

THE THIELENSIAN



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Art Gallery welcomes New Exhibit

by Liz Carlson,
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The Weyers Sampson Art Gallery recently welcomed a new exhibit titled "Lucid Moments and Liminal Spaces." The exhibit features a variety of paintings and drawings done by Christopher Ryan. The drawings and paintings depict a number of landscapes from across the globe, primarily in France, Italy and the state of Ohio.

Ryan is currently a professor of Art at Hiram College in Hiram, Ohio. A small liberal arts institution, Hiram College is very similar to Thiel. There, Ryan teaches painting and design. He is also the director of the college's own art gallery.

Ryan's pieces have been featured in several museums, including the Canton Museum of Art in Canton, Ohio and the Erie Art Museum in Erie, Pennsylvania. Although he currently resides in suburban Ohio, Ryan previously lived in France and Italy for a number of years.

All of the pieces in the Lucid Moments & Liminal Spaces collection are landscape scenes that Ryan has seen at some point during his lifetime. The collection was created to capture moments in time and re-create the feelings that he felt in those places.

The collection is unique because it includes both oil on canvas paintings as well as ink and pencil sketches. The collection will be on exhibit in the gallery until March 31.

The final exhibit of the semester will be the annual student show. This show features paintings, drawings and sculpted pieces from the student of Thiel.

"I am looking forward to the student show in April. I have taken a few art classes myself at Thiel and I am excited to see the work that my classmates have created," senior Tatyana Godfrey said.

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Eight Thiel media students recognized at IBS Event

by Liz Carlson, ECarlson@thiel.edu and Corey Lang, CLang984@thiel.edu

For the second year in a row, several student productions from the Thiel College media organizations have been named finalists for the annual Intercollegiate Broadcasting System (IBS) Golden Mic awards. This year eight students from TCTV and WXTC advanced to the final round of nominations.

This year's finalists from Thiel College are Khari Bess, Lucas Blacka, Kara Bussard, Kyle Hockenberry, Joseph Pouliot, Dan Wagner, Aelita Ferrante, and Rob Thompson. All are active members of either TCTV or WXTC. Bess and Bussard have since graduated, but were involved in various TCTV productions during their time at Thiel.

This is Wagner's second year being named a finalist for the awards. In 2016, he was named best production director for his work with WXTC. Wagner and Ferrante are one of five finalists in the category of Best Talk

Show for their radio show titled "Teamwork."

TCTV received final nominations in the categories of Best Comedy Program, for a production titled "Two-Finger Discount" and Best Variety Program for the show "Dorm Room Dining." They also received a final nomination for Best Program Promotion for "Greek Week Sports Compilation: Thiel College 2016," which was created by Pouliot and Blacka.

"It feels really cool to be a finalist for the awards. It is really rewarding after all of the hard work that we put into these videos last spring and over the summer. Even if we do not win, I hope that it gives future students something to strive for with their work," Pouliot said.

The finalists, as well as professors Ross Nugent and Peg Watts, traveled to New York City over spring break to attend the annual IBS conference

and awards ceremony. Nugent serves as the faculty advisor for TCTV and Watts the advisor for WXTC.

"It is a great opportunity for our students to be recognize for the work that they are doing. It also helps them to get a sense of work that other notable stations are working on," Nugent said.

The 77th annual National IBS conference took place March 3-5 in New York City. The event features over 150 speakers and more than one thousand international and U.S. attendees. While at the conference, the student had several opportunities to network with other students and professionals from around the globe and expand their knowledge of media production.

The Golden Mic Awards took place at end of the conference on Saturday Evening. During the award ceremony there are two groups of awards to be handed out, the high school



The nominees and professors who attended the IBS ceremony.

Photo credit: Corey Lang

group and then college group. Ferrante for WXTC was a finalist in two categories for "Most Innovative Program" and "Best Talk Program" along with Wagner. The whole TCTV group were finalists in two categories for "Best comedy Program" and "Best Variety Program".

"It was a great honor, and taught me a great experience in pursuing a career in filmmaking," Pouliot said.

The conference had provided carious of events/ conferences

for the students to attended while they were there. Some of the events that were being held were different session on different topics with radio and television. The sessions were a great opportunity for students to learn more information on the career they would like to pursue in the future.

TCTV and WXTC plan to make another appearance at the IBS awards next year and hoping to walk out with the winning trophy.

