

ST. JOHN FISHER COLLEGE

# CARDINAL COURIER

**1** TRUMP'S  
YEAR  
**1ST**

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***KNEELING  
FOR THE  
NATIONAL  
ANTHEM***

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**12**  
Movies  
for the  
Holidays



DECEMBER 2017  
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# Farewell My Courier Family

**Y**ou know that cliché saying about life moving way too fast, well guess what, it's probably one of the truest statements to ever exist. Over the course of my last semester at Fisher, I've sadly succumbed to accepting the fact that I will no longer be walking through the doors of Basil Hall every day. I will no longer say hello to friends or professors that I've enjoyed being around for the past three and a half years of my life.

As for my Courier family, I can't even imagine my college career without being a part of something as extraordinary as this organization. I can without a doubt say that I would not be as prepared as I am for the industry if it weren't for the lessons I've learned, the mistakes I've made, and the connections I've developed while working for the Courier. I've become a better writer, a better team player, and most importantly, I've become a better person.

To all of my staff writers, editors, and photographers, your passion for news and dedication to storytelling inspires me beyond words. In everything that you do, never take anything or anyone for granted. Strengthen your relationships and strive to learn as much as you possibly can during your time at Fisher. Be ethical, be kind, and in everything you do, be the best version of yourself that you can be.

I would like to thank Mari Villa, Jack Rosenberry, and Courtney

Haupt for welcoming me into the Courier, taking me under their wings, and giving me the courage to do great things. To Diana Russo, my spunky sidekick, keep on being an outstanding leader and great editor in chief. I would also like to thank all of my fellow staff members over the years, your friendship is something I will cherish forever and I'm so proud to call you all my friends.

When reflecting on my time at Fisher, I find myself feeling a sense of heartache waking up every day knowing that I don't have many days left at such a remarkable institution. It would be unlike me to not call this place my home, my happiness, and in all honesty, one of the greatest places on Earth. I love Fisher, the Cardinal Courier, and to say that I am truly going to miss it would be an understatement.

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## MISSION STATEMENT

*The Cardinal Courier* was created to provide the St. John Fisher College community with quality news coverage. Not only will this news agency work to seek, investigate and report the news, it will strive to do so with honesty and integrity. *The Cardinal Courier* will provide the campus with a medium in which to read interesting news articles, thought-provoking editorials and entertaining features. *Cardinal Courier* staff members hope to inform and educate their readers.

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photos by Jake Allen





# SOUTH ASIAN STREET FOOD COMES TO SOUTH WEDGE



By Christina Johnson  
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After being an internet sensation, the 'rolled' ice cream treat has grown into a real life obsession.



This sweet treat received popularity on the West Coast and now it has arrived to Rochester's South Wedge at the Roll'n Yen Cafe.

The shop opened in August of this year and is now neighbors to Hedonist Artisan Chocolates and Harry Gs New York Deli and Cafe.

The term 'fried' implies that the ice cold treat is fried. However, the ice cream is not actually fried. Instead, cream is poured on a steel freezing plate and then rolled back and forth,

which imitates the motion of something being fried.

"It is different because it is original to each and every person who comes here," said co-owner of the cafe John Syouthoum. "There are many different ways you can make your own ice cream and have it be your own and completely original."

Although a small sitting area can get cramped, the atmosphere is inviting. Ordering an ice cream is not like a typical ice cream shop either. Specific steps are listed to guide you through the process. And better yet, you can stand and watch as each ingredient is added.

First, you choose an ice cream base: chocolate, vanilla, green tea and/or vegan options. Next, choose your first mix-in, which is immediately rolled into the base. Customers can choose from cookie dough or fresh fruits, including mango and blueberries. In the next step, customers chose another topping like crushed waffle cones or M&Ms. The final step is

to choose a sauce, such as caramel or whipped cream.

Compared to a regular sundae at Abbott's Frozen Custard, which costs \$6.25, a large cup at Roll'n Yen is priced at \$5.55.

If you're nervous to try this new fad, don't fret. Free samples are available which can help narrow down the number of choices that need to be made.

According to Syouthoum, Thursday through Saturday are the busiest days at the cafe. Thursday begins the busy weekend as there is a 10 percent discount to students and teachers. Fridays and Saturdays are almost equally popular because it is a chance for people to relax and enjoy the sweet treat.

As the popularity of the ice cream picks up towards the weekends, Syouthoum and his wife, the other co owner Tee, enlist the help of their niece and nephew

because they want to keep their family involved with the cafe's success.

This frozen treat is also popular around the world due to its Asian roots. Fried ice cream originated from Southeast Asia and it is labeled as a street food. Typically rolled in a shape of a log, other places like Taiwan shave the treat and top it with sweet red or green beans. The shaved texture is preferred because it is easier to eat more at once during the summer.

"We created it because it is close to our nationality," said Syouthoum. "We wanted to bring a piece of our nationality here for people to enjoy and experience."

Whether newly opened in town or rolling into its adult years, Roll'n Yen Cafe could satisfy any sweet tooth.



All photos by Jake Allen

## Roll'n Yen Cafe

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Fri - Sat.....1-11 p.m.

