what a 3D printer is, here’s a basic run down for something that, in reality, is much more complex. Following its name, a 3D printer is able to create any three dimensional object that you desire. You can do so by creating a design in a certain 3D imaging software on your computer and uploading it to the printer itself. Then, the printer takes your image and splits it into multiple layers, each measuring a few microns. After melting some small plastic threads fed in by an outside source, the printer then takes each small layer and begins to “print” them, adding each layer above the previously made ones. This is where 3D printing also gets the name of 3D layering or Additive Manufacturing.

The significance of the ability to 3D print now instead of other forms of manufacturing is two-fold. First, because we are able to create a design on a software program and because the printer generates layer by layer, we can produce much more complicated and intricate designs than we could before. For example, in the biomedical industry, scientists are able to use a patient’s cells to manufacture small body parts, such as ears and noses, and in some cases, even organs. The second significance of 3D printing is that it is cheaper than most forms of manufacturing. Most forms of manufacturing consists of breaking, melting, or carving away excess material, leaving you with a bunch of wasted substance. With the Additive Manufacturing, the printer only uses what it needs, allowing it to be much cheaper.

The science department at Cistercian hopes to implement the use of the 3D printers in almost every class. “The plan is to get other departments to be interested in what is possible with this technology,” explained Fr. Mark. He supplied me with many examples of what could be possible with the 3D printers. For Art, we can make replicas of any historical art piece. For History and Political Science, we will be able to make 3D relief maps of population, voting results, etc. For Chemistry, 3D mapping of the periodic table according to ANY property is a possibility along with 3D models of viruses, cells, and molecules (DNA, RNA) for Biology. Finally, we can’t leave out Latin, which will be able to make 3D buildings of Rome or other places of interest. The list goes on. “However,” he remarked, “I don’t want to spend hours each evening printing out ‘pet projects’ for a student simply to impress his girlfriend.” So for those of you thinking about doing so, beware Fr. Mark’s wrath. Lately, 3D printers are starting to use other material, not just plastic. Once

we begin to use all types of different material, imagine what this could mean for us. Picture yourself in a future world where you have a 3D printer in your home. You are now sitting in your newly printed couch, customized with any of your designs and preferences, watching TV, which has also been printed to your liking, in your in your warm cozy house, which, you guessed it, has also been 3D printed. Now get this: what if I told you this has already happened? Recently, a Chinese company called WinSun Decoration Design Engineering used a giant 3D printer to build ten one-story houses in only 24 hours! They used a cement mix to build each house, all of which were approximately 2,100 square feet and costing under \$5,000 to construct.

This future of 3D printing is not far away at all. Once everyone is able to have their own 3D printer, the world of consumer purchasing and manufacturing will completely change. And you may think that it will be a long time till a majority of people will be able to purchase their own 3D printer, but let me leave you with one mind-blowing statement: At one point in the future, when we are able to use any type of material to 3D print, what is stopping us from using the 3D printer to print more 3D printers? Imagine an endless supply of 3D printers....



-Jack Rau ‘16
wants to print
a friend for himself



The Cornetto Trilogy

Oh yeah, so, before we go any further, all of these movies that I’m about to praise and say some awesome stuff about are rated R. So, you know, get your parents’ permission to see them, or have them sign a waiver, or whatever.

Sometimes we like to laugh. Sometimes we like to cry. Sometimes we enjoy British people in movies. For these reasons and more I have decided to undertake a not-so-timely review of three of the finest British comedy/action/ buddy movies in the last decade. The three films, that is, Shaun of the Dead, Hot Fuzz and The World’s End, were all written by Simon Pegg and Edgar Wright and directed by Edgar Wright. I am very much aware the trilogy ended more than a year ago, but I have only very recently seen the final film, The World’s End, and I felt it would be only appropriate that I say a few words about the movies here. The films all star Simon Pegg and Nick Frost, and are all directed by Edgar Wright (who also directed Scott Pilgrim vs. The World, which is a great movie). Other than a few key moments, it would seem that is where the similarities end. Taken on their own, they are each incredible in their own way. However, taken as a group, they share common themes and raise interesting questions about alternate universes. Let me explain. While the each of the three is radically different, I (along with a lot of other people, and maybe the director) like to imagine they are led by the same characters in different universes, in which different things go down. In the first, a couple whose relationship is falling apart is saved by being nearly mauled to death by zombies. In the second, two police officers, a pro and a klutz, battle a deranged neighborhood Home Owners Association-style society. In the last of the three, a man who peaked in high school desperately begs his old friends to join him in a pub crawl, when the apocalypse arrives. There are scenes that are in identical in each movie, but, above all, one strangely simple thing unites the trio: the Cornetto. A Cornetto is a tasty, Britain-exclusive treat,

similar to the Nestlè Drumstick, which has brief appearances in each of the three movies. Hence why it’s called the Cornetto Trilogy. Some might say “Oh Jack, you dumb, stupid idiot, they just made three movies and Cornettos were in all of them, and that’s the only reason they call it the Cornetto Trilogy because these people had fun making movies and decided to throw in a couple of references to each other, and were not trying to make some ridiculously convoluted alternate universe theory, with vague hints of reincarnation, or even to make a statement about how concepts and themes of undying friendship can transcend the films themselves.” To them I say, that’s an incredibly elaborate and well-defended argument, anonymous Informer reader. I can’t believe you took the time to tell me all this. But, it is a run-on sentence, so I’m going to ignore it. Moving on.



