## THE PIONEER Informing LIU Post for 60 years

Volume 68, Issue 4

www.liupostpioneer.com

February 17, 2016



ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN THE PIONEER 2011/DAVID OTERO

The men's lacrosse team gears up for a new season once again

Post & Beyond Preview

By Brian Riley Co-News Editor

Students who have engaged in research projects will have the chance to showcase them at the annual Post and Beyond symposium on April 20. The symposium will take place during common hour in the Tilles Center atrium and is open to students who have conducted some form of research, internship or experiential learning.

Glynis Pereyra, assistant dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, estimated that participation has been evenly balanced between undergraduate and graduate students in past years. However, science was a strong theme at last year's symposium. She suggested that this is a result of the poster board format being very familiar to science professors. As a result, the professors encourage

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### **High Hopes for Men's Lacrosse**

**By Michael Otero** Co-Editor-in-Chief

The men's lacrosse team is coming off a very successful 2015 campaign where it finished the season 14-3. The Pioneers season culminated with a painful loss to Le Moyne College in the NCAA Division II National Quarterfinals.

John Jez will be the man trying to lead the Pioneers to the promise land, a place they want to be again. So how can this year's team be like those great Pioneer teams that won National Championships in 2009 and 2010 respectively? Jez believes the key is knowing what it takes in

order to win. "They [our players] know the dedication and commitment needed to accomplish our goal," Jez said. "We have a strong and committed group that is focused with strong team leaders to guide them."

Jez is not the only one with high hopes and aspirations for his team though. The United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association/ Nike Preseason Top-20 Poll ranked the Pioneers third in the nation for Division II. "It's good to see we are pre-season ranked so high," Jez said. "But we have a lot of work to do to stay there and reach our goals."

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#### **Arts & Entertainment**

The Post Theatre Company's play "Bernarda Alba" premieres on Friday, Feb. 19. Read more on the production and how to get tickets on page 5



The weekly feature, "Let The Good Times Roll," showcases students' most memorable camera shots. Flip to page 8 to see this week's photos

#### **St. Judes Carnival**



Greek organizations and campus clubs came together on Saturday, Feb. 13, for a carnival to raise money for the St. Jude's children research hospital. The event was hosted by Tau Kappa Epsilon. Photos courtesy of Alyssa Seidman

#### Send your feedback to: liupostpioneer@gmail.com

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### NEWS

#### Post & Beyond Preview continued from page 1

### **Campus Cupid**

their students to participate.

This was the case with mentor Azad Gucwa, assistant professor of biomedical sciences, and Sabino Curcio, a clinical lavatory science graduate student, who is currently the lone participant. According to Pereyra, this is not unusual at this time, due to the fact that most students apply closer to the deadline, which is March 9 this year.

Curcio is deriving the content for his poster from his thesis experiment. He is concerned with how diseases, other than Lyme disease, can be transmitted from a tic bite, specifically babesia microti. He conducted an experiment in which he took samples of people with Lyme disease and tested them for the lesser known parasite. He ultimately plans on possibly developing an FDA approved screen for babesia microti.

Although Curcio is going to take his research to the next level, the university could serve as a good practice run. "In some cases we are giving students a taste of what it's like to present a poster at a professional conference, especially in the case of the research posters," Pereyra said.

Students can apply to showcase their work at Post and Beyond by going to http://tinyurl.com/postandbeyond2016. Along with basic information, a 250-word abstract that describes the student's work is required. A five-person faculty committee will review it and make suggestions for the student. In addition, a mentor is required as well who will most likely be a faculty member in the area of study that the student is intending to present about.

On March 16, Pereyra will be holding a workshop for participating students. They will learn how to make a poster, such as dimensions, fonts and how to get it printed for free through the school.

This is the fifth Post and Beyond event at LIU. Last year, there were over 40 participants. The goal this year is to top that with 50 participants, according to Pereyra.

#### **By Brian Riley** Co-News Editor

Kadir Wisdom, a junior marketing major, was the campus Cupid last week. He didn't shoot any arrows, but instead sang tunes to fellow students. Throughout the week leading up to Valentine's Day, Wisdom served as an on-call singer for whichever couple requested his services. (Anyone could have signed up by going to the concierge desk in Hillwood Commons). Wisdom's first performance was on Feb. 11, and ran through Valentine's Day.

Wisdom doesn't have any experience as a singer, but used this experience to help build his confidence to ultimately give it a go as a singer. Antonette Dauré, a senior forensic science major and fellow club member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), approached him with the idea.

This was the first time this has ever been done at the university and was a completely free service. A student has a choice of seven songs and the location. Some song choices included "With You" by Chris Brown, "Love" by Keisha Cole, "Love" by Musiq Soulchild. Wisdom would also perform at the residence halls in addition to Hillwood Commons and Humanities Hall. If the student wanted, a Valentine's Day card could also have been delivered at the time of the performance.

The idea was spawned at an NAACP meeting. The club knew they wanted to do something for Valentine's Day, but wanted to do something that was inclusive to everyone, not just members of the club.

Wisdom said he would definitely do this again next year. In regards to his future as a singer, he said, "I'm taking it one step at a time. I just started now singing in front of people; I'm using this to gain confidence." He also added that he may possibly have used this experience to help push himself into a campus talent show.

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### Post Theatre Company Produces "Bernarda Alba"



By Thomas Gillen Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor The set for "Bernarda Alba" under construction on the Main Stage of the Little Theatre. The performance premieres on Friday, Feb. 19, at 8 p.m.