Sun.....1-8:30 p.m.

# Hitting the books for finals



By Olivia Musacchio  
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Senior Mary Locigno // Photo by Jake Allen

As finals week approaches, sleep isn't an option, Ramen noodles become a must-have and you may even have the urge to get a doctor's note for the newly found arthritis in your hand.

The influx of essays and cumulative tests can create stress and exhaustion. However, if students utilize services on campus and study smart, they may eliminate some pressures of exam week.

Lee Ann Cocco, a mental health counselor in the Health and Wellness Center, has promoted the new relaxation room in room 107 in the Wegmans School of Nursing.

"The relaxation room is now open during free periods on Thursdays, but increasingly it's going to be open after hours, on weekends, and students are going to be able to schedule it," said Cocco.

The relaxation room is a stress-free environment that has bean bag chairs, yoga mats, a fireplace and a biofeedback program on the computer that lets students become more aware of their stress.

The Lavery Library is a place for students to call a 'second home' because it

is open for extended hours during finals week. Normally, the library is open Monday through Thursday from 7:45 a.m. to midnight. On Fridays it's open from 7:45 a.m. to 10 p.m., on Saturdays it's open from 8:45 a.m. to 10 p.m., and on Sundays it's open from 8:45 a.m. to midnight. However, extended hours will be posted online and on the entrance doors to the library.

"During finals week, we provide refreshments, earplugs, and highlighters," said Kourtney Blackburn, Lavery Library Librarian. "We also have popular reading, movies, and board and video games you can borrow to help unwind."

The library is also suited for a variety of study needs.

"We have different study spaces to fit student needs," said Blackburn. "Our upper level is a designated quiet floor with open spaces and study rooms. The main level has a mix of spaces where individuals and groups can study or work together. Students can get research help for their projects, papers, or assignments from a librarian at the Research Help Desk. The lower level has open spaces and a computer lab."

Although resources are

available to help students succeed, they must still take personal responsibility for their stress level. If students stay hydrated, eat healthy, sleep well, exercise, and take breaks, they may be able to manage stress better.

Freshman Hannah Spoljaric finds that balancing her time and studies comes naturally.

"I tend to watch YouTube videos, specifically Crash Course," said Spoljaric. "I study by myself for some classes but I usually have someone studying with me to keep me on task."

It is important to study effectively because this can make a student feel prepared and confident. Different study methods are worth exploring within every student, until they find the best match.

Professor Katrina Arndt said, "Research around adolescents shows that often they think they are working hard while they are shifting from task to task and the reality and research is that is not actually as effective, so I would recommend figuring out what works well for providing extended periods of focus."

## Stress Relief

Q&A

with Lee Ann Cocco

From your experience, what elevates students' stress?

Actually what I think elevates students' stress is when they don't do healthy things to manage it. If you don't know how to manage stress or have the tools to manage it, you try to manage it in ways that aren't healthy.

How can Fisher students relieve stress here on campus?

There are a lot of ways. So one way is the relaxation room, which is currently open during free periods on Thursdays in the Health and Wellness Center. Things like going to yoga and zumba classes here at Fisher, or exercising. Working out is a great stress reliever.

Do you have any tips and tricks for students when they begin to feel stressed?

The sooner you catch it the better. If you notice yourself getting irritable or easily emotional or overwhelmed feeling, that's the time to take a time out. Take a walk, talk to a friend, go to the gym, and figure out what's causing the stress.

What steps can students take to eliminate stress in their lives?

Top of the list I would say would be to establish a regular schedule. Our brains work more effectively when we have a schedule and if our brains aren't working well then we are going to be more at risk for stress.



# A Test for Professors

*Course evaluations may be the only chance for students to provide feedback on their professors, but statistics say they aren't filling them out*



Evan Bourtis  
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Professors test students the entire semester. But Fisher sets up professors for their final exam on the first day of school. Students begin to formulate judgements on the same day syllabi are handed out and then vocalize them in a final examination.

It is required that St. John Fisher places course evaluations for all classes on Blackboard near the end of the semester. Surveys are identical in order for students to fairly rate certain aspects of a course on a scale of 1-7 or write a written response. These questions include how prepared an instructor was for a class, how knowledgeable an instructor was in the subject and what the instructor could have done differently. Students have the option of opting out of the survey as well.

"Generally, I write more comments on courses that are important to me, like courses in my major," said senior Alex Schmitt. "And courses that I, not necessarily liked or disliked, but where I had a strong opinion on. Usually when I'm in the middle, I don't write as many comments."

Kristin Anderson, Coordinator of Institutional Assessment and Planning at Fisher, thinks that there should be other methods of collecting data about a professor's teaching ability besides the Blackboard evaluations, especially because the response rates are often low. Ander-



Evren Durmaz fills out a course evaluation // Photo by Jake Allen

son said that the average response rates are approximately 60-65 percent each semester.

From processing evaluations, Anderson has decided that course evaluations can give professors good student feedback about the ways they can change a course.

"I think it's one of the better methods that's out there," said Anderson. "I mean, I think that professors should be doing their own assessments in their classes and I think a lot of them do to see if what they're teaching is getting through to the students. But a good end of the semester summary of what went on for the students for that semester is the best method to get some feedback at the end."

