

# PC STUDENT LEADERSHIP DIGEST

Informing the leaders of today, inspiring the leaders of tomorrow



**KILEY MORGART** is hoping for a great final season as a member and co-captain of PC's field hockey team

## Student Leader of the Month: Kiley Morgart

Leslie J. Heller

**K**iley Morgart '08 has her work cut out for her. As a co-captain of PC's field hockey team, President of the Student Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC), intern, and an excellent student (she's been named a Big East Academic All-Star twice), it is a surprise she had time in her day to do this interview! But she takes it all in stride.

"I've found during my time here that it's important to recognize your limits as an individual, and know when to say 'no' or ask for help from those around you," said Morgart.

Originally from Mountaintop, PA, Morgart found her way to Providence via Diane Madl, head coach of Providence College Field Hockey, and fellow Mountaintop native.

A field hockey player since junior high, Morgart recognizes that her initial transition to PC was a challenge, but credits her teammates with helping to find her place here. "They have been a great support system," she said.

Morgart has come to find PC to be a good fit for her, and states that she cannot imagine being anywhere else: "I've had

opportunities here where I've met great people who I know will always be a big part of my life."

As a social work major, Morgart has also found many opportunities at PC to get involved and serve the local community. Through SAAC, she has organized and participated in playdates with children at Bradley Hospital, and a "baby shower" to gather supplies for Women & Infants Hospital. As an intern with Adoption RI, Morgart has also gained valuable experience working with families in the area.

When asked what got her interested in social work as a profession, Morgart stated that she was inspired by her older sister, a social worker who is "both strong and independent." Her hope is to follow in her sister's footsteps. Although she is unsure where she will end up after graduation, Morgart plans to pursue a graduate degree, and ultimately, a career in social work. She also hopes to someday raise a family of her own.

What has Morgart learned from her leadership experiences at PC? "Being a leader means not only pointing people in the right direction, but also being there,"

she said. "It's important to take time for others."

As a campus leader and engaged citizen, Kiley Morgart seems to be living by those words daily. We wish her luck as she continues to lead at PC, and beyond. ●

### Student Leader of the Month Facts

- Favorite color: Yellow
- Favorite TV shows: Friends and Beverly Hills 90210
- Favorite subject (other than major): Math
- Favorite foods: Chicken parmesan; cereal (any kind)
- Favorite pastime: Going to the movies
- Favorite "real life" leader: Mrs. Gemski (former coach)
- Favorite thing to do with free time: Hang out with friends and explore the area
- PC highlight: Beating Michigan and finishing last year's season 18-4

## Transforming the Class of 2011

Kristina Reardon '08

**A**s I stepped up onto the rope, I tried desperately to keep my balance. Only moments before, I had repeatedly tripped while attempting to walk across a log, maneuvering my way over and around my teammates. It was the ultimate challenge: Making it to the other side without falling off or making my 10 teammates fall off in the process. As I stepped onto the trapeze-style rope, elevated only a few feet off the ground, I swayed backward. It was only a matter of moments before I failed to be the paragon of a leader I was supposed to be, I thought. In short, I was not-so-glamorously reminded why, after years of attending dancing school as a child, I was enrolled in karate classes instead.

But as I reached for a second rope, one which I could hold onto to keep my balance, my perspective changed. I made it across. I didn't fall. And when I was about to, there was a hand reaching out - one which steadied my feet and kept me up; a hand reached out for me to take, of someone who had just made it across the ropes. And when I turned around, I reached mine out, too, to steady someone's balance so that we could all make it across the low ropes course at Hockomock YMCA.

*Continued on page 2*

Do you know an outstanding senior who deserves to be recognized as "Student Leader of the Month"?

We want to hear from YOU

Visit the Student Leadership webpage or the SAIL Office for a nomination form

All nominations are due to the SAIL Office by Friday, October 12, 2007

### TAB

IN THIS EDITION  
STUDENT LEADER OF THE MONTH  
TRANSFORMATIONS 2007 RECAP

### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

You must be the change you wish to see in the world.

-Mahatma Gandhi

"CLASS OF 2011" - continued from page 1

Participant Dana Harencak put it best: "The weekend really showed me that if you work together as a team, you can accomplish anything."

And this scene on the low ropes course was only one of many that occurred a few weeks ago as 75 Providence College students set out for a weekend of transformations on the aptly named Transformations Leadership Retreat.

