

ST. JOHN FISHER COLLEGE

CARDINAL COURIER



#MeToo

Here's the Deal:
Drugs on Campus

Radio Social
*A fresh, fun experience
in the city of Rochester*

FEBRUARY 2018
VOLUME 3, ISSUE 4

Editorial

Photo Courtesy of Jake Allen



Every day something new emerges in the news surrounding President Donald Trump, sexual assault, mass shootings, immigration policies, deadly diseases and the economy, just to name a few.

Most of the time these issues are shared on a broad scale to the United States and beyond to give readers a sense of what that setback or triumph is like. With the constant flow of dynamic news content, the good and bad seem to never end.

Understanding what it is like to struggle with an addiction can be difficult to comprehend when you scroll through CNN and read about a man addicted to opioids in another state. If you're unsure of how to feel about the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), you might not be alone. Complicated issues circulate news organizations and often they seem out of reach from Rochester.

News does not wait and it will always remain. Therefore, understanding large issues and forming an opinion on them is crucial and needs to be localized because these problems do not discriminate.

The Fisher family is not excluded from the members of society who have a mental illness or who may be forced to leave the only country they ever knew because of DACA. The Cardinal Courier presents a local lens to broad issues and provides a perspective that is uncommonly covered in mainstream news.

The Cardinal Courier exists to give individuals affected by these issues a voice on campus. Without a news organization for Fisher students, resources and a local perspective disappears with the 'Fisher Cares' motto.

Students are at the center of every product produced. Without a local perspective, the microphone students have through the Cardinal Courier will be muted.

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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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Contents

4 Fisher Unwrapped
Olivia Musacchio

5 Between Fisher's
Eerie Walls
Nicholas Klein

6 A Taste of Spring
Joshua Bsoul

8 Radio Social
Brian Boye

10 Here's the Deal
Olivia Wild

12 #MeToo
Diana Russo

17 New Face Leads
Women's Basketball
Sammy Robinson

18 A True Fisher Family
Justin Miles

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»—Fisher Unwrapped—«



By Olivia Musacchio
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Hooking up is a term most college students have heard by now. Either they are doing it or their friends are.

"I believe that there is a hookup culture here at Fisher because people are leaving high school and trying to find new lives in college and in the society we live in today, hooking up is the way people make relationships," said freshman LeMar Peters.

With the prevalence of social media, hooking up is at the tips of students' fingertips. This has created a new wave of non-confrontational dating through social media platforms, texting and other forms of communication.

Grace Trombley, a Resident Assistant from Ward Hall, notices that students would rather use Tinder to connect with people instead of initiating things in person. However, some realize that there are precautions they must take when hiding behind a screen.

"I use Tinder for the purpose of hooking up, but I always Google people before meeting just to make sure they are who they say they are," said freshman Lauren Phillips.

Even though Phillips realizes there is a hookup culture at every college, she doesn't feel inclined to seek out that type of relationship. Instead, she prefers being pursued. However, Peters thinks there is an even playing field for all genders.

"I don't think it's a gender thing," said Peters. "I think it goes both ways pretty evenly, with both males and females mutually agreeing to hook-up."

With the power evenly distributed amongst all students, Phillips notices that students typically hook up when they have their rooms to themselves.

"I feel like it [hookups] typically happens on the weekends, after going out just because they're in social situations," said Peters.

But with hooking up becoming more normalized on campus, being safe is one of the biggest concerns.

The Health and Wellness Center offers several services to Fisher students regarding practicing safe and consensual sex. Rebecca Kieffer, director of the Health and Wellness Center, advises students to use protection when engaging in sexual encounters. However, if a student is worried about their health, the Health and Wellness Center offers Sexually

Transmitted Infection (STI) testing.

In addition, the Health and Wellness Center works closely with Restore, a program that deals with sexual assault survivors and their family members.

