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# THE THIELENSIAN



Volume 136 Issue 2

The student-run newspaper of Thiel College in Greenville, PA Friday, February 19, 2016

## Juju Chang Broadcasts at Thiel

by David Dye,  
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Last Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Bly Hall, students were invited to attend a speaker broadcast hosted by the National Society of Leadership and Success, or NSLS.

The speaker was Juju Chang, a co-anchor at Nightline and an ABC News journalist who has won eight Emmy awards for covering many topics, including the first successful face transplant.

Chang was born in Seoul, South Korea and moved with her family to the United States, where her family opened a flower shop. Chang said that having to help her family with the shop greatly affected her, especially since she was unable to speak English in kindergarten.

By the age of 12, Chang became a nationally ranked swimmer, but by the age of 14 she was “washed up.” Feeling like a loser, Chang then decided that instead of athletics she would devote everything to academics and extracurricular activities.

“You can only measure yourself by your own standard,” Chang told students, stating her belief that whenever people compare themselves to others they never seem to meet those standards.

Chang then attended Stanford University, and eventually became the news director for Stanford Radio while writing for the newspaper.

Despite her current success, Chang stated that she was very insecure socially and academically in college, and told students that it was important for them to leave their comfort zones and join groups, go to parties, etc.

10 days after graduating from Stanford University, Chang was hired by ABC News.

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## The Thiel Players host their 11th annual Evening on Broadway

by Tina Kramer, TKram138@thiel.edu

On Friday, Feb. 5 and Saturday, Feb. 6, Thiel Players held their 11th Annual Evening on Broadway in the theater.

The event was organized by directors Loyal Jasper and Lora Kay and choreographer Kourtney Polvinale in an effort to raise funds for Greenville Area High School's Theater Program.

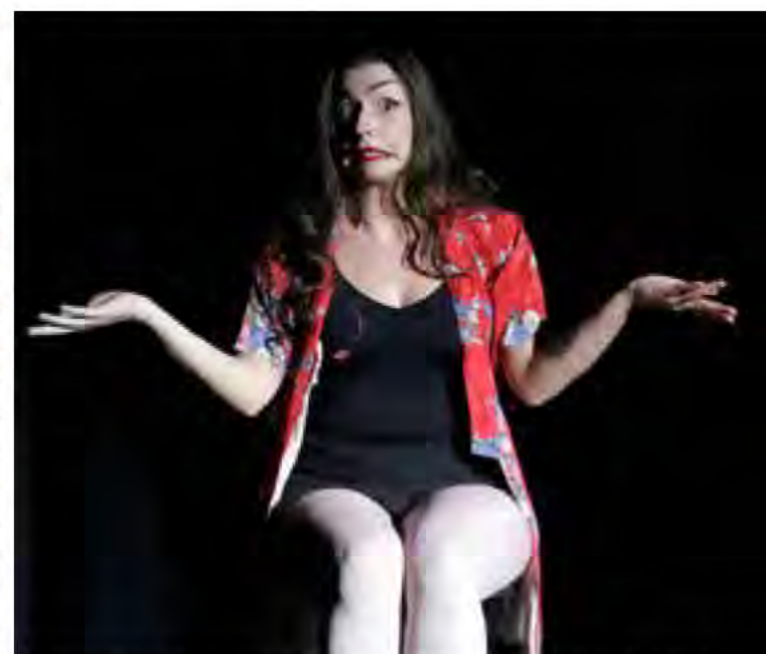
Students performed single or partner vocal acts, and the performers brought classics and modern hits to life. From movies such as Mary Poppins, or musicals, such as Wicked. Katie Greig accompanied all acts on piano, and other staff members helped with transitions and set changes between acts.

One performer, Tylor Whitely, greatly enjoyed the show, which is often times called

“Cabaret” by the performers: “Cabaret was a great experience. Everyone was so dedicated and put so much work into their numbers, and I think it really showed during the production. This was my second performance of Cabaret. Before the shows, I loved joking with some of the cast in the dressing room. It was such a rush leading up to the performances each night.”

The acts included were: “Nicest Kids in Town” from Hairspray, performed by the Ensemble and featuring Loyal Jasper; “In Short” from Edges, performed by Alison Schemrich; “Feed the Birds” from Mary Poppins, performed by Katherine Orczek; “What is This Feeling” from Wicked, performed by Tylor Whitely

and Alexa Sichko; “I Can't Do It Alone” from Chicago, performed by Kourtney Polvinale; “A Little Priest” from Sweeney Todd, performed by Keenan Weimer and Lora Kay; “Worse Things I Could Do” from Grease, performed by Meagan Daugherty; “Happy To Keep His Dinner Warm” from How to Succeed in Business, performed by Katie LaMark; “Colors of the Wind” from Pocahontas, performed by Kara Bassard; “Cell Block Tango” from Chicago, performed by the Female Ensemble; “The Plagues (Let My People Go)” from The Prince of Egypt, performed by the Ensemble and featuring Loyal Jasper and Keenan Weimer; “Defying Gravity” from Wicked, performed by Amanda Zimmerman; “Miss Baltimore Crabs”



Kourtney Polvinale, the Director of Choreography of the Annual Evening on Broadway.

