The COVID-19 Virus has obviously changed our lives dramatically and has given us a lot of additional down time. Like many, I have decided to pursue some hobbies! For me this has been playing one of the nerdiest things out there, Dungeons and Dragons. For those who don’t know, Dungeons and Dragons is a fantasy tabletop role-playing game that was published in 1974. The game allows you to create a character and go on adventures with your friends in fantastical worlds. Playing with COVID-19 has been strange with social distancing but we were able to adapt quickly and allow the fun to continue!
In a way, I never left my school!

By C/4C Weyer

If I can describe my entire school life in one word, it would be... Catholic. Is that bad? No... but trying out public school would’ve been nice for once. However, Saint Xavier offered the best financial aid compared to other schools so it seemed to be the best for me and the family.

So far, it’s actually not bad at all in Oak Lawn. I’m meeting new people as I wanted, I’m challenged to do my best in the Honor Program, and the food’s not bad here (the wings are my go-to every day). That being said, in a private school you’re never a stranger. You either like that or don’t, depends on who you are. With not that many students around compared to public school, everyone knows (or will get to know) who you are. That’s how it’s been back at home in Marquette Academy, and it’s definitely shown here at Saint Xavier. Two weeks ago, I was going through my day and 5 people stopped to greet me with my name. These are people who I haven’t even met, nor heard of, and somehow they knew who I was. Some even learned about my second life as a cadet. I don’t mind it at all, but as I said, you either like it or you don’t. It’s either awesome or uncomfortable.

It’s like I never left Marquette, right? Well, it doesn’t end there. A fun fact about Marquette Academy in Ottawa, Illinois, is that it was once named Saint Xavier when it was founded in 1859. On the campus, you’d even find an inscription that names it so. After being accepted into SXU in Chicago, I found it to be quite a coincidence. I even joked about it to my friends that I never left Saint Xavier. Then one day, I was watching a video for my College Transitions class that talks about the SXU heritage. A highlight of its foundation was its founding through the Sisters of Mercy in 1846, which sought to spread education to minorities of the time. “Ok, that’s cool”, I thought to myself. The video then listed other schools that the Sisters of Mercy established, lo and behold, Saint Xavier of Ottawa, IL popped into the video.

My mind just went “Excuse me, what?!”. I looked it up and yes, present-day Marquette Academy was established by the Sisters of Mercy, just 13 years after SXU
was established in Oak Lawn. Both were an all-girls school that sought to educate women who could not have an education in their time, and both had the same intentions of spreading the Catholic faith through service using the education students receive.

To me, that was awesome! In all honesty, SXU was not my first choice school, but it turned out to be the best choice for me. Coming here, what first looked like a coincidence to me turned out to be a link, an unintended one in fact! I really never have left Saint Xavier and it’s been a part of me from grade school to today. There’s gotta be a scholarship for this, right? Money aside, I like it here so far! I love the people who are just as ambitious with their futures as I am, and everyone’s really supportive of each other. Can’t wait to see what the rest of the year will bring, and I hope to find more surprises just like this!

Virtual Marathon Event
By C/3C Petrik

Last year, I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to attend the marathon trip. I ran a 10k and actually did pretty well. So, my plan for this year was to do the 5k, 10k, and half-marathon, AKA the fly, fight, win challenge. But around March life started changing, and so did the Air Force Marathon. Everything became virtual, yet my goal still remained the same, it was just going to be a little more difficult. I used to race in high school, so racing against people without the people changes the dynamics of racing. Paces and times are more difficult to achieve because there is no one but yourself pushing you to do better. Despite the challenges, I completed my fly, fight, win with a 19:12 5k, my 10k with a 41:27, and my half-marathon with a 1:41:00. Considering the longest distance I had run since my retirement from high school cross country was 7 miles, I would say that I am satisfied with my results. Although I would have preferred to accomplish this at Wright-Patterson, I can only hope that next year I will be able to attempt the marathon in person.
Cipher Puzzles
By C/1st Lt Chrest

Shoutout to C/3C Ball for being the first to solve the word search from last month’s edition of the Warhawk Chronicle! This edition’s puzzle will involve three words or phrases that have been encrypted in different ways. The first cadet to solve the three puzzles and send me their work at chrest.cameron@afrotc.iit.edu will receive a shoutout in the next edition of the warhawk chronicle.

Puzzle #1: CKTHQTEG

Puzzle #2: JOAFOQSBDN (Hint: You will need to know the answer to Puzzle #1 to solve this.)

Puzzle #3: ITNYTFEIGRRSIT

Announcements:

- The paintball morale event will be on October 11 at Legacy Adventure Park.

- FLX will be held on November 6-7 and will be located at Pratts Wayne Woods.

- Stay safe, Stay healthy, Stay active & Stay ICE COLD