

Education Department Hosts Educational Laughs

By: Sean Callahan, News Editor

New Clubs in Bloom for Spring 2023

By: Erin Brody, Arts & Culture Editor



Several education related clubs, including the 'Helping Minds' club, were showcased from 6 to 7 p.m. before the show began. Officers Keely Hagofsky, junior early childhood education major, and Abigail Skundrich, junior early childhood education major, ran their club's stand. (SOURCE: CALLAHAN)

Student comedy shows have become a semester tradition at Saint Vincent College (SVC) in the last few years. But it is not every semester that a standup comedian with over 3,500 career performances in 48 different states comes to Latrobe. On April 13, at 7 p.m., at the Performing Arts Center,

Andy Beningo gave a standup comedy performance that lasted for over a half hour. He was hosted by the SVC Education Department. SVC community members were invited to see the performance, as were students of several local public school districts.

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Saint Vincent College students constantly look for different clubs and organizations to participate in, but sometimes, a certain club they would love to be a part of does not exist. When this is the case, we see new clubs being established, and this semester, SVC gained at least two more clubs: the Audio-Visual (AV) Club and the Bearcat Billiards Club.

Sophomore communications major Reilly McKay is the founder and president of the AV Club. He noticed the lack of "a go-to space for filmmakers" and recalled how associate professor Mr. David Safin mentioned that a club "for people who love movies, creating content, and acting" did not exist. It was at that point that McKay decided to create the club in fall of 2022 and make its debut in spring of 2023.

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NEWS

New Educational Mental Health Club Featured in Opening Events

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Registered school districts included Greater Latrobe, Ligonier Valley, Derry Area, Norwin Area, and Jeanette City.

Opening events began outside the Performing Arts Center at 6 p.m. Education students provided free popcorn and lemonade for attendees at a concession stand. Several education related clubs set up tables with information about their respective clubs. These included Kappa Delta Pi Education Honor Society, STEM Education Club, Bearcat Buddies, Education Club, and Early Childhood Education Club.

A new club, Helping Minds, was also included in the opening events. They focus on awareness for mental health and special education within classrooms, and general disability awareness. According to its mission statement, it “is open to any student on campus who wants to further their knowledge” on these topics. The poster board advertising the club also included statistics regarding special education and mental illness. Jennifer Buxton, Assistant Professor of Education, is listed as a contact (jennifer.buxton@stvincent.edu) for those interested in joining the club.

Every spring, the Education Department strives to have a speaker from education, or a related area, come to campus. According to Dr. Veronica Ent, Professor of Education and Chair of the Education Department, there are a variety of possibilities as to who the speaker may be each spring.

“Sometimes we select entertainment personalities,



Andy Beningo was invited by the education department to perform standup comedy for public school students and SVC community members alike. (SOURCE: CALLAHAN)

professional development in a new trending area, or someone of notoriety that would interest our students and community,” Ent said.

As Ent was searching for speakers and doing research, she discovered that Beningo was a middle school teacher turned comedian. He was known for clean comedy, had experience with young crowds, and was not political.

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Education Department Comedy Show

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"I wanted to find something that was enjoyable and lighthearted this close to the end of the semester," Ent said.

Beningo focused much of his performance on audience interaction. He heckled SVC students, middle schoolers, and visiting adults. Everyone from a 12-year-old to a married couple of 31 years were spoken to.

He also related to the education students with bits of his own background throughout the show. He taught sixth grade as a social studies teacher for one year. Beningo praised others for their choice to pursue educational careers while joking about his own shortcomings as a teacher.

"I learned something about other people's kids. They're evil," Beningo joked. "I wasn't good at classroom management. I'm too smiley."

Beningo spoke more at length about his experience as a comedian. He claimed that SVC was likely the youngest crowd he had performed for. He compared this to a cruise ship he did stand-up for, where the average age was 84 years old. Beningo told a story of 'the oldest man' he had ever seen on the cruise, who praised him for his show.

"[He said] 'my dad thought you were amazing.' [I was thinking] 'how old is your dad?'"