Photo credit: Allen Morrill

from Hairspray, performed by Kourtney Polvinale and Loyal Jasper. Liz Koerner; “Light My Candle” from performed by Kourt-

[cont. on pg. 4]

## Professor Miller's final test for students becomes a tradition

by Hunter Michaelis, hmichaelis@thiel.edu

A senior seminar is a final test for a Thiel student's competency in whether or not he or she is deserving of a degree.

The requirements for the seminar range from major to major and the assignments are just as different. Some have large research papers to demonstrate a thorough understanding in a topic area within the student's major, while others are more discussion-driven.

The Business senior seminar has been a part of Thiel's education for more than 25 years, created by the department's former chair, Professor David Miller, who is the administrator of the seminar.

“We had a former teacher here at Thiel read about it in the Harvard Business Review,” Miller said, “Successful graduates shared their stories with current students. We have different outstanding graduates speak every week.”

The seminar has formal dinners with business attire, a prerequisite in order to attend, with the focus of the meetings on teaching students etiquette, networking, and life lessons. These come from the guest speakers



Dr. Carl Hoffman spoke at a dinner hosted by Prof. Miller's Senior Seminar.

Photo credit: Office of College Advancement

featured. One such speaker was Don Achebatch, who spoke two weeks ago. He is the voice of the Thiel Tomcats, presenting his experiences to the attendees.

Dr. Carl Hoffman spoke last week, who is a 1969 Thiel graduate. He founded and operates the company Prime Care Medical, Inc., which currently em-

students in the seminar, which is open to anyone, regardless of their major.

“Understanding everyone's been in our seats at one point,” she said, explaining the benefit of the seminar. “They didn't understand their classes and didn't know where to go in life, yet. Carl Hoffman was put on a waiting list before he came to Thiel, but let in before move in day. Just to hear it'll be okay is nice.” Steiner said.

A major emphasis for the seminar is networking; students do not get many of these opportunities outside of Career Development's events. To Miller, learning how to talk with people and presenting oneself better is a necessary skill. Steiner received a job offer while attending Hoffman's presentation.

“I want to create a feeling of closeness,” Miller said, “Making students unfettered in asking questions. The dinner focuses on making students more comfortable. Our chef goes all out; he shows us stuff I've never seen before. Wednesday, he made fish. Everyone ate it.”

Morgan Steiner is one of the

[cont. on pg. 4]

## The tactics the Executive Chef has to personalizing the menu

by Hunter Michaelis, hmichaelis@thiel.edu

There are over 800 students on Thiel's campus, and that number does not include faculty and staff. Chad Wilkoff, Executive Chef, has the task of managing the diets of these people.

Wilkoff, who is on the end of his second full year at Thiel, is working on getting the word out about student needs. The Executive Chef, who works with two other professional chefs, does not want people with allergies or special dietary needs to feel left out in the Dining Hall.

“I just really want to get out to everyone that if you want something, or need anything, just ask,” he said, “I'm here to help you.”

Wilkoff operates a cooking policy that might be considered unique – he makes everything AVI fresh in the Dining Hall. This includes the marinara sauce, all of the dressings, and the hamburgers that Thiel students consume. The meats are grilled or cooked fresh every day. The burrito bar students have access to is made in a special rotisserie oven, where it slow roasts for a minimum of 12 hours. In fact, everything is made in house, except for some condiments; these are Heinz products.

“When I got here, they were using these hockey puck hamburgers. I threw those out,” Wilkoff said, “We're now making them by hand.”

Wilkoff and the rest of his staff use a comment board, which is located outside the Dining Hall. He checks this every day for students who may have a question or issue with the food, whether it's positive or negative. However, no one ever posts any comments on what was cooked. He had an open forum last semester, where students could give any feedback they wanted. This could include what food they liked from the year, what they did not like, and what they would like to see in the next semester. No one was present at this event, either, which echoed Wilkoff's earlier efforts of trying to form a food committee where the needs of the students

could be discussed and developed.

“I'm looking for constructive criticism,” he said, “It's not going to ruin my day if you say, ‘This was terrible. It didn't meet my expectations.’ In fact, I expect it. We're not going to get better if no one talks about it.”

Wilkoff has worked with students, who have extremely selective dietary needs, including allergies to peanuts and other nuts, or something that deals with the overall health of the person, like veganism.