From February 19-21 and 25-28, the Post Theatre Company will present "Bernarda Alba" at the Little Theatre Main Stage. "Bernarda Alba" is, "an all-female musical based on the play 'The House of Bernada Alba' by Federico Garcia Lorca," according to Heather Drastal, general manager of the Post Theatre Company.

"This intensely theatrical musical chronicles the growing awareness on the part of Bernarda's five daughters that there is a new world apart from the one imposed by their domineering mother. As they seek to embrace their individuality and see that their dreams for the future don't mesh with Bernarda's restrictions, the daughters must ask the question: do they limit the possibilities of life's journey by accepting their mother's repressive moral codes?" Drastal said.

Meghan Gratzer, senior musical theater major, explained that the musical was chosen as a production because "we have a lot of strong, powerful women in our department and the faculty felt this was the perfect group of women for a production like this." Gratzer, who is also starring in the show, is very excited about taking part in the production.

"It's really awesome to get the opportunity to be in a show like this for my last semester. This process has been absolutely incredible; this cast is so fierce and the production team is absolutely amazing," she said.

Emily Banks, a junior musical theater major, will play the role of Martario in the production. Banks complimented the camaraderie between the members of the company. "We are all there for each other on the stage and off and we are like one big family," she said.

Banks stated that the Post Theatre Company is a great organization for students to join because "students are able to fulfill their passion for theater, the productions are student run and we can show off our own work and the work of others." As for the benefits of the company, Banks explained she likes seeing her fellow peers perform on stage and grow throughout their involvement in the organization.

Freshmen in the musical theater and acting programs will have a chance to show off their talents for the first time at the First Year Showcase from April 8-10. "The First Year Showcase gives freshmen the time to shine," said Nancy Quintana, a senior musical theater major. "This is their introduction to the department since they don't participate in the Post Theatre Company during their first semester. So for the First Year Showcase, freshmen are able to act out scenes or musical numbers on stage."

The Post Theatre Company puts on student run theater productions throughout the year. Through the company, students are able to take on all roles of a stage production, including acting, directing and becoming crewmembers. Past productions during this academic year have included "Venus" in October, "Twelfth Night" in November and "Gifts of the Magi" in December.

Gratzer took part in the production and spoke of the relationship between the Tilles Center and the Post Theatre Company. "I was in 'Gifts of the Magi' at the Tilles Center and it was really exciting for Tilles and PTC to create something exciting together."

In addition to "Bernarda Alba" and the First Year Showcase this semester; two thesis projects: "It All" by Abby Slocum and "Unless" by Laura Chamberlain and Cameron Clay will be performed March 4-6, and "Over and Over" by Anna Betteridge in April.

Drastal believes that all students should see at least one performance that the Post Theatre Company puts on. "We are doing a lot or original work that cannot be seen anywhere else, much of it generated by students," he said. "It is contemporary, relevant and accessible to student audiences. We also bring in professional artists (directors and designers) to work on the productions, so you are seeing cutting edge, professional-grade theater, directed by NYC directors, right here on campus."

Tickets can be purchased at the Post Theatre Company Box Office, which is open every performance day and remains open an hour and a half before curtain. To reserve tickets, email post-ptc@liu.edu or call 516-299-2356. General Admission is \$10. Students and senior citizens are \$5 with an ID and there are discounts for groups with more than 10 people.

### Norwegian Old Timer Goes Solo

#### By Bendik Sorensen

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Abbath; he looks like he could fit seamlessly into the lineup for KISS. He acts like in a childish, almost satirical way, but yet the man is a black metal icon. He and his former band, "Immortal," have never been a part of the "murder, church burning" controversy that surrounded the genre in the 1990s. Rather he became a cult icon in the world of metal because he has never taken himself or his band and music too seriously. Now, Olve 'Abbath' Eikemo has gone solo. It sounds just as cold and good as his former adventures to the "kingdom cold."

The album, conveniently titled "Abbath," is his first attempt by himself since he started in 1990. The album starts off with conventional, fast paced groove in two big sounding tracks. Dissonant chords over rumbling drums and grim vocals make out the tracks, "To War!" and, "Winterbane" before it is slowed down. An acoustic guitar plucked briskly, in what sounds like a huge hall. It's quiet, and the guitar echoes off the walls. It is cold.

The plucking is disrupted by the fastest and loudest track on the album, "Ashes of the Damned." Fast paced drumming, and even big band horn sections is evident, before the album continues into a more conventional few tracks. Not as intense or "atmospherical," but just as heavy. It feels like a break in between intervals at the gym. It's needed and appreciated.

Shortly after, we're back at it. Intense and heavy. The latter half of the album is where "Abbath" sounds the most like old "Immortal." Contrasts in tempo, volume and cadences characterize the rest of the album.

It does not seem like Eikemo misses his old bandmates. He

thrives alone. The self-titled album has a cold soundscape that "Immortal" fans are familiar with, but it is not the same. It is something new and refreshing. It's as if Eikemo has a new boost.

"Abbath" is out now on Season of Mist. He is also currently on tour and comes to New York April 12, at Webster Hall.



FACEBOOK.COM/ABBATH Abbath's cover for his self entitled debut album

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### Let the Good Times Roll

By Mirna Youssef Features Editor

To most college students, their phone is their life. Not only because it houses their favorite social media, games, emails and notes, but also their photographs. Your photos will always mean something and you will have that moment forever. In this weekly feature, students share their favorite photo on their phones:



TAYLOR DAY

• "This picture is from the day of my first ever Suicide Prevention Walk at Jones Beach, and it reminds me of that great experience I had, the many people I met whose lives have been touched and how it made me so glad I could be a part of that with some of my great friends." Taylor Day, freshman psychology major.



