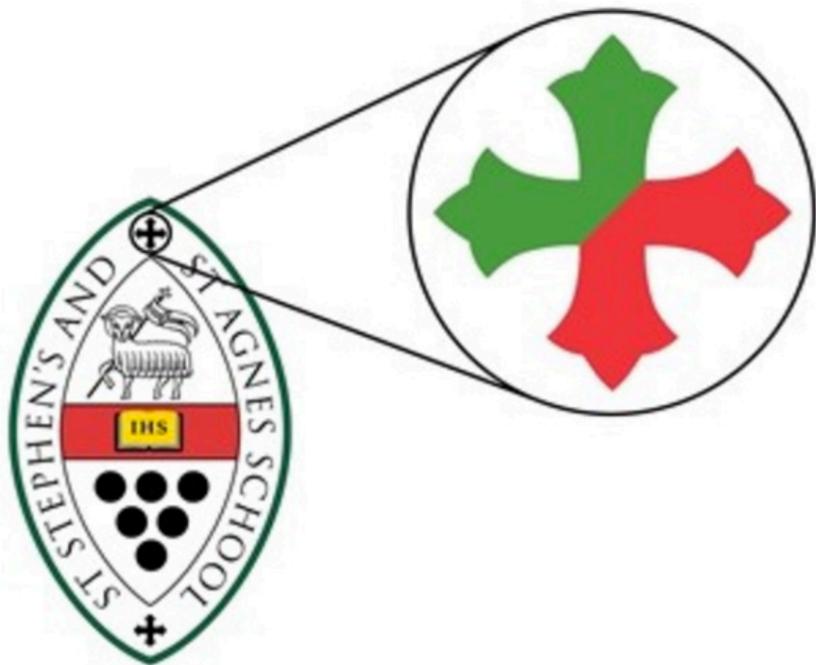


THE VOICE

The Official Student Newspaper of St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School

Say Hello to the New Logo!



By Afua Nyantakyi '18

In case you haven't checked your school email, stepped into the school store, or even looked closely at the school entrance yet, the school got a new logo. Described as a more "playful" alternative, the new logo is not completely replacing our timeless seal, but is rather an extension of it.

The news of the new logo came as a shock to many; the majority of the school community only found out about the change just before the start of the academic year. However, that didn't seem to prevent anyone from forming strong opinions on the matter. When 195 Saints were asked how they felt about the new logo on a percentage scale, the average was 25%, falling in the middle of "it's fine" and "I hate it!"

Likely due to how quickly the logo seemed to come in our lives, many people weren't exactly sure where it came from in the first place. According to SSSAS Communications Director Ms. Desautels, "The Communications Office worked closely with North Charles Street Design Organization during this entire process. Additionally, there were administrators, faculty, parents, alumni, and the Board of Governors involved in the final decision." Ms. Desautels assured that the reception of the new logo has been positive overall.

Emilio Pilapil '18, voiced that there should have been some sort of middle step before that final decision. "I feel like the school should have put out a survey to see what people thought at first. If people didn't like it, more logo ideas should've been brought to the table."

Marta Rich '18 felt that the school could have managed to eliminate some of this confusion by consulting members of the SSSAS community first. "Mostly, I think it was a bad idea to go to an outside source especially because there are so many creative minds at SSSAS already, some who are also well versed in design mediums such as photoshop."

Despite their surprise at the school's direction with the logo, both students met the change with acceptance. Emilio expressed that "change happens" while Marta recognized, as an artist herself that "logos can be tricky things."

Aside from visual preferences, Marta analyzed an issue that she felt the new cross-only logo might surface. "Despite being an Episcopalian institution... I've always felt as though SSSAS is a super open community where many students didn't identify strictly with Christianity or were still deciding so the fact that the new logo is much more of a religious symbol versus a traditional seal representing excellence and a strong sense of community is a little disheartening."

The Communications Office is aware that change can be difficult for a community to accept at first. However, their goal now is to have everyone understand the goal of the logo change: "keeping a consistent message and visual identity for the school."



Saints wear gear featuring the new logo!

Inside:

- School response to recent hurricanes
- Meet the new faculty!
- Junior Year reflection
- Alumnus reflection from Charlottesville
- Fantasy Football Frenzy
- Inside *Tartuffe*
- Best Buddies Club Feature

Common Sense or Commonly Incensed?

By Afua Nyantakyi '18 Jamie McLucas '18 and Makeda Melkie '19

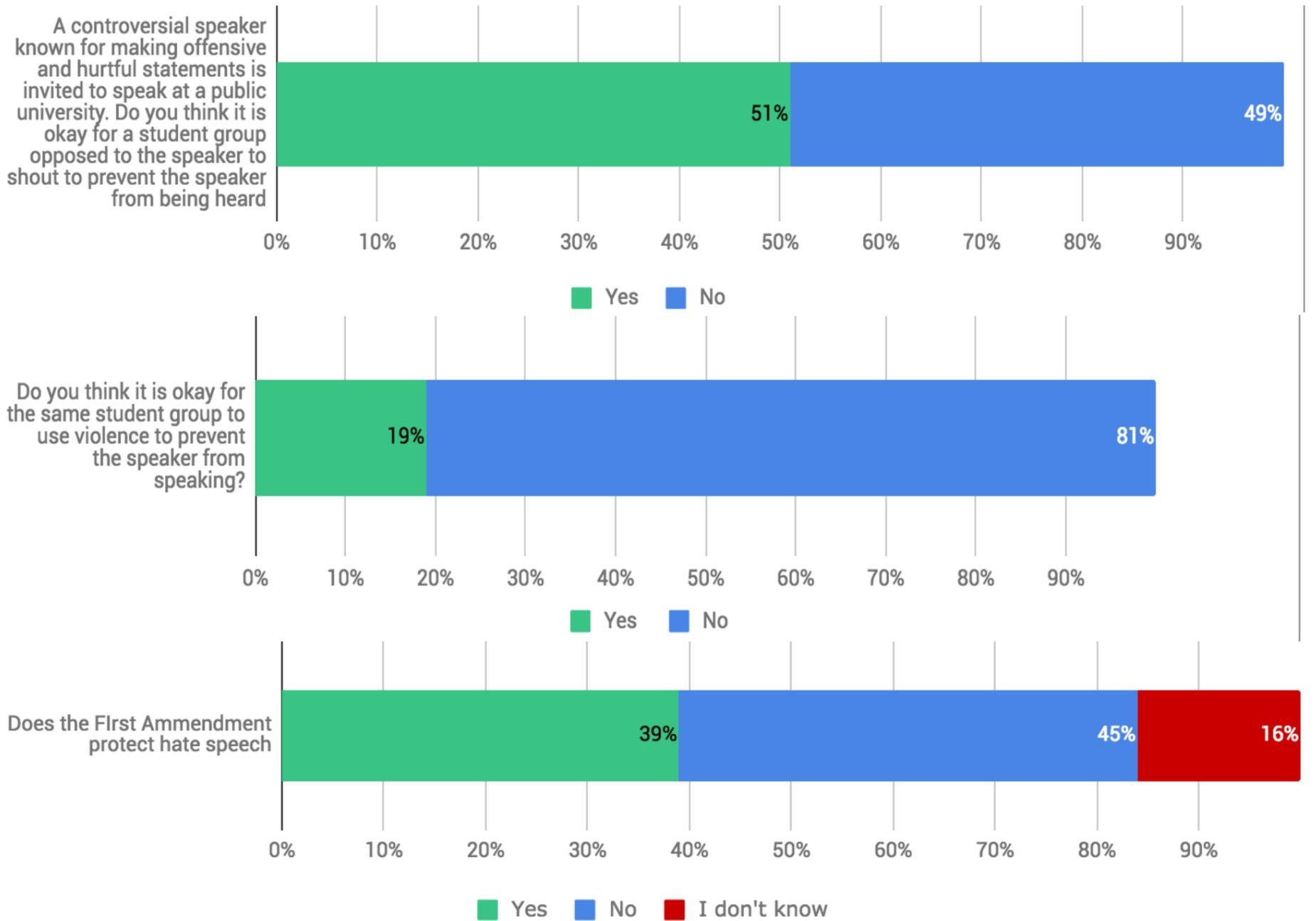
When was the last time you had a really good argument? Nowadays, the answer is starting to sound like never, as more and more people tend to shy away from productive conversation in exchange for explosive verbal showdowns.