“I had a gentleman in at one point who was a vegan, and he was just struggling with salads all the time,” Wilkoff said, “I personally worked with him to

create special meals so he could get a fulfilling meal for lunch and dinner.”

One thing that results is a chef and his staff who thinks they are doing everything correctly and satisfying the students they are working for. Whether that is true or not depends on the overall feeling of the menu and where the college goes as a whole:

“My door is always open. I want to hear what people have to say. If we're doing something you don't like, you have to tell us. It's the only way we'll get better, and then create a better product for you. We would also like to hear the things that are so we may do more of those types of menu items.”

## Pedas Presents: Democratic Presidential Debate

by Liz Carlson,  
ecarlson@thiel.edu

The Pedas Fellows recently held their second Pedas Presents event of the semester on Thursday, Feb. 11, which was a live viewing of the Democratic presidential debate in Stamm Lecture Hall.

The debate aired on PBS at 9 p.m. Prior to screening, Adjunct Professor Susan Richards presented a short lesson on speaking styles and rhetorical strategies and tactics utilized by the Presidential Candidates.

This is the second live screening of a presidential debate that the Pedas Fellows has hosted. The first was a Republican debate during the fall semester.


“I think it is really cool that we host live screenings of the presidential debates. It gives students an opportunity to watch them in a setting where they can ask questions and discuss it with professors and fellow students. The debates play such a critical role in the presidential race so I think it is important that we provide students with a chance to watch them,” said Pedas Fellow, Brianna Walkup.

The Pedas Fellows strayed away from their normal routine of hosting one Pedas Presents event per month and will be hosting a total of three events this month. The first was a showing of the movie “Spotlight.”

The film tells the true story about how a group of journalists from the Boston Globe uncovered a major scandal involving child molestation in the Catholic Church. The Democratic debate was their second event of the month.

[cont. on pg. 4]



Thiel Happenings

compiled by Liz Carlson,  
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See all of the new activities taking place on campus over the next couple of weeks. If you have an event that we missed, please let us know via our newspaper's email.

Date Night W/ Build a Bear:  
Friday, Feb. 19 at 8 p.m. in the LHR

Wings n' Sings:  
Saturday, Feb. 20 at 9 p.m. in the Bistro

Pedas Presents:

Race and Race Relations During WWII:  
Monday, Feb. 22 in Stamm Lecture Hall


\* Duquesne University Assistant Professor of Multi platform Journalism Pamela E. Walck, Ph.D., will present the lecture "Race and Race Relations During WWII: A Big-Picture Look at How the Media Reported Race During the War."

OBC Jeopardy:  
Monday, Feb. 22 8-10 p.m. in the LHR

\* Jeopardy questions based on African American history

WXTC Music Festival:  
Saturday, Feb. 27 at 5 p.m. in the Bistro/LHR

\* Benefits VH1's Save the Music



### Want to see a movie?

## BLY HALL MOVIE PRODUCTION PRESENTS...


Compiled by Liz Carlson

Creed: Friday, Feb. 19 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 21 at 2 p.m.

If you enjoy thrilling stories of endurance and family legends, this is one movie that you will not want to miss. Adonis Johnson, the son of boxing legend Apollo Creed, seeks out another legendary boxer, Rocky Balboa, to teach him the sport that his father loved. With Rocky's help, Adonis works his way to a shot at a title.

Daddy's Home: Friday, Feb. 26 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 28 at 2 p.m.

Brad, a radio executive and loving father of two step children, is forced to step up his game when the father of his wife's two children shows up in town. When their father shows off his athletic and handy skills, Brad's prior feelings of insecurity lead him into a battle of the fathers to prove himself to his family.



**TCTV**

*Production Department:* PE is responsible for scheduling shows and programs onto the SWAZONE system and sending them to TV as they are produced and edited. PE will also oversee all studio productions to ensure students use the equipment properly and creatively. He/she will sit office hours and fulfill that time with training necessary and storing out equipment to students, staff, and faculty as needed.

*Assistant Programming Director:* APE assists programming schedules in his or her second semester with the position in order to eventually transition to Programming Director. Recruiting efforts will also be a responsibility of the APE and will be responsible for supersubbing at least one student show as it is filmed. He or she will also automatically be delegated as the TCTV representative for the Media Board Meetings.

*Script Director:* The SD will produce weekly newscasts, recruit talent for auditions including news, entertainment, sports, and weather, and will gather important stories for the script from credible sources, including the SCJA Media Board Manager. He or she will be in charge of the Roundtown Caption program for the news where the script is formatted for the teleprompter.

*Public Relations:* PR will work closely with PE and PD to promote the interests of the shows that are on TCTV, as well as proactively writing the stories in the field. He or she is primarily responsible for maintaining promotions of TCTV through social media, tangible flyers, and other media outlets.