Student Andrew Fedele believes that the questions the course evaluations ask are fair and are a good way to judge the effectiveness of an instructor.

"I think it's a good way for us students to get our message across to the teacher to see if they're doing a good job or not," said Fedele.

Anderson explained that, although the professor is the only one who can read the comments, the department chair, provost, and deans can see 1-7 ratings. This helps determine if a professor is promoted to tenure. However, it is not the only determining factor. Professors seeking tenure put together a Rank and Tenure Toolkit to present in front of a committee, which is a presentation of materials to show they are qualified to be tenure.

However, since professors are not receiving inclusive responses from the majority of their students, some professors think other methods of measurement are more effective than course evaluations.

Biology professor Maryann Herman, who participated in faculty assemblies to make course evaluations more effective, creates her own student evaluations for her courses. She accomplishes this through a written ques-

tionnaire, asking students to fill out a short response on an activity in class, or a written reflection on an exam.

Individually distributed evaluations allow Herman to ask questions specific to activities and her teaching style, rather than asking the same questions for both lectures and hands-on classes.

Herman and Michael Boller, a biology professor, both didn't find the question 'does your effort in the course reflect the grade you received' useful in determining how well an instructor taught the class.

"Students don't know what it means," said Herman. "I don't know what it means and it also implies all effort is the same in terms of time."

Herman likes the idea of asking students their opinions on a course or a professor, but believes that the questions the Blackboard questionnaires ask are flawed.

"There's questions about how much time did you spend outside of this course, but there should also be questions about how many days did you study before exams or prepare for assignments before they were due," added Herman.

Although there may be flaws in course evaluations, Boller believes some aspects of course evaluations do provide advice on

improving a course. Boller typically spends half an hour reviewing the course evaluations per course, focusing most of his time reading the comments and thinking about how to improve areas that were below an average score.

"We certainly use them to try to be reflective and modify and improve our courses," said Boller. "It is a good mechanism for feedback and sometimes you'll get really good feedback about students liking certain aspects of a course and maybe you question whether that was a good idea or not. And that can be really helpful."

## COURSE EVALUATIONS

### A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS

#### BLACKBOARD COURSE EVALUATIONS

Each course requires a student evaluation



Feedback is used to evaluate professors and improve courses



#### Response by students

In the UC Berkeley Department of Statistics in fall 2012, 1486 students rated the instructor's overall effectiveness and their enjoyment of the course

Correlation between instructor effectiveness and course enjoyment

0.75 75%

Correlation between course effectiveness and course enjoyment

0.80 80%

Graphic by Jake Allen



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# CHECKING IT TWICE

This is not Santa's naughty or nice list. Check out page 10 for a list of 12 movies that will get you in the holiday spirit.



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It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, everywhere you go. This is an unranked list of classics or new films that can turn any Grinch's frown upside down. So throw on a Christmas sweater, break out some figgy pudding and turn on your TV. Visit [cardinalcourieronline.com](http://cardinalcourieronline.com) for a list of 25 movies.

**1 Home Alone (1990)**  
The freedom and fun that comes with staying home alone entices 8-year-old Kevin McCallister. After he hopes for his family's disappearance, his home alone wish comes true. However, things begin to turn sour when two bumbling cat burglars plan to rob his home. It's up to Kevin to defend it.

**Home Alone II (1992)**  
Kevin McCallister is back and is left alone again, this time in New York City. With the whole city at his fingertips, Kevin tries to make the most of his trip to the big apple until the same bumbling cat burglars try to put a kink in his plan. Now it's up to Kevin to defend a toy store.



**2 A Bad Moms Christmas (2017)**

You won't watch this comedy in your pajamas because you might still catch it in theaters. If moms start to rebel this Christmas, don't be surprised because this film might make them trade in wrapping paper for party shoes. The movie features a group of moms rebelling against the classic mom roles of the holiday and living up the Christmas season to the fullest.

**4**

**Rudolph the Rednose Reindeer (1964)**

We all know the song, but have you seen the movie? If not, it's definitely worth a watch. It features love, action, adventure, danger and a singing snowman. What more can a person want in a movie?

**5**

**The Grinch (1966 & 2000)**

What goes better with Christmas than converting someone into a believer of Christmas? This classic movie will make you hate, love and relate to this green outcast many know as The Grinch.

**6**

**Elf (2003)**

Santa's little helper is reworked in this lighthearted comedy featuring Will Ferrell as Buddy. However, he doesn't fit in with the rest of the elves, perhaps it's the fact that he's 6-foot-3. Once Buddy finds out that he is adopted, he leaves the North Pole and seeks out his biological father in New York City. But he soon finds out that the world is not all candy canes and gumdrops.



**A Christmas Story (1983)**

This Christmas classic gains its popularity from the refreshing and relatable depiction of an average family in the 1940s. The movie takes adults back to their childhood, but now it holds sentimental value for them.

**7**

**Why Him? (2016)**

The holiday season is typically full of love and family. However, when overprotective father Ned (Bryan Cranston) travels to California to visit his daughter Stephanie (Zoey Deutch), things go south. Her family meets her rich, socially awkward boyfriend Laird (James Franco) and learns that Laird is about to pop the question to the disapproval of Ned.

