

COMMUNITY

Keegan Malan reviews “The Irishman” which follows the exploits of Frank Sheeran (played by Robert DeNiro), a mafia hitman as he finds himself in a heated situation.

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Campus Chronicle is adding a religion column! Nils Anderson previews what this will look like in future issues!

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Do you go to Community on Thursdays? Anna Ramos has students answer this question to see what Community means to them.

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Cafeteria Prices



Credits: Sawyer Nash

By Isaac Baek

Can you buy me lunch? My cafe card ran out. Towards the end of every quarter, that phrase becomes all too common. We all have that friend—or we might be that friend. But it always happens. We try to budget and ensure that there is enough money to eat throughout the entire quarter. PUC even tries to help students manage this by displaying where we should be in

our cafe finances each week. But then one day you walk in and see the price has been raised. As PUC students, we have all seen it happen. For some, it adds stress to not run out of food money. I talked to PUC’s Student Finance and Cafe Bon Appétit to try and address the concerns that students might have about the Cafe’s price increases. Here are the findings.

In the 2023-2024 school year, each residential student was given \$1385 compared to 2024-2025 with a budget of \$1500 for food. For reference, according to Andrew White at Bon Appétit, the average price for cafe food this year is \$12.75 compared to \$11.95 from last year. So even though the prices do increase from year to year, the cafe money is also increased.

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FROM THE EDITOR

Happy New Year and welcome back PUC! A new year has started, and that also means a new quarter. Winter quarter is in full swing by now and classes are picking up. Remember to try and keep your body healthy— both physically and mentally. Take care of your health, as we all know how easy it is to get sick. Hang in there, keep pushing, and never give up. Go out, make new friends, try new things, and always go to as many events as you can! We are always wanting the best for the student body and again, if you have anything you want to see from us, feel free to reach out to anyone on our staff or send us a message on our Instagram: @pucchronicle. Our mission is to cultivate content that resonates with and engages

the students. After all, the students are the heart of the campus. From all of us at the Campus Chronicle, we wish every single one of you a healthy, happy, and fruitful winter quarter!

Sincerely
Khalid Pal
Editor-in-Chief



COMMUNITY

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But why does it increase every so often? According to Student Finance, it comes down to general inflation. Since the U.S. is also experiencing inflation, it makes sense that PUC would also be affected. Our cafe prices boil down to PUC looking at costs and deciding on a percentage increase which then in turn affects the students. This raises the question of whether we can expect an increase this school year. Student Finance has stated that this will not be the case. Since cafe prices are decided at the start of each school year, the next time we could expect changes to be made could be in the 2025-2026 year. The increases are not confirmed; however, it is still a possibility. But this should not cause concern with going over the \$1500 amount. Student Finance has stated that if costs are raised, the \$1500 budget will also increase.

Practically speaking, what would that look like on a per-meal basis? Let's take \$1500 divided by the average cost per meal of \$12.75— that gives you 117 meals, assuming you exclusively bought nothing else. This compares to \$1385 divided by \$11.95 which comes out to 115 meals. So technically speaking, we got two extra meals in the most recent increase. Those two extra meals might help you or the friend who is constantly going over. But let's be real, most of those people are out by week seven or eight. Maybe the next increase will give an

additional one or two more. Which again might give more students breathing room when managing their meal plan.

So, what are the main takeaways from this article? First of all, the cafe prices did increase from last school year to this school year. But this should not raise alarms as the cafe card budget was adjusted accordingly. Secondly, prices could rise in the following school years, not this year. And lastly, we have more cafe funds in a meal-to-budget ratio, even if it is a small increase.

CONVERSATION

“The Irishman” 2019 Review

By Keegan Malan

Martin Scorsese’s “The Irishman” is yet another masterpiece by one of the greatest directors to ever pick up a camera. The film follows the exploits of Frank Sheeran, (Robert DeNiro), a mafia hitman who is friends with both labor union leader Jimmy Hoffa (Al Pacino) and crime boss Russell Bufalino (Joe Pesci). Their worlds ultimately come into conflict with each other with Sheeran caught in the middle.

Scorsese always brings out the best of his actors, and this holds true here. The three leads, each so different from the other, deliver powerhouse performances. There is Pacino’s loud and boisterous Hoffa who is like a tamer Tommy DeVito, always on the edge and ready to explode, his performance is over the top in all the right ways. Then there is Pesci who is so unlike any of his previous roles. He is not loud here, and he doesn’t revel in violence— though he is a violent character. Instead, he is quiet, so very quiet. The shifts in his performance and the way he speaks are so subtle that if you aren’t paying attention you might miss them. Finally, there is DeNiro, a man caught in the middle, equally capable of being quiet and loud. His character in a way is a reflection of these very different people in his life.

Ultimately, “The Irishman” is a film about mortality. Suffused with the usual Scorsese imagery and storytelling techniques, “The Irishman” is a film rather unlike his other gangster films like “Goodfellas” or “Casino”. Both films are rather revelatory in life itself and give little screentime to what happens after. In this later gangster film of his, the tone is different from the start where we see an old Sheeran in a rest home relating his life. This Sheeran is very different from the one we meet in his youth, a violent man surrounded by mobster friends who share his tendencies. This film is equally concerned with what happens after to what happens during. “Goodfellas” gave us a little of this in the final few minutes of its runtime, but here we are given much more to see the effects the life has had on Sheeran.