In Shaun of the Dead, Shaun and Ed (Simon Pegg and Nick Frost, respectively) are two best friends whose lives haven’t exactly panned out. Ed is unemployed, and Shaun works at an office supply store. Shaun is in a relationship with Liz (Kate Ashfield), until she breaks up with him, coincidentally, the day before a zombie outbreak. The film mainly focuses on their relationship, and it’s very well done and speaks volumes about modern couples. But the one I’m going to talk about is the friendship between Shaun and Ed, and the difference between how they feel they should be and how they are. Shaun is trying to get his life together, but Ed doesn’t really care. They battle through hordes of zombies, but in the end (spoilers) things kind of stay the same. (cont’ on opposite page)

Ghastly Ghoul of the Musical Performance Building

The production of “The Phantom of the Opera” that I saw at the Winspear Opera house recently was perhaps the most fantastic performance of any musical I have ever seen. The intense special effects, the quality of the actors’ voices, and the elaborate costumes the actors wore were impressive. This performance brought out feelings of fear and apprehension, an effect that no other production has had on me yet. Now many of you must be thinking, “Oh silly theatre critic! How could something so fake bring such fear into your heart that you should admit it to the masses? How do you have such humility?” Well, buckaroo, we will get the answer to that question later when I discuss the special effects. Now here’s a nickel, go grab yourself some pop. Hook, line, and sinker.

Allow me to preface this whole article with this simple fact: This is the first musical I did not prepare for by listening to some of its musical score. In fact, I could barely even recall the story, besides the fact the Phantom wears his mask to conceal the hideously disfigured half of his face. I seem to remember watching a “Phantom of the Opera” film a while back, but the only image that stuck with me was a man in a cage with a sack over his head. Of course, I now know that image was portraying the Phantom’s past, but going into this production I knew nothing of the sort. Have a good laugh at my past as an uncultured swine, and let’s get into the good stuff.

The only disappointing aspect of the night was the chandelier. I had heard that on Broadway, they had executed some kind of effect that made the chandelier appear as if it were reforming from the shattered pieces during the prologue of the play. Of course, I’m not saying the effects they used here in Dallas were any less extraordinary. In the short prologue scene, when the auctioneer reveals the infamous chandelier as Lot 666, the giant burlap cover that was completely encasing and hiding the chandelier seemed to instantaneously get sucked into thin air. Immediately following this, the chandelier was turned on, revealing a dazzling light show of waning brilliance. I was truly in awe during this series of fantastic effects, but little could I comprehend the plethora of amazing awesome radical coolness that awaited me in the rest of the musical. Imagine, if you will, a giant wall shaped like the letter “C” if looked upon from a bird’s-eye view. Now imagine that wall can rotate, allowing for fantastic quick scene changes, unique visual effects, and some very creative set designs. Finally, imagine that one side of such a wall has ominous steps that somewhat magically, somewhat mechanically, extend from nowhere when a certain Phantom wills it and allow such a myth to descend into his lair. Now here’s the kicker: all of that was in this production. Without ignoring the temporarily blinding yellow flames that were utilized for quick costume changes and hidden exits and entrances, the magical explosions the Phantom conjured in the scene by the Daae family tomb, and the veil of fog used to give the appearance that the Phantom was sailing through the sewers into his dungeon, the Wall was my favorite aspect of the produc-

tion. At one point, they even had the wall turned sideways (if that word can even describe a circle) so that the left side of the stage presented ballerinas looking and performing to some imaginary audience offstage to the right, and the right side of the stage presented everybody’s favorite murderous Angel of Music tying a noose around a stagehand’s neck. Quite a beautiful juxtaposition, if you ask me.

WOOOooooOOOooo! Crazy transition effects because I’m incompetent at transitions.