NICOLE CAPUANO

•"This is a picture of me and my boyfriend Connor in Islamorada, FL. It is one of my favorite pictures because crawling up the palm tree and sitting on it and looking out into the ocean was one of the most peaceful feelings I have ever felt." Nicole Capuano, freshman biology major.



•"This is my beautiful Big and me at my first recruitment. Someone caught the two of us cracking each other up and I love that it captures both of our personalities and I think it perfectly shows the bond AXID brought us." Logan DeWitt, sophomore musical theatre major.

LOGAN DEWIT



KAITLYN CURCI

• "This is my best friend, my other half and my sister. Being able to meet someone who means that much to you is a once in a lifetime chance. AXID has really helped me find a home and a family here at Post." Kaitlyn Curci, sophomore musical theatre major.

Share your favorite photograph on your phone too! Email it to us at: liupostpioneer@gmail.com and tell us why it is important to you!

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### What Makes Tattoos so Polarizing?

#### By Joseph lemma

Assistant Features Editor

I vividly remember my grandfather telling me when I was eight years old, "Joey, you're a good boy and I love you very much…but please, please promise me you'll never get a tattoo." Mind you, at just eight years old, I had yet to receive my first timeout at school, coupled with the fact that I could barely grasp the concept of what this man called a 'tattoo.' So, out of pure curiosity, I looked at my grandfather and asked him what most eight-year-olds ask, "Why?"

My grandfather, who was, and still is, a man of many words, responded; "Because Joseph, you won't get a job, you won't get married to a good girl, you won't make Jesus proud and you'll make Popop (slang for grandfather) very sad." Those words stuck with me. They stuck with me until Oct. 30, 2015, the day I got my first tattoo. Ever since that moment, I've been particularly hard pressed to discover the answer to why tattoos are so polarizing.

"Tattoos are polarizing because they reveal a person's level of consciousness," said Jake Sandsberg, owner of a landscaping company in Queens. "If you have a star tattooed onto your elbow, you probably watched way too much 'Jersey Shore'; you're living in the now and you're probably not too forward thinking. Now let's say you have actual art on, like a cross that somehow intertwines with your life, etc. That doesn't tell me you're Bill Gates, but it tells me there's something there, and it makes you much more 'hire-able' than want to-be Pauly D (star tattooed elbow guy)."

Now, was my grandfather onto something? I asked senior chemistry major, Adine Abrams, about her tattoo and if she consulted with any loved ones before getting it. "All my father said to me was, 'Do you know what you want to be?' I said yes, either a scientist or a teacher," she said. "My father accepted my response, but stressed that visible tattoos can affect future employment, and that tattoos are permanent."



SALINA WEBSON Dominique Edwards-Malnar, a sophomore business major



SALINA WEBSON

Gina Cammarata, a sophomore business management major

Abrams, who sports a scroll-like design up and down her back, doesn't regret her decision yet, but says she'll really know how she feels about her tattoo when her children one day ask her, 'Do you like your tattoo, Mommy?' or 'Can I get a tattoo, one day?'

As a 20-year-old junior in college, who hopefully has about 60 years ahead of him in terms of how long I'll live, aside from the fact that I have a tattoo (which is not visible because of preference), I have zero issues with tattoos. In my opinion, tattoos are forms of art, and self expression. Second, who am I to judge someone by their tattoos? We're taught not to treat anyone differently because of the color of their skin, or which god they pray to. Therefore, doesn't judging someone by his or her body art seem juvenile? Prejudicial?

Tattoos, like other things, are becoming more and more part of, and accepted in our culture. There is one truth that has withstood the test of time. The truth that there's more to what meets the eye, so if you judge someone by a tattoo, or lack thereof, you're probably wasting your time.

It's the content of one's character, not the features of one's skin, that define who someone truly is.



SALINA WEBSON Adrianna Cammarata, a sophomore elementary education major

### **Online Dating and Love: Friction Vs Diction**

By Julian Wilson Co-Opinions Editor

With increasing popularity in online sites and apps for dating and finding relationships, one would think that the 'looks' and personality of a person would matter most to their potential lover. However, to some, those qualities aren't the only ones that are considered. Sometimes, the make-or-break decision that one has to make, revolves around how well their lover can spell simple words.

Surprising? Maybe. But equally as important for realistic situations that can happen during sessions of online dating.

According to a Wall Street Journal article by Georgia Wells entitled, "What's Really Hot on Dating Sites? Proper Grammar" (Oct. 1, 2015), various relationships fell through due to poor and improper use of grammar and incorrect spelling.

"Learning a potential mate doesn't know the difference between 'there,' 'they're,' and 'their' is like discovering she loves cats," said 'OkCupid' user, Jeff Cohen, when recounting on how he felt when he received a text from his date that night, that read: "I will see you their."

As the article progressed, John McWhorter, a linguistics professor at Columbia University, said, "Grammar snobbery is one of the last permissible prejudices."

One reason grammar and spelling is judged under the spotlight, is because it reflects and mirrors one's level of effort, or lack thereof. In light of this, how do students feel about grammar-correctness in ongoing relationships?

