



SPORTS

Track and field coming at you
Junior jumper James McLachlan is helping to elevate track and field at Loyola.

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PHOTO BRIEFS

Photography editor Zach Zimmerman captures the sights of the season around campus and the city.

Loyolan's naked outburst disturbs fellow students

by Zach Zimmerman
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Residents of Loyola's Simpson Hall are still trying to figure out why a male student stripped naked, ran through the building and allegedly tackled a female freshman during an Oct. 5 incident that ended with the police and paramedics responding.

Students and Campus Safety described a bizarre scene in which a student was running nude through the halls, smashing light bulbs, pummeling walls and ultimately tackled a female freshman, breaking her collar bone.

While some witnesses said the male student, who remains unnamed here due to privacy reasons, appeared to be under the influence of drugs, neither police nor school officials would discuss the incident in detail or reveal what, if any, punishment he faced.

But those who saw what transpired described a chaotic and frightening scene.

Bobby Cohoat, a freshman Spanish and biology major, said he called Campus Safety after the male student reportedly ran into his bathroom door in the co-ed dorm, located at 6333 N Winthrop Avenue.

"I was sitting in my room and I heard a big bang on my bathroom. I



Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Dehaemers

A student damaged a wall on the third floor of Simpson Hall during an unexplained incident on Friday, Oct. 5.

walked out and I saw the individual's head run into my wall and he was yelling obscenities; it was kind of crazy talk. He then ran back down the hallway," Cohoat, 18, said. "At that point I ran into the lounge and called Campus Safety. I saw that he was bleeding and that there was blood on the floor. Then he ran back [into the hallway] and at some point tackled a girl."

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Former student sues over alleged mold outbreak

by Tahera Rahman
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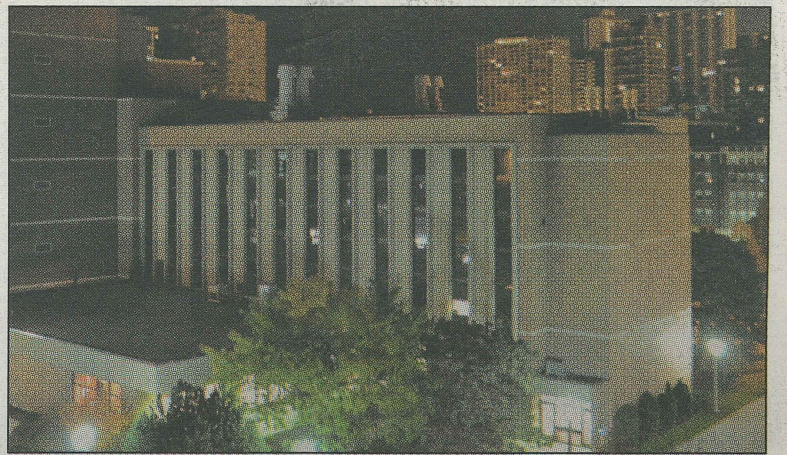
A former Loyola Ph.D. student is suing the university over respiratory problems allegedly caused by mold growth in Flanner Hall.

Dawn Kissack, who said she preferred not to reveal her age, said she started working as a teaching assistant for general and organic chemistry in Flanner Hall, located at 1068 W. Sheridan Road, in August of 2009.

After working in the building for about two months, Kissack developed severe respiratory problems, she said in an interview with the PHOENIX. According to a lawsuit filed with the Cook County Circuit Court on Sept. 10, 2012, she also experienced other health issues, including weakness, lightheadedness, fatigue, difficulty sleeping, loss of appetite and coughing fits that displaced six ribs.

"I had been to the doctor and they didn't know what was wrong with me," Kissack said. "By the end of December [2009] I could barely even walk."

The university has not yet issued a



The PHOENIX/Tyler Langan

Woman, Dawn Kissack, cites Flanner Hall as the origin of the mold outbreak. She said she has developed severe respiratory problems since working as a teaching assistant in the building in 2009.

formal response to Kissack's lawsuit. Her attorney said Loyola has asked the court for a one-month extension in order to get a response on file.