"There is no wrong door when it comes to seeking support for these serious topics," said Kieffer. "I would encourage any Fisher student to reach out to at least begin the conversation if they had a concern or question pertaining to these important topics."

Even though services are available, Kieffer expresses her fear about hooking up.

"I would be concerned about any culture that promotes a casual attitude when it comes to sexual behavior and intimacy," said Kieffer.



Rashad Richardson and Paige Whitton // Photo by Diana Russo

Between Fisher's Eerie Walls



By Nicholas Klein
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If you have been at Fisher for more than a semester, chances are you have heard a thing or two about the campus being haunted. Whether an upperclassman has told you stories or you have experienced something yourself, the majority of students are aware of the strange events that are said to take place on campus.

When students walk the halls of Ward Hall at night or study on the top floor of the Library, the feeling that you're not alone is hard to ignore. If the flickering hallway dorm lights or creaky library floors don't make you feel uneasy, then the giant pictures hanging in the quiet floor will definitely do the trick.

Although many of the buildings on campus can seem unnerving, Kearney Hall is by far the most striking. Built in the 1940s, it's easily the oldest building on campus. With its Gothic architecture, Kearney looks to be a building out of a horror film and in the past, there has been much speculation surrounding the building.

If you just Google "SJFC Haunted," there are articles and even videos dating back to 2009 that recall students' stories and accounts in Kearney. Most have to do with a ghost that is said to live there, walking its halls. This isn't the first time the building has been labeled as haunted

and certainly won't be the last.

Athletes especially have experienced the campus at non-ideal times. Over breaks when they are required to stay weeks on end by themselves, many have their floor or even the entire residence hall to themselves. This can be unsettling to say the least.

Senior Jake Haight recalls multiple encounters he had in Ward Hall as a freshman during Christmas break.

"I would hear voices in my suite-mates' room or hear things fall in my bathroom, but when I went to check there was nothing there," said Haight. "The worst part is, everything got worse as the break went on and by the end, I didn't think I could stay another day in my room."

The freshman dorms and the entire building of Kearney certainly rank among the most eerie places to be at night on campus, but Basil 135 is particularly frightening to sophomore Dylan Sacco.



"I have so many stories about that place," said Sacco. "The scariest

thing I've ever seen was when my friends and I were watching a horror movie in there one night and out of nowhere the volume shot all the way up and the curtains closed by themselves, covering the projector screen. I ran out of the entire building."

Noel Smith, a senior Resident Assistant who has lived on campus all four years, has a different story to tell. Although Smith herself hasn't encountered anything, she said that she has "heard it all" from residents.

"I don't believe in ghosts or anything I can't see," said Smith. "But my residents...every year I hear numerous stories and have even been woken up by scared residents."

If that's not scary enough, Smith told an even more frightening story.

"I always hear about a little girl in a dress that walks the halls of Ward at night," she said. "Apparently, she can be heard talking and her shadow has been seen by residents who have looked under their door."

The choice is yours to believe the stories you hear, but you can never be sure unless something happens to you.



Photos by Valerie Bucella



All photos by Joshua Bsoul and Shelby Liddle



Have you finally had enough
of the snowy weather?



Joshua Bsoul
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A tranquil escape is not halfway across the world. In fact, it's a lot closer than you think. The Lamberton Conservatory in Highland Park is where you will find your relief from the blistering cold.

The Lamberton Conservatory was constructed in 1911 in honor of Alexander Lamberton, a local naturalist and businessman. The conservatory underwent reconstruction in 2007 after concern about the original steel columns' sturdiness. During reconstruction, as much of the original building was conserved as possible, and the restoration crew carefully tended to historical details as they rebuilt. The conservatory is an addition to the numerous parks and historic landmarks in Rochester.

At the conservatory, you will find 1,800 square feet of tropical floral wonderland. It is home to hundreds of extraordinary plant life from all over the world. As you walk through the conservatory, you will find multiple exhibits with different themes based on floral climates. The exhibits host plants from South Africa, Asia, South America and Mexico.