Recently, two articles circulating on this topic caught our attention; "The Dying Art of Disagreement" by *The New York Times* and an opinion piece by *The Washington Post* about college students' opinions toward freedom of speech. The latter of the two included a survey that we used to model the one that we sent a few weeks ago to SSSAS students. The data gathered is represented in the charts on page two. As one can see, there is a strong correlation between the nationwide survey conducted and the SSSAS student response in relation to if they thought that the first amendment protects against hate speech. There was only a margin of 5% between the responses that said 'yes it does' on both surveys. However, regarding the questions of silencing a controversial speaker, either through means of shouting or violence, there was a much larger difference between the data collected. A margin of about 20%, SSSAS being the lower of the two percentages, is seen when comparing the two charts on the topic of silencing a speaker through means of shouting. Additionally, a significantly lower percentage of students at SSSAS, agreed to using violence as a mean of protest-- in fact, only 1.45% of SSSAS Upper School students said 'yes' in comparison to the 19% on the nationwide survey. That data suggests that our campus is a relatively safe space. However the real question is whether it is a "safe space" for discussion.

Mr. Humphreys, a history teacher at the upper school, offered a broader historical perspective on safe spaces over time and what they mean today. He said that at our school, "we have something pretty special," but "it's also important to understand that not everywhere is like this." In response to the controversial speaker survey conducted by The

continued on pg. 2

Common Sense Cont.



Washington Post, Mr. Humphreys stressed the importance of having an "open mind" when it comes to different views, and explained that in his opinion, "violence happens when communications break down, and as communication breaks down it's no longer a conversation."

He also provided his opinion on social media--"social media is great--I take that back--social media has the potential to be great," as it can serve as a platform to voice your opinion, but it can also turn into an "echo chamber where you only hear what you want to hear." For the first time in history, everybody with internet access can easily be heard, "even if that extent is their immediate social circles," whereas even just 20 years ago, people didn't have a platform to voice issues on.

Mr. Wenger, chair of the English department, also voices similar ideas in which he states that "virtually almost every adult in this building grew up without social media (chuckles)...so this is almost as much of your world then it is ours and we are still trying to figure out how to navigate." He talks about how with social media came, for the first time in history, a platform where people worldwide are able to voice their opinion "and with this, like anything else, comes pros and cons." Mr. Wenger sees flaws in social media as "It makes conversation that much more difficult because we all know how easy it is to miscommunicate via text message," specifically referring to how it is easy to misread tone. He then suggested that "we need to communicate in person or even through video chats via Skype or anything where you can actually see a person and see body language." However, he also talked about the benefits and how it allows people who may "identify as 'X'," to find other people that they can connect with. Mr. Wenger also talked about the 'dying art' of disagreement "sadly, we are now in this weird place where opinion and fact are often conflated..."

However, while some deem

disagreement as a "dying art" it seems that our Politics Club sees discourse as very much alive, meeting every Friday at lunch to engage in civil political debate. Formerly known as the Young Democrats and Young Republicans, the merge was intended to create conversation that examines ideas from all parts of the political spectrum.

When the entire club was met with the discussion topic of safe spaces, the room was bubbling with unfiltered opinions, met with quick rebuttals and displays of affirmation or disagreement.

Despite the diversity in opinion, the group all shared one trait, respect. Ben Johnson '18, co-president and moderator for that particular meeting, was first to state his opinion on the concept of safe spaces. "What it's designed to do is protect minority rights, not only racial minority but minority in opinion. The idea of it is very much a good thing. However, I have a problem when a safe space sticker, or people saying 'safe space' goes in between your right to say what you want to say. And I think that if people are willing to say something that's going to cause controversy, they should be able to say that knowing that there will be repercussions."

Audrey Shaw '18, co-president of the club felt that the problem lies within what "safe spaces" have become. "I think we have a problem with our sex-ed classes safe space definition. [majority of club nods and agrees] because I think it's like, safe space against... If you were to say "I think abortion is wrong," then someone would say "safe space" and it's very liberally oriented in that way-- which is fine if you're liberal-- But you should be allowed to express more conservative opinions on issues."

Similarly, Jeanine Walker '18 voiced that anyone should be able to express their opinions, unpopular or not, however, they should be wary of crossing "a line where an unpopular opinion turns into hate speech and rhetoric."

Ben Sanderson '18, the other co-president broke the issue down into what he believes is the root cause of the issue on college campuses. "If someone is offended by something, the president at Berkeley is suggesting that you have the right to shut someone's speech down and I think that's the opposite of what the First Amendment stands for. The First Amendment is about hearing everything; freedom of speech regardless, and the expectation is that you wouldn't combat that with violence but instead combat discourse."

Ms. Davis, our upper school director of institutional equity and diversity, talked about the importance of civil discourse, especially in a school setting. She explained that "having safe spaces is imperative to building trust and empowering people to speak their truths." As for our school, "we have a set of community norms that we ask everybody to adhere to" to create opportunities for civil or respectful discourse. Ms. Davis also mentioned that before a teacher gets into the classroom, she asks them how they will create a safe space for their students to make sure that they are going to "make everyone feel safe being who they are." This is because of the importance of a respectful environment in the classroom, in which "you don't have to honor or value that perspective, but you need to understand where it comes from." That being said, Ms. Davis said that in her opinion, "a safe space is a place not where a person can't be questioned, but where a person feels free to express their thoughts," but there is still a line between what is and isn't acceptable.