Kissack said she later found out that four other Loyola faculty members were experiencing similar symptoms.

"They [Loyola] allowed us to work in the building like that," Kissack said, "I trusted that they were taking care

of it and that they knew what they were doing."

The reports came after a complaint of mold growth by Chemistry Assistant Professor Dali Liu, who said he first discovered the problem when he found mold spores interfering with one of his chemistry experiments, but could not visually locate the growth.

see **MOLD** page 4

Popular bar closing after 80 years of serving Loyola, Edgewater communities

by Susie Moskop
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For decades, Hamilton's Bar and Grill has been the watering hole for Loyola University students — a favorite spot for many to indulge, or overindulge, on cheap beer, greasy eats and good times.

Located just south of the Lake Shore Campus in Edgewater, at 6341 N. Broadway, Hamilton's officially opened the year prohibition ended — 1933 — and survived through numerous changes to the neighborhood and the country.

One of the four current owners, Frank Sassolino, described how Hamilton's is a historical landmark to the community.

"There's been so much that has happened since then — the '50s and '60s, segregation, the Vietnam War, Sept. 11 in 2001 — and this place has survived."

However, it couldn't survive the current economic recession.

The establishment's last day of business will be on Saturday, Oct. 27, after its owners decided they couldn't keep going with their low revenues.

"In the economic times that we're facing...It's a struggle to make a profit and the future doesn't look any more promising," Sassolino said.

Hamilton's was also known around

Loyola as an allegedly easy place to obtain alcohol for those below the legal drinking age. In recognition of this, Loyola and Secretary of State Police had cracked down on underage drinkers there, staging several stings aimed at turning away those under 21 from Hamilton's and confiscating fake IDs, most recently over the weekend of Sept. 22.

However, Hamilton's owners insist that these stings were not a factor in the decision to ultimately close down.

Although rumors around campus

persist that Hamilton's was forced out of their location because Loyola bought the property, school officials and Sassolino said that wasn't the case. They explained that Loyola is planning to buy the building, but only because the tavern's owners were already planning on shutting down.

Sassolino explained that after learning of the closure, Loyola saw value in the proximity of the location to campus and became interested in purchasing it.

see **HAMILTON'S** page 4

Loyola mourns student's death

by Caitlin Wilson
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Senior Diana Gyulai passed away from unknown causes on Monday morning, Oct. 15, according to Dean of Students Jane Neufeld. She was 21 years old. Gyulai was an advertising and public relations major in the School of Communication.

According to her friend and John Felice Rome Center (JFRC) classmate, Natalie Santoro Martin, Gyulai had told her she had epilepsy. However, a senior anthropology major, said she doesn't know how Gyulai died.

"It looks like it was natural causes," said Director of Campus Ministry Lisa Reiter. "But at this point we just don't know for sure."

Santoro Martin, 20, said Gyulai was friendly but that "she wasn't afraid to speak her mind, not afraid to not back down. She was a really cool girl."

Close friend and Loyola student Robert Olson, 21, a junior history major, said Gyulai was a "marvelous person," in a statement sent to the PHOENIX. "Listening to her talk was at the same time relaxing and refreshing."

Gyulai, who was a commuter student, was also interning at the office of Don Heider, dean of the School of Communication, according to Neufeld. She studied in Rome at Loyola's John Felice Rome Center during the 2011 fall semester.

Reiter and Neufeld said information on memorial and funeral services are pending, and that the university wants to take their cues from the family.

In a bereavement notice emailed to students Tuesday afternoon, the Office of Sacramental Life shared resources for students dealing with the community's loss.

Check in with the PHOENIX online for memorial service updates and more information about the Loyola community's response to this loss.



The PHOENIX/ Ellen Bauch

After almost 80 years, Loyola's go-to watering hole will be closing due to financial problems, according to Frank Sassolino, one of the current owners of Hamilton's Bar and Grill.

HAMILTON'S: Regulars share memories of the bar

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According to Sassolino, Loyola bought a building about eight months ago just south of Hamilton's and there have been ongoing rumors about the university's hope to develop the whole block of Broadway from Devon to Rosemont Avenues.