My favorite moment of the night you ask? Well I can’t decide, so I’ll give you two. The first came when, at the end of the first act, the Phantom shot the chandelier and it descended at a quick pace towards the audience below it. Small bits of falling plastic, hopefully meant to be present as part of the effect, warned those whose eyes were fixed on the stage of the oncoming “danger.” It was quite funny to see the shrieking reactions of many of the audience members just below the chandelier, and I must admit my heart leapt momentarily when I saw what was going on. My second favorite moment came during a scene when the actors were rehearsing the Phantom’s self-written opera. A rather large spider I had previously noticed was dangling dangerously close to the bald actor playing the conductor. I could actually hear another actor attempting to whisper to him, “Watch out! Spider in front of you!” as, much to my chagrin, that actor’s microphone picked up her voice. To top it off, the conductor walked over to the spider and stealthily assaulted it with a resounding “WHACK” from his prop book. I don’t think too many audience members noticed this occurring because the well-trained actors were obviously attempting to be quiet and calm about the events that were transpiring. It also helped that it occurred during a somewhat chaotic series of stage movements that shielded the conductor’s nifty solution.

This production of “The Phantom of the Opera” was a resounding success in all regards. I did not take time here to discuss the voices of the performers, but you can leave knowing that they were all spot on. The Phantom’s voice was a little different than the original, which I have listened to since seeing it on stage, but he still impressed me with his range and abilities. In combination with the special effects and, as I mentioned in the opening, the amazing costume design, this was the greatest production of any musical that I have seen. Step down and be happy with your silver medal, Book of Mormon, I’ll be coming back to you later this season.



-Aidan Noel ‘15
questions the legitimacy
of rat kings’ regimes

Two Thirds of a Trilogy (Continued)



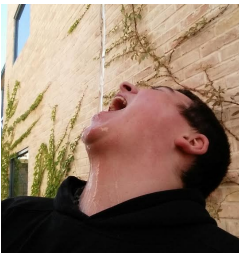
In Hot Fuzz, Simon Pegg and Nick Frost, now Nicholas (Nick) Angel and Danny Butterman, are cops. Nick Angel has spent his whole life training to become the best police officer ever known, while Danny is obsessed with action movies, and doesn’t really do much but eat cake. A string of murders brings the two together to become friends quickly, and as the film goes on, Nicholas gets more and more upset with Danny for slacking, until he realizes how foolish his seriousness truly is in a scene that cannot be depicted without some serious spoilers, and the two become more and more alike in their chill-ness from there on out. They work together to help solve the mystery of the century against a man who does not try incredibly hard to hide his evilness. Ironically enough (I’m not totally sure this is irony, but I feel like there won’t be some huge consequence if I’m wrong) the final scene is all action movie clichés, and it’s fantastic. In the end, however, Nick becomes a little lazier, and Danny becomes a little smarter, leading to a balance of normal again in the end.



The World’s End is arguably the best of the three, or at least it is my favorite of the three. I mean, I know a lot of people prefer Hot Fuzz, but for me its The World’s End. It just clicked with me. Probably because it’s about a guy who peaked in high school. On that grim note, let’s talk about The World’s End. If any movie communicates the weird mixture of friendship and the desire to eliminate all responsibilities that works so amazingly well in the Cornetto Trilogy, it’s this one. Simon Pegg and Nick Frost are now Gary King and Andy Knightley. They were thick

as thieves in high school, the cool cats around town. But as Andy and the rest of the pals grew up, Gary did not. He desperately clings to the past and solicits all of them, now successful adults, to join him in a pub crawl. Gary is very determined. In high school, Andy was the craziest of all of them, but is now a sobered-up, professional, successful business man. See here there’s a nice role-reversal from Hot Fuzz. Soon, a pretty not normal thing happens: the apocalypse. It becomes clear that quite a few people have been replaced by clones with blue blood, and the time of humanity’s superiority is rapidly declining. Gary decides to continue the pub crawl, because, as is revealed later, literally nothing will stop him from trying to relive his high school days. Finally Andy returns to his old crazy self, and the two work together like the best friends they are. As soon as it seems like Gary will be forced to grow up, a certain insanely huge thing happens (I’m sorry, I’m trying very hard not to spoil these movies), and all of a sudden things are allowed to return to the way they were in high school in a way that is completely unlike high school.

I guess ultimately what I’m getting at is that these movies are connected. Despite an absurd amount of ridiculous events transpiring, in the end of all the movies, nothing really changes. In a way, I guess the movies are kind of like life. We live under different circumstances as our positions and personalities develop, but we still have who we are, and we still have our friends, and what we like and don’t like. And we always have our laziness. But really, I’m pretty sure there just happen to be Cornettos in all three movies.



-Jack Chadwick ‘15
vanity license plate
is inscrutable

FR. JOSEPH’S VIEWS ON THE SYNOD

Last year, on October 8, Pope Francis announced that in October 2014 there would be an Extraordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops. This Synod would discuss topics such as the family and evangelization. A Synod of Bishops is a gathering of bishops from around the world who assist the Pope in regard to important questions that face the world. I recently have had the opportunity to interview Fr. Joseph Van House on his opinion over this controversial topic.

