

Shooter attacks Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado Springs

by Hyuntae Byun

Editor-in-Chief

On Fri., Nov. 27, a 57-year-old gunman walked into a Colorado Springs Planned Parenthood clinic and opened fire, killing three people, wounding nine, and sparking a five-hour gunfight that ended with his surrender. The chief suspect has been identified as Robert Lewis Dear, who has a history of arrests and run-ins with local police.

The victims included civilians Ke'Arre M. Stewart, a 29-year-old



PLANNED PARENTHOOD: Activists protest against proposed plans to defund the service.

former soldier and Iraq War veteran, and Jennifer Markovsky, a 35-year-old mother who was married to an Army veteran. Both Stewart and Markovsky were parents; Stewart was a father to two girls, and Markovsky was a mother to two. The last victim was Garrett Swasey, a 44-year-old member of the University of Colorado campus police force.

Following the attacks, families of the victims held several vigils. The day after the attack, a morning event at the All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church allowed attendees to mourn and reflect. Later on Saturday, an evening event commemorated Swasey's heroism and dedication. On Sunday, friends and family of Swasey congregated at the evangelical Hope Chapel, where Swasey was a co-pastor, for a celebration of his life, including a video of him skating.

Though exact motives for the attack are still unclear, some witnesses have reported that Dear shouted "no more baby parts!" as he commenced his attack. This may potentially be a reference to a series of surreptitious videos allegedly depicting Planned Parenthood employees illegally selling fetal tissue. The videos were released in July by the Center for Medical Progress, an anti-abortion group, and later examinations found the videos to be highly edited. The videos resulted in five separate congressional investigations that concluded that one of Planned Parenthood's roughly 700 centers had been reimbursed for providing fetal tissue to medical researchers, who used the tissue to produce vaccines and treatments.



POLITICAL RESPONSE: Presidential candidate Jeb Bush said the violence was unjustifiable.

The shooting prompted responses from several prominent politicians and presidential candidates. President Obama released a statement in which he reiterated his frustration with gun violence, while both Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders stated that they stood in support with Planned Parenthood. Republican candidate Jeb Bush expressed his condolences, stating that "There is no acceptable explanation for this violence, and I will continue to pray for those who have been impacted."

(Sources: NY Times, Washington Post, Time, CNN, ABC News, Denver Post, New Yorker)

University students protest institutionalized racism on campuses

by Olivia Hill

Humor Editor

Across the country, college students are advocating for safe spaces where perceived discrimination, violence, harassment, and hate speech will not be tolerated. In many cases, students are protesting individual events of aggressions against people of color, but many believe that the incidents are not coincidental, rather the result of underlying racial hostility.

In mid-November, Ithaca College's People of Color group led a die-in demonstration. The protest involved more than 1,000 students protesting the behavior of Ithaca College president Tom Rochon. Heather Crespin, a senior at the college, voiced that "he [Rochon] has demonstrated that he's part of the PR machine and has not responded...as a human being with empathy and as someone who is truly listening." A Student Vote of No Confidence, a statement that a person in a position of responsibility is no longer deemed fit to hold that position, has been initiated; polls opened Nov. 4 and were scheduled to close on Nov. 30.

This is not the only objection students have at Ithaca College. Thirty Resident Advisors protested at a meeting involving administrators, Residential Life, and Public Safety after a police officer allegedly said that "racial profiling didn't exist" and that he would "shoot anyone with a BB gun on campus" at a RA training session. Two other racially charged incidents at Ithaca College sparked national controversy. A fraternity, Alpha Epsilon Pi, created a now deleted Facebook event for a "Preps & Crooks" party that suggested racially stereotyped clothing for both

roles. Additionally, at an event organized by the college, Tatiana Sy, an African American, was called a savage by two white male panelists after she commented that she "harbored a savage hunger to succeed."

At Missouri University, the homecoming parade was halted when protesters blocked the route, and the float MU president Tom Wolfe was in allegedly hit a protester. This, alongside perceived racist personal experiences, a swastika drawn with feces in a campus bathroom, and the student body president, Payton Head, falsely posting on Facebook that KKK members had invaded campus, has led to more than a month of protests. Activists called for Wolfe's removal, saying he "didn't respond adequately or recognize racism on campus." Wolfe went on to say that he had no plans for resignation; however, after the university's football team boycotted a game and one student went on a week-long hunger strike, Wolfe stepped down as president. "This [recent protests] is not the way change comes about," Wolfe stated in his resignation announcement that urged faculty and staff to "heal and start talking again to make the changes necessary."

At Yale, students have called for the resignation of Erika Christakis, a professor at the prestigious university, after her controversial response to an email sent out by the Intercultural Affairs Committee. The email urged students to "consider their costumes and the impact it may have," with regards to cultural appropriation, and Christakis criticized the group for "[losing] the faith in young people's capacity... to exercise self-censure." More than 700 students signed an open letter objecting to Christakis's response. Her husband Nicholas Christakis,

an administrator at Yale, was confronted and physically surrounded by students on campus after he was quoted in his wife's email as a supporter of her opinion. Commentators, both liberal and conservative, have condemned Yale students for being overly sensitive and advocating for censorship of dress and speech.