Thiel Choir takes coastal tour during spring break

by Tina Kramer, TKram138@thiel.edu

The Thiel Choir performed in Lutheran churches in MD, NC, SC, GA, VA and PA while on tour during spring break. The group of 34 students, director, accompanist, and companion travelers traveled by Anderson bus and stayed with host families and in hotels while on tour.

The plan for the tour began when Dr. Bray called St. Luke Lutheran in Silver Springs, MD.

"The choir tours that I have planned over these 21 years at Thiel College have always started with some connection to a church or a vision of where the route of the tour might lead," Dr. Michael Bray said, professor of music and Thiel College Choir Director. "This year was no different. Andrew McClain's home church in Silver Springs, MD, was the initial hinge point for planning."

Andrew McClain was able to experience singing for his home parish while on choir tour.

"It was great to finally be able to perform with the Thiel Choir for my congregation and my parents. Since I live five hours away from home, my parents have never seen the Choir perform. It was heartwarming to perform for people that have

watched me grow up in the church," McClain said.

The second stop on tour, On Savior Lutheran Church in Southern Pines, NC has been in contact with Bray for four years. Next the group travelled to King of Glory Lutheran Church in North Myrtle Beach, SC, followed by St. Paul Lutheran Church in Aiken, SC, St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Durham, SC, Bethel Lutheran Church in Winchester, VA and finally First Lutheran Church in Apollo, PA.

Choir tours occur annually and all choir members participate. This can create an interesting environment for choir members.

"Spending approximately 45 hours together in close quarters on an Anderson coach, 11 hours rehearsing before concerts, 11 hours on the risers performing and another 10 hours eating dinner together in church basements has a way of making or breaking a choir," Bray said.

The group had free time during the trip to explore the cities and churches they performed in. For many freshmen, this was their first experience on tour with the choir.

"Choir tour let me open up



Students sang with candles during the Choir Tour, which will be Dr. Bray's last before retirement.

Photo credit: Allen Morrill

to people I was too shy to talk to prior to our travels. They changed my perspective on the importance of friendship. In my past I was not able to sing with people who were as passionate about music as I am. Being able to sing with people who shared this interest allowed me to make these connections and find my place in the Thiel Choir," Noah Trimpey said, freshman.

This was Bray's final choir tour prior to retirement. Bray claims that this fact did not make choir tour any more special than it has been in previous years.

"[Choir tour] was made special because Thiel Choir members had enough faith in themselves and me to commit to hours of rehearsal. We bonded with text and music and became one in purpose and passion to communicate a message of joy and peace," Bray said. "I am quick to tell them [choir members] that I love them very much, because their lives matter. I will miss my students. We are made rich to be part of the discovery and creation of the life within music, whose melody never ends," Bray said.

Damen Taylor returns to Thiel

by Hunter Michaelis,
hmichaelis@thiel.edu

The Business Senior Seminar hosted Thiel alum Damen Taylor in the Sawhill-Georgian Room on March 1. The Seminar, which is open to all majors, features former graduates discussing their experiences in their fields to students.

The class offers students the opportunity to network and interview, while testing the job market with Business professors. Students have been hired from the class in the past.

Taylor graduated in 1995 as a double major in Business Administration and Accounting. Originally from McKeesport, PA, he is the first in his family to graduate from college.

He wanted to break away from the norm of a speaker presenting their story and the students listening. Instead, he got the students on their feet and organized the students by their names, followed by their birthdays. They were allowed to speak in only the first part. The test was whether or not they could work with people despite not knowing much, if anything, about them.

Out of all the speakers in the class so far, Taylor answered questions from everyone. Some students had more than one question.

He described what he called his "4 Fs": Focus, Family, Faith, and Finish. Each "F" is dependent on the person for how well each area is represented. Graduating requires all four areas, such as not letting distractions take hold or actually finishing, for example.

"About 38 percent of Americans have degrees," he said. "But of that 38 percent, 46.8 million don't have a job. You're ready. You're seniors."

[cont. on pg. 4]

Phoenix revealed at Alpha Chi and Sigma Tau Delta Poetry Night

By Kyley Raskob, KRask490@thiel.edu

On Thursday, March 16, Sigma Tau Delta and Alpha Chi came together to celebrate the reveal of the 2017 edition of *The Phoenix*, a collective work of students' and faculty's poetry, short stories, and photography.