Good morning Fr. Joseph. Thank you for sharing your opinions over the Synod with the Informer. Why do you think Pope Francis called for an Extraordinary Synod of Bishops for this October 2014 under the title of “The Pastoral Challenges of the Family in the Context of Evangelization”?

It seems to me there are two main reasons. Just from the title, the first reason is about the context of the family for evangelization. Our families form our souls throughout our lives, not just when we are children. This means that thinking about the family is essential for thinking about sharing the gospel, for how the Church serves its members and everyone else -- for how we reach people with grace. The second aspect is more about where we are at in the world today. In a lot of parts of the world including America, the families’ situations are pretty complicated and are not always good. Strong families do not always get the support from our culture that they need, in a variety of ways. To pick one prominent example, up until recent decades the idea of marriage as a basically unbreakable bond was something that received deep support from religious, political, and social circles, whereas now that message is very easily overshadowed by the idea of a “no fault divorce” where spouses in conflict have simply changed their minds. But a culture that fails to support family stability is in deep trouble. The poor in particular suffer from more transitory marriages and families, and so fostering a more pro-marriage, pro-family, pro-stability culture is also a social justice issue.

In the agenda for the Synod of Bishops, the discussion is divided into 3 major parts. In Part 1 titled, “Communicating the Gospel of the Family in Today’s World”, what do you think is one of the most important topics that will be discussed?

I have been looking at the outline a bit, and there is a heading where it talks about “the family and integral development.” This is about what I have just been referring to: our families are important to the development of our lives and our souls. They form us throughout our lives, and they are part of how we come to know God. I think helping the Church to understand that better and to pay more attention to it is extremely important.

In Part 2 titled, “The Pastoral Program for the Family in Light of New Challenges”, why do you think so many people are focusing on the topic on divorced and remarried Catholics and the Sacrament of Communion, even though many more topics are on the agenda?

That is a great question, and it is also difficult. I would start by pointing out two reasons people have a special interest in it. One reason for sure is that this is a very difficult topic that excites people’s compassion. There are many Catholics whom

people love and respect who are not able to participate in the full life of the Church because they have “married a second spouse”, and now they don’t know what to do. It’s a pretty complicated and heart-rending situation. Jesus taught that a marriage – at least, a real marriage – is a lifelong bond, and one has to be faithful to it. Since divorce and remarriage have become so common, people want the Church to think hard about that, and what can be done to help people who have made a mistake in their marriages to have an open door to come back to the Eucharist. So that is part of it. A second reason is that people are trying to “read the tea leaves” and foretell what Pope Francis is really thinking. Cardinal Kasper is a German Cardinal whom the Pope knows and has referred to in some of his speeches. He is a very smart theologian and he is someone who has come very forcefully to suggest some specific things that might be changed about the way the Church thinks about remarried Catholics (and on this topic things get pretty complicated pretty fast, but ask me later if you’re interested in more detail, or bug Fr. Ambrose in moral theology!), so people think maybe the main reason the Pope called the synod to focus on marriage is that he is following Cardinal Kasper’s areas of concern, or even proposals for solutions.

In a recent interview, Cardinal Raymond Burke, Prefect of the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura, said that, “... the media has, for months, been trying to hijack this Synod” and that, “the media has created a situation in which people expect that there are going to be these major changes... even though this is not the case.” What is your opinion on this?

I have not read everything that Cardinal Burke said, but that sounds like it is also correct to me. It is very clear that there are a lot of other reasons why the Church wants to pay attention at this Synod to the Family and to Marriage, and so I think that is true. Even if the discussion should turn to focus on divorce and remarriage, I do not expect any revolutionary changes, since the Church’s core teaching on this subject have remained very clear for a long, long, long time. To further explain the media situation, we could also add that there are lot of people in the world who understand the Church only as something that is stuck in the past and that there is no wisdom that comes from Christ about this, and so they think that improvement or growth is the same thing as leaving behind unpopular teachings or practices. People are very interested in the Church admitting that she is wrong. A related angle would be that this is all a part of the broader phenomenon people call “the Francis effect”: the media superficially thinks that he is all about changing the faith and bringing it in line with liberal orthodoxy, rather than being a devout Catholic whose compassion comes from the depths of the Church’s own tradition.

We thank you Father for sharing your thoughts and perspectives about this Synod.



-Alonso Medina ‘18
owns a guinea pig named Sanic



We’d like to recognize our campus’ two new amazing pieces of art in Founder’s Hall (above) and in the new chapel (left). Take a closer look at the bottom right corner of the mural when you can and tell us who you think the students and monk in the classroom are at informerdiscussion@gmail.com or [@cpsinformer](https://twitter.com/cpsinformer) on Twitter!

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If you are able to solve the Sudoku puzzle above, come to Form VIII B and ask for Carson Ariagno. You will receive a prize if you are the first to complete the sudoku correctly.