**8**

**The Polar Express (2004)**

Hot, hot oh this train has it with a magical ride to the North Pole. With help from the train conductor, friends and a mysterious hobo, a young boy embarks on a journey to rediscover the meaning of Christmas. "Seeing is believing, but sometimes the most real things in the world are the things we can't see." Just don't forget your ticket and sit back and enjoy the hot chocolate.

**9**

**Christmas Vacation (1989)**

Clark Griswold (Chevy Chase) wants to have a perfect family Christmas. However, things quickly turn disastrous for the Griswold family with a surprise visit from family members and an electrocuted cat.



**10**

**11**

**Eight Crazy Nights (2002)**

We all know one party animal that can't seem to get things straight. That party animal in this Christmas comedy is Davey Stone. He could have went to jail for reckless behavior but a judge grants him a pardon because of the holiday season. But there is a catch. He must perform community service to prohibit his stay behind bars. Can he handle Whitney, a seemingly elf head referee?

**12**

**Frosty the Snowman (1969)**

There must have been some magic in that old silk hat they found, for when a couple of kids placed it on their snowman's head, Frosty the Snowman was brought to life. When temperatures start to rise, young Karen hops on a train with Frosty to get him to the North Pole to save his life. However, that old hat belonged to the magician Hinkle and he wants it back. It's a race against the clock in this classic.



# These boots are made for walking



Diana Russo  
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Shopping for an updated weather appropriate wardrobe can seem like walking into a grocery aisle full of the same product, just made by a different company.

Choosing the 'best' boots to buy as the harsh winter weather approaches can be just as redundant, costly and frustrating.

I have yet to find a boot that is fashionable, comfortable and durable enough to last in Rochester's winters. During my quest to find the perfect boots, there were only a few that made a lasting impression.

## UGGS

UGG boots are a female must have. Whether you're quickly throwing on the classic boot with leggings or a

hoodie, they are a go-to. I'm not sure they will ever go out of style. The inside of the boot is made of sheepskin and UGG claims they are pretreated to repel water and stains. However, I have noticed that with repetitive wear, salt stains are inevitable. Additionally, the boot is very heavy and I often find myself scuffing my feet against the ground. As a result, the boot's heel begins to become thinner than the rest of the shoe's bottom. Not to mention, these boots cost \$140-\$260 and they might only last one or two full winters.

UGG also creates a number of waterproof boots and rain boots that still have a costly price tag. We are all looking for a boot that actually repels water and keeps your feet warm in the snow. These boots might accomplish that, but they are clunky, and they look like boots you would purchase to go sledding. Most rain boots have a wide leg and a large rounded toe. For those who are petite, I have found that this shape is not flattering.

Shelby Howard, Call Center Customer Service Representative for DSW Shoeophilia!, said that UGGs are purchased for style and are used minimally because they get dirty and wear out quickly.

## HUNTER

I'm not sure if it would be fall if I didn't mention the well-known Hunter Boots. They might not scream 'date night outfit', but they are very popular, which might be accredited to their durability. The original adjustable rain boot is still available to purchase for \$160, but Hunter was not ignoring the fact that there was a demand for something new and sleek. For only \$5 more, you can purchase the original refined rain boot with thinner leather, a slim leg fit and a smaller curved toe. The same old and new styles can be purchased in an ankle boot as well. And if you are looking to walk the streets of New York City on a rainy day, you may even be interested in purchasing their original refined high heel chelsea boot. But for \$195, I might just stick to purchasing an irresistible pump.

"Those ones, I would also say are pretty much built for durability as well," said Howard. "I do know they have quite a few Hunter brand boots that do implement elements of style, but I feel like the bare bones of it, it's really meant for durability and lasting for awhile."

## KEDS

Another notable mention that might be unexpected is Keds' creation of a water and stain repellant boot. The scout splash boot has a sleek design and isn't as clunky as others. For \$69.95, these extremely comfortable boots are a steal. It isn't a surprise that the comfort outweighs the appearance of the boot because the sole is covered with a cushioned Ortholite insole. The design of the boot creates a concealed tie around the ankle, which was the only downfall. I might have purchased them if I was able to wear them with a pair of jeans or joggers, but the closed ankle prohibited that.

## SPERRY



Sperry, or the infamous duck boot, might have been the most comfortable fall footwear I have tried on. I was very close to purchasing the saltwater duck boot, until I realized the \$120 price tag wasn't worth falling for. I am not completely in love with the style of the boot, even

though you can customize your own boots online. Yet, the second I slipped my foot inside these popular shoes, I realized why they were so popular. I have no doubt it is because they are very comfortable and warm. Normally, rubber boots remind me of a piece of plastic shielding my feet from frostbite. But when I put these on, it felt like a waterproof sleeping bag was encasing my feet.