In regards to social 'bubbles,' Ms Davis said that everyone experiences "natural affinity where we gravitate to people like us, people who believe like us, people who look like us--there's nothing wrong with that. But any time you want growth, you need to have civil discourse, which requires stepping "outside your comfort zone," and finding "some kind of connection with people." Otherwise, in reality, "you're never gonna learn anything else." In addition, when you know someone's story, "it's harder to be mean to them."

Best Buddies Behind the Scenes!

By Gabrielle Sullivan '18

I had given myself a pep talk about how that day was going to go. It was the 2014 SSSAS Fall Club Fair. As a freshman, I told myself to sign up for as many clubs as possible. But, when I first entered the room, I was drawn to a booth with the bright words: BEST BUDDIES sprawled across a banner. Although I was intimidated by the senior leaders, they were so welcoming and friendly.

So, I scribbled my email and name on the sign-up sheet without much thought. It was only after attending the meetings that I really became engaged and fell in love with the inclusive message of the organization.

The mission of Best Buddies is to end the social, physical and economic isolation of the 200 million people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) by helping them form meaningful friendships with their peers as well as to secure successful jobs, live independently, improve public speaking, self-advocacy and communications skills, and feel valued by society.

The idea of making friends and meeting people who had new perspectives was something that filled me with excitement. When my sophomore year came to a close, Lindsey Ellison and I were tasked with running our school's chapter for the next two years. During the summer of 2016, we attended the Best Buddies Leadership Conference in Bloomington, Indiana. I experienced the vibrancy of Best Buddies in action as schools from all 50 states participated along with global students. I met amazing people who felt similarly passionate about being a buddy, an advocate and a spokesperson for the power of

inclusion. It was a transformational experience that crystallized the essence of what it means to be human.

Having been so moved by this experience, I returned to the conference last summer as a rising senior. The most memorable part of last summer's conference was hearing students with disabilities speak eloquently about how the organization has changed their lives for the better. One speaker with Autism stated that through his friendships in Best Buddies he gained the confidence to approach anyone and start a conversation. His speech resonated with me and inspired me to reach out to people that I normally would be hesitant to approach. I realized that Best Buddies was changing my life in ways I could not have imagined.

This year, we have made it our mission to go above and beyond what we have done in past years. So far, we had a Chipotle fundraiser and hosted a Movie Night to meet and mingle with students from other local chapters. At our Movie Night, we met over 50 people from various schools in Virginia and watched Finding Dory. On the way out, a boy named Kenny said that he was really happy to be with friends on his Saturday night. This simple statement touched me because it reminded me that love and friendship will continue to persevere above everything else. And as corny as that sounds, I needed that reminder.

We still have so many fun events coming up this year and I personally cannot wait. On

October 21st, the annual Best Buddies Friendship Walk will be taking place on the National Mall in DC. This is such a great time to

meet new people and to walk to bring public awareness to the organization. In January, we will be taking part in a Best Buddies dance and festival that our chapter will help organize. The highlight of the year for most, however, is the Best Buddies Prom in April. As any of our club members from last year can attest, it is so much fun to dance the night away with new friends, all while promoting an incredible organization. We would love to see many new faces from SSSAS at these events and our meetings.

If you have any questions, Lindsey and I are always available via email (gabriellesullivan18@sssas.org, lindseyel18@sssas.org) or in person. I would encourage you all to consider becoming a buddy because I can definitively say that I have been changed for the better by doing so.



Isabelle Brocato '18 at last year's Best Buddies Prom

World News

Gene Therapy

By Makeda Melkie '19

On August 30th the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the first gene therapy treatment to go on US markets for leukemia. The gene therapy is called Kymriah, a stem cell-based treatment for leukemia patients, in which each dose "contains a patient's own immune cells, which are sent to a lab to be genetically modified using a virus" giving it the ability to "recognize and kill the source of the cancer," reported CNN.

"An FDA advisory committee had recommended the therapy for approval in July to treat the relapse of a blood cancer known as B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia, or A.L.L." A.L.L. is reported to be the most common type of cancer among children, and although many can recover through radiation, chemotherapy and, the more recent, stem cells, if the cancer comes back there is a significantly lower chance of successful treatment.

A second gene therapy, Yescarta, was approved recently targeting non-Hodgkin lymphomas and "is intended for adult patients with certain types of large B-cell lymphoma after other treatments fail."

Although it may account for only 4% of cancers in the United States of America, "an estimated 72,000 new cases are diagnosed each year" according to another article by CNN.

Unlike how Kymriah uses the patient's immune cells to treat the cancer, in "each dose of Yescarta, the patient's T-cells -- a type of white blood cell -- are collected and then genetically modified to include a new gene that targets and kills the cancer cells." CNN reports that in a clinical trial with 100 adult patients, 51% experienced "a complete remission of their cancer."

However both have their pros and cons. The FDA said that hospitals and clinics must become certified to distribute the treatment meaning that those in need of the treatment may not have access to it in

the place that they are currently situated in. In addition to that the treatment is a very expensive with a \$475,000 price tag; however, patients who do not respond within a month of treatment will not be charged, according to Novartis." Nonetheless Kymriah shows positive forecasts. CNN reports that "Based on available data, patients on the treatment have had an 89% chance of surviving at least six months and a 79% chance of surviving at least a year, with most being relapse-free at that point." In regards to Yescarta the treatment is said to have negative side effects which may include neurologic toxicities and cytokine release syndrome which may cause symptoms such as; fever, nausea, headaches and more. In addition to that another potential risk is a weakened immune system.

Regardless of the controversy that may come with the new treatments, many doctors recognize it as being the future of the medical field. Dr Scott Gottlieb, from the FDA, was quoted by BBC and he said: "We're entering a new frontier in medical innovation with the ability to reprogram a patient's own cells to attack a deadly cancer."

Niger Attack

By Afua Nyantakyi '18

On October 4th, 2017, four American soldiers were found dead after an unexpected ambush against twelve US troops situated in Niger-Mali border. According to CNN, the attack, which was allegedly conducted by 50 ISIS fighters, was marked the deadliest combat mission of Trump's presidency to date.

Sgt. La David Johnson, Staff Sgt. Bryan Black, Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Johnson and Staff Sgt. Dustin Wright were all killed in the attack after helping local forces in Niger combat terrorists. However, the facts seem to stop there, as discrepancies in many accounts of the events, lead to suspicion over foul play. While some accounts claim that the men were attacked while armed in trucks, others claim

that the men were attacked while traveling on foot.