The first room you enter has small potted plants all around the floor and a large tree right next to the entry. A canopy of greenery filters the light through the glass roof, and birds can be heard skittering around the floor. The plants crowd into the small room, sprouting in every direction, leaving just enough room for a walkway.

Visitors are immediately greeted by a beautiful pink flower blooming from a nearby bush. There's also a small pond made for the resident turtles, which are allowed to

roam freely, so watch your step.

Upon entering the second room, you're suddenly immersed in a South African jungle, with enormous foreign leaves stretching towards the ceiling. If you cross the wooden foot bridge you can sit on a bench to take it all in, and if you sit quietly enough, you may catch a glimpse of the small groups of quail as they hide beneath the foliage. The canopy is enveloped by a large South African tree that has no trunk, and is mostly leaves, as well as an Asian palm tree. The high ceilings in this room allow for the jungle to overtake the space.

Once you leave the lush forests of Africa you're plunged into the dry heat of the desert climate. Different breeds of cacti decorate every surface here, which include huge Saguaro, round echinocactus, cotton cacti and even rat tail cacti. Make sure to keep your feet planted firmly on the ground in this exhibit, these plants look awfully sharp.

Next is a calming garden room. You enter by passing under a clementine tree, which has bright orange fruit hanging from it. Against one wall is a string fountain that water drains through, against a rustic wooden backdrop. The room creates a peaceful environment flourishing with different kinds of greenery.

There is also another turtle habitat named Shellville, where you can observe several different types of turtles and tortoises. At the end of the room is a Japanese inspired wooden archway and bench where you can sit and observe the scenery.

The Lamberton Conservatory is a truly breathtaking destination that is full of history and beauty. You can learn about hundreds of different plant life you probably didn't even know exists, and experience nature from the perspective of people all over the world.

At \$3 per adult and free admission for children ages 0-5, there is no reason why you should not come to the Lamberton Conservatory. It is a wonderful experience well worth the trip, and the friendly staff make the experience even more memorable. If you want to support the conservatory even more, they have baseball hats and T-shirts available for sale.

Get out of the cold, take in some Rochester history and find yourself lost in a whole new world.

Hours:
Monday - Friday
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

180 Reservoir Ave.
Rochester, NY

Admission:
Adults: \$3
Youth/Seniors: \$2
Children: Free





A fresh, fun experience in Rochester

Radio Social Bowling Alley // All photos by Brian Boye



Brian Boye
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Radio Social's mix of bowling, food, and gaming ushers in a new location for entertainment in the city of Rochester

Radio Social changes what a bowling alley can be and brings a new recreational experience to the city of Rochester.

Radio Social opened in spring 2017 as a reinvention of Brighton's Clover Lanes. When Clover Lanes closed in 2016, owner Dan Mergenstern moved his business into a warehouse at 20 Carlton Street in Rochester. This building was used to build radios during World War II, which is where the name "Radio Social" is derived from.

Radio Social has 34 bowling lanes, eight lanes near the front and 25 in the back. There are 110 lockers for personal belongings. The seating section in the back is comprised of couches and lamps. This is reminiscent of being in a living room, making it more cozy than the typical bowling alley.

The style is modern, sleek and colorful. There are popping pinks and turquoises on the walls. Wood furniture dominates, and there are also many potted plants adding to the atmosphere. Given its history as a factory, it also has an industrial and spacious appearance. The front bowling lanes are defined by the word "social," written in large block letters. On one wall there is a collection of classic radios, once again referencing the building's past.

When walking in, the first sight is the reception desk. If dining in, it acts as the host desk. There are two bars, the larger one being in the front section. There are around 20 to 25 tables for dining.

The dining experience is much different than other bowling alleys. Bowling alleys typically provide fried foods at concession stands. Radio Social functions as a dine-in restaurant, with the upscale food having variety.