Other topics included Beningo's own marriage, his experiences as a father, amusing times with his parents, and college.

More information about Andy Beningo can be found at his website (andybeningo.com). The SVC community can look forward to the Education Department's next speaker next spring, on April 18, 2024. The speaker will be confirmed by the end of this semester.



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ARTS & CULTURE

Bearcat Billiards and Audio-Visual Clubs Make Their Debut

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“We offer a space for content creators, such as filmmakers and podcasters, to come together and assist each other on projects that club members are working on,” McKay said. “We take time to watch and discuss movies and dive deeper to see what the movie was saying/interesting facts about how the movie was made.”

Despite being a newer club, AV Club has had a great turnout, and many students have been using it as an opportunity to work on both their own and others’ projects. McKay has the chance to work on his project “Hamburger of Sadness”, which stars two other club members.

“I hope in the future, the AV Club continues to grow and acquire more passionate content creators for next year,” McKay said. “I hope by the time I graduate that there will be a firm foundation so that the club may continue well past my time here at Saint Vincent (College).”

As for Bearcat Billiards, the club started off in a joking manner. Sophomore data science and mathematics double major Mason Seftas is the founder and president of Bearcat Billiards and he explained how it came to be:

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Students walking around at the Fall 2022 club fair. (SOURCE: SVCFlickr)

SVC Welcomes New Clubs

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“This idea started in the spring of 2022 when a bunch of my friends and I played a ton of pool at SVC. One day we jokingly said we should make it a club, then come fall 2022 we decided to take that joke seriously and fill out paperwork to make it a recognized club on campus,” Seftas said.

Bearcat Billiards gives students the opportunity to try their hand at the game of pool and enhance their skills. And, like any club on campus, one does not need prior experience to join. The club welcomes those of any skill level because, as Seftas said, the club exists as another way for students to engage in fellowship.

While Bearcat Billiards has had only three events so far, the club has had a good turnout for each, and Seftas has big hopes for the future of the club.

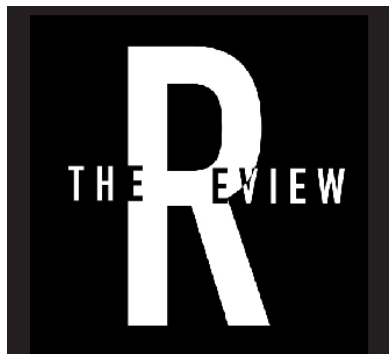
“A very ambitious goal of our club is to turn part of it into a pool league,” Seftas said. “This would involve having teams or soloists play throughout the semester to get seeded for an end of the year tournament.”

Both clubs were also present during Spring Family Weekend, and each had exciting raffle opportunities. The AV Club came into possession of a life-sized cardboard cutout of “The Last of Us” actor and famous TikTok heartthrob Pedro Pascal and decided to host a “Pic with Pedro” event where students could take a picture with the actor. To top it off, the AV Club raffled the cutout to one lucky student.

Meanwhile, Bearcat Billiards hosted a pool shooting competition where contestants had to make nine balls in the fewest number of shots to win a \$20 gift card. The club also had an event the Thursday before Spring Family Weekend where students played pool within their own dorms to be entered into a raffle.

While both clubs are newer, they are excited for their opportunities to become bigger and share their passions on the Saint Vincent campus.

If you or someone you know is interested in Bearcat Billiards, please email mason.seftas@stvincent.edu for more information. If you are interested in some of the projects members of the AV Club have been working on, check out some of these titles and artists: Rowdy Dawg Pictures (YouTube), Radan Entertainment (YouTube), D3 Nerds (YouTube and Spotify), Adam Koscielicki (YouTube), and The Tonight Pod (Spotify and Apple Podcasts).



SPORTS

Baseball Breezes Past Titans

By: Jacob Rzepoluch, *Sports Editor*

Senior day is always an excellent opportunity to recognize the contributions of a class of Bearcats.