The body of one soldier, Sgt. La David T. Johnson, had been recovered around 48 hours after the raid, and the span of time between his death and his recovery has also called for suspicion.

Defense secretary James Mattis assured CNN, "The US military does not leave its troops behind and I would just ask that you not question the actions of the troops who were caught in the firefight and question whether or not they did everything they could in order to bring everyone out at once." The investigation will be an effort "to get all the facts correct."

According to the Washington Post, President Trump called all of the families of the four men, however, one call in particular garnered more attention than the others. Twelve days after the attack, President Trump called the widow of Sgt. La David T. Johnson. He allegedly told her that her husband "knew what he signed up for" referring to the soldier as "your guy." The New York Times reported that both Sergeant Johnson's mother and a Democratic congresswoman listened into the call and confirmed his statements. Ms. Johnson, told The New York Times, that his call "made me cry because I was very angry at the tone in his voice and how he said it."

The Niger Incident has since been addressed as a political issue rather than a common tragedy as the president accused past presidents of not calling the families of American troops killed in action.

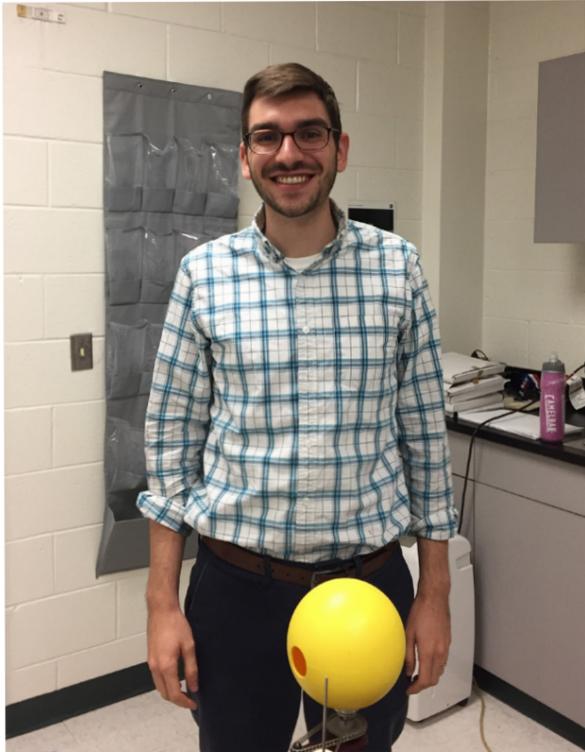
The President was immediately faced with backlash from critics claiming his statement to be false and the white house shortly followed with a press conference in hopes of neutralizing the situation. In that press conference, The Telegraph reports that "White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders later backed up Mr Trump's comments, saying that "the President wasn't criticizing predecessors, but stating a fact."

Who Do You Have?: New Faculty at SSSAS

Questions:

1. What are you looking forward to this year at SSSAS?
2. What were you doing before coming to sssas?
3. Do you have a favorite Sports team?
4. Do you have a favorite Movie?
5. Could you share a favorite memory from high school?
6. Are you planning to be involved in any extracurriculars at SSSAS?
7. What was the best part of your summer '17?

Mr. Romano



1. Among many things, I am looking forward to teaching physics and astronomy!
2. Prior to working at SSSAS, I was finishing my graduate degree in Materials Science and Engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park.
3. Of course! My favorite baseball team is the Nationals!
4. I have a long list of favorite movies! One near the top of my list though is The King's Speech.
5. One of my favorite memories from high school is performing the Weber Clarinet Concertino with my school orchestra and receiving a standing ovation from the audience!
6. For this upcoming year, I'll be sponsoring the Astronomy Club! I also plan to help out with the instrumental music program at SSSAS.
7. The BEST part of my summer was having the opportunity to marry the love of my life, Mrs. Romano. Our wedding took place in Washington, DC on 7/1/17. Admittedly, I may have chosen a palindrome as our anniversary so that it would be easier to remember!

Dr. Strednak-Singer



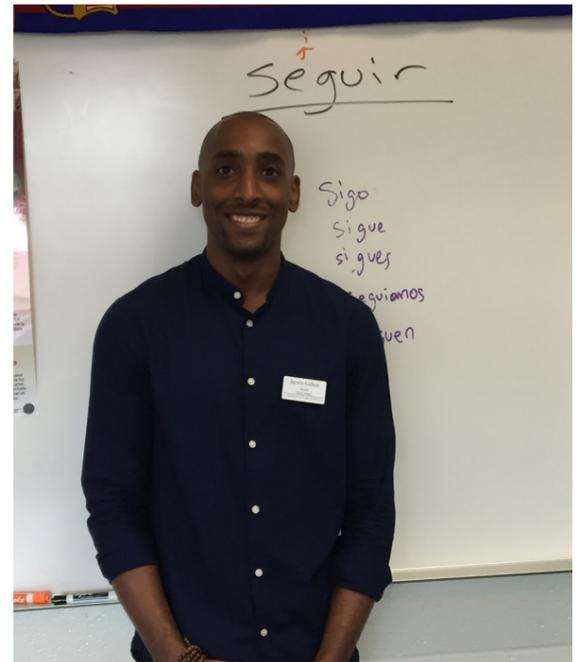
1. I am looking forward to meeting more Saints and getting to know what hopes and dreams my students have for themselves and the world.
2. Prior to moving to DC I served as the Director of Education and Programs at an adult literacy center in Southern KY. I spent most of my time helping adult learners prepare to earn their high school diploma or study for college entrance exams.
3. The University of Louisville Cardinals!
4. The Princess Bride.
5. Ron Skillern's AP US History class.
6. I'm assisting with the school's theater productions, supervising the scene shop and guiding construction efforts.
7. Seeing the total solar eclipse. I've wanted to see one since I first learned about them in 4th grade.

Ms. Allen



1. I love moments of discovery, when long-held assumptions get shaken and surprises spark our curiosity. I look forward to sharing those moments with my students and advisees.
2. Shortly after writing and making short movies in film school, I worked at ABC Studios near Los Angeles. I made sure actors on major TV series received their contracts so they could be paid and listed in the credits. I learned a lot and met wonderful people, from studio assistants who read dozens of screenplays to the occasional celebrity.
3. Go, Washington Wizards!
4. Ratatouille - a lovable reminder that genius can come from anywhere...and that food is a delectable art form.
5. I began to find my voice in my 9th grade English Honors class, here at the Upper School. When the year began, I wasn't so sure if my classmates wanted to hear my take on things. Our English teacher, however, did. He would open class with casual, candid chats about whatever was on our mind, which inspired me to determine what I thought and how best to express it. By the end of the year, I was a passionate speaker and writer in our class. I gained confidence that my ideas and words matter. When we learned that our teacher was moving on to a new school, I got a Thank-You card for us all to sign and gave it to him at the end of the year.
6. I have a variety of interests, from Christian faith to film and TV, diversity and social justice, creative writing, and dance. So wherever I can share them, count me in!
7. I attended a conference for new teachers in Richmond, VA. Teaching is a complex, rewarding craft, and teachers learn it just like students learn subjects. I came back from this conference feeling empowered and excited to bring my best to the classroom.