The event gave students the opportunity to read their poetry aloud or enjoy the poetry of others. Snacks were provided and by the end of the night, all five pizzas were completely gone, as well as most of the other snacks and drinks the societies provided.

Dr. Jared Johnson, professor of English and the current advisor of Sigma Tau Delta, began the night by reading a collection of Pop Sonnets, Shakespearean adaptations of modern lyrics. This started off the night with something many people



Sigma Tau Delta and Alpha Chi hosted a poetry night, where the 2017 edition of *The Phoenix* was the centerpiece.

Photo credit: Allen Morrill

could enjoy.

"I enjoyed the laughs and communication of ideas and thoughts through poetry. It was a full hour of fun," Matthew Babeji said, an environmental

science major.

Many other contributing authors to *The Phoenix* stood and read their own works, as well as a couple of students who were not featured in the newest

edition. Nate Flory, a senior, and Sean Oros '16, also recited some of their own works from memory.

The event lasted just a little over an hour and was deemed

a success. Many students were very excited about the event and glad to receive the newly anticipated edition of *The Phoenix*.

"It was a proud moment for me to see my work published. I was amazed one of my longer poems was chosen and was given two pages of space. I am always a little nervous to read my poetry out loud but with a welcoming crowd it was awesome," Camille Radford said. "Thanks for an awesome night and copies of *The Phoenix*."

This edition of *The Phoenix* will now be dispersed throughout campus so everyone has a chance to grab a copy. Sigma Tau Delta plans to continue their production of the publication annually, starting next year.

Thiel

Happenings

compiled by Liz Carlson,
 ecarlson@thiel.edu
 Continue to stay tuned for all of the latest happenings on campus!

Saturday, March 25
 Zeta Tau Alpha's Annual "Food for the Fight" Spaghetti Dinner:
 3-7 p.m. at the Greenville Moose Lodge
 All proceeds benefit breast cancer education and awareness.

Monday, March 27
 Neuroscience Speaker: Dr. Mark Moehle:
 6-7 p.m. in Stamm Lecture Hall
 Dr. Moehle will be discussing his work in pharmacological treatments for Parkinson's disease

Saturday, April 1
 Relay for Life Craft Show:
 7 a.m. – 4 p.m. in the Glen Johnson
 Benefits the Road Runners for Cure relay team

Thursday, April 6
 Thiel Forum:
 4-5 p.m. in Stamm Lecture Hall
 Presenters include Dr. Hunchuk, Dr. Pickens and Dr. Johnson

The Thiel Players Present *Avenue Q* as spring musical

by Austin Hall, ahall1942thiel.edu

The Thiel Players continue their tradition for pushing the bounds of collegiate theater by presenting the musical production *Avenue Q*, a 2004 Tony Award winner for Best Musical.

This racy, yet autobiographical take on the anxieties of entering adulthood and the mysteries that come with it is represented in an entertaining, hilarious, and ultimately truthful manner. The original show was composed by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx, but it's finally come to the Thiel College stage.

The show opens with a young college graduate named Princeton, played by senior Austin Hall, who is trying to find his way in the world. The trials of adulthood are represented by every character. Whether it is the unemployed Brian, or Rod's struggle with his own secret homosexuality, or Gary Coleman coming to terms with the realization that children are told that they are "special," but upon entering adulthood realize that life isn't as easy as children are told.

Seven of the ten characters are actually played by puppets as one of the themes of *Avenue Q* is that it is an adult version of Sesame Street. Famously, Sesame Street's Bert and Ernie are represented as the roommates Rod and Nicky while Cookie Monster is represented through the character of Trekkie Monster (although Trekkie is not obsessed with cookies, but with porn).

Lopez and Marx push the bound of contemporary musical theater even further by including puppet sex and full puppet nudity throughout the show in order to display the growing sexuality of the new generation of adults coming out of college. Obviously, through this description of the show, this is a production for which children should be left at home.

The show features returning

Blood Simple and the Pedas Brothers: A Movie Premiere Event

March 30th, 6:30 PM, at the James Pedas Communication Center, Stamm Lecture Hall.

There will be pizza, pop and introduction by Joe Pouliot on how Thiel Graduate James Pedas helped shaped the careers of filmmakers the Coen Brothers (*Fargo*, *Oh Brother, Where are Thou?* and *The Big Lebowski*)

Sponsored by the Media and Public Relations department, The James Pedas Communication Center and TCTV.