In the mind of senior electronic media major, Eric Goodmark, shortened phrases and abbreviations pass, but not complete, grammatical incorrectness. "If it's an accident, it's fine, just correct it. I'm not the grammar police but if someone legitimately doesn't know the rules of grammar, I think that's ridiculous, especially at our age," Goodmark said.

Cara Grogilo, a senior art education major, thinks that it could be a turnoff, depending on how 'bad' their spelling is, and whether it's on purpose or not. "I wouldn't say that it would be a deal-breaker. People make mistakes all the time and I'm not going to pretend that I've never misspelled something before," Grogilo said. "I don't mind if people use abbreviations for words in texts, as long as these same people don't formally write the same way they text."

For senior broadcast major, Akeem Victor, he believes that if it's accidental use, it can be considered acceptable, but if it's on purpose, the opposite applies. "I believe it's okay to misspell words through text, sometimes. Most people correct themselves when making an error in text by using an astericks. Mistakes do happen, however, how frequently they happen can display childish or lazy behavior," Victor said.

In my opinion, I share a similar, personal view on this subject as Grogilo, Victor and Goodmark. I believe it's important to know the clear difference between 'text' language, 'formal' language and 'casual' language and the times that are acceptable to use the three and switch between them. All things, including language, begin at a foundation and I don't think people should start using variations and shortcuts of it until after they know its rules and fundamentals.

In the words of author, Jeffrey Gitomer, "Your grammar is a reflection of your image. Good or bad, you have made an impression. And like all impressions, you are in total control."

### **Coming Soon to a Backyard Near You: Drones**

#### By Joseph lemma

Assistant Features Editor

Remember those toy helicopters you used to see flying through the mall? You always told your mom you wanted one, but she never did buy you one because you "would break it within an hour." Fast-forward ten years and the remote controlled helicopter concept has become a drone, and this drone isn't just for kids; it's for adults.

The least expensive drone model, the DJI-Phantom 3 Standard Quadcopter, goes for \$499.99 at your local Best Buy. Once your drone purchase is made, let the games begin.

The Phantom 3's payload features a state of the art high-definition camera. When modified, it can record precise video/imaging from nearly 100 feet above the 'target.'

Over the past two years, drones have been spotted across the nation recording activity above Los Angeles Police Department Headquarters, major intersections in both New York City and Los Angeles and have been the subject of over 1,000 calls to law enforcement nationwide, according to mercurynews.com.

Now, don't for a second think that law enforcement isn't looking into stopping drones. (Coupled with the fact that the federal government and Federal Aviation Administration have already placed altitude regulations on drones). According to mercurynews.com, police in San Jose, California, have created their own 'police drone.' Not to mention the syndicated news blog, RT.com, reported that U.S. Supreme Court justice Sonia Sotomayor has voiced concerns that without sufficient protections, the age of unmanned drones and ubiquitous surveillance will usher in an "Orwellian world." "That type of technology has to stimulate us to think about what is it that we cherish in privacy and how far we want to protect it and from whom," Sotomayor said, as she spoke before a group of faculty members and students at Oklahoma City University's law school in September 2015. "Because people think that it should be protected just against government intrusion, but I don't like the fact that someone I don't know...can pick up, if they're a private citizen, one of these drones and fly it over my property."

At first glance, drones seem harmless indeed, but like many things in today's world, they can be used as a weapon that can inflict serious damage. Think I'm being a little overly critical? Okay, but first, please be aware of this, the blueprint of the modern day drone was devised so U.S. and other advanced military forces can fly unmanned aircrafts over a target for either reconnaissance or to take a 'target' out.

We've seen what happened in San Bernardino, California, where two rogue terrorists killed over a dozen people. Yes, it was with assault rifles, but what happens if one rouge individual decides to fly a drone, with an explosive device attached to it, over a gas station, parking lot, school, you name it.

I am anti-drone. I believe if used correctly, drones can accommodate us in ways that will drastically make our lives easier. However, drones cross the proverbial 'gray area' every time one flies over another person's property. It's tough to legislate and keep control of our streets, let alone our skies. Drones open up a Pandora's Box, and I for one, am not for that box being opened; at least not yet.

### **#OscarsSoWhite:** Behind the Hashtag

**By Melanie Spina** Co-Opinions Editor

For this year's Oscar nominations there are 20 contenders for acting awards, and every single one of the nominees is white. Not only that, all films that had a "black theme," have been completely overlooked for the best picture category. This makes some of us wonder, is this really about having talent, or is this something minorities should, perhaps, take personally?

Well, many have already answered this question. As soon as the nominations came out, many took their frustrations to Twitter where the hashtag #OscarsSoWhite, from last year, was brought back to life.

I was never one to really question who was part of the Academy, or one to care for the Oscars, really. Don't get me wrong, I've always watched them, but I never really paid attention to who got nominated or not. The Oscars have become more boring to me as every year goes by. However, this hashtag has definitely gotten my attention and led me to do some research on my own.

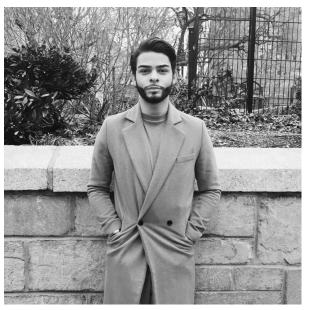
According to a study done in 2012 by the Los Angeles Times, Oscar voters are nearly 94-percent Caucasian and 77-percent male, meaning that blacks are close to 2-percent of the Academy and Latinos are even less than 2-percent. This study also showed that only 14 percent of Oscar voters are under 50-yearsold. In other words, if the Academy itself isn't diverse, how diverse can their top picks really be?