"The property is very valuable to Loyola's future development ... It is in their best interest to purchase the property now, while it's for sale, before anyone else buys it," he said.

In an emailed statement to the PHOENIX on Friday, Oct. 12, Loyola confirmed that a transaction with Hamilton's is underway.

"...Currently, the university has a sales contract to purchase the property that houses Hamilton's," said April Whitworth, administrative assistant in the Department of Campus and Community Planning/Community Relations. "We plan to close on the transaction within 30 days."

Sassolino explained that it is unclear what Loyola has in mind for the land.

"There's been talk of a field house going in there, there's talk of all different kinds of facilities. I've heard rumors of potentially putting in more housing ... What ever their intentions are I honestly don't know, but I do know that they are very interested in controlling the future destiny of the property."

Many have also wondered about Loyola's plan to also purchase the bar's liquor license, as there is expected to be a bar in the new student union. However, Sassolino did confirm that the liquor license was not purchased along with the land.

Businesses are required to obtain a liquor license in order to legally sell alcohol. In the city of Chicago, there are a limited number available.

Loyola is making the property transaction through Broadway Avenue Real Estate Group, the current owners of the building. Hamilton's, a tenant for this company, will have

to vacate the property once the transaction is complete. Various equipment and decorations from inside Hamilton's will be sold in an auction.

Regardless of the future, many students have fond memories of Hamilton's — often called "Ham's" or "Hammie's" — and will miss the friendly environment, cheap booze and, although Hamilton's staff may not admit this, students referred to the ease of entering the bar for those under 21.

Grace Hamilton, 19-year-old studio art and visual communication double major, expressed her sorrow about the closing.

"I'm sad because Hamilton's has existed for such a long time and I feel like it's such a part of the local atmosphere here. Rogers Park won't be as fun with it gone," said the sophomore.

Dozens of different traditions have stemmed from late nights at Hamilton's, such as Monday Karaoke nights, Jammies at Hammy's, Wacky Wednesdays featuring 30 cent wings, or Saturdays devoted to '80s music and dancing.

Garrison Carr, class of 2012, shared his tradition from his time at Loyola.

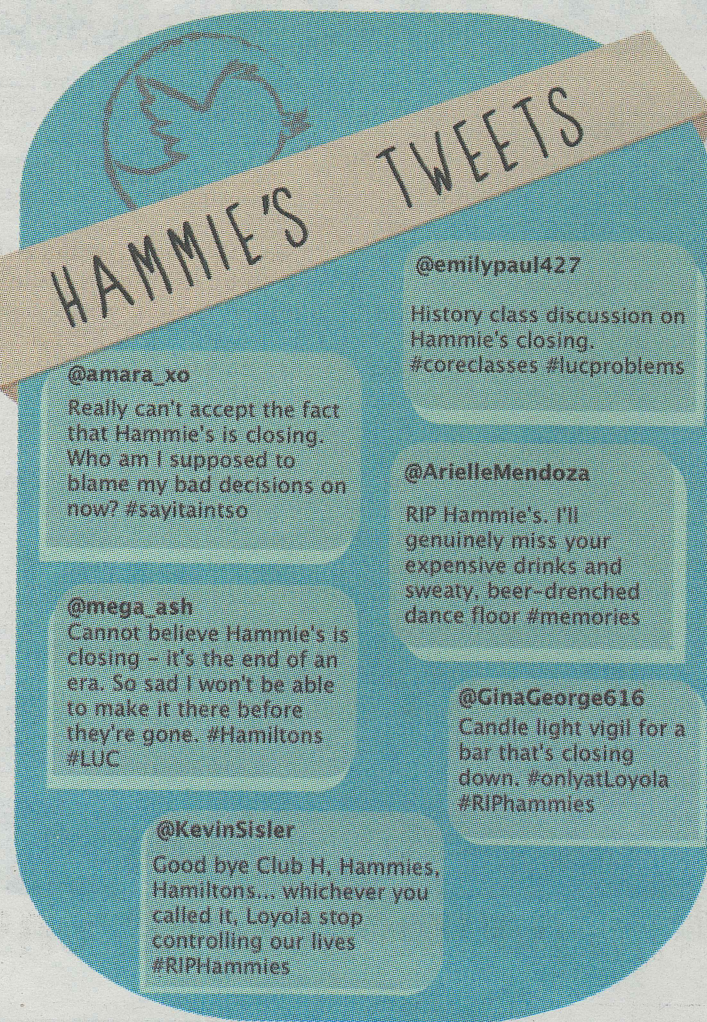
"Karaoke nights really stand out because that was something that my friends and I frequently did and it was always a fun time where you could make an idiot of yourself and it wouldn't really matter, which happened frequently at Hamilton's," he said.