WXTC 88.1FM Show Schedule

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
12pm					The Island (Trey)		
1pm					Man Cave (Rob, Tyler)	Limitless (Aelita)	
2pm		Limitless (Aelita)					
3pm							
4pm		Blow Steam (Liam, Zack)				Fake Love (Mercedez & Yea Lin)	TBD (Kyler)
5pm		Mediascapes (Thiel Professors)	You Can't Kill Us (Bailey)	Road To Nowhere (Peg)	Backroads (Elijah)	Teamwork (Dan & Aelita)	You Can't Kill Us (Bailey)
6pm		Girls On The Radio (Kirsten & Erica)	Theme Park (Kirsten)		Deltawaves (Jake)		
7pm				Modern Ground (John)	TBD (Payton)	Revolution Radio (Kira & Dan)	Revolution Radio (Kira & Dan)
8pm			Metal Boarder (Bella)		Brainstorming (Neuroscience)		
9pm				Metal Boarder (Bella)	The Dojo (Luke)	TBD (Dj & Rashad)	
10pm							
11pm		Vibing w/ Alice (Kourtuey)					
12am							

Thiel College Police Blotter

March 10
An unknown person tampered with fire safety equipment, taking the safety pin from an extinguisher.

March 17
An underage student was found passed out by a group of other students in front of the chapel. The student was taken to the ER to be treated for alcohol poisoning and several abrasions received in the fall from passing out.

March 18
A student reported someone kicked a hole in the entry door to his apartment. Later, that student stated that he had lied and a visitor had caused the damage.

Two students were found to be having a heated verbal argument. Campus Police were on scene when the incident began and stopped the incident before it became physical.



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About The Thielensian

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 number must be provided for verification. Letters must be free 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.

Letters may be emailed to: Thielensian@thiel.edu

**** Note: there will also be tryouts for Dance on Apr. 8, 9:00a.m.-12:00p.m. and then starting at 1:00 p.m., in the Gym**




Open Gym

Date: April 22nd

Times: 9-noon

Where: Beeghly Gymnasium




Tryouts

Date: April 29th

Time: 9-noon and 1-2

Where: Beeghly Gymnasium



RSVP to Coach Kimmel by March 9, 2017 at akimmel@thiel.edu OR (724) 588-2247
 For more information regarding tryouts, go to www.thielathletics.com

Dear Dirk: The Worst Advice on Campus

If you would like to submit a question to Dear Dirk, email the Thielensian Staff at thielensian@thiel.edu.

Dear Dirk,
My girlfriend and I have been in an open relationship for the past three months. It was my idea (I thought I could get a lot more play and still keep my girl around). The problem is, while I've been able to lock down maybe three horses in the stable, she can get it from any dude she wants. At any time and any place. I'm starting to think this was a bad idea. Where should I go from here?

~ Always Be Closing

Hey, Always Be Closing,
Sounds to me like you need to shut this open relationship down. However, since it was your idea to begin with, that might look bad. You should try to get her to do it for you. Maybe find some girl that you can starting hanging out with, almost like a side chick. That way, you are still in the open relationship but you can make your girlfriend jealous, too. She's bound to want to close your relationship again.

~ Dirk
Dear Dirk,
My roommate and I have been really close for the last couple semesters. Now she has a new boyfriend and she spends all her time with him. I thought it was just temporary because their relationship was new. However, I've been letting it go for months now and nothing has changed, she might even be spending more time with him than before. I really miss having my best friend around. What should I do?

~ Third Wheel

Hey, Third Wheel,
Many people can stay in the honeymoon phase for a long time. You might want to wait even longer. However, I get that it might not be bearable for you. In that case, you should totally try to break them up. Clearly, neither of them are considerate of other people in their relationship. Say her boyfriend hit on you or you saw him with some other girl. It isn't hard to do, you just have to start the spark and they will fall apart on their own.

~ Dirk

Photos of the Edition



Thiel education students help at Greenville Math and Science Night on Thursday, March 2 at East Elementary School. The Thiel students pictured above are Robert Carpenter; Sam Sesti, Justin Zinsmeister; and Kaytee Candela.

Photo credit: Tessa Simmons

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

Stress-free job search possible?

by Hunter Michaelis, hmichaelis@thiel.edu

When I was a freshman, I remember laughing and teasing my friends in the junior and senior classes for how stressed they were about their internship/job searches.

It's not that hard, right? You just find a job. It's no reason to panic, feel really tired, or even just feel stressed.