Mr. Gilbert



1. I'm looking forward to being back in the classroom, helping students understand Spanish language and the culture it's a part of. I love learning languages and cultures and enjoy sharing that passion with young people who have that similar interest.
2. I was leading a group of high school students on a month-long trip throughout China immediately before coming to SSSAS. I've also been in grad school for the past couple of years.
3. I admire LeBron James for what he has and is doing on and off the court so, I root for the Cavs.
4. One of my favorite movies is Snatch by Guy Ritchie.
5. One of my favorite memories from high school was the day I dunked for the first time. I had never tried it on a 10-foot goal before but my teammates asked me to try during practice one day and I was able to do it pretty easily. This led me to work hard and have a pretty successful year as a high jumper on the track team that same year.
6. Yes, I'll be helping out with winter and spring track.
7. The best part of my summer was finishing grad school! Though graduation was technically in the spring, finishing grad school helped got my summer off to a great start!

Ms. Segraves



1. I am most looking forward to getting to know all of the students at the Upper School. Although my role works primarily with freshmen and sophomores, I genuinely enjoy knowing each and every student that walks these halls. I have a lot of work to do to meet everyone this year!
2. Before I came to SSSAS I was at another independent school in New Jersey, the

Wardlaw+Hartridge School (W+H). I was the Director of Global Experience, World Language Department Chair, and a Spanish teacher in the Upper School at W+H.

3. I enjoy watching football and soccer, especially during the big games. I have to say though, that my favorite team is any sports team representing The University of Texas at Austin, my alma mater. Hook 'em!

4. There are far too many movies that I find enjoyable to name just one, although I find myself quoting comedies mostly.

5. The greatest memories I have are from my high school cross country team. My teammates and I trained hard and supported each other harder- through competitions, school, and life. In my junior year several teammates and I had Spanish 3 Honors together after lunch and we basically took over the entire class... together. I won't go into more details, but I will advise you all to not do that here at SSSAS. :)

6. I very much enjoy being involved in students' lives outside of school. While I'm currently not coaching, I am planning to attend sports competitions, theatre performances, and other events where students get to display their passions and talents.

7. As lame as this may sound, moving to Alexandria, VA to become a Saint! I lived in this area about 10 years ago and have been looking to get back here since I left. I couldn't be happier to join the SSSAS community and explore all the opportunities the school offers to our students.

Mr. Dodds



1. I'm looking forward to the challenge of teaching new content, but with the students I was fortunate enough to have in MS, I'm pretty lucky to have gotten the opportunity to work with some of the same students twice.

2. I came to SSSAS right out of school (Wesleyan University, CT)

3. I'm a die-hard Philly phan and all things Eagles and Flyers. There's a good opportunity for chatter between me and my students/players when division play comes up.

4. The Godfather...classic

5. My favorite HS memory was getting to play soccer in the UK. My team was very tightly knit and we went on to win the league and district championships that year. Lost in the state finals in OT but the school fan base was nuts all season and being with those guys was unforgettable.

6. I've been coaching at SSSAS since coming here (both in MS and US). I've been most involved with the lacrosse program but have also coached soccer, wrestling, and basketball, as well.

7. I was fortunate enough to go to Ecuador and see the Galapagos Islands with my family. An incredible experience that, as a science zealot, made it all the more sweet. My family always seems to have a near-death experience on our vacations, but this was the first round where we avoided trouble!

Ms. Roessler



1. Getting to know the amazing students and faculty better.

2. Before coming to SSSAS, I worked as a speech-language pathologist in the High School division at The Lab School of Washington for ten years.

3. Yes! Growing up, my favorite team was the New York Yankees. I would go to several games each summer and pull out all the stops to try to get on the Jumbotron. Now my favorite team is the Washington Capitals. My husband has been a huge fan since childhood, and his enthusiasm has rubbed off on me.

4. Gone with the Wind ("After all, tomorrow is another day!").

5. I am not sure I have a single favorite memory. I loved my high school experience and have fond memories of being part of the tennis and softball teams, serving on student council, learning from my knowledgeable and kind teachers, and spending time with friends.

6. I would like to eventually, though this year might be a bit busy for me since I am expecting my third child on Thanksgiving!

7. Visiting Chincoteague with my extended family and seeing the wild ponies run along the beach.

Mr. Johnson



1. I'm most looking forward to working with the students and becoming integrated into the SSSAS community.

2. I was a mechanical engineer working at the University of Alaska Fairbanks teaching engineering and researching sustainable energy.

3. No. :)

4. Yes, Dr. Stranglove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb

5. I met my future wife in Physics. We were sophomores at the time.

6. Yes, I am helping to coach the SSSAS robotics teams.

7. Coaching "Team USA" at the FIRST Global inaugural robot olympics.

Mary Margaret's Junior Year Musings

By Mary Margaret Lemkhuler '19



The first few days back at school have always been rife with contradictions. You're happy to see your friends again but dread all the new assignments you'll have to do. You're excited to start the classes you've chosen, but despair at seeing your free time shrink faster than students leave a football game at halftime.

So it was pretty inevitable that something bad would happen after I'd had a fun-filled and laid-back summer. And if bad luck wouldn't get the job done, the shirt I wore to registration that said "DON'T BLAME ME" on the front definitely would. Sure enough, when I went to greet an old friend in the hallway I bumped into him and spilled his iced coffee over the floor. This school year's off to a great start!

The fun only continued when I realized that of all my teachers, there was only one whom I hadn't had previously. Great. Now I had to find completely new reasons for showing up exactly .23 seconds late to class. I'm working on one with traffic and a bit of alien interference with my alarm clock. A little outlandish, I know, but if any of you reading this come up with a better one I'd love to hear it.

I wish there was some excuse for why the vending machines all only take exact change now. While reading this article, I'd like you to take a small moment of silence for all the Saints who haven't had the one dollar, seven nickels, three pennies and secret handshake needed just to get a soda from one of those horrible machines. Is this a new attempt to teach us basic math? Or some conspiracy by Big Zinc to get us all to use change again? I don't know, but it keeps me up at night.

Besides the general early year anxieties, the reported workload of junior year was looming over me like a wave about to break. I'd heard it was a lot, but as I sat in my classrooms and heard about all the work we had ahead of us it really solidified for me. This was junior year! The important year! And for someone who's only chance of an athletic scholarship is Moral Support, academics is one of the few things I have going for me. It scared me, and to be honest it still does. But I realized just how many resources I have to help guide me through it, from seniors I know to the three people whose literal job it is to help out with college stress.