*Transcripts and subtitles:* Tutors and transcriptionists (T&S) will be hired to transcribe and subtitle all programming.

*Alison Schmitzsch (asche768@thiel.edu)*  
*Mike McIlroy (MMcIlroy@thiel.edu)*  
*Ross Nugent (RNugent@thiel.edu)*



### Thiel College Police Blotter

No crime reported.



The Thielensian Staff	About The Thielensian
<b>Editor in Chief</b> Hunter Michaelis	<p>The Thielensian is Thiel College's student-run newspaper, funded by the Student Government Association. Our mission is to serve the campus community by publishing timely, fair, and relevant news, sports, feature stories, and other information, and to provide a lively forum for student expression and the opinion of others on campus. The Thielensian encourages letters to the editor of 300 words or less by traditional mail and preferably by email. Letters must be signed (no pseudonyms, please) and a phone must be provided for verification. Letters must be from offensive language, personal attacks, obvious errors in fact, and libelous or potentially libelous statements. Letters are subject to editing for length and clarity, and we reserve the right to reject any letter. Guest columns, letters or other opinions expressed in The Thielensian are the views of the writer and don't necessarily reflect those of the staff and advisor or the college.</p> <p>Letters may be emailed to: Thielensian@thiel.edu</p>
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by David DeVivo, ddevivo@thiel.edu

Photo credit: David DeVivo

I joke with my mother all the time that when she was my

age she was watching her black and white TV shows on her TV made out of stone. She has yet to laugh at this, but since I continue to laugh I still consider it a joke. But in all reality, before 'the Internet,' if anyone was ever stumped on a question or needed scholarly research articles, they would have to go to the library.

When in the library, one could end up spending a good amount of time searching for the correct book. And what could be even worse than finally finding the right book, is that book has everything but the answer you are looking for. You are right back to searching for

another book.

After 'the Internet' came to be, people have the opportunity to search the whole web for their answer. Now when people get stumped or need help with a situation or problem, they ask Siri or type their question into Google.

Google is a multinational, publicly-traded organization that has been able to build itself around the companies widely known search engine. The site Google is a search engine, because when you type in anything, it searches the web for all possible documents or articles closely related.

Today I know I have used

## How Google is making us smarter

Google to help me with my homework or any other question I have at hand. Not because I am too lazy to walk to the library, but because I know by searching online I am able to save the page I was looking at without having to sign a book out. Also, I am able to find more than one document or article when searching for just one answer, which means that I am able to study more than just one author.

Being able to access any information that one wants to search for at any given moment is giving people the opportunity to learn various facts. Instead of people venturing to the library, people can gain access to the information in moments rather than minutes or hours. This ability, to be able to gain access to various subjects, is allowing for people to find more information than ever before in human history. This ability also helped search engines become an instant hit, and by the year 2000, Google was the world's largest search engine.

Although people will say it is going to make us lazier or more dependent on Google to solve our problems, I think the best response to these negative comments is to remind these people that before Google, they were all going to the library to find the answers to their questions.

Google is allowing people to retain as much information on any type of subject in this entire world, based solely on them providing their service of relevant search results with a clean interface. As long as Google is around, it will continue to serve its original purpose of being a search engine that finds the answers to any question or problem. Which is going to continue to allow us, as the human race of the 21st century, to retain and have access to more information than past centuries ever did.



### Photo of the Edition

The snow-covered Brother Martin's Walk is a reminder of the cold weather Thiel students are used to this time of year.

Photo credit: Camille Radford

If you have a photo you would like to see as the Photo of the Edition, submit it to thielensian@thiel.edu



by David Dye, ddye@thiel.edu

As many of you have probably noticed by now, the semester has reached that part of the year where the weather should be getting warmer but does the opposite, the sky has reached a permanent gray color and everybody's sick.

What could possibly help brighten your day under such circumstances? How about a funny movie? I suppose you could always play sports, get some medicine for that cold or just maintain a positive attitude, but I'm a movie guy and those solutions just aren't going to cut it.

Of course, there are a lot of comedies out there so we're obviously going to have to narrow it down. In particular, I'm referring to a series of parodies that many younger audiences probably haven't seen, although you have more than likely seen them referenced (especially if you watch Family Guy).

We're going to look at my top three favorite comedies, and although they're by no means the only comedies I like hopefully they will give you something to do at a time when the weather's poor and things to do are at a minimum.

At number three I would say Hotshots: Part Deux. Released in 1993, Hot Shots: Part Deux stars Charlie Sheen in a parody of war films such as First Blood, Apocalypse Now, Platoon, and even Lady and

the Tramp. If that sounds like a strange combination of parody material, then you'd be right.

However, unlike the similar film Tropic Thunder (which I also enjoy) rather than poking fun at the gore and psychological aspects of war films, Hot Shots: Part Deux is just plain silly and honestly every scene is packed full of jokes, both subtle and obvious. I've watched it multiple times and I always notice something new in the background.