We left from the Huxley gate early as rain was pouring down Saturday, September 15th. But somewhere between icebreakers and lunch; the long bus ride and the nighttime campfire complete with ghost stories and s'mores; and an Iron Chef competition and kayaking; the sun began to come up - both literally and metaphorically.

"Over 60 eager freshmen and 14 excited leaders are bound to be a good time," said Dirigo member Yara Youssef '08, "but I never predicted leading the Transformations Retreat would be that much fun."

But beyond fun, we took some time to learn about ourselves and our leadership styles - and how to improve them. I found out, for example, that I am a lion and a golden retriever all in one after taking a personality test. Essentially, I was able to conclude (based on my test results) that I want to please people but simultaneously boss them around... which makes me a very complex individual, indeed. The test did yield some humorous results - and some good reflection about what we all want to accomplish with our time here at PC.

the size of various glasses and ice cream cones, and something which remotely resembled the Dewey decimal system.

But the real challenge wasn't trying to figure out what exactly the judges' scores actually meant (though that was a challenge), but rather the dynamic of working with a group of 10 different people to create some kind of edible masterpiece - while restrictions like a mandatory vow of silence were impressed upon the participants partway through the activity. The lesson? There are always challenges a leader must face, but with teamwork, good leaders can work together to achieve the esteemed ranking of a green monkey, a large goblet, and a 19.99999... or keep a group together, an event from being cancelled, or a successful product from not being produced.

Beyond lifelong lessons about leadership, friendships were formed and new beginnings forged as first-year students and leaders came together to meet one another during one of the first weekends of the semester.

"My favorite part was the Iron Chef competition and getting to know people at the campfire," said Sarah Dowling '11. "I thought it was a great way to get to know others."

But alas, after more than 24 hours together - after countless workshops and small-group heart-to-hearts, after long bus rides around the state, sleeping in cabins, and eating what can truly be called "camp food"; we returned to PC on Sunday afternoon to present participants with certificates of achievement.



TRANSFORMATIONS PARTICIPANTS enjoyed some free time kayaking and canoeing on Point Judith Pond, or napping in nearby cabins.

"Transformations... allowed me to understand more about myself, through leadership games and ropes courses," Toni Rausedo '11 said. "I am surprised at the kind of leader I am and how many different kinds of leaders I worked with over the weekend."

But the weekend wasn't all structured workshops. Leaders also planned an Iron Chef contest, where our discerning judges Mande Adams '08, Ryan Donnelly '08, and Betsy Rouleau '08, all ranked the teams' creations based on a complex system of favorite animals and colors,

As the group of leaders and participants filed out of '64 Hall, sleeping bags in hand, there were two reigning thoughts that expressed the sentiment of our return:

Said Youssef: "Coming back to PC, I could not help but be excited for my upcoming year at the College."

And said leader Mike Vaudo '10: "[I've] never smelt so bad, felt so dirty, or had so much fun in less than 36 hours!" ●

## ATTENTION CLASS OF 2011:

Want to make the most of your first year at Providence College?



Be a part of

*Charting the Course*

*A leadership development series designed for first-year students*

Thursdays from 3:00-4:00pm, Slavin G01

Topics include:

- Networking (Oct. 4)
- Time Management (Oct. 11)
- Cultural Awareness (Oct. 18)
- Wellness (Oct. 25)
- Civic Engagement (Nov. 1)

Sign up in the SAIL Office (Slavin 104) TODAY!

HELP UNDERPRIVILEGED STUDENTS ACHIEVE... JOIN

## TEACHFORAMERICA

In America today, 9-year-olds growing up in low-income communities are already three grade levels behind their peers in higher-income communities.

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We urge leaders of all backgrounds and academic majors to join the movement to eliminate educational inequity. No previous education experience or coursework necessary.

Full first-year teacher salary and benefits, transitional grants and loans.

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## WRITERS WANTED

Seeking students with strong communication skills and an interest in leadership

Please contact Leslie Heller in the SAIL Office ([lheller@providence.edu](mailto:lheller@providence.edu)) for more information

Want even more information about leadership @ PC?

Visit the L3 webpage:

<http://www.providence.edu/Student+Life/Student+Activities/Student+Leadership/>

Join the Lifelong Leadership @ PC Facebook group

Stop into the SAIL Office (Slavin 104)

PC STUDENT LEADERSHIP DIGEST  
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