It costs \$30 to bowl per hour on a lane, this includes shoes and is regardless of the number of players on the lane. Lanes can also be reserved online.

In the back portion of the building, there are games as well, giving the place an arcade feel. Cornhole and giant Jenga are free. Pool, ping pong, skee-ball, foosball and shuffleboard require payment.

Radio Social has an age restriction but it appears to be rather flexible. Before 9 p.m., guests under 21 are allowed in with an adult. Restaurant General Manager Don Alcott admitted that on slower nights they are more lenient with these conditions.

Radio Social represents a recreational experience moving to the city of Rochester itself, away from the surrounding suburbs.

On the location, Alcott said, "It's finding those places that are heavily residential but with the right amount of commercial space to do something cool."

Address: 20 Carlson Rd., Rochester, NY 14610
Phone: (585) 244-1484
<https://radio-social.com>



Here's the Deal

Drugs on Campus



Olivia Wild
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Photo staged then illustrated // Photo by Brittney Bender // Illustrated by Kate Perry

In the past year, the use of opioids has increased in Rochester. It's not news that there is active drug use on campus, but has the opioid epidemic made its way to Fisher?

"I don't think we have a big drug problem or a lot of drug usage on campus," said David DiCaro, director of Safety and Security. "With that being said, I'm sure that some drugs, like marijuana, are used on campus.

We do deal with it from time to time but I think fortunately we have not had a problem with serious drugs like cocaine and heroin."

Freshman Gabrielle Merrick said that she has smelled marijuana walking in the hallways in the dormitory buildings, but she has never seen marijuana used on campus.

"A lot of freshman go through the phase of doing drugs and using alcohol," said Merrick. "I don't think it's

something that can really be stopped. I think it's something that could be encouraged to use safely. It's not reasonable to think that freshman or any college student isn't going to use drugs."

Resident Assistants (RAs) in the dormitories are required to report any sign of drug use. Jake Tinker, third semester RA, said, "I don't think you could ever truly stop something like this, it's a matter of choice for people."

Most of the time Safety and Security only deals with drug problems when an RA reports a situation or when another student uses the Good Samaritan Policy. In most cases, drug use on campus is not detected or reported.

"One of the things I feel very certain of that we have a very caring community," said DiCaro. "If somebody thought that a roommate or friend or somebody else was using heroin or cocaine, I feel certain that they would tell us out of concern, not out of reporting or criminal activity."

Even though DiCaro expressed certainty, Fisher security officers have been trained to use Narcan, a drug that reverses an opioid overdose, for three years now. DiCaro shared that Narcan was administered to someone who overdosed on heroin in S Lot.

Even though DiCaro said Fisher doesn't have an opioid issue, the Health and Wellness center has consulted with students who have used other drugs. Students who seek out help use a variety of drugs, in addition to marijuana and alcohol.

Rebecca Kieffer, the director of Health and Wellness Center, said that the department has seen cases that involved opioid drug abuse as well. Kieffer said the majority of the cases of opioid usage are prescription drugs and not heroin. She said that some students took the pills from their parents and became addicted to them.

"We are able to really talk with students and do something preliminary like an assessment," said Kieffer. "The best course of treatment for a student that really may have either an abuse or a dependency issue would be to go to a program off campus."

Not only does the Health and Wellness Center offer mental support for students who are suffering, there are multiple treatment opportunities as well.

"We help those students and have helped those students link up with those services," said Kieffer. "We have a really good network in the Rochester community to provide that service."

"One of the things I feel very certain of that we have a very caring community, If somebody thought that a roommate or friend or somebody else was using heroin or cocaine, I feel certain that they would tell us out of concern, not out of reporting or criminal activity."

— David DiCaro

students' situation.

Kieffer encourages students to come talk to someone in the Health and Wellness Center because brochures and contact information are available for those seeking treatment.

"We are Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) protected," said Kieffer. "If a student comes down here and is looking for

help nobody here can talk about it with anyone else on campus and so there is a confidential service that students really can access."