Carlos Robles, 23-year-old secondary education and Spanish double major added, "I'm going to miss being able to sing my lungs out on a Monday night."

The emotional attachment and history behind this local favorite has led to an outpouring of phone calls and comments on social media sites.

Customers have also called Hamilton's expressing gratitude to the owners and staff for many memories.

"I get calls saying 'My grand-



The PHOENIX/Sydney South

father, uncles, parents, etc. went here.' A gentleman who called met his wife 30 years ago at Hamilton's and they have been married [since]," Sassolino said.

As students reflect on the closing of the bar, events have been planned to commemorate the space. A "Candlelight Vigil for Hamz" has been organized by Dominique Janice, a senior sociology major, on Oct. 19 as an opportunity for the current Loyola generation to express their feelings about the closing.

The event page states, "Come join in the mourning of the closing ... It is crucial that we show how much we loved Hamilton's."

"As a senior, the closing of Hamilton's is symbolic, more than just the closing of a bar ... I planned this vigil because I wanted to do something of meaning with my senior year ... Ham's is and always will be a part of the Loyola experience," she wrote on the page.

Hamilton's is also an important memory for Loyola alumni.

"We have the huge unanimous support from alumni of Loyola, anywhere from 30 to 60 years old. These people are successful graduate students of Loyola and they support us so far," Sassolino said.

Christopher Balmaceda, class of 2012, echoed the statements on

the closing.

"It is always sad when a small business closes. Hamilton's has been a long-standing tradition among much of the Loyola, Rogers Park and Edgewater communities. My thoughts are with the Hamilton's employees during this time of change," he said.

A group of alumni that comes to Midnight Madness every year as a tradition decided to skip the basketball event this year and instead went to Hamilton's to celebrate one last time of being together at the bar. The group of around 180 alumni had a private room at Hamilton's and one other request: '80s music.

In addition to this party, six other alumni groups have booked private parties, including previous generations of Loyola volleyball, basketball and softball players, all of whom will travel from across the United States to say their farewell to the bar. Hamilton's has received multiple requests to book other private parties for the weekend of the 27th, but since this is the last weekend of business, they cannot guarantee space.

Sassolino, who has been a co-owner of the bar for just over 10 years, said that important memories have been made at Hamilton's.

"While I've owned it, I've met a lot of great people and a lot of great students — I've gone to two weddings of people from Loyola that met at Hamilton's while they were going to school."

In the future, he plans to seek out another business venture.

"I've been doing the restaurant business for 39 years and I may find another location in the Rogers Park area and open up another restaurant and bar, and if I did, I would possibly keep the format as Hamilton's. It's a new adventure but it's too soon to tell but it's a strong possibility," he said.

If the transaction goes according to plan, the building title will officially transfer to Loyola on Wednesday, Oct. 31, 2012.

MOLD: Alumna seeks justice through lawsuit

continued from page 1

"What it means is that [the mold spores] must have been going through the air system," Liu said.

He said two of his students complained of respiratory issues and another student even dropped out of his class because she said she was having trouble breathing.

In email exchanges given to the PHOENIX by Kissack and her attorney, other faculty members experienced symptoms similar to Kissack's. One professor reportedly experienced a "dry throat, itching eyes and cough" when she came into Flanner Hall in the morning, which dissipated about an hour after she left the building.

Kissack said her symptoms made it hard to study and as a result she lost her scholarships, merit awards and stipends, forcing her to give up her Ph.D. pursuits.

"I went in with a 3.93 GPA and I felt like I was not going to make it because I was so sick," she said.