“Every senior has had an impact on me during my time at SVC,” Billy Perroz, junior computer science major, said. “Even though I am one year behind them, I still see every single one as mentors and leaders. They each have taught me how to be a leader and a team player, and I am going to miss being on the field with them when they are gone.”

“This year’s seniors have been through a lot, both good and bad, on and off the field,” Head Coach Mick Janosko said. “It’s those experiences that you can learn from to help overcome tough circumstances down the road, whether it’s in a game, a job, a marriage, or life in general. That to me is what athletics is all about. It teaches you how to deal with adversity, and, in my opinion, this group of seniors have done an outstanding job of handling that adversity.”

What makes senior day better is a strong showing against a conference rival to continue a winning streak. On April 14, the Bearcat baseball team put up an outstanding performance against the Westminster Titans to make the senior celebrations even more special. Before the series, seniors Jordan Sabol, business data analytics major; Aaron Stephan, early childhood major; Zack VonStein, business data analytics major; and Cameron Hyde, accounting major, were recognized and given a SVC bat.

SVC began the first game of the doublehead-



Play-by-play announcer Kendall Janosko, senior communication major; student assistant Nate Arendas, athletes Jordan Sabol, Cam Hyde, Zack VonStein and Aaron Stephan were honored before the Friday, April 14 doubleheader against Westminster. Coaches Mick Janosko (left) and Parker Lynn joined the seniors for a photo. (SOURCE: JULIE WATKINS)

er strong, with a first inning single from Perroz sending undeclared freshman Dylan Schmude home before Sabol batted Schmude in. The score remained 2-0 until sophomore business administration major Dalton Nicklow’s triple brought sophomore communication major Devin Bonine home in the bottom of the sixth. Westminster then went on a tear, scoring 7 unanswered runs to build a 4-run lead in the eighth. The Titans walked junior mechanical engineering major Alex Hess and Schmude with the bases loaded to allow sophomore business data analytics major Derek Hald and Bonine to score. It would come down to the ninth inning for the Bearcats.

Westminster did not score in the top of the ninth, keeping the score at 7-5. Perroz immediately smashed a homer to bring the Bearcats closer to the Titans. Sabol was walked and a Westminster fielding error on the next at-bat allowed Bonine to get on base. Junior psychology major J’Shawn

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Bearcats Build Winning Streak Through Senior Day

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Taylor was sent out to pinch run for Bonine, with two outs remaining. Another error with Nichlow on the plate sent the ball all the way into the bullpen, giving Sabol and Taylor the chance to round the bases for the victory. The Bearcats celebrated at the plate, and reliever Stephan earned the win after pitching the scoreless ninth inning.

About 30 minutes later, the Bearcats and the Titans began their second game. It would be a much less eventful battle, with only 8 hits between the teams. Perroz recorded an inside-the-park home run in the fourth to be the only Bearcat to score in the 1-0 win. The Bearcat pitchers excelled in this game, with graduate student Michael Klingensmith recording 8 strikeouts and junior health science major and closer Jeremy Kreuzwieser pitching 2 strikeouts and allowing no hits. Kreuzwieser has been one of the finest pitchers in the President's Athletic Conference (PAC) this season. As of writing, his 2.29 earned run average (ERA) ranks third in the PAC while his .195 opponent's batting average (OBA) leads the conference.

The doubleheader victories bring the Bearcats' winning streak to 8 games, including 7 straight victories against PAC programs. This places Saint Vincent in fourth in the conference (as of April 19) as the end of the regular season approaches.

"We have really come together on all facets of the game during this streak," Sabol said. "Game after game, we are getting solid performances from our pitchers and the bats have come alive at the right time."

"I think that the players believe in one another and what they can accomplish as a team," Janosko said. "Pitching and good defense has been a strength for us so far this season. We are a little deeper on the mound this spring than we have been in the past... anytime

you get good pitching and good defense, you give yourself a chance to win games."