Sperry also makes a stereotypical rain boot that incorporates a little more style than other boots for sale. The walker wind wool rain boot is only \$84.95 and it is covered with wool on the outside. However, they still have the unflattering large toe and wide leg opening. Although not as comfortable, the aerial beck rain boot is cut off at the ankle and is lined with fleece on the inside. This \$79.95 boot looks like a typical fashionable boot, just waterproof. I also like that the toe is more narrow than most and I think the buckle strap and rigid back adds style to what could be a very plain shoe.

## MICHAEL KORS



It isn't uncommon to see name brand boots on the streets as well. Michael Kors also has a small line of rain boots for purchase. Although I am not impressed with the small selection, some can't resist buying the Michael Kors brand, even if they have to dish out \$60-\$140. Each boot is about calf length and waterproof. A rounded toe makes these boots much more fashionable, but my favorite is the tweed and rubber rain boot. Unlike the rest, it is not made out of 100 percent rubber. Instead, the sparkly sides help to make them unique. Since the sole of the shoe is rubber, the comfort level may not be the same as the satisfying Sperry boots.

"I think when a lot of our customers shop with us, I think they definitely look more often than not, they'll look at the brand name first," said Howard. "Just because typically you know the brand names are associated with a certain element that they're interested in. Whether that be design or quality."

Although there might be a number of different styles and brands to choose from, I have yet to find a boot that satisfies both the impeccable style of a fashion boot and the durability of a snow boot. If you can compromise one for the other, there is a boot waiting for you amongst the dozen others.

All photos by Diana Russo



# FASHION FORWARD

Hues of red and grey for those winter blues



PHOTOGRAPHY: JAKE ALLEN

FEATURING: MORGAN THIEL, CLAIRE SAUTER, & MORGAN VAN DER HORST



# 1 President Trump's controversial 1st year in office



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Photo by Gage Skidmore via Flickr



Photo by Jake Allen

As the 45th President of the United States, President Donald Trump's election has been marked as one of the most controversial elections in U.S. history and has developed a division of support among the American people throughout his time in office.

Across the entire country, college campuses discussed, analyzed, and closely followed the election. According to USA Today, 55 percent of millennials voted for Hillary Clinton, 37 percent voted for Donald Trump and eight percent voted other, based on a poll of 24,537 respondents.

In comparison, 76 percent of Fisher students who participated in a Twitter poll said that they do not feel the country is heading in the right direction with the current administration. While 53 percent of Fisher students who participated in a similar Twitter poll said they do not feel they are accurately represented as Americans by the current establishment.

Senior anthropology and economics major, Caelan Welch, voted for Hillary Clinton and feels that President Trump's time in office has creat-

ed a division among political parties and in Washington as a whole.

"American politics is extremely polarized right now," Welch said. "I think that creates a very hostile environment for bipartisanship."

The election of President Trump comes after eight years of leadership under former President Barack Obama. With the two major political parties, democrat and republican, a separation of viewpoints and opinions have been central to the American political system for years.

"On the other hand, I think the president has brought a considerable amount of attention to a variety of important issues just by being such a divisive character," said Welch. "Essentially, he creates conversation about issues that otherwise might have been swept under the rug."

According to the United States Census Bureau, 61.4 percent of the citizen voting-age population voted in the recent election.

In comparison, during the 2012 re-election of former President Obama, 61.8 percent of the citizen voting-age population voted as cited by the United States Census Bureau.

As a registered independent, Welch believes that no matter the political party, elected officials must maintain the interests of the American people.

"Policy should be dictated by what is right and what is needed, not by the people who happened to contribute the most to a politician's re-election," said Welch.

Out of the 538 members within the Electoral College, only 270 votes were needed to win the 2016 election. President Trump pulled ahead on the evening of election day, resulting in a 304 to 227 win over Clinton.

As a supporter of President Trump, senior psychology major Chelsea Sinclair feels that President Trump's time in office has brought about change that was needed in Washington.

"Business is thriving, job numbers are increasing, unemployment is decreasing and the [Dow Jones] has levels that people did not believe possible," said Sinclair. "The [Dow Jones] reached 23,000, which means American growth."

As a registered conservative, Sinclair believes American pride is important in moving forward and is

Story continues on page 18



Continued from page 17  
hopeful more Americans will come together.

"I believe we need to keep coming together as Americans and know that it is okay to be proud to be an American," said Sinclair. "We need to stop shutting out other people's ideas and we need to be coming together. What I have found is that, for the most part, everyone wants the same outcome, the success of our country, people just have different ways to reach that goal so it is all about communicating those ideas and listening to each other."

Dr. Wes Renfro serves as chair of the department of political science and legal studies at Fisher and feels that the election process is in need of reform.

"The election was held in accordance with the rules, [for example] the Electoral College, that govern presidential elections," said Renfro. "Like many, I find this system to be antiquated and in need of reform as it allows candidates who lose what we call the popular vote to win the presidency. This is corrosive to democracy."

As a professor, Renfro stresses the importance of bipartisanship in order to better serve the American people.

"The degree of partisanship in the United States has been increasing

for quite some time," said Renfro. "However, most empirical measures indicate that this gap has further increased since Donald Trump's election."

Jane Snyder, visiting assistant professor for the department of political science and legal studies, received her law degree from Catholic University of America and incorporates daily news into her lectures in order to keep students informed on relevant political situations.