Things did seem more hopeful after that. School started. I found out that I wasn't actually in a three-person class, despite whatever heinous lies the roster section on the school website tried to sell me. I had lots of events to look forward to, like coffeehouse (you went, right?), the fall play (opening November 3rd) and Virginia's Latin convention (you should go, I'm paying \$5 each for these). Best of all, I've got a block free period on Friday.

I don't want to jinx anything again, so I'll word my prediction carefully: I won't completely fail all my classes and tests. Can't promise anything about future coffee spills, though. I know my limits.

Hurricanes: How? Why? What To Do?

By Jamie McLucas '18

All of us have followed the recent hurricanes, most notably Harvey, Irma, and Maria, that devastated millions in Florida, Texas, Puerto Rico, and many islands off the Southeastern coast of the US. According to a survey sent to the upper school, 48% of students are connected to someone who has been displaced. With so many ties to the millions who were impacted, it is no wonder that there has been such initiative to contribute to relief efforts.

Ms. Via, a religion teacher and our upper school director of service learning and external engagement, is spearheading our community's relief efforts. She explained that "the best approach to take at this stage of the crisis is just to send financial resources, because the problem with sending things like clothes, supplies, blankets, things like that, is that it's difficult to determine whether that's a real need or not on the ground." In addition, she said that even if supplies are needed, those receiving them are often "overwhelmed by it, and what you intended to be a helpful donation becomes trash essentially." Ms. Via also raised an interesting point that "a lot of those things can be purchased locally," and so donating them it would actually "hurt the economies."

Similarly, according to the Center for International Disaster Information website, the best way to help after any disaster is monetary contributions for a number of reasons. First, it allows "professional relief organizations to purchase exactly what is most urgently needed by disaster survivors, when it is needed," and without any delay. Many necessary commodities can also be bought locally,

which makes acquiring supplies fast and easy when organizations have money. In addition, this supports "local merchants and local economies, ensures that commodities are fresh and familiar to survivors, that supplies arrive expeditiously and that goods are culturally, nutritionally and environmentally appropriate." Finally, financial assistance is the best way to help because thousands of pounds of donated goods "require transportation — which is expensive and logistically complicated — and a pre-identified recipient on the ground who will receive the shipment, [must] pay customs and other fees, sort and distribute the items."

Dr. Singer, our new religion teacher, explained some reasons that people consider it "a basic duty to provide food, shelter, and other necessities to those in need, whether those be religious, or a belief that our human dignity obligates us to help others in need." He also talked about another perspective on helping others, that "we all benefit from a social system that reduces the severity of hardships which might drive others to acquire these resources by non-legal means."

While many wish to contribute, other people have also tried to take advantage of the desperation in areas recovering from the hurricanes in order to make a profit, specifically with regards to price gouging. Dr. Singer explained that while it is, in reality, normal supply and demand economics, "many critics would suggest that the practice is inherently exploitative, and therefore unethical," as was demonstrated during the hurricanes. According to CNBC, there were nearly 700 complaints of price gouging on a hotline in Florida from before Irma even touched land.

In addition, Dr. Singer went on to say that one of his goals in his ethics classes is to "help students understand that the free market does not exist in a moral vacuum," as what is good for business is often immoral, and "businesses ought pursue greater goods than mere economic gain."

To provide a scientific insight into the hurricanes, I interviewed Mr. Yoder, one of the science teachers at the upper school. First, "a hurricane starts as a thunderstorm over sub-saharan Africa that enters into the ocean, and that thunderstorm becomes the starting event of what could become a hurricane." The storms then either "take a right turn and spin out into the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, resulting in much less damage, or continue on to devastate populated areas." In regards to the recent spike in harmful hurricanes, he said that there is nothing we can specifically attribute this to other than global warming, as "hurricanes strengthen when water temperatures are warm--that is how they get their energy. So as this warm moist air moves up and it condenses down as colder dryer air we get that kind of swirling action." While the cause remains ambiguous, the irregularity of it all these hurricanes is clear--"We've had thirteen named storms so far this year, which is typical of an entire hurricane season, and we're technically at the midpoint of the six month hurricane season."

Regardless of whether we are able to pinpoint exactly what caused the recent spike in hurricanes, the millions devastated need our help.

Alumnus Reports from Charlottesville

By Malcolm Reynolds '17

I wasn't sure what to expect when I squeezed into the downtown movie theater, already packed with my fellow students and many others from Charlottesville proper. We were there to hear Margot Lee Shetterley speak about her experience researching and writing her recent book, *Hidden Figures*, as well as her time as a consultant and producer for the movie of the same title. For anyone who, like me, has not had the opportunity to read either the book or see the movie, *Hidden Figures* tells the story of a group of women working at NASA during the civil rights era. Shetterley eventually fielded questions and was asked how the historical women of *Hidden Figures* reconciled dedicating their work to a nation that viewed them as fundamentally second-class citizens. Based on Shetterley's interviews with the women who are still alive and her research on those who are not, the women saw themselves as working towards a better vision of America; they pledged their allegiance not to the imperfect today, but rather to the potential for a better tomorrow.

In the wake of the August protests and counterprotests that rocked Charlottesville, UVA has encouraged introspection and skepticism on the part of the student body when surveying the University's history with civil rights. The University's administration seems to understand full well that, for most of the school's existence, it not only hindered progress towards social equality, but also even reinforced the instructions of slavery and segregation. In spite of all the good that he did for UVA and for the nascent American republic, Thomas Jefferson personally owned other human beings. These are truths that cannot, and should not, be forgotten. However, confronting these ugly truths does not preclude celebrating the progress that has been made on social issues. Rather, coming to terms with the evils of our predecessors

informs our understanding of the current world around us, as well as the future we are building.

UVA has taken a number of steps to spark dialogue about the flawed story of race at the University. For example, we hosted Shetterley, as I described above, and have plans for a number of similar lectures. First years (freshman, to those not familiar with the Charlottesville vernacular) in the New College Curriculum are reading and annotating the founding document of the University, the Rockfish Gap Report, to gain a better understanding of the founders' vision for the school. Many of my professors have offered their own class time to discuss the August events and their implications.

My French professor even offered time from her class to serve as a forum for discussion both about the August events and about the University's identity as a whole. She also made it clear to us that she was available to meet and talk one on one if any of her students wanted or needed to talk. I've heard a lot of stories from my friends and roommates about their own professors holding similar discussions. At the beginning of the semester as we were starting classes, many of my teachers made a point of telling us first years, who had not yet had the opportunity to form our own impressions about the University, that the protests were not and are not representative of UVA. Nobody tried to gloss over the evils of slavery and discrimination that had drawn many of the protesters to our grounds. But, my professors did say that the University is committed to making the present, and what will someday be looked back on as another chapter of our history, a time where past triumphs lay the foundation for our endeavors, and where past mistakes can be studied and acknowledged without defining our identity.