At number two I would say Spaceballs. True, part of my love for this film is drawn from my love for Star Wars, but even on its own Spaceballs is a fantastic comedy. Directed by genius Mel Brooks, Spaceballs was released in 1987 amid the Star Wars craze but references plenty of other science fiction films like Alien.

Although each scene isn't packed with jokes and the plot does have some relative heart to it, the jokes that are included are generally witty and each character tends to be a joke of some kind themselves, like the character Dark Helmet, a nerdy, half-wit take on the villainous Darth Vader or the highly enjoyable scene which substitutes "hyperspace" for "Ludicrous Speed."

If you're a Star Wars fan, odds are you'll pick up on the majority of the references but even if you're not it's a decent film.

At number one, which is a surprisingly easy choice for me despite the number of comedies I like, would be Airplane! Released in 1980, it is older than the other two on the list but it still surprises me that the only friends who've seen it are the ones I've personally shown the movie to.

Part of why it surprises me is that even though it was released in 1980, none of the humor is really dated and still elicits a lot of laughs. Made by the same crew behind Hot Shots: Part Deux, every scene in Airplane! is packed with jokes and even though the main characters are sympathetic, it is a straight-up silly movie.

I've watched it probably a million times and even though it's not as saturated as Hot Shots: Part Deux, the jokes are still funny enough that I laugh every time. One friend I showed it to laughed at one scene until he was blue in the face and we had to pause the movie because I couldn't hear over him.

These are just a few comedies I enjoy, but believe me there are plenty others out there like Naked Gun 2 ½, Wrongfully Accused, the above-mentioned Tropic Thunder. If you haven't seen or heard of them before, I'd strongly recommend checking them out.

## WXTC Saves the Music experience at Thiel

by Michael Boratyn, mbora280@thiel.edu

Traditionally, every spring, Thiel College hosts a major-act concert for students and the public.

This year, budgetary constraints made it impossible for Student Life to produce its usual Dome concert with at least one nationally known act. WXTC's student Board of Directors (BOD) is coming to the musical rescue.

Last fall, the BOD decided to host a music festival.

On Feb. 27, in HMSC, all their collective planning and work will result in WXTC's first music festival. And, it has nine acts. The event's co-sponsors include: Thiel College Student Life, James Pedas Communication Center and TCTV, who will be on-hand to film the festival for a documentary.

The festival is a benefit concert for WXTC's philanthropy – VH1 Save the Music Foundation. The cost is free to Thiel students (with school ID) and a \$10 suggested donation from the general public at the door.

On Saturday, Feb. 27, the doors to the event will open at 4:30 p.m. and the music will begin at 5:00 p.m. The festival ends around midnight.

Three headlining acts come from the New York City area. Ian Lloyd's Stories (best known for their 70s global hit, Brother Louie) will perform classic and new rock. Joe Deninzon and Stratospherius bring high energy jazz fusion rock to the festival: featuring Joe Deninzon's electric violin. John Ford of the Strawbs play acoustic folk rock, with a distinctly British flavor.

Coming back to Thiel, by popular demand is Nevada Color; the Pittsburgh band has many fans of their alternative rock sound. Also, from the greater Pittsburgh area, Turnpike Gardens takes the stage with blues-based rock. De-Marra Underwood performs her brand of soulful gospel and R&B.

The Thiel community is also well represented at the WXTC Music Festival to Benefit VH1 Save the Music Foundation. Dr. Buddy White's band, The Second Street Band, opens the show with classic and jazz rock. Young A is scheduled to perform her original rap music. Jayvon Braxton will also bring his rapping and hip hop style to help round out an evening of diverse popular music.

"When the students decided to produce a concert I was supportive of the idea – but also warned them – this is work. They have completely stepped up to the plate," Professor Peg Watts, Managing Advisor of Thiel's college radio station, said.

"We feel so passionately about music, the arts, and its impact on all of our lives so we wanted to benefit a foundation that felt the same. We want children to have the opportunity to express themselves through music, and so we felt that the VH1 Save the Music foundation was the perfect foundation" Kourtney Polvinale said.

"They've done the organizing and promotional work. I've guided them and take care of the legal stuff and coordinating. Come the day of the festival, they'll be exhausted! It's a good thing Spring Break comes soon after," Watts said.

The performances take place in the Lutheran Heritage Room (LHR). Student organizations will set up tables in the Bistro.

Festival-goers can meet the performers and buy CDs, or just get autographs and selfies at several talent tables. A Chinese auction is scheduled as well. Up for auction are two grab bags full of CDs, t-shirts, gift certificates from local businesses and other surprises. Auction tickets cost \$1 and are available at WXTC's table throughout the evening.