Other ways that Fisher has been educating students on drug use are events such as Alcohol Awareness Week, question and answer panels, and including the Health and Wellness Center in Involvement Fest. But some think these resources aren't effective.

"Honestly I don't know much of what help is out there and I don't know where I would start to get it," said Merrick. "I wouldn't really know where to go so I think if there was more education about how to realize the signs of someone who is abusing drugs and know where to safely go to report it and where to get them help."

Kieffer and Merrick both agree that more could be done around campus to educate students on drug use in general.

"If any student has a wonderful idea on how to really get the outreach to the students, I'm open to suggestions," said Kieffer.

She would like any suggestions to be emailed to rkieffer@sjfc.edu. For more information, please visit the Health and Wellness Center or contact Kieffer.

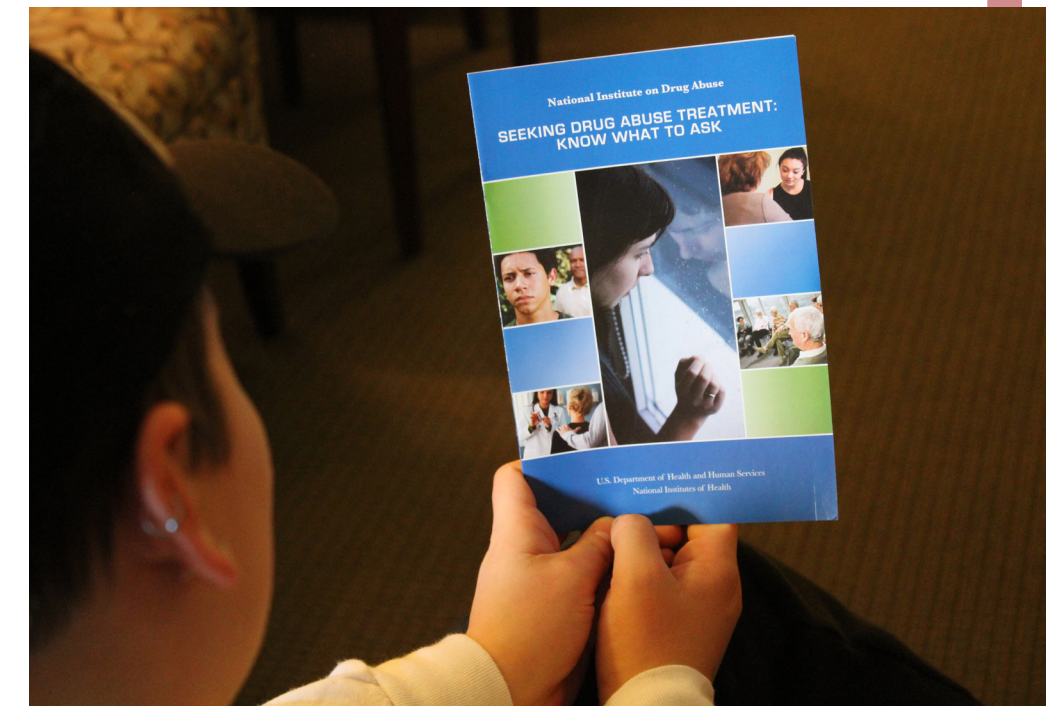


Photo by Olivia Wild

#MeToo

The #metoo movement has united women and given them a voice, but with sexual assault and harassment at the forefront, it may not be enough



Diana Russo
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It cost people their jobs, it challenged dreams and it tested the strength of thousands. Yet sexual assault and harassment still creep through the walls of politics, a doctor's office and minimum wage jobs.

But knowing what actions resemble this violence can be difficult to understand and this confusion has led many to unforgivable mistakes.

"I think that men are not well educated and are not raised the proper way to show respect towards women and don't learn to accept no for an answer," said sophomore Alejandro Rivera-Colon.