Sheeran is a rather curious man. Near the end, he speaks to a priest and expresses that he has no regrets or remorse over all the people he killed, except for one. He is stone-cold in this regard. The priest tries



Credits: IMDB

to comfort him by saying that perhaps the power of God can overcome any lack of remorse on Sheeran’s part. Much like Henry Hill in “Goodfellas,” Sheeran loved the life. He may not have reveled in the killings he committed, for him they were just a job, but he loved the pay and the friends that came with it. But in the end, it has all come to nothing. His family no longer speaks to him anymore because of the man he was, especially his daughter Peggy, who throughout the film has her eyes on her father as though she is some angel of God always watching and reporting. In a way this is similar to Scorsese’s other film “Taxi Driver,” where after the carnage of Travis Bickle’s rampage, has unfolded the camera watches from above, surveying everything like God. Or as is the case with much of Scorsese’s work, this is Catholic guilt, where Peggy can be seen as a priest standing on their platform looking down at the congregation. Her eyes are always an uncomfortable presence for Sheeran, but he never seems to repent or express a

desire to do so until he is a sad and lonely man with no one to love him, and even then his remorse is stifled. Redemption seems to be far away for Sheeran, and anyone like him. Yet perhaps the final shot of the film is hopeful. The door is left open after all, even if it is just a crack. This is one of Hoffa’s tendencies throughout the film, but could it mean more than just that? Could this be Scorsese saying that there is a way out for such a man? It’s very unlike “The Godfather” where Michael closes the door on Kay, effectively shutting her out of his life. In classic mob films, the gangsters always got their comeuppance from the law and the bullet. But Sheeran doesn’t. He is like a relic, sitting in that wheelchair of his, waiting for his time to come and dreading what might come after. Yet, like so many, he is resistant. He wants to cheat death. He even goes so far as to prepare to be buried in concrete because he says it’s less final that way. But whether buried in concrete or in the ground, does it matter? Death is all the same, but life is very different.

CAMPUS

Spiritual Column

By Nils Anderson

The role of a student newspaper varies from school to school. In the case of some of the country's largest institutions of higher education, student-led publications are massive operations that serve student populations that number in the tens of thousands. Here at the Pacific Union College Campus Chronicle, we serve a population of only a few hundred. This means that we have fewer barriers between the paper and our readership.

One of the main goals of the Campus Chronicle editorial staff this year is to strengthen the ties between the paper and the student body. We want the paper not only to reflect the values and interests of

our community but also to be a platform for the students of PUC who make up that community.

To that end, during this historic 100th annual volume, the Campus Chronicle is undertaking several new initiatives to better serve the current and future student body and to increase collaboration between the paper and that body. The first of these initiatives aims to reflect the unique character of our school. Faith is one of the most universal human experiences, whether it is in God, an ideal, or one another. This campus celebrates faith and it is with that attitude that the Campus Chronicle is introducing the new Spiritual Column.

This column will serve as an open platform for the students of this campus, whatever their specific relationship to faith, to express themselves and engage with faith in a public forum so that we might all benefit from a diversity of perspectives and ideas. The editorial staff is working with engaged and interested members of the student body to prepare a first round of entries. However, this column is ultimately for any student who feels they have something to share that might add to our collective appreciation of one another and the divine.

Those of us at the Campus Chronicle look forward to this and other projects that will bring our community closer together.

COMMUNITY

Do You Usually Go to Community? Students Answer

Interview By Anna Ramos

Lorenzo Lentini:

No, I didn't feel like the people were fully invested. They were kind of just going because they were told to go to community, and it wasn't like they were there to worship God as much.

And so I didn't feel like the energy was as good as I wanted it to be. Plus I have work at the same time.

Cat Tarango:

Before I had clinicals (I would go), a couple of times freshman year but not normally.

Why not?

Because it's not engaging.

Chris Mesa:

Sometimes. I prefer sleeping in and at other times (when I go) I tend to sit alone, so it's pretty boring. Are the topics appealing to you? I think the topics are pretty appealing mostly, you know?

Abby Suttan:

The reason why I go to community is because I work as a swiper, so I get paid to go, but also I like the message, I guess... Okay, I go because I work as a swiper so I get paid and I go because it affects my grade if I don't go. That's literally it.

I stopped attending Community after Sophomore year; in simple terms I lost interest. This made me realize that I have disconnected from the rest of the student body and became curious of what other students thought of Community. While the logical way to dispel my curiosity would be attending Community, I decided to instead wander around campus asking students if they usually attended. I got a variety of answers, ranging from freshmen who used the time to hear a message and socialize, to seniors who weren't happy with their experience or only attended because of work.

While the idea of socializing during

Community sounds appealing, many students—much like Chris mentioned—often attend alone, which makes it difficult for them to enjoy the space. While anyone could argue that the topics might not be appealing, I'm not in a position to do so since I haven't attended in months. When I did attend, I found Community intimidating due to personal bias, yet still quite enjoyable.

Not satisfied enough, I made an Instagram story asking the same question "Do you usually attend Community? Yes or No." Forty-four percent said yes and and Fifty-six percent said no. It was not surprising to me that most of the "Yes" answers came from underclassmen or faculty, while the "No" responses mainly came from upperclassmen.

Am I just talking to the wrong people, or has Community changed? Would my opinion, along with the 56% 'No' responses, change if I started attending again? What's your experience been like?



Credits: Matias Maedia

UPDATES

UPCOMING EVENTS
Thursday, Feb. 13 Community 10am
Thursday, Feb. 13 Women’s Basketball vs. La Sierra
Thursday, Feb. 13 Men’s Basketball vs. La Sierra
Thursday, Feb. 13 Nerf Games 6pm
Friday, Feb. 14 Valentine’s Day Party 2pm
Saturday, Feb. 15 Women’s Basketball vs. Westcliff
Saturday, Feb. 15 Men’s Basketball vs. Westcliff

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FIND THE ANSWER,
WIN FREE COFFEE



Find the answer hidden somewhere in the paper. The first person to DM us on Instagram @pucchronicle will win a free drink at the Grind!

This week’s question is:

Who directed the 2019 film “The Irishman”



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