The Bearcats' defense has certainly held up against the rest of the conference so far. The team's .969 fielding percentage leads the PAC. First baseman Billy Perroz also has been one of the key parts of the Bearcat squad this season. Perroz was recognized as PAC Hitter of the Week and Bearcat of the Week for his performance against the Chatham Cougars and Westminster, with 3 home runs, 5 runs batted in (RBI) and a .563 batting average. As of writing, his .442 batting average ranks second in the PAC while he leads the conference in hits (46), homeruns (6), RBIs (31) and slugging percentage (.760%).

While the Bearcats faced some midseason challenges, they are now in a great position for a strong postseason run.

"Obviously our goal is to win the PAC championship," Perroz said. "But you have to break it down to being a better player every day. Our team motto is to get better every day, so whether it is at practice or in a game, learn and grow from mistakes and each other to make yourself better. These smaller goals will help us achieve our main goal."

The Bearcats will fight for the best possible outcome for the season. Until the season ends, they will continue to create memories of playing a game they love.

"I have had countless memories in my four years here at Saint Vincent (College)," Sabol said. "It has been a blessing to be a part of this team for four years. I will definitely cherish the friendships and experiences I had at Saint Vincent (College) for the rest of my life."

Team Standings

8

Men's Lacrosse

Team	W	L	Streak
Saint Vincent	11	2	W4
Franciscan	5	4	L2
Allegheny	7	6	W1
Westminster	7	6	W1
Grove City	6	7	W4
Bethany	5	7	L5
W&J	4	6	L1
Chatham	5	8	L2
Thiel	3	8	L1

Schedule: Franciscan 4/26 4 p.m., Chatham 4/28 7 p.m.

Women's Lacrosse

Team	W	L	Streak
Allegheny	11	3	W4
W&J	10	3	W9
Chatham	8	3	L1
Saint Vincent	8	5	W1
Franciscan	6	4	W1
Grove City	6	8	W1
Bethany	5	9	L1
Thiel	4	9	L7
Waynesburg	3	10	L1
Westminster	3	10	L1

Schedule: Franciscan 4/25 4 p.m., Chatham 4/29 1 p.m.

Men's Tennis

Team	W	L	Streak
Allegheny	13	4	W3
Grove City	11	4	W2
Geneva	7	5	W3
Saint Vincent	8	6	W2
Franciscan	6	10	L1
Westminster	3	9	L2
W&J	3	9	L2
Thiel	0	10	L10
Waynesburg	0	10	L10

Schedule: PAC Championships 4/25 TBD

Baseball

Team	W	L	Streak
Grove City	21	7	W5
W&J	20	10	W2
Allegheny	16	12	W3
Saint Vincent	15	13	W8
Bethany	16	15	W1
Westminster	14	16	L1
Chatham	13	15	W1
Geneva	12	19	L5
Waynesburg	12	20	L1
Thiel	11	19	W1
Franciscan	5	23	L4

Schedule: @Marietta 4/23 3 p.m., Geneva 4/25 1 p.m., @Allegheny 4/29 1 p.m.

Softball

Team	W	L	Streak
Waynesburg	22	6	L1
Westminster	22	8	W1
Allegheny	22	8	L1
Saint Vincent	21	9	W1
Grove City	17	13	L1
Geneva	16	14	L1
W&J	9	17	W2
Chatham	9	21	L1
Thiel	6	21	W1
Bethany	5	20	W1
Franciscan	0	26	L26

Schedule: Geneva 4/25 3:30 p.m., @Grove City 4/29 1 p.m.

Men's Track & Field

Past Result: 3rd at Bethany Invitational

Schedule: @PAC Championships (Morgantown, WV) 4/27-4/28 2 p.m., @West Virginia University 5/6 TBD, @Baldwin Wallace 5/12 1 p.m.

Women's Track & Field

Past Result: 9th at Bethany Invitational

Schedule: @PAC Championships (Morgantown, WV) 4/27-4/28 2 p.m., @West Virginia University 5/6 TBD, @Baldwin Wallace 5/12 1 p.m.

Men's Golf

Past Results: 3rd at Moravian, 4th at Westminster, 4th at W&J

Schedule: End of Season

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*as of 4/19/23