Harvey Weinstein, Larry Nassar, Matt Lauer, Russell Simmons and Senator Al Franken are just a few that were accused of sexual assault in high-profile cases over the past few months. But the victims that are the face of this violence speak for hundreds.

"That across the world, women, and importantly, not only famous white women, but also poor women, and women of color, and undocumented women, and trans

Story continued on page 14

women, and disabled women, and some men, have encountered their own Weinstens and have deduced, for whatever reason, that nothing could be done about it and nobody cared,” said Linda Edwards, a women and gender studies professor at Fisher.

Although prominent in high ranking professions, sexual assault and sexual harassment do not discriminate against age, gender, sexual orientation, income, geographic location and other defining factors.

“Female college students ages 18-24 are three times more likely than women in the general population to experience sexual violence,” said Edwards, who added that only “three percent of men will be raped in their lifetime.”

Senior Samantha Tardugno realizes that men are in control of the workforce, but the power they have has changed and now serves as a warning sign for potential abusers.

“I think the malicious men who hold top positions are no longer in control,” said Tardugno. “I think they are currently very afraid of misbehaving because they will be taken off their high horse.”

But Rivera-Colon doesn’t think men are in control of the workforce. Rather, he notices there are some men in control but believes the majority may just be better qualified for the job.

Male power might be in question but Tardugno notices a lack of knowledge that still surrounds this violence.

“I would not doubt that there is a decent number of people who don’t know or don’t care to learn what it [sexual assault] is,” said Tardugno. “Generally, I think women have more of an understanding of what sexual assault is than men.”

If an individual is unsure of what sexual assault or harassment is, Edwards advised that they must look for one thing in order to eliminate any misunderstanding.

“While people are increasingly aware that consent lines are too often being crossed, the definition of sexual assault is not always clear,” said Edwards. “Consent is key.”

Even though men have been generally accused of sexual assault, Jenna Rossi, associate professor of American studies said that women help perpetrate this violence too.

“It’s primarily the men, but women have a degree of involvement because we don’t have the same power necessarily,” said Rossi.

In addition to sexual assault, Rossi notices that this inequality is proven to exist in presidential elections, high office positions and even the wage gap. Yet Tardugno does not fear her counterparts. Instead, she feels that she needs to take initiative to protect herself.

“Just because sexual assault happens frequently, doesn’t mean I have to be afraid,” said Tardugno. “I just have to be prepared.”

Being prepared begins with knowing exactly what constitutes as sexual assault and what is sexual harassment.

After reflecting on his upbringing which taught him to be respectful towards women, Rivera-Colon expressed an understanding.

“To me, sexual assault is an act where a person either touches or engages sexually with another one without their consent regardless of their gender,” said Rivera-Colon.

Edwards made sense of both sexual assault and sexual harassment.

“There is some confusion regarding the difference between sexual assault and sexual harassment,” said Edwards. “Whereas sexual assault assumes a physical assault of a sexual nature, sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, offensive remarks about a person’s sex, bullying and requests for sexual favors.”

Rossi also acknowledges that in addition to sexual assault, our climate encourages sexual harassment.

“So physical might be more likely, but many of us talk in a certain way that objectifies women or degrades women,” said Rossi.

Rossi recalled a time when students in her freshman

learning community shared a story of sexual harassment with her. In a class discussion, she was told that female and male students used to chant derogatory statements on the bus downtown.

“As they were reading theory based on this and listening to real testimonies of sexual assault, all of a sudden what they thought was funny wasn’t as funny to some people,” said Rossi.

Although similar actions may be offensive to some, others may think differently. This can be attributed to an individual connection to sexual assault and sexual harassment or the different personal boundaries people have. Rossi mentioned that this can create a gray area when deciding what is sexual assault and sexual harassment and what isn’t.

When determining what actions may be offensive, Rossi suggests that people should become more aware of their own opinion and have a concrete idea of what they think is right, rather than legislate what is appropriate.