The University of Virginia, and our country as a whole, have a bloody history that can be neither erased nor changed. But we are not shackled to this history, and not yet doomed to repeat it. Our failures and accomplishments deserve to be studied and celebrated equally. I believe that we must frankly and honestly face the darkness in our collective past if we are to continue building a stronger and more tolerant community for the future.



Malcolm Reynolds '17 on the UVA campus

It May Be Fall, but Saints Sports Are Heating Up

By William Harrison Brown '20

The Saints are back! Seven weeks have gone by since summer ended and Saints athletes from across the school have been busy preparing and playing sports games. The Voice's Harrison Brown interviewed six athletes or coaches and will talk about the different sports teams all across campus.

Cross Country Coach Shawn Cotter has high goals and expectations for his team: "I think the easiest one is to see everyone improve throughout the season and we'd like to run well at the city championship meet and we would like to beat Episcopal in the Seminary Hill Cup," he said. "We're one big family and we're different in that we have people from 9-12 grade on our team and we all get along pretty well," he continued. So far, the Cross Country team has run five races and the varsity cross country team defeated Episcopal by a final score of 31-24. Unfortunately, the junior varsity team dropped its meet, 44-17. Coach Cotter and the other coaches and runners have some hills to climb, but they're positioned to make a strong finish to the season. The cross country team saw 14 Personal Records and 8 Season Best Times. Also - Callie Heimbach's time of 21:59 places her 4th on the SSSAS Top 20 Record Board. Katie Whalen's time of 22:25 earns her the 14th spot!

On the girls side, congratulations to Audrey who finished 2nd overall, and coming close to her PR on that course (it's still early in the season!), Freshman Callie Heimbach ran a very strong 22:25, finishing 7th overall AND that time puts Callie on our school's TOP 20 Best Time Board! Our Freshman girls helped us beat Episcopal for the second time this season and congratulations to Katie Whalen and Catherine Seale who also ran Personal Records on Friday! Junior Shelvonne Burton ran a minute faster than her time at Bullis, so we know that our Saints Girls Team is getting Stronger, Fitter and Faster! We beat EHS by a close margin, so we are looking forward to facing them again at the Alexandria City Championships with a full roster (4 girls did not race on Friday). The Boys Team also had a great day at Episcopal. We were very proud of our three Captains: Mason Edwards finished 9th overall and ran over a minute faster than at the Bullis meet, Graham Tracy had a great debut to the season, finishing 12th overall and running just 13 seconds off his PR from last year! And JV Captain Jamie McLucas ran a PR, 50 seconds faster than his Bullis time. These Captains are great examples of hard work, and the younger guys are following their lead: 10th Grader David Weissman ran a PR time (crushing last year's PR by 40 seconds!), as well as freshman Dwight Ware (30 seconds faster than Bullis!) and Campbell Cooper (1:08 faster!!).

Coaches aren't the only ones who lead or who need to say something when the competition gets tough. Varsity Girls Tennis captain Emily Ryan '18 says, "I wanted to represent the Saints because I had always wanted to play in high school and be on a competitive team with my friends." In terms of tennis, "the most exciting part for me is serving because it can determine how the point goes," she said. The team members have a strong bond, Emily said, noting that "the chemistry with the team is definitely closer than outside of school because we are in school together every day and practice and play together for hours. Also, since we only have four courts, we bond a lot watching other matches and supporting the people still playing." Emily doesn't really mind the expectations and challenges of being captain saying, "I wouldn't say pressure but there is definitely a desire to win and do well to represent the school." She also made it clear that "my goals for the year are to be the best captain possible and win ISLs."

The field hockey team is currently on

an ten-game winning streak and they won both games at the Seminary Hill Cup. The varsity team downed Episcopal 3-2 in extra time and the JV team thumped theirs with a six-spot. The final score was 6-0. Coach Jordan talked about what makes the team successful this year. "I think that for me it's important for everyone to understand how valuable they are to the team. Our backup goalie may not get as much playing time, but it's important that she works hard. Our identity would be that we're one team," she said. "I think that our schedule is one that we have to spend a lot of time together and we have lots of time together. Our practice is hard but they have a say in what they have to do. I give them ownership over the team and I have them do that so they bond together," she continued. Like every other coach and player spoken to for this piece, her goal is to bring a championship back home. "I just want us to keep getting better; a few years we lost in the semifinals of states and I want us to get to the finals of championship states. If we want to accomplish that, we have to be better than we were yesterday." Oh yeah, Coach Jordan has a message for all of us too. "I would just like as many fans as possible on Friday for the Seminary Hill Cup."

The football team probably spends more time practicing and playing than any other on the field this fall. They began practice in August. So far, the team has gone 1-3 and while there are some downs in sports, there are some great things about playing. Football player Bennett Donohue '20 talks about the great atmosphere the St. Stephen's and St. Agnes' community has been in supporting the football team: "I've been going to the school for a long time and I love football. It's a great school and nice to get a chance to represent them in something, and I thought football would be a good thing." Bennett said, "the most exciting part is seeing the fans come out and cheer us on, especially when we win." Despite a rough 0-3 start, the team is definitely very tight, said Bennett, "Yeah, it's definitely closer. We go to school together and we all know each other. We're very close." Asked about the pressure of representing the school, Bennett said, there's "a little bit more pressure because you're representing the school so you obviously want to impress yourself and the school."

The soccer team also has a very busy schedule. Goaltender and captain Miles Clark '18 talks about his passion for the game. "When I'm on the field, nothing else matters. Problems like school and family are left off; when I put the cleats on, nothing else matters. It feels like I'm on there for 10 hours," Miles added, "I want to lead my team to a state championship. And I want to lead the freshmen so they set a good example when they're in my shoes," he continued. His passion is not only to bring a championship to the St. Stephen's and St. Agnes community, but he also wants to lead by example and have an impact after he leaves the school as he's in his senior year. He also expresses a desire to compete his best on the field because he feels his team shows that they

really care. "I'm just super proud of the team this year and we don't have many players, but the passion and desire the players, even the ones on the bench, is truly inspiring and that makes me want to be better for them," he said. So far, things are off to a pretty good start as the soccer team is 5-1-4. Both soccer teams tied Episcopal at the Seminary Hill Cup.