Racial tension has been high on the Yale campus after a fraternity, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, reportedly turned away black women from a party with members of SAE saying "we are looking for white girls only." Additionally, vandals have drawn swastikas on campus several times. The Black Student Alliance has compiled a list of demands including more diversity of faculty, required classes on African-American or women's students, and collection of data regarding instances of racial discrimination on campus. Many are skeptical that change will come about without significant action from faculty.

(Sources: Ithaca Journal, New York Times, CNN)



Follow this link to see Yale students protesting against racism on campus. Start the video at 4:11 to watch Professor Nicholas Christakis's response to student activists. Warning: harsh language and loud audio.

SF votes to keep housing laws

by Cole van Miltenburg

Sports Editor

On Nov. 3, San Francisco held city elections in which voters elected candidates to local government positions and passed or rejected 11 city measures. The most talked-about item on the ballot was Proposition F, which regarded new laws about short-term home rentals.



HOUSING: Bay Area property prices have been on the rise.

The controversial proposition aimed to strictly regulate short-term residential properties in the city. There was a great deal of tension surrounding the measure due to the housing shortage in the city that has been ongoing for several years. San Francisco has the highest average rents in America, ranking above even New York City. On average, a one-bedroom apartment costs over 2,640 dollars a month. Housing costs in San Francisco have doubled since 2000, whereas the nation as a whole saw housing costs rise an average of 48 percent. Although the economy has grown throughout this time as well, many residents who work lower-paying jobs have found themselves unable to keep up with the ever-growing cost of housing. Additionally, it is extremely hard to build new housing in the city due to stringent zoning laws and because the process of obtaining a construction permit can take several years.

A major target of Proposition F was Airbnb, a company valued at 25 billion dollars which facilitates an online marketplace of short-term rentals and has almost 5,000 listings in San Francisco. Supporters of the proposition argued that current regulations allow companies like Airbnb to worsen housing shortage issues by preventing properties from being listed on the housing market. Advocates of the measure also said that short-term rentals disrupt neighborhoods and restrict landlord rights. Adversaries of Proposition F argued that the measure was too extreme and invaded privacy, saying that short-term rentals actually bring new business to San Francisco neighborhoods and allow residents to make extra income.

Under current regulations, short-term properties can only be rented out 90 days per year, unless the landlords are also present at the property. The proposition stated that landlords can rent out their properties for no more than 75 days a year, regardless of their presence at the property. It also required hosts to send quarterly reports of how many days that guests, as well as themselves live in their rentals. Furthermore, the proposition stated that the city would notify any neighbors living within 100 feet of a short-term rental property, and allow them to sue the owner if they felt violated.

To prevent the measure from passing, Airbnb put eight million dollars into a campaign to fight the measure, which included mailers, commercials, online ads, as well as thousands of representatives that knocked door-to-door to inform the public of their concerns. Ultimately, their efforts were successful, and the voters narrowly rejected the measure with a 55 to 45 ratio. Although this is a victory for Airbnb, inescapable issues with housing will remain a topic of controversy with San Francisco residents.

(Sources: CNN, LA Times, SF Gate, The Economist, San Francisco Department of Elections)

Keystone XL expansion rejected

by Rowyn van Miltenburg

News Editor

On Nov. 6, Obama rejected the proposal of the Keystone XL Pipeline, which ended a nearly seven-year review of the project.

The Keystone XL Pipeline was the fourth phase of the Keystone Pipeline project. It proposed the addition of another segment to the pipeline. It would have 327 miles of pipeline in Canada, starting in Alberta, it would then have entered the US and continued through Montana, where American crude oil would have been added. Then it would have traveled through South Dakota and Nebraska, where it would have joined existing Keystone Pipelines at Steele City, Nebraska.



PIPE DREAM: The pipeline has faced opposition since its creation.

On Nov. 6, the president, in a speech at the White House, said, "Secretary Kerry informed me that, after extensive public outreach and consultation with other Cabinet agencies, the State Department has decided that the Keystone XL Pipeline would not serve the national interest of the United States." He added, "I agree with that decision." This announcement concluded the State Department's review of the project, which has lasted throughout most of Obama's presidency.

Obama outlined his three main reasons for not moving forward with the fourth phase of the pipeline. The first was, "the pipeline would not

make a meaningful, long-term contribution to our economy." Obama said he believed the pipeline was not a way to create long-term jobs and that a better way to do so would be by passing a bipartisan infrastructure plan. Second, the pipeline would not lower gas prices for Americans. And third, the pipeline would not be a secure source of energy.

Obama further explained that the pipeline would not help conservation efforts. He said, "America is now a global leader when it comes to taking serious action to fight climate change, and frankly, approving this project would have undercut that leadership."

Another main concern about the Keystone Pipeline XL is that it runs through Sandhills in Nebraska, a national natural landmark. However, this phase has been strongly backed by Republicans. North Dakota Republican Senator John Hoeven, the co-sponsor of the bill promoting this phase, spoke after Obama's decision not to continue with the pipeline. He said, "It is about energy. It is about jobs. It is about economic growth. And it is about national security by building a secure energy future for this country, and not depending on the Middle East for our energy."

(Sources: NY Times, NPR, CBS News, Politico, Huffington Post)



KEYSTONE OUTCRY: Activists encouraged Obama to end the plan.