The year of 2017 began with the women’s march, where thousands of people expressed what they thought was just. The #metoo movement followed and it gave women a newfound voice that changed culture.

Edwards believes that the #metoo movement “exposed an epidemic of sexual harassment and assault in the workplace and has inspired countless women, and some men, to share their experiences.”

However, Edwards realizes that awareness is not enough.

“We need a new culture where this is not acceptable, and women are not retaliated against for stepping forward,” said Edwards. “We also need better education on the meaning of masculinity and manhood, and unions and laws and policies to be put in place that guarantee a safe work environment for everyone.”

Although unity was created for victims of sexual assault and sexual harassment, Rossi also notices anticipation with this progression.

“I can imagine that a proportion of the population, like men who have not committed sexual assault, might be very fearful,” said Rossi. “And there is going to be a big pushback to that and people saying women are crying wolf or victim blaming.”

Although men may feel they are a target, this abuse has continued for decades, and several urge it to stop.

“Now we have to change what is happening,” said Rossi. “It’s not that every single comment each person makes is going to be scrutinized, but in general we can’t tolerate inequity. Just common sense prevails, hopefully.”

After convictions, apologizes, and decades of abuse, this change may even forgo the power of the justice system.

“Finally, perhaps the most important but most difficult thing that would have to change is the heart of the people committing sexual assault,” said Tardugno. “There can be rules and punishments for these people but until they actually start viewing the people as humans who deserve respect, I’m not sure that much will change.”

Q&A



Kat Whitmoyer // Photo by Valerie Bucella

Kat Whitmoyer

1. What is a feminist?

“A feminist is someone who believes in equality for all. Which means that everyone has equal rights and equal access to everything in our society.”

2. What is sexual assault?

“Sexual assault is the physical touching of another person against their will without their consent.”

3. What is sexual harassment?

“Sexual harassment is anything from cat calling to derogatory speaking of someone on their photo, commenting on their appearance and making someone uncomfortable.”



Matt Brown // Photo by Diana Russo

Matt Brown

1. What is a feminist?

“A feminist is someone who does advocate equal rights for everyone, not specifically women. And I think it’s important to identify that.”

2. What is sexual assault?

“Sexual assault is a forceful touching of someone.”

3. What is sexual harassment?

“It is a repeated sexual advance that is not appreciated.”

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NEW FACE LEADS WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



Sammy Robinson
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This year the women's basketball team took a shot with new head coach Melissa Kuberka, who has remained up to speed with Fisher Athletics.

Melissa Kuberka stood on the sidelines at Hilbert College the past two seasons and led the women's basketball team to a 22-29 record. This season, she is on the sideline at Fisher, and has already led the women's basketball team to first place in the Empire 8 Conference. The team will host the Empire 8 Championship on Feb. 23.

Even though Kuberka was late to accept the head coach position at Fisher, she realizes the success the team has had so far.

"It was hard leaving Hilbert so late and having to say goodbye to those players and then coming in here and thinking you know based on watching film what this group would be," said Kuberka. "I think we kind of learned first semester who we are."

Starter Caroline Robertson said she is pleased with the team's record so far.

"It feels great, considering this is the first time throughout my career here that we are in this position," said Robertson. "I am excited to see what the rest of the season brings."

The E8 playoffs are a place Fisher hasn't been since the 2005-2006 season. Kuberka currently stands as only the third women's basketball coach in the college's program history, following previous coaches Phil Kahler and Marianne O'Connor-Ermi.

"When I think about it, it's kind of

crazy to think that this school has been around for a long time and I'm only the third coach," said Kuberka. "I wouldn't say it's pressure. I'd say it's cool that I could be here for a long time."

The team currently stands at the top of conference at 15-1 and defeated The Sage Colleges in the last game of the regular season. With a 20-5 record overall the team is receiving votes for the regional rankings, which Kuberka said is a testament to the team's chemistry during a time of change.