This is the second year in a row that all the Oscar nominees are white actors. Movies with black themes did receive recognition, but the recognition they received were for the white people who contributed to the movie, meaning that the black directors and actors were completely ignored.

In light of this, filmmaker Spike Lee, along with Will and Jada Pinkett Smith have announced that they will not be attending the ceremony, and honestly I can't blame them. I understand that some movies may be considered better quality than others, but to completely ignore diversity for two years in a row in the nominations is pushing it.

Everybody has his or her own taste in film. I might like "The Notebook" whereas somebody else may like "The Wolf of Wall Street." But when a group of individuals who share similar qualities, (white older males), are the ones choosing what movies are the top picks for the year, and all the movies that involved races that were not white are not even considered, it truly makes me wonder.

Senior broadcasting major, Jeniel Terrero, feels very strongly about this topic and



COURTESY OF JENIEL TERRERO

Jeniel Terrero, a senior broadcasting major

he is quite proud that people are shining light on an issue that to him, is rarely brought up.

"We live in a generation where people are becoming aware of issues and are taking a stand on it," Terrero said. "The Oscars is an issue that I've been following because as someone of color I believe that there is a lack of representation in Hollywood."

Terrero feels that people of color very rarely get recognized, and if they do, it's usually because they're serving a stereotypical role. However, Terrero does not believe that the problem is with the Academy. "It's really about the lack of substantial opportunities given to people of color," he said.

Data from a study done at the Bunche Center at UCLA shows that in the year 2013, over 80 percent of the lead actors in a theatrical film were white whereas only 17 percent were black.

As college students, some may think this issue is not really something they should care about, but Terrero believes that students should because this doesn't only happen in Hollywood. "This problem also reflects real life job opportunities, or lack of them that are offered to people of color," he said. "As someone who wants to work in the media, I feel like I have to work twice as hard to make sure that my work speaks for me and lands me a job that isn't based on my ethnic background."

The hashtag #OscarsSoWhite is one that should be taken seriously by not only the Academy, but the entire movie industry. It's 2016, and it's time to start sharing roles and actually bring in diversity into Hollywood; diversity that is not only recognized when minorities are playing stereotypical roles.

### How Free is Free Speech?

#### By Erin Chenicek Staff Writer

Safe spaces and trigger warnings have recently become a contentious topic of debate on college campuses. They are intended to ensure that students are not felt uncomfortable or unwelcome, and to foster an environment of mutual respect. While well-intentioned, many have voiced concerns that safe spaces and trigger warnings stifle intellectual thought, shielding students from opinions that distress them or simply do not align with their own.

It is certainly a question to be considered. Does free speech have its limits? Should speakers that hold unpopular or radical views be barred from speaking on campus?

Jeremiah Aviles, a senior childhood education major, believes that a speaker should not be prevented from speaking entirely, but that they may be limited in what they discuss. "To a certain extent speakers should be prevented from discussing certain topics," Aviles said. "For example, there was a Creationist vs. Evolution debate on campus and they were careful not to bring up abortion, which I think is good because it wouldn't have ended well."

Senior English major, Melissa Nosel, does not think that speakers should be restricted in what they discuss, but she is in favor of trigger warnings when a discussion entails sensitive subject matter. "I don't think anyone should be stopped from speaking about any topic, as long as the event is labelled properly and everyone is aware of what will be discussed," she said.

I for one think that this is a slippery slope—once you begin restricting, where does it stop? While I am not in favor of speech that incites violence or discrimination of any sort, I do encourage people to stop being so wary of offending others. Go ahead—offend me. Contest my dearest-held values and force me to consider a different perspective. If college is not the place for this, then where is? You will not grow as an individual if you only surround yourself with people that have similar views. You grow when you are challenged, disturbed or disillusioned.

Trigger warnings do have an appropriate place in the classroom when used sparingly. It is reasonable to forewarn students about potentially triggering content so that they may prepare themselves. (This may include content relating to selfharm, sexual abuse or eating disorders). I think it is an effective way to prevent someone who is recovering from something traumatic from being to delineate material that is politically

### **OPINIONS**

### **Have We Reached Gender Equality?**

#### By Melanie Spina

Co-Opinions Editor

As we find ourselves currently surrounded by political talk in this presidential election year, I can't help but think that there are still people out there who are afraid of using the term "feminism" or who don't believe that there still is such thing as gender inequality. Although a lot has changed from the past, starting with women being able to vote and holding top leadership positions in government and business, we still are searching for the equal break the status quo. However, there have been some changes and a lot of women and men now understand what the word feminism actually means. Some politicians, including President Obama, claim to be feminists.

So much more can be done today. Women and men can both break down gender stereotypes and be able to be who they actually are without being afraid of seeming too masculine or too feminine. Men

treatment we deserve. Some opponents to feminism believe that the goal was already achieved with the feminization of the workforce. They see modern feminists as man-haters who are just looking to benefit their own sex. In fact, many women find themselves afraid to say they are feminists because of the misconception that is tied into this term. Supporters of feminism, though, believe that this movement is all about,

not only social, but also economic equality of sexes. I think it's important to understand that feminism does not mean hatred towards men; this is a misconception that should be cleared up. In 2014, actress and Goodwill Ambassador for the UN Women, Emma



Marisa Kofmehl, a senior public relations major, channels her inner Rosie the Riveter

Watson, gave a speech for the HeForShe campaign in which she spoke about this misconception. Watson acknowledged that many women don't want to be associated with this word because it is viewed as not only aggressive and anti-men, but also unattractive.