That was my first mistake. You see, looking for a job is an incredibly stressful experience. Even finding an internship can be exhausting.

For starters, it's a smart idea to attend all of the career fairs, whether they be on campus or otherwise. If you want to make a good first impression, that means researching the company(ies) you want to talk with, dressing professionally, and preparing a few questions to ask the employer.

I know a guy who went through a three-round interview process for just an internship.

Yes, it's that involved. Employers are so serious about the young professionals they choose these days. Why do you think this is?

I don't think there's one answer for this one. My opinion is because they've been burned enough to be more thorough. Maybe someone pulled out of the internship they spent time interviewing for. Worse, maybe a student did a terrible job and had to terminated early. Most interns do well here, but it happens once in a while.

Searching for a job can be even worse when a round of salary negotiation is thrown into the mix. If done incorrectly, this can ruin the whole process and significantly taint your interview with that employer. Common sense helps, sure, but not all of the answers you've been taught about finding a job apply to all employers. Each one is different.

Never mind the fact it's hard just to get that interview to begin with. When you see your friends on Facebook, Twitter, and the like getting excited about their "first" or "second" interview, there's a reason for that; it was a pain to get it (that, and they're excited, too).

So, can this process can stress-free. I don't think so. You can make it more stressful on yourself, but take it from me when I tell you that it's not worth it. Symptoms of burn-out, poor mood, and even foginess can occur. That's not a fun way to feel, especially in your final weeks of your Thiel career.

My advice? Back off and let things happen. Getting stressed won't make your phone ring any sooner. Don't forget your friends, your significant others, and your families. Not only will they help ease the stress; they may have the connection you've been looking for.

Dear Dirk,

I was scrolling through *Yik Yak* and I saw this comment about my friend's girlfriend. It suggested she was cheating on him with several people on campus and I don't want to have to break the news to him. However, I also don't even know if it's true. I don't want to be the one to hurt their relationship, especially if it turns out that it was nothing but a rumor. What should I do?

~ Conflicted

Hey, Conflicted,
I mean I would just screen-shot it on your phone and send it to your friend. It's their relationship and their problem. It isn't like they can't go on the app and see it themselves. You are just getting it to him a little bit quicker. Besides, you don't want too deeply involved in their relationship if you don't have to be.

Plus, it might not be true, but if all you do is show him, then your hands are clean. He can do the digging.

~ Dirk

Driving Force in drag racing

by Colton Amolsch, CAmol766@thiel.edu

Throughout his high school career, John Force played football. In four years, he never once achieved a win. For the sixteen-time NHRA Funny Car champion, that hardly seems as bad as it would to some.

For almost three decades, Force has been a dominant figure on the NHRA Drag-Racing scene. He holds the records for most championships and most wins, with 16 and 143, respectively. He also owns his own team, fielding not only his own cars, but also those of his youngest daughter, Courtney, nephew Robert Hight, and the Top Fuel Dragster of daughter Brittany. Through his own victories and those of his team, Force has eighteen championships solidly under its belt.

Force was born into poverty, and his early life included a life-threatening bout with polio. Despite the sickness that plagued his early years, he would eventually work to regain his strength. In high school, he ventured into football, continuing to play despite going winless his entire career. As high school progressed, however, something else would grab at his mind and soul; cars.

Drag racing has always been a common trend amongst those who are passionate about their automobiles. As he became more involved with the budding car culture in his hometown, Force, logically, turned his efforts towards racing. In 1978, he made his first appearance on the NHRA circuit. Contrasting the kind of success he would enjoy after reaching his stride in the mid-1980s, Force went winless for many years, paralleling his football career. As time progressed, however, things began to improve, and he went from being a non-factor to a consistent threat to win week in and week out.

The 1990s became the decade of Force. In all but one season, 1992, he would be crowned the champion in Funny Car. Teams frequently accused him of cheating. Despite these claims, all of which were proven untrue by NHRA officials, Force continued to win, leaving the competition destroyed in his wake. Even a manufacture change from General Motors (GM) to Ford in 1997 did nothing to slow him down.

As the 2000s came about, Force's focus changed from being solely on the competition to helping his daughters move up through the NHRA ranks. Eldest daughter Ashley would become a threat to win just like her father, even going so far as to defeat him in the finals at the 2007 Atlanta Nationals. She would continue to race until 2013, when she and husband Robert Hight would announce they were expecting their first child.