"Being able to find success early is one thing but it's not only me, it's the players buying in and pushing themselves harder than they ever did before and so the success is kind of a testament to what they've done and the fact that they were able to jump on board because I know it hasn't been easy for them but they are

putting a lot of things aside and just playing hard," said Kuberka.

Another reason why the program is having a winning season is because the trust between the coaching staff and the players.

"Coach has been very easy to talk to both on the court and off," said sophomore forward Meghan Lescinskas. "Whenever I have a bad day or maybe a bad practice she's always there for me and I can't ask for anything else."

Even with a good relationship with her athletes, Kuberka has many career goals in mind.

"I don't have lofty aspirations of going anywhere but Division III," she said. "I played Division III and it's what I know. The goal in 15 years would be to still be here and have added some banners in the gym."

That is exactly what they are working hard to do.



Melissa Kuberka // Photo by Brittney Bender

A TRUE FISHER FAMILY



Justin Miles
jem00360@sjfc.edu

Fisher is home to siblings who make their mark on and off the court

The same last name isn't the only thing that Nicole Robinson and Sammy Robinson have in common. They followed in their parents' footsteps by attending Fisher and playing basketball.

Nicole Robinson and Sammy Robinson are from Cedarhurst, NY, near Long Island, but found their way to the Rochester area. Nicole Robinson, a senior, was encouraged by her parents, Lou Robinson and Mary Robinson, to attend Fisher and be a part of the women's basketball team. Sammy Robinson, a sophomore, knew that Fisher was an option

when he visited colleges and said that his sister influenced him to make his decision final.

Lou Robinson, who is from Long Island said that the feeling of being "the big fish in the small pond"

at Fisher appealed to him and knew it would appeal to his children as well. Although Sammy Robinson and Nicole Robinson's parents

-Nicole Robinson

encouraged them to attend Fisher, they both found their own place on and off the court.

After spending a semester at the

University of Buffalo and meeting with the Fisher women's basketball coach at the time, Nicole Robinson said goodbye to being a Bull. After receiving advice from her father, she became a Cardinal.

Sammy Robinson has a different story to tell. Lou Robinson was in contact with former men's basketball coach Rob Kornaker. One phone call from Lou Robinson to Kornaker changed Sammy Robinson's life.

"To Coach Kornaker's credit, he got in the car and drove down to NYC and met with us the next day," said Lou Robinson.

Kornaker's persistence influenced Sammy's decision to find his way to Fisher and onto the same basketball court his sister and parents played on.

Nicole Robinson and Sammy Robinson share the title of Cardinal basketball player but they each feel

confident in their differences as athletes and students.

There is a clear stereotypical sibling relationship between the two, as each jab at each other out of fun and no true malice. Nicole Robinson said that she thinks she is a better athlete than her brother but she knows he will never admit that.

"There's definitely a rivalry [between us]...if she scores more than me, I'm definitely disappointed in myself," said Sammy Robinson.

Even with the banter between them, they continue to support each other, regardless of the circumstanc-

es. The Cardinal duo attend each other's games, root for one another and even train together in the offseason. Even with a friendly rivalry, this allows the siblings to play off each other's strengths.

"We always support each other on and off the court so that helps a lot especially when one of us has a rough game," said Nicole Robinson.

Sharing the court makes it easier for their relatives to attend games, and in doing so they often get immediate feedback from their family, as well as from each other. With a Fisher family tradition to uphold,

Lou Robinson doesn't let any mishap slide.

"If she does better [than me] I definitely get a call from my dad saying 'why did this happen?'," said Sammy Robinson.

Lou Robinson noticed the importance of the Fisher family, which he believes is intertwined within his own family. Yet, he realizes athletics aren't the only thing that brought the Robinson's to Fisher.

"I'm really proud of their athletic accomplishments, but I'm more proud that they both made Dean's list last semester," said Lou Robinson.



Sammy Robinson and Nicole Robinson // Photo by Valerie Bucella

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