"I am constantly bringing current events into my classrooms and connecting them to class content," said Snyder. "By relating it to class content, I feel students are then able to see the importance of political topics."

Worried for her children and students, Snyder feels that President Trump's first year has been unsuccessful in many ways.

"[President Trump] seems to care little for the need for healthcare as a basic American right," said Snyder. "He cares little for the environment including protection of National Parks. He has appointed many members of his cabinet that I have little respect for."

When asked what the American people can do to move forward in a positive and ethical manner under the current political establishment, both Renfro and Snyder encouraged the simple act of staying up to date on what is going on in the U.S. and around the world.

"Read, listen, and watch as much 'mainstream' or 'establishment' media as possible and vote," said Renfro. "We have to be aware and vigilant," said Snyder. "We have to work together to stop the president from doing things that are antithetical to the people of our country. As citizens we have a responsibility to care about the people of our country but there is also a global responsibility we should be aware of. Caring about people doesn't stop at the borders."

Thirty-five percent of adults approve of how President Trump is handling the job of president, according to Gallup. By comparison, former President Barack Obama's approval rating was 50 percent at this time during his first term.

As citizens we have a responsibility to care about the people of our country but there is also a global responsibility we should be aware of. Caring about people doesn't stop at the borders."

– Professor Jane Snyder

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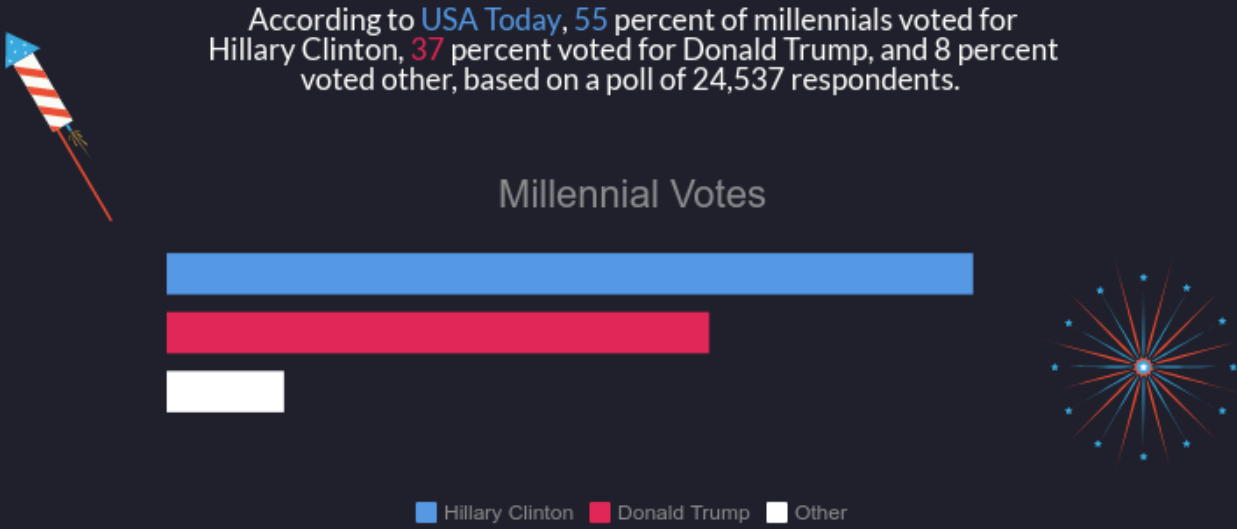
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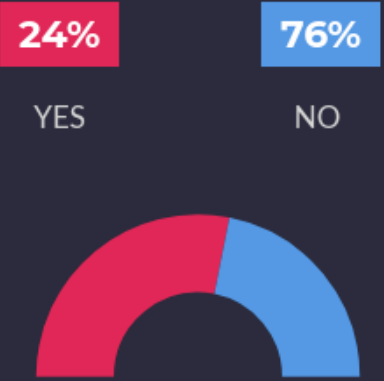
# ACCORDING TO THE POLLS

## COLLEGE STUDENTS WEIGH IN ON PRESIDENT TRUMP



### DO YOU FEEL THAT OUR COUNTRY IS HEADING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION UNDER THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION?

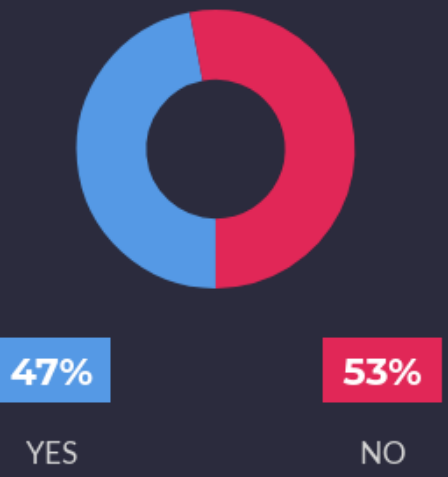
76% Fisher students who participated in a quick Twitter poll said that they do not feel the country is heading in the right direction with the current administration.