She has not raced since, but has remained within the fold at the Force team. Force's other daughters, Brittany and Courtney, both compete in NHRA currently, with Courtney occasionally facing her father head-to-head in Funny Car competition.

Force recently signed a lifetime contract with his current sponsor, Peak Antifreeze, ensuring that he will have a sponsor for as long as he chooses to continue racing. Throughout the years, he has endured crashes, hardships, and near death experiences that would easily have chased off even some of the boldest of drivers. And yet, every week, you can find him in the same place. Behind the wheel of a NHRA Funny Car, getting set to go over three-hundred miles an hour.

Expectations vs. reality

by Tina Kramer, TKram138@thiel.edu

No one is safe from gender stereotypes-- man or woman, you have been judged based on your biological sex, likely the moment any person meets you.

There are many associations that come with being a woman, but recently there has been a shift. No matter what, women seem to be judged for their career choice. If a woman lives up to the mother role, then she is seen as inferior to men; if she focuses on her career, then she is seen as an inferior mother.

Men are not safe from criticism, either. They are encouraged to show emotion, yet when they do, they are said to be weak. "Mr. Mom" is rarely seen as a term of endearment, and men are believed inferior if they do not provide for their families, meaning they are expected to earn a higher salary than their wife.

Still, women (rightfully so) expect to earn equal pay for equal work. Something in popular culture has to change. There is no way to hold women and men to these standards. It is virtually impossible for a family to reach all of these expectations. This inability to reach these goals can sometimes cause friction in relationships and feelings of inferiority for both men and women.

No matter who you are or what you choose, people will judge you. People will say you're wrong, stupid or weak. What you really need to do is rely on is your own perception of yourself.

Happiness is not found in money or living up to other people's expectations. Happiness is found with people you care about. Jobs should not be dictated by salary or popular opinion; they should reflect your skills, interests and abilities.

So, who cares what was popular 50 years ago or what is popular now? Go out there and spend your future the way you want.

John Force captures Gatornationals

by Colton Amolsch, CAmol766@thiel.edu

The 2017 NHRA Drag Racing season has barely gotten underway, and already John Force is looking towards a return to form.

After qualifying in the number one position, he easily backed up his speed in a final round win against Jonnie Lindberg.

For Force and his team, it wasn't just the win itself that brought forth a celebration; it was what the win signified for the team as a whole, especially after a somewhat disappointing day otherwise (Force's daughters Courtney and Brittany were knocked out in Rounds 1 and 2 respectively, while teammate Robert Hight showed speed but was unable to make the final round.)

The win is the 148th of Force's career, as well as being his 8th trip to victory in the Gatornationals, which, prior to Sunday, he had not won since 2001. He and the team's efforts in qualifying also marked his 155th pole position in NHRA Funny Car competition. The records set last Sunday don't stop there, however. Force's win set a new record in the sport for time separating wins at the Gatornationals, as well as seeing him become the oldest driver to ever win a Funny Car matchup at age 67. If that's not enough, it also marked his 30th consecutive season with at least one win in competition. His team also has 2,500 victories in the NHRA overall. Hardly anything to scoff at.

The 16-time champion clocked in at 3.928 seconds in the final round, which translates to 328.14 miles an hour.

Could Force's victory in the Gatornationals be the start of an unprecedented 17th championship? Only time will tell, but with he and his team sitting second in the Top Fuel Funny Car standings, they are certainly in a position to strike. In Force's own words, "We're gonna do some damage this year, whether they take us out or not, because we got the heart!"



Bray, Rickens and Nowinski headline Forum

By Nathan Flory, nflory@thiel.edu

On Thursday, March 16, the first Thiel Forum of the semester was held in Stamm Lecture Hall in the Pedas Communication Center at 4:00p.m.

Dr. Michael Bray began the forum by leading everyone in a rendition of “My Wild Irish Rose” before presenting on the Thiel Choir’s tour to Ireland in May 2017. He also acknowledged his “wild Irish rose,” Becky Bray, and Junior Tina Kramer, who helped him assemble a PowerPoint slideshow.

The choir was joined on tour by several friends of the choir and alumni as they spent two weeks exploring and performing on the Emerald Isle, including stops in Belfast, Derry, Killamey, and Dublin. Bray shared numerous photos of students sightseeing at locations such as the Cliffs of Moher and the Giant’s Causeway in addition to photos of them performing in St. Anne’s Cathedral, Belfast; Kylemore Abbey, County Galway; and St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Dublin. He expressed the sentiment that the tour was full of music and memories to last a lifetime.