In her speech, Watson stated what the modern feminist movement is looking for. "I think it is right I am paid the same as my male counterparts; I think it is right that I should be able to make decisions about my own body; I think it is right that women be involved on my behalf in the policies and decisions that will affect my life; I think it is right that socially, I am afforded the same respect as men."

We are constantly seeing gender stereotypes, where the woman is sensitive and fragile and the man is strong and emotionless. Watson addressed how men are affected by this just as much as women are. Most young boys must keep this stereotypical view of masculinity and not

#### How Free is Free Speech? continued from page 11

incorrect or potentially offensive. Nor should students be exempt from the assigned coursework solely on account of this.

Another concern safe spaces and trigger warnings have raised is the question of whether they infantilize college students. In the real world, these do not exist for the most part. People are going to call into question, and even vehemently attack, your beliefs.

Now, here is a thought: if you are not able to defend your beliefs and values, then how deeply held can they actually be? Are they a product of intellectual consideration or just a regurgitation of what those around you believe? To believe requires trust, but does not necessarily the pay gap in the U.S. hasn't shifted in a decade. A woman with the same amount of preparation and education—sometimes even more than a man—gets paid 22 percent less, which proves gender inequality still lingers in our modern society.

I do not believe that we have achieved gender equality in 2016. Although we must follow in the footsteps of the suffragist movement, I still believe we have a long way to go to reach a society where there is no gender inequality. Getting rid of the pay gaps between women and men could be a first step; two people who are equally qualified to do a job should be paid the same no matter what gender they are.

Women and men are different, yes, but that doesn't make one more important than the other. Both sexes should be seen as equals, and I believe one day this will happen. I do believe it's important to point out that feminism isn't about women only; men should be included in this movement too. Equality involves all of us and people shouldn't be afraid of wanting this in their society.

require proof. To defend requires intellect and rational reasoning. It is when you stop questioning that you stop evolving.

Ultimately, I believe that you have every right to speak freely just as you have the right to be offended by another's speech. However, your being offended does not give you the right to censor or exclude someone else. You cannot live in a bubble all your life. Safe spaces and trigger warnings are more of a crutch than a benefit; they will not prepare you for the world you will face post-graduation. Open your mind and never stop questioning; never stop growing.

won't have to worry about keeping their emotions bottled up for fear or seeming less masculine, and women will be able to be seen as equals to men.

I am quite glad that we are starting to see this change by having female leaders and CEOs. Senior public relations major, Marisa Kofmehl, thinks that it's great that women are taking on these powerful positions, for the sake of coming generations. "I think the most important [reason] is that it would open a lot of doors for young girls. They would see that they don't have these barriers set in place by gender stereotypes," Kofmehl said.

Yet, despite these advances, according to the American Association of University Women, an organization that empowers women,

### **SPORTS**

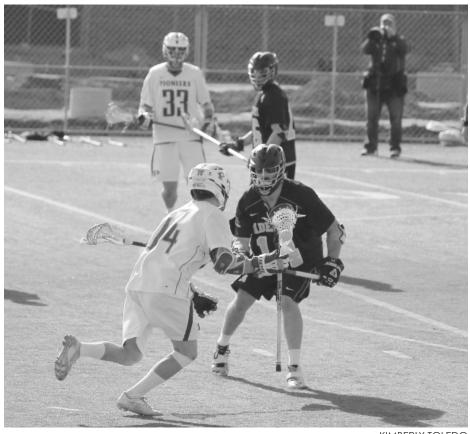
#### Men's Lacrosse Preview continued from page 1

It is clear that Jez speaks a lot about goals. Of course, he likes when his team is scoring them, but he also sets them for his team at the beginning of the season. First and foremost, the Pioneers hope to maintain the rich tradition of winning lacrosse at Post. "Our team goals are to be competitive in all our games. Our main focus is to take each game as it comes," Jez said. The hope is that by doing this, the Pioneers can compete for the conference title, and hopefully get an invitation to the NCAA tournament.

In order to get better this season, take that next step and perhaps win a national championship, Jez believes that there are some areas that need improvement. "We have a new group of guys on defense that will have to come together quickly," Jez said. A number of key starters like Daniel Jeannotte and Chris Caiazza have graduated and finding replacements has "been difficult."

Jez may have a strong reputation for breeding winning teams on the field, but he also has a passion for getting his students to thrive off the field. "Over 30 team members had a 3.0 [GPA] or higher during the fall 2015 semester. We hope to continue our strong working in the classroom," he said.

The men's lacrosse team gets its season underway on Saturday, Feb. 20, on the road facing Merrimack College. Game-time is set for noon.



KIMBERLY TOLEDO

Senior attacker Ryan Slane



### ADVERTISEMENT

### **Men's Basketball Splits a Pair**

#### By Thomas Scavetta

Assistant Sports Editor

Despite a 20-point effort from Molloy guard Curtis Jenkins, the Pioneers (14-10) survived a last-second scare as they held on to beat Molloy College (6-16) on Wednesday, Feb. 10, 60-57, in an East Coast Conference battle at the Pratt Recreation Center in Brookville, N.Y.

With just 27 seconds to go, sophomore forward Hunter Powell cashed in the go-ahead put-back lay-up to give the Pioneers a 56-54 edge. Junior guard Jared Hall eventually put the game to sleep as he knocked down four straight free throws, snapping a five-game skid.