She left Loyola in 2011 with a master's degree in chemistry. Kissack claims the mold problems in Flanner Hall started before she entered Loyola and that the university did not take steps to fix the problem until after Kissack had become ill and, to her knowledge, still has not fully fixed the problem.

The university has declined to comment on the pending lawsuit.

"My goal is to get them to clean that [mold problem] up," said Kissack, "there are hundreds of undergrads in that building that go to class in that building everyday."

For the fall 2012 semester, nine classes with a total of more than 2,400 students meet in Flanner Hall every week, according to Diane Hullinger, associate registrar of records and technology.

In October 2010, Loyola hired Midwest Environmental Consulting Services, Inc. (MEC) to conduct a mold air sample in room 204 of Flanner Hall, where mold growth had been found in drawers, according to the lawsuit.

The report found mold in "several cabinet drawers," but stated there was no "evidence of an airborne mold concern" in the sampled areas, according to a copy of the report provided to the PHOENIX by Kissack and her attorney.

Kissack declined to say who gave her the email and inspection documents.

A later inspection by a consulting and engineering company called Elara found that mold growth in these drawers was due to a lack of ventilation holes to allow moisture from washed glassware out, creating a "dark and moist environment that assists in the growth of mold."

In February 2010, Kissack said she spoke with a higher-level member of the chemistry department and two other professors about her worsening condition. She heard about the four other coworkers who had filed similar complaints and he mold inspection results for room 204.

"They [university] excluded me from all of that communication and they knew I was sick," she said.

Kissack said that is when she "put two and two together," and suspected that the mold growth was affecting her health and that, since she was still experiencing symptoms, it was still a safety concern in the rest of the building.

"I think it's important to note that Dawn did not make an immediate connection to her ill health and the conditions of the building," said Kissack's attorney Jeffrey Asperger of Chicago-based Asperger Associates, LLC, in an interview with the PHOENIX in Asperger law offices on Friday, Oct. 12.

Although the MEC report issued in October 2010 graded room 204 an "acceptably clean" in the later report by Elara, found several systematic problems with the five-story building's ventilation systems.

Elara, a company Loyola has worked with in the past for the construction of the Information Commons, conducted an inspection

of mold issues during the fall and winter of 2011 at the request of the university. The report, issued May 16, found several health concerns, including air handling units, with a typical life of 20 years, that were 35 years old or more, wrong types of air filters, collapsed air filters and mechanisms that were "plugged with dirt."

Flanner Hall was completed in 1976 and is 36 years old, according to university records.

The report also stated that the air handling units had "exposed insulation," which "is ideal for attracting dirt, dust and a media for mold growth." The company stated that it believed Flanner Hall's heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems were "contributing to the mold issue," and recommended that all units in the system be tested for mold growth.

Elara outlined a two-phase plan to solve the building's HVAC problems, which it estimated would cost between \$1.25 million and \$1.4 million.

Although the university stated it would not comment on the pending lawsuit and would not confirm whether Elara's suggested mold tests were conducted, or whether the HVAC system was renovated, it said regular tests are being conducted in the building.

"Our buildings are inspected on

a daily basis by both maintenance and house keeping," said Director of Communication Maeve Kiley. "And any discrepancies are reported."

Although the university could not confirm or deny modification, Liu said he noticed that some major changes were made to the building's HVAC system over the summer.

Liu said he feels many of them are temporary fixes, but that the air quality now seems better.

"There is [still] a problem," he said, "I don't think it's completely possible to eradicate the building, but maybe they [Loyola] did their best."

Kissack and her attorneys have not yet set a dollar amount that they would like to seek in reparations.

"We haven't quantified all the damages at this point; we're still working on that," Asperger said.

"Dawn is not interested in anything other than seeing that justice is done here," Asperger said. "She feels she and others have been wronged in the way that this has been handled, that this is an ongoing problem, that it has affected the health and well-being of a number of people, including Dawn."

"I have nothing to hide, I did nothing wrong," Kissack said, "I want to hold them [Loyola] accountable, that's why I'm doing this. I don't want anymore people sick."