Senior Jennifer Rickens

presented research on a project entitled “MR-Based Wall Shear Stress Calculation in Pulmonary Hypertension.” She was able to participate in this research through her summer 2016 internship at East Carolina University through the Research Experiences for Undergraduates program of the National Science Foundation.

The project in which she participated tested a new method to measure wall shear stress because the current procedure used for that end is highly invasive. The internship lasted for ten weeks, and Rickens said she is extremely grateful for the opportunity she was given. Other students at ECU will be continuing with her research.

Dr. Sheila Nowinski, Assistant Professor of History, shared selections of her paper on “Priestly research: Debates in France, 1960-1975.” She explained that many Catholics expected Vatican II to get rid of mandatory celibacy for priests and were thus disappointed when it did not. The numbers of Catholic priests who left the Church in the 1960s was dramatic, but the direct impact of Vatican II

on this statistic is uncertain.

However, the opinion of celibacy was shifted; instead of being viewed as something which a priest must do to be more holy, Catholics now view celibacy as a requirement that equips priests to better fulfill their mission in the Church. Nowinski concluded her brief explanation of her paper by stating that France’s skepticism of the continued rule of celibacy was portrayed in multiple French films about priests in the late 1960s and 1970s.

Dr. Mary Theresa Hall concluded the forum by thanking everyone for attending and announcing the upcoming forums. The next Thiel Forum will be held on April 6 at 4:00p.m. in Stamm Hall. The schedule features Dr. Allan Hunchuk sharing his sabbatical research, Dr. Laura Pickens discussing her 2016 faculty grant, and Dr. Jared Johnson presenting on “Evil in Abrams’ ‘The Force Awakens’”. This will be the final Thiel Forum for the spring 2017 semester.

Dr. Hall may be contacted for anyone interested in presenting next year.

Taylor offers life experiences at senior seminar

cont. from front page

“College is hard for a reason; it’s to separate the men from the boys and the women from the girls. Employers love a college degree because it’s a great indicator that you’ll finish what you start.”

Taylor needed more than four years to complete both degrees. He sold maintenance agreements for Sears right after graduation, eventually landing an accounting position with Pittsburgh Public Schools. He remained there until 2012. During that time, he and his wife raised four kids.

“Fail means ‘First Attempt In Learning,’” Taylor said. “When I was in high school, I failed a Civics class, so my mom grounded me until my next report card, which wasn’t until the next school year. I learned a lot about accounting in that summer.”



Speaker Damen Taylor tells seniors the importance of overcoming the difficulties of college.

Photo credit: thiel.edu

From there, he took classes in high school and immediately knew that that was what he wanted to do in college. He also played three years of football at Thiel, where he broke his tailbone and still experiences problems with today.

Taylor has spent nearly his entire career working for non-profits, but he wasn’t the greatest student when he was

at Thiel. His professors had to work overtime to keep him focused.

“I needed Thiel a lot more than it needed me,” he said. “My biggest regret is not asking professors for help when I needed it. You all have a family here, too. I know they’ve helped in the past, and the thing is that they believe in you. Have faith in those who believe in you.”

Mowris and Swan earn Extraordinary Effort Award

by Hunter Michaelis, hmichaelis@thiel.edu

The TLC Extraordinary Effort Award is given to two students by the Learning Commons, TLC, based on a nomination by a TLC staff member. The latest winners are seniors Alexis Mowris and Jacob Swan.

TLC extraordinary effort award for her outstanding and long service as both a tutor and SI leader,” Nancy Katz said, Professor of English and SI Coordinator. “In her freshman year, Alexis began tutoring students in chemistry courses, always receiving the highest praise from her tutees. This fall, when SI expanded its offerings to include organic chemistry, Alexis was the natural choice to lead the sessions. She brings fun as well as understanding to a difficult subject, and again, her peers praise her efforts highly. She is going to be a tough leader to replace.”

After graduation, Mowris plans on attending graduate school to become a pharmacist.



Alexis Mowris one of the last Extraordinary Effort Award winners for March.

Photo credit: Prof. Noel Stanger

Mowris is a double major in Chemistry and Biochemistry, and Swan is a Business Administration major with a concentration in Marketing and Advertising.

“I was awed,” Mowris said, on winning the award, “caught off guard. I was really honored.”