In a closely contested game, the Pioneers used the three-ball to gain momentum in the second half and take a 54-47 lead. Senior guard Akosa Maduegbunam provided a spark off the bench, draining two of his three trifectas during that stretch as guards Devon McMillan and Aary Bibens were both sidelined, leaving the Pioneers thin in the backcourt.

Molloy refused to go away quietly as they responded with a 7-0 burst of their own with 2:31 to go in regulation. Senior guard Brandon Williams who tallied 18 points for the evening, splashed in a pair of free throws to tie the game at 54 apiece.

Hall continued his breakout-campaign for the Pioneers, logging 24 points and nine rebounds. Senior guard Dillon Burns racked up 12 points, eight assists and four boards. Junior forward Greg Dotson scored a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Defensively, the Pioneers held the visitors to just 27 percent shooting from the field and only 24 percent from downtown.

The Pioneers returned to the floor on Saturday, Feb. 13, where they came up short against Queens College (8-12) in another ECC tilt, 76-65, at Fitzgerald Gymnasium.

Although the Pioneers trailed throughout most of the game, they eclipsed an 8-0 spurt to tie the game at 42-all at the 13:54 mark of the latter stanza. Dotson paved the way with three consecutive baskets and Burns buried a jumper to even things up.

However, Queens re-fueled themselves and pushed the pedal to the medal, taking a 65-53 lead, pulling away from the visitors. Queens guard Simon Green finished with 20 points off the bench to lead all scorers. For the Pioneers, Burns collected 13 points before fouling out. The visitors struggled from the field, shooting just 33 percent and 16 percent from downtown.

Head Coach Erik Smiles and his Pioneer squad now drop to 9-7 in ECC play and look to rebound Friday, Feb. 19, versus Daemen College in Amherst, N.Y. Tip-off is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.



SALINA WEBSON

Junior guard Jared Hall tries his luck from the free-throw line against Molloy College

### **Baseball Botches Opening Weekend**

#### By Michael Otero

Co-Editor-in-Chief

The baseball team got its season underway on Saturday, Feb. 13, in Gaffney, S.C. as it played a set of games against Limestone College. The Pioneers dropped both of those games by scores of 4-1 and 5-2.

In game one, the Pioneers plated their first and only run curtesy of three wild pitches. Limestone evened up the game in the third inning on a run-scoring single, and one inning later they seemed poised to do more damage. With the bases loaded, Limestone added one run, but the Pioneers turned a key double-play to escape the threat. Limestone scored an additional two runs in the fifth and six innings thanks to wild pitches.

Junior pitcher Jake DeCarli took the loss, his first of the year, while tossing 4.2 innings, allowing three earned runs and striking out five. His counterpart, sophomore southpaw Anders DeShields, went seven frames, giving up one earned run and fanning five Pioneers.

In the second game, both teams got on the board early. After sophomore outfielder James Cohan led the game off with a single, fellow sophomore outfielder Rob Andreoli sent him home after he swiped second base. In Limestone's half of the inning, they liked the Pioneers style of play and did their best imitation of it. After a walk and steal of second base, Limestone plated a run on a double to even the score at one.

In the top of the fifth, Andreoli connected again and notched his second RBI of the game with a double, which tied the game at two. In the fifth inning still tied at two, the Pioneer defense committed three errors which directly led to three runs; the big blow being a two-run home run by freshman infielder Chase Allen, which made it 5-2 in favor of Limestone.

Limestone got another strong outing from their starting pitcher, as senior pitcher Bryon Munsterman logged 6.1 innings and struck out eight Pioneers in the process.

Mike Gaffney and the Pioneers are back in action on Friday, Feb. 26, when they play St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas at 1:30 p.m. The Pioneers play their first home game on Tuesday, March 15, against American International College.

### **Athlete of the Week: Honey Roche**

#### By Thomas Scavetta

Assistant Sports Editor

Honey Roche, a senior business administration major, is a midfielder/defender for the women's lacrosse team. Roche was a member of the 2013 National Championship team and made the NCAA All-Tournament Team in 2014. Last season as a junior, Roche scored 28 goals and notched eight assists. She looks to lead the Pioneers to another memorable season.

Q: What influenced your decision to come to Post?

A: I knew I wanted to come to Post the second I stepped on campus. I loved the campus, the lacrosse team, coaching staff and just the overall atmosphere at the school. I knew it was the right fit for me.

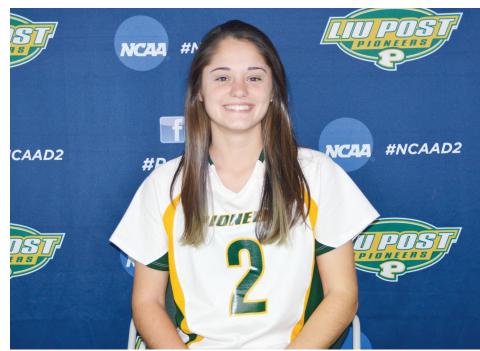
Q: As a senior, how do the younger players look up to you as a leader? A: I try my best to lead by example both on and off the field. I put the team first and I'm always there for my teammates. I hope to be someone the underclassmen can look up to.

Q: Can you describe the feeling of winning a National Championship back in your freshman year?

A: Winning the championship my freshman year was the most unbelievable experience. It's honestly hard to put it into words. It was an amazing way to start off my college career and I would like nothing more than to end on that same note.