"There's still time for student organizations to get involved and have a table setup for this event," Watts said. "It's a great way for them to outreach and fund-raise, themselves."

She also wants to thank the event's cosponsors: Thiel Student Life, The James Pedas Communication Center TCTV and area businesses.

"If this goes well, we hope it can take the place of the usual Spring Concerts. It's a wonderful way to raise money for

WXTC's philanthropy. Save the Music Foundation provides musical equipment to under-served schools throughout the country and world. Music education not only introduces young people to the wide world of music – it's also directly linked to math and reading skills. So, the music festival benefitting that charity is so appropriate for Thiel and WXTC. But, the festival also provides a way for Thiel students to gain real-world experience, promote WXTC and shine. It's going to be a fun evening full of diverse music. We're excited to bring this to Thiel," Watts said.

For more information on WXTC's Music Festival to Benefit VH1 Save the Music Foundation, please email wxtc@gmail.com.



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## Crowdfunding finally explained

by Chad Anderson, canderson@thiel.edu

I have a confession to make: I love crowdfunding. To date, I have helped fund 25 products ranging from phones and 3D printers to pens and notebooks. It is a way to find really unique products that you basically will not find anywhere else, and it is a great way to get engaged with smaller businesses around the world.

Crowdfunding is a way to raise money from a large group of people by pitching your idea, product, or problem to them. With the introduction of the Internet, a wide range of Web sites have sprung up to serve as crowdfunding platforms. Over time, they have been successfully built into profitable businesses by taking a small percentage of the money gathered from each campaign. The best known crowdfunding platforms are GoFundMe, Kickstarter, and Indiegogo. Each platform serves a different audience through donations or products.

GoFundMe, honest to its motto "Crowdfunding for everyone," allows anyone to raise funds toward just about anything. GoFundMe is geared toward donation pages and those giving money receive nothing in return. This is the key difference between it and other crowdfunding platforms.

Any other crowdfunding website you find yourself on will likely hold more structure than GoFundMe does. Other websites use crowdfunding like a preorder system: by giving the company or individual money, they will provide the end product in return some time down the road. Typically funds are being asked for because of high cost of parts, molds, or scaling of production to make the product a cheaper, more affordable one. Once the project has reached its goal and the campaign ends, the funds are collected and the company can get started with production.

Product-based crowdfunding is an important development for its product exposure, risk reduction, and lower entry cost. All of these allow smaller businesses to come forward with a proven concept and sell it before it is truly ready to be produced. Products like Oculus Rift, a virtual reality headset which raised over \$2.4 million on Kickstarter, not only received that money but gained a lot of press due to its major success on the platform.

Just a year and a half later, Oculus - the company behind the Oculus Rift - was purchased by Facebook for \$2 billion. It would be hard to deny that the extremely successful crowdfunding campaign and press exposure did not increase the value of Oculus when they searched for funding elsewhere.

There are potential risks involved with crowdfunding platforms as well. Sometimes a proven concept does not scale into mass production well and extra time needs to be taken to ensure that there is a quality product. Even worse, sometimes the people behind the campaign do not plan on completing their end of the deal and just walk away with the money that was raised. I have personally been a victim of the latter but it is just a flaw in the system. Kickstarter does a lot of work in filtering the campaigns that get put on their website to lower risk as much as possible. Crowdfunding is still a young market online and there is still a lot to be learned by everyone involved, and I am still excited to be a part of it.

## Are you forever alone or forever together?

by Tina Kramer, tkramer@thiel.edu

Relationships, particularly at this time of year, are up for scrutiny. The question of whether certain couples treat each other right, are compatible, or are faithful circulate around campus. Those who are single and committed join in the critiques, forming a web of true and false information.

This Valentine's Day is no different—already the rumor mill has produced an excess of lies and truths, hidden in Facebook, Instagram, or YikYak accounts.

Those in good humor post funny pictures, quotes, and ideas, while the harsher cynics break out sarcastic comments about the holiday and the couples involved. The corny and cute couples post pictures or romantic public notices to their loves, only to be ridiculed by those who dislike Valentine's Day.

These public displays of affection further open these couples to the cruel world of criticism. The relationship between the two forces are highly correlated—as one increases with love and affection, the other strikes back with cynical remarks, as if in a constant attempt to balance both forces of cuteness and reality.

My proposal is to find happiness in your own way. If writing love notes and poetry is how you would like to spend Valentine's Day, go for it. If going out with friends or watching TV is your chosen method of celebration, then do not hold back.

However, Valentine's Day is not just for couples, or to make single people painfully aware of their lonely existence. It's to celebrate love, in any form, whether that means your family, friends, or significant other.

Valentine's Day provides us all with the opportunity to build each other up, not tear one another down. Send your classmates friendly notes with Disney characters, give your neighbors some chocolate, call your parents (you know that they want to hear from you), and have some fun.