\*19 Fisher Students participated on Nov. 7

### DO YOU FEEL YOU ARE REPRESENTED ACCURATELY AS AN AMERICAN UNDER THE CURRENT ESTABLISHMENT?

53% of Fisher students who participated in a similar Twitter poll said they do not feel they are accurately represented as an American by the current establishment.



\*15 Fisher Students participated on Nov. 7



Photos and graphic by Jake Allen



# Around the world talent



Brian Boye  
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The majority of students at Fisher may reside in New York, but the Fisher family extends past the borders of the United States.

According to Liz Lachance, the Director of Institutional Research, 96 percent of undergraduate students live in New York state and three percent live out of state. Out of the 2,759 undergraduate students, one is a dual citizen and six are international students.

Thanks to recruiting, sports allows students from all over the world to find Fisher.

Alexa Montemayor, an outfielder on the softball team, is from Pearland, Texas, located just outside of Houston. When she was a sophomore in high school, she met Fisher softball coach Bari Mance at a recruiting tournament in Miami, Florida.

"Fisher surprised me," said Montemayor. "I liked it more than I thought I would and I'm glad I came here."

Last year the team won the Empire 8 Championship and finished second in the NCAA Division III Softball Championship.

"It's mostly the same team and we've had some more freshman that I think can help us be just as successful as last year," said Montemayor.

During her visit as a senior in high school, Montemayor enjoyed the fall foliage in October. Only a small portion of Texas contains deciduous forests, which are trees with leaves that change color and fall off.

Mark Scanlon is also from the Southern U.S. and had to get acclimated to the New York climate. Scanlon is from Oviedo, Florida and he is a guard on the men's basketball team. He found a spot at Fisher after his high school basketball coach sent out game film to universities that could be the

best fit for his players.

Scanlon was enticed by "the history of the basketball program" and "the small community where everyone is close with each other."

Last season the team had a record of 23-6 and won the Empire 8 Championship. This year the team has a new head coach, Mike Grosodonia II.

"I'm just excited for the season," said Scanlon. "Being 19th in the nation we have a target on our back but I think we have a lot to prove as well."

Even further away is Liga Astra Kalnina, from the Eastern European nation of Latvia. She is from the city of Jelgava, a distance of 4,177 miles from Rochester. While living in Massachusetts as an exchange student, she was recruited by the women's basketball program at a showcase in Albany.

"I definitely get home sick and it's hard because Europe is seven hours ahead so it's hard to talk to my friends and family, but I'm definitely keeping myself busy here," said Kalnina.

She is a forward on the women's basketball team, is on the e-board for the honors program and is a double major in Biology and Philosophy.

Even with a busy schedule, she looks to return to the Empire 8 Semifinals with an entirely new coaching staff this year.

"If I play basketball then I better make the most of it," said Kalnina. "If I show up to practice I better give my 100 percent, I better be energized, I better be going for every ball and every rebound."



Field hockey team // Photo courtesy of Fisher Athletics

## Take a Stand Not a Knee



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United States citizens unite on the idea of nationalism but have recently taken a knee against the principles that establish our country. From sea to shining sea, people of all ages and races have come together to take a stand. But Fisher has not joined this protest.

At Fisher there hasn't been a public form of protest involving a sports team. Athletics Director Bob Ward indicated he has no plan for an instance like this, but he does not believe that suspension would need to be the result.

Upon discussion with players and the coaching staff, a main focus of the locker room has been an emphasis on family.

"It definitely has been a topic throughout the locker room, but

as a whole it's nothing more than a conversation and has had no negative effect on us as a team on or off the field," said running back James Chambers. "(It) shows how close we are as not just a team, but as a family."

Many reference the controversy surrounding Colin Kaepernick, former San Francisco 49ers quarterback. Contrary to stereotypical behavior, he sat during the national anthem at football games, gaining national attention.

He was attempting to raise awareness of the injustices that occur in our current system by not conforming to the 'norms' of society.

"I think the act of protesting the national anthem is in no way, shape or form focusing on the issue that it is supposedly bringing attention to," said former Fisher football player Justin Hersey.

Ward believes there is more to the NFL protests than football fans just see on the surface.

"(The protests) brought to light that

we need to talk about the issues at hand," said Ward. "The protests are against a symbol, a non-organic entity; this may turn into more meaning and more action with people dealing with these specific issues at hand."

The protests evoked a conversation about the social injustices that we currently face in America. It has evolved into a collective movement of unity by several players, coaches and organizations in the NFL as a whole. The Dallas Cowboys and Pitts-

burgh Steelers have decided to lock arms together to show their unity.

Here at Fisher, football coach Paul Vosburgh recognized the unity of the football team and how they can connect to that part of the movement.

"Nobody has shown any kind of protest," said Vosburgh. "Our guys are true Americans and very supportive of each other."

Ward highlighted a few instances where Fisher athletes have shown tremendous acts of patriotism. There has been two instances where audio malfunctions turned into a prideful singing of the national anthem as a team; last year at the ECAC ASA S. Bushnell Champi-

onship bowl game for football and at a women's volleyball game.

"The CD wasn't working when playing the anthem and we felt as if we skipped it, it wasn't respectful to the game," said senior Katie Mazierski, member of the women's volleyball team. "The majority of sporting events a person goes to, there's some form of thanks to our country."