Q: How did learning from players like Jackie Sileo and Co. help you grow and develop on the collegiate level?

A: I have played with some incredible alumni, including Jackie Sileo, BC Drost, Bridgett Soares and more. They taught me so much about life and lacrosse and continue to support our team. It was a privilege to be able to play with them.



LIU POST ATHLETICS

Senior defenseman/midfielder Honey Roche

Q: What would you say is your biggest goal this season after you guys weren't given a bid into last year's NCAA Tournament?

A: I think our biggest goal this season is to focus on ourselves. This is a new year and a new team. We can't look back on our past success or failure and we can't look too far ahead. We are just taking it one day at a time and I am very excited to see what this team can do.

Q: How does being a midfielder/defender help you see all aspects of the game on both offense and defense?

A: Playing midfield helps open my eyes and understand more about the game. [Coach] Meg continues to teach me all the little things that help me see the field better and anticipate the next play.

Q: What is the strongest asset of your game and why?

A: I think the strongest asset of my game is my passion. I love the game of lacrosse, sometimes too much. I always push myself to my limits and encourage my teammates to do the same.

Q: How long have you been playing lacrosse and what inspired you to play?

A: I started playing lacrosse in second grade. My older siblings all played, so I couldn't wait to get on the field. I quickly fell in love with the game and couldn't get enough of it.

Q: Do you have any other interests or hobbies?

A: I enjoy playing basketball and spikeball. I always like to try new things (and I usually do that with my siblings) like skydiving or riding in hot air balloons.

Q: What is your favorite part about playing lacrosse?

A: My favorite part about playing lacrosse is just going out there and having fun. That's easy to do when your teammates are your best friends. We make the most out of every practice and love just messing around on the field.

Q: Who is the one person that you most admire?

A: The person I admire most is our old assistant coach, Alyssa Kildare. She has taught me so much about both life and lacrosse. I still keep in touch with her and reach out to her for any advice I need.

Q: What is your most significant moment as an individual in college? A: When I think of my experiences throughout college, I don't consider it an individual effort. Every success and accomplishment has been because of my teammates. Even if it was something off the field, they were the ones pushing me to do my best. My most significant moment as an individual was the day I joined the team, and ever since then it's just been about us as a whole.

# PIONEER Ø SPORTS



#### Results

#### Men's Basketball

Wednesday, Feb. 10 vs Molloy College Won 60-57 Saturday, Feb. 13 @ Queens College Lost 65-76

#### Women's Basketball

Wednesday, Feb. 10 vs Molloy College Lost 87-95 Saturday, Feb. 13 @ Queens College Lost 50-67

#### Baseball

Saturday, Feb. 13 @ Limestone College Lost 1-4 and lost 2-5 Sunday, Feb. 14 @ Limestone College Lost 3-5 and lost 11-12

#### **Upcoming Schedule**

#### Wrestling

Thursday, Feb. 18 vs New York University @ 5 p.m. @ Pratt Recreation Center

#### Men's Basketball

Friday, Feb. 19 @ Daemen College @ 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21 @ Roberts Wesleyan College @ 3:30 p.m.

#### Women's Basketball

Friday, Feb. 19 @ Daemen College @ 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21 @ Roberts Wesleyan College @ 2 p.m.

#### Men's Lacrosse

Saturday, Feb. 20 @ Merrimack College @ 12 p.m.

### Losing Week for Women's Basketball

#### By Michael Otero Co-Editor-in-Chief

Despite putting up 87 points and nearly erasing a double-digit deficit with under a minute left in the fourth quarter, the Pioneers fell to Molloy College by a score of 95-87 on Wednesday, Feb. 10, at the Pratt Recreation Center.

With time running out, the Pioneers trailed 69-59, but rallied to make a game of it. Senior forward Nyasia Davis was the sparkplug who ignited the offense late; scoring seven of the 12 points in a 12-2 run by the Pioneers to force overtime.

In the overtime, neither side gave an edge. Key baskets from senior guard Khea Gibbs and junior forward Melsha Messam propelled the match into another extra session. In the second overtime, Gibbs got the Pioneers off to a solid start, but Molloy answered back with an 8-0 run to put the game on ice.

Davis finished with 26 points and 15 rebounds (both season-highs), while Gibbs added 23 points, five boards and five assists. Molloy was led by six double-digit scorers; with senior guard Alexia O'Connor being the top gun with 21 points on 6-of-7 from the floor. The Pioneers looked to bounce back on Saturday, Feb. 13, when they visited Queens College. Sophomore Queens guard Madison Rowland had other plans though, as she put up 25 points to go along with 13 boards, four steals and three blocks. Rowland and Co. won by a score of 67-50.

The Pioneers played a solid first half and were led by senior guard Jalyn Brown who had seven points including one shot from down town at the break. At intermission, the Pioneers held a 27-25 advantage.

In the second half, Queens put the game out of reach with a combination of great defense and good shots. In points off turnovers in the latter stanza, Queens held a 25-2 upper hand and they also held a 12-2 advantage in fast break points. Queens cruised to victory, due in part to a 12-2 run to open the fourth quarter, which put the game out of reach.

For the Pioneers, Gibbs was the high scorer with 13 while Messam ended up with nine points and seven rebounds. The Pioneers, led by head coach Deirdre Moore, will try and get back on track on Friday, Feb. 19, when they visit Daemen College. Tip-off is set for 6 p.m. from Amherst, N.Y.



Sophomore guard Naya Williams drives baseline versus Molloy College