Valentine's Day is not just for the corny and cynical to speak out—it's for everyone to reflect on the positive people in their lives who show love in their own special way every day.

So let's hold back the snide comments and be a little thoughtful to one another's feelings. But, most of all, let us all come together and enjoy the best part of February—half off chocolate.





## JuJu Chang speaks at Thiel

cont. from front page

Where her successful career as a journalist began. Aside from speaking on her own experience as the child of a family of immigrants, Chang spoke in-depth regarding the current campaigning for the next presidential election, and the significant role that millennials will play.

For example, Chang mentioned Bernie Sanders and the support he has among millennials, regarding his socialist policies, whereas older voters tend to avoid Sanders, as they would connect socialism with

the Cold War. Chang also discussed the field of journalism as a whole, while touching upon other issues such as racism.

“Journalists see themselves as storytellers, telling both good and bad stories,” Chang stated in regards to critics of the news industry. She also stressed the importance that journalists must relate to people the world as it is, while at the same time doing it in such a way that people can understand and relate to.

At the end of the speech,

which was hosted in New Jersey City University, Chang was awarded the National Association of Asian American Professionals’ 100 Award, which was present by Buick.

The award was offered to Chang for her contributions to the Asian American community, and became the third journalist to receive the award. Afterwards, Chang stated that she was going back to New York City to cover the New Hampshire Primary at ABC headquarters.

## Miller’s Senior Seminar

cont. from front page

The dinners are prepared by Chad Wilkoff, the Executive Chef at the Dining Hall at Thiel. The fish was suggested by another student after the beginning of Lent was brought to Miller’s attention.

“Even though most of us are Business majors, we’re not there to learn business things. We learn etiquette, how to act, and other things we don’t know,” Steiner said.

The seminar was originally available only to business majors and by invitation only. A prospective candidate had to

be doing exceptionally well in class in order to be invited.

“They did the same thing in the science department a few years ago,” Miller said, “but it wasn’t the same. They had no dress code. I think that’s a mistake. You don’t get the same feeling. They weren’t able to pull it off; they team-taught it, trying to duplicate it. It got down to two students. This kind of thing takes years to develop.”

While the alums present their stories to the students in attendance, an outside speak-

er is a normal occurrence with the seminar. Last week, however, the weather kept the regularly scheduled speaker from attending. The backup speaker had another obligation, which brought Miller up to speak as an emergency.

“I thought it was interesting that Professor Miller was in a room with Ivy Leagues while getting his MBA. He was one of two students to get a 100 on the final and get an A in the class,” Steiner said, “It just shows you what Thiel students can do.”

## Kochka leads Thiel to victory over Westminster

by Justin Felgar, jfelgar@thiel.edu

The Thiel Tomcats triumphed over the Westminster Titans in Saturday night’s game, sealing their President’s Athletic Conference win with a score of 78-66.

Thiel came out full force, securing a nine to zero lead early in the game before the Titans overtook them with a 30-28 lead at halftime.

In the second half, senior

Luke Kochka led the Tomcats to victory, scoring 19 points in the second half.

Kochka scored 30 points overall in the game to match his career high.

Kochka made 5 out of 10 shots from the floor in the last 20 minutes of the game and sank seven out of eight shots from the line.

Senior Khari Bess scored 13

points for the Tomcats on Saturday. Bess stole the ball nine times and logged four assists.

Bess reached the 1,000 point mark on Saturday, placing him in tenth place on Thiel’s career points list, passing Daryl Moore’s 983 points.

Sophomore Clandell Cetoute put up seven points for Thiel, and recovered 14 rebounds.

Senior Avril Campbell also scored seven points and recovered 12 rebounds.

Freshman Aaron Burton also scored seven points.

The Tomcats far surpassed the Titans in rebounds, recovering 62 to their 38.

The Westminster Titans was led Paul Carswell who scored 18 points and recovered seven rebounds, a record for the team. Brandon Domenick put up 11 points for Westminster in Saturday’s game.

The Tomcats will face the Wolverines in Grove City on Saturday. The game will begin at 3 p.m.



Senior Luke Kochka leads the Tomcats to victory  
Photo Credit: Thiel SID

## Men’s Volleyball struggles to season going

by Hunter Michaelis, hmichaelis@thiel.edu

Men’s volleyball can’t seem to get their season started, dropping their eighth straight match against Stevenson University on Saturday.

The 10th ranked Mustangs

came into Thiel by storm, shutting out the Tomcats, improving their overall to 8-2.

Thiel had a strong start in the first match, but ultimately gave it up 18-25. This would

go unmatched until the elimination set, which was dropped in a close 22-25.

Junior Nate Roche led the match with five kills, also tallying nine digs and found a way to gain a block.