Mowris is on the Cross Country team and is a member of the American Chemical Society, ACS, which is the Chemistry honorary. She is a Supplemental Instruction, SI, leader for Organic Chemistry.

“Alexis received the April

“The Thiel Learning Commons staff nominated and selected Jacob Swan as one of our March recipients of the TLC Extraordinary Effort Award due to his four years of active participation in the TLC program



Jacob Swan, one of the last Extraordinary Effort Award winners for March.

Photo credit: Prof. Noel Stanger

and his strong desire to be successful,” Donnelly said, “Jacob has never been satisfied with just getting by in his classes and continuously sets high goals for himself, which he works hard to achieve. He also is a great example of a student who knows how to successfully balance academics with athletics. Jacob is very motivated, and I see a bright future for him after he graduates from Thiel this May.”

Course/Instructor/Peer Leader	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS
Supplemental Instruction Sessions					
ACCT 123 Accounting II (Oakes) Julia Fink	4-5 pm AC 40	9-10 pm AC 40			9-10 pm AC 40
CHEM 160Gen Chem II (Khalsa) Chandler Daugherty	3-4 pm S 100		9-10 pm S 100		9-10 pm S 100
CHEM 210 Organic Chem II (Franz) Alexis Mowris		8-9 pm S 211	8-9 pm S 211	8-9 pm S 211	
MATH 125Quantitative Reasoning (Hecking/Richens) Terri Eddy	6-7 pm (Hecking) AC 137		7-8 pm (Richens) AC 138		7-8 pm (Richens) AC 138
MATH 182 Calculus II (Wu) Sara Matczak	6-7 pm AC 138		8-9 pm AC 138		8-9 pm AC 138
NSCI 202. Intro to Neuroscience (Butcher) Nick McNutt		7-8 pm AC 201		7-8 pm AC 201	
Group Peer Study Sessions					
CJS 230Law Enforcement (Hanneman) Jon Oden		9-10 pm S 200			9-10 pm S 200
PSY 150 Gen Pysch (Gallagher) Mandy Slupek	8-9 pm AC 233	9-10 pm AC 233		7-8 pm AC 233	
PHYS 184 Physics II (Torigoe) Mike Long	4-5 pm S 1	9-10 pm S 1			9-10 pm S 1
SOC 141Macrosociology (Hunchuk) Libby Grasso				8-9:30 pm AC 108	
SOC 233 Statistics for Social Sciences (Hanneman) Victoria Hermann	8-9 pm AC 137		8-9 pm AC 137		
SOC 251 Minorities (Sutton) Kayla Bean				7-8 pm S 211	
Walk In Tutoring Service					
MATH 211 Elementary Statistics Minitabs (Wu) Jesse Sealand			10-11 am TLC LIB	10-11 am TLC LIB	
Test Review Sessions: (Dates and times will be announced in class and sent via email.)					
ECON 221 Microeconomics (Giannini) Katherine Orzeck	HIST 102 US History since 1877 (Koshan) Nick Sarrautori		SPAN 151 Spanish II (Carlson) Dana DePaulo		

Supplemental Instruction (SI) and GPS (Group Peer Study) are a series of weekly review or study sessions for students enrolled in historically difficult classes. These sessions are voluntary, free, and facilitated by a trained peer leader who has successfully completed the course. All students who want to improve their understanding of course material and improve their grades are encouraged to attend sessions for classes in which they are enrolled.

Tomcats fall to Saints after splitting doubleheader

Justin Felgar, jfelgar@thiel.edu

The Tomcats fell to the Marymount Saints after going 1-2 in a doubleheader with Eastern Mennonite Royals and the York College Cardinals last Friday.

Thiel was shutout the first three sets by Eastern Mennonite University, dropping them to a 5-12 overall record and a 2-6 record in the Continental Volleyball Conference.

The Tomcats came back to beat the York Cardinals 3-0.

Thad Paunovich led the team with eight kills, with Zach Rombach assisting 34 times.

The Tomcats then faced a 3-0 Continental Volleyball Conference defeat at the hands of the Marymount Saints, losing 15-



Thiel falls to Marymount after splitting doubleheader, bringing them to 6-14 on the season.

Photo credit: Thiel SID

25, 17-25, and 17-25.

Thiel was led by Freshman Mitchell Patterson and Jacob Derue, who both recored five

kills against the Saints. Zach Rombach put up 16 assists in the match for Thiel.