**"Our guys are true Americans and very supportive of each other."**

— Paul Vosburgh



Liga Astra Kalnina // Photo courtesy of Liga Astra Kalnina



Alexa Montemayor Fishing in the Gulf of Mexico // Photo courtesy of Alexa Montemayor





Current coach Mike Grosodonia (Above) // Photo by Diana Russo  
Former coach Rob Kornaker (Right) // Photo courtesy of Fisher Athletics

# The next shot



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Men's basketball coach Mike Grosodonia II knew that basketball would play a major role in his life once his playing days were over. After his career with Brockport ended, Grosodonia had a feeling that coaching would be the next step to keep himself involved with the game.

His first stint began by helping out at his alma mater Greece Olympia, and since then he has not looked back.

"I just fell in love with coaching young kids and trying to teach them to play the right way," said Grosodonia.

He would then work his way up the coaching ranks until he got his break as the head coach of Rochester's own Aquinas Institute. In his tenure with the Little Irish, Grosodonia built up one of the most decorated resumes in Western New York.

Grosodonia compiled a .836 winning percentage, won six Section V Championships in Class AA and A and guided Aquinas to its first New York State Public High School Athletic Association State Championship in the 2015-2016 season. He is also a two time All-Greater Rochester Coach of the Year and a

Class AA Coach of the Year.

With such lofty achievements in such close proximity, it was no surprise for former head basketball coach Rob Kornaker to add a coach like Grosodonia to his staff before the 2016-2017 season. What made the hire that much more unique was that Kornaker and Grosodonia had a long standing friendship prior to him even being on the staff.

The two would then help Fisher to one of the most successful basketball seasons in program history. Finishing with a 23-6 overall record, and a 15-1 mark in the Empire 8 conference, the 2016-2017 Cardinals captured yet another Empire 8 conference champion-



ship, en route to a trip into the second round of the NCAA playoffs.

They would be preparing to continue on with the triumphs of last season, but Kornaker surprised many in the Athletics Department, because after 16 seasons he decided to step down as the men's head basketball coach.

Kornaker leaves behind a successful regime where he compiled 312 career wins, a .716 career winning percentage and won seven conference championships in his time. Only the third head coach in school history, he led the program to its first undefeated regular season back in 2004-2005, and guided Fisher to its deepest postseason run with an Elite 8 appearance in 2006.

The move was fueled by Kornaker's desire to spend more time with his family. His youngest child Griffin is currently playing basketball at Middlebury College in Vermont, so having missed a decent portion of his son's time as a player, Kornaker felt it was time to focus on following the Panthers' season and traveling to as many games as possible.

The transition from coach to father was announced on Oct. 2, which could have been troublesome as it was close to the start of the season. Internally, however, Kornaker made this move wholeheartedly because he would be handing the reigns to someone he felt was up to the task.

"He's more than ready for the job," said Kornaker. "Not only do I think he is a great coach and really good person, he's one of my best friends. The program couldn't be in better hands and I'm looking forward to watching coach

G build on our winning tradition."

Grosodonia received a vote of confidence from Kornaker, and now looks to replicate the type of achievements his predecessor produced.

"The one thing I loved about his decision was that he told me I was ready," said Grosodonia. "I think it was important for him to say that. He said he wouldn't have stepped away if he didn't think that I'd be able to do a great job."

The 2017-2018 season will be a new look all around for the Cardinals, replacing one of the most accomplished players in program history, Keegan Ryan. Without his 6-foot-8 presence in the middle, Fisher may need to incorporate a more up tempo offense to utilize their many scorers, ball handlers and three-point shooters on the perimeter.

Senior forward Jake Haight feels ready to take on this challenge and believes this year's success will come from how the team has transferred over to coach Grosodonia's new role.

"It has been the smoothest transition from what happened with coach K, considering how soon it happened before the season," said Haight. "Everyone has known coach G for a year and they know his coaching style. I don't think this situation could have gone any better for us."

Senior Alex Sausville looks to be a

key contributor on Grosodonia's new look squad, despite missing most of the preseason to injury. Although he has not gotten the full on-court experience of working with Grosodonia this season, what Sausville has seen in his time out is the new energy he is infusing into the program.

"I am very excited for the year ahead, both for us as a team, but also for coach G," said Sausville. "He seems to be really enjoying it, and I look forward to being a part of that."

The ability to have control over a program is something that Grosodonia has relished, but at the end of the day there are other aspects of this job that are more important to him. By taking on this position, he has been fortunate to stay home and keep his family in Rochester. He also has the opportunity to become ingrained in Fisher's developed culture for many years to come.

"I'm excited to know that for the

next 15-20 years, or longer, of my life that I can be apart of the St. John Fisher community and family, and build relationships like coach K did," said Grosodonia.

He added, "I think that's most important, I feel

like this is a family place. This isn't a stepping stone for me; this is a place I can see myself retiring from and being apart for the next part of my life."

**"The one thing I loved about his decision was that he told me I was ready. I think it was important for him to say that."**

— Mike Grosodonia



Fisher Men's Basketball Team 2017 // Photo by Diana Russo



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