He was followed closely by Cody Patterson, who currently has 96 kills on the season, notched six in this match.

Regan Hess added five kills and four blocks to the team’s offense and defense, respectively.

Two more juniors, Zach Rombach and Jeff Coffy, showed their prowess by putting in 16 assists and six digs.

The Tomcats return to action Feb. 26 for a road match against Cairn.



Nate Roche had a great game in the loss against Stevenson University’s Mustangs.  
Photo credit: Thiel SID

## Fellows host Democratic debate

cont. from front page

The third Pedas Presents event of the month is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 22 at 7 p.m. in Stamm Lecture Hall. Duquesne University Assistant Professor of Multiplatform Journalism, Pamela E. Wal-

ck, Ph.D., will be presenting a lecture titled “Race and Race Relations During WWII: a Big-Picture Look at How the Media (in the United States and United Kingdom) Reported Race During the War.”

“I am really looking forward to having Dr. Pamela E. Walck come and speak. The subject of race relations is always an interesting one that sparks a lot of conversation,” said Pedas Fellow Lora Rutherford.

## Thiel hosts 11th Annual Night of Broadway

cont. from front page

Additional performances included: “Always a Bridesmaid” from I Love You, You’re Perfect, performed by Ashley Reynolds; “Happily Ever After” from Once Upon a Mattress, performed by Lora Kay; “Alone in the Universe” from Seussical, performed by Oliva Royal and Ashley Aus-

burn; “Memory” from Cats, performed by Deanna Shaw; and “The Money Song” from Avenue Q, performed by the Ensemble and featuring Andrew McClain, Blake Peese, and Keenan Weimer.

Director Loyal Jasper described the show as a complete success. “As a director, I was

elated at the turnout for Cabaret this year, both with auditionees and audience members. Cabaret is my favorite show that Thiel offers, because it gives it’s actors opportunities to portray their ‘dream roles’ that they never get a chance to portray in real life” Jasper said.

## Thiel Wrestling earns back-to-back PACs

by Justin Felgar, jfelgar@thiel.edu

The Thiel Tomcats won their second back to back President’s Athletic Conference Wrestling Championship on Friday night in the Beeghly Gymnasium.

Lance Waters, Nick Sutton, Brett Beltz, Chris Nuss, and Marco Crivelli.

Senior Lance Waters had two pins against Michael Smith from Washington & Jefferson

Junior Chriss Nuss won both of his matches against Landon Lohr and Jesse Lesko.

Senior Marco Crivelli won both of his matches against John Sneeringer and Ezekiel



The Thiel Tomcats win their second consecutive PAC Wrestling Championship  
Photo Credit: Thiel SID

The Championship was Thiel’s 22nd overall championship in their history.

Thiel finished in first place with 120 points. Waynesburg and Washington & Jefferson placed second and third with 120 and 106 points, respectively.

Five Thiel wrestlers won five individual championships on Friday. The winners were:

and Zach Swarrow of Waynesburg.

Senior Nick Sutton defeated Nick Kusich of Waynesburg 11 to 5 and Washington & Jefferson’s Trevon Meyers seven to six.

Freshman Brett Beltz was named Most Outstanding Wrestler, winning both of his matches against Sam Florentino and Derek Hull by pin.

Stroupe

Thiel Wrestling Coach Craig Thurber won the PAC Coach of the Year award for the eighth time of his career on Friday.

The Tomcats won the PAC Sportsmanship award on Friday.

The Tomcats will compete in the NCAA Division III Championships on Feb. 27 and 28.

## Women’s Basketball wins out over Westminster

by Justin Felgar, jfelgar@thiel.edu

Thiel women’s basketball achieved victory over the Westminster Titans on Saturday with a score of 78-68.

line.

Watkins advances to sixth place in Thiel’s career points list with 1,213 points in her

three point attempts. She went five for five in shots from the line.

Senior Kayla Welty put up



Senior Players were honored before Saturday night’s game  
Photo credit: Thiel SID

Senior Jaclyn Watkins played an instrumental role in the Tomcat’s victory, scoring 22 points, the most she has had this season.

Watkins also snagged 13 rebounds in the game, putting up her sixth double-double this season. Watkin’s made nine out of her 10 shots from the floor and successfully made four shots from the charity

overall career. She passes Cindy Bynum, who acquired 1,203 points in her career.

Sophomore Taylor Duchon also put forward a vital effort in Saturday’s game.

Duchon scored 21 points for the Tomcat’s, just one point shy of her all time record.

Duchon sunk six of her eight shots from the floor, and scored four out of five in her

nine points for the Thiel effort and freshman Alivia Sidley scored eight points.

The Titans were led by Kristine Fromknecht who put up 17 point s for Westminster. Rachel Durbin scored 16 points and Kylie Cook sank 15 points for the Titans.