The volleyball team has a 5-8 record so far this season with their next match coming up on Friday, the Seminary Hill Cup. They dropped both of their games at the Seminary Hill Cup bowing to Episcopal 2-1 from the varsity squad and 3-0 from the junior varsity squad. and Captain Sam Kadlec '18 tries to lead her team past the Hill Cup and talks about it. Coming over to the Saints community in the seventh grade, she thought that volleyball was a must-do for her in the community. "I've been playing volleyball with the saints since I transferred and it's been absolutely amazing. When I'm on the court, I think one of my favorite parts of the game is when there's been a shanked ball and the team gives everything we have to get it back over," Sam said. "That overwhelming feeling of excitement when you keep a ball in play is amazing!" Other favorite moments in the game include getting a kill, an ace off a serve, hitting the floor to get a dig up, getting a block...the list goes on! Also just seeing your teammates get a kill or a dig is awesome too," she continued. She also thinks that it will be good for the team with stepping up on the big stage. "I think during this time of the year with Seminary Hill cup just around the corner, there's definitely some pressure as to how we represent ourselves for the school, but I also think that is a positive because of the reputation that we as a school want to uphold: a team that has sportsmanship, is kind to one another, and is willing to put in the effort to take the team where it wants to go."

Coach Cagle also shared his thoughts of the season. "I think perhaps the most important thing I could communicate when they about to take the court is to just have fun. Everything else will fall into place if they have fun playing the game," Cagle said. "I am not so much concerned with them winning/losing as I am with them playing in a way that, looking back, they can say they feel good about how they played. This ties into the idea of having fun playing the game, that if they are having fun that they will have a greater chance to win, and even if they lose they can feel satisfied with the fact that they tried their best and still enjoyed themselves," he continued. He hopes to bring positive energy to the team as they conclude their season.

The Saints Athletic season is underway! Captains, coaches, and players are prepared for grueling days full of training, practices, and games. While players work hard, the captains and coaches face more pressure because they're the ones who speak up when something needs to be said and have to do their best to represent not only the team but the school. While pressure comes with being captain, there comes a lot of fun playing the game they love with friends while being supported by their families.



Connor McColloch '18 scoring a goal for Saints soccer

Fantasy Football, Real Competition

By Jamie McLucas '18

Fantasy football: risk-free gambling. Well, maybe some of the time. There is no doubt that fantasy Football can be very competitive. We all know that one kid--or maybe that group of kids--that takes it to the next level. According to a survey sent to the upper school, about 22% of students participate in a league. So, while clearly not a majority, lots of people enjoy the prospect of going head to head against friends and family by seeing whose players will out perform the other's.

There is simply no better way to begin this article than to show you what some students had to say about fantasy. On his experience with fantasy football leagues, senior David Kadesh '18 said that "it's intense--I mean, it's a lifestyle choice...it's addicting too." However, he said that he loves it because of "the pure adrenaline rush." He went on to explain that "there is no better feeling than walking into school on Monday or Tuesday knowing you beat Jack Siegel ('18) in fantasy football." At the time of the interview, Jack happened to have been David's most recent matchup. David stated "I think this week I expressed pure ownership over Jack Siegel, as I doubled him (in points) in fantasy football."

In response to David's "dominance," Jack retorted "David's team is really good, but they're a little sketchy...they've definitely participated in some unauthorized offseason activity, so there definitely could be some big punishments coming down." It is vague as to whether or not there is truth to this, however

one thing is clear: there is some serious competition between these two.

Mr. Walrich has a different perspective on fantasy football. He said that "his favorite time of fantasy football is the draft" when you get together with everybody and poke fun as other people make their picks. Another part that he enjoys is that "it's kind of like my own business--I grow it, I make trades, I pick up people." On another note, being in a fantasy football league and being an NFL fan is convenient for Mr. Walrich because he can watch games that his players are in. On the competitiveness of fantasy, he explained that he and another teacher who had an upcoming matchup that week had been "talking smack," as they are division rivals, and the winner would "take over the division." Mr. Walrich described this sort of competition as "fun, intense."

Ms. Koroma, who is in the same faculty league as Mr. Walrich, expressed a similar opinion on the competition--"I would say it's friendly competition." She also said that the live draft for the league is fun, but also "pretty competitive with lots of ribbing on people" as they make their picks. Ms. Koroma also has a number of reasons for playing fantasy football. "I love football, and my husband and I are huge football fans, and my step-dad actually played for the Redskins for a year and a half." She also said "I was a college athlete, so I don't compete a lot anymore, so I enjoy competing against fellow colleagues for bragging rights."

However, fantasy can also be a

demanding time commitment. As David put it, "if you're intense about it, it can take up your whole week," but you can also just be "that kind of guy" who forgets to set their lineup and doesn't put as much time into it. It's plausible to infer from his next comment that David definitely is not "that kind of guy"; "I would say my grades do improve when it is not football season, but it's a risk you gotta take.

Roger White '19, President of the Sports Talk and Discussions Club (STAD), explained that his club is incorporating fantasy football for the first time "due to a large demand among our members, but we are not planning on transitioning into a full-on fantasy sports club." This is also Roger's first fantasy football league, which "has been an enjoyable experience" so far. Similarly to David Kadesh, Mr. Walrich, and Ms. Koroma, Roger said "the thing I find most intriguing about fantasy sports is the excitement of beating your friend and being able to brag about it." However, he also recognized that there may be some "moral drawbacks" to those who see fantasy sports as ruining sports "due to the flashy attractiveness of a fantasy platform."

While fantasy football may not be for everybody, those who do participate certainly seem to have a great time. So, if you are interested in sports, or just want to try a fun new activity with your friends, you should give it a try!

Tartuffe, A Classic Revived

By Makeda Melkie '19

As you may be aware, the fall play this year is going to be an adaptation *Tartuffe*. Written by Jean-Baptiste Poquelin, better known by his stage name Molière, *Tartuffe* was first performed in 1664 and is considered to be his greatest piece of theatrical comedy but, is it still relevant today?

Why pick *Tartuffe* specifically in a whirlpool of hundreds of thousands of plays that we have the access to? Mr. Marvin, the upper school scheduling director and drama teacher, said this; "I try and alternate the kinds of plays and musicals that we do and change them up each year so that all the students that are involved in the program have a chance to do a lot of different genres ... we go from very contemporary pieces to more classical pieces and this year it was time for a classical piece so, instead of Shakespeare and that kind of thing, we decided to do *Tartuffe* since we haven't done any Molière yet since I've been here."

One of the major themes of *Tartuffe* is hypocrisy, specifically religious hypocrisy. The main character Tartuffe is seen as an overwhelming symbol for it as his self proclamation of being a man of high morals, heavily contradicts with his exploitation of others' flaws for his own benefits. It is for these reasons that he is know as being a 'con man' and his manipulation of others is a constant motif throughout the play or in the words of Mr. Marvin; "... Tartuffe is a hypocrite, he is a con man and being the sort of religious robes that he puts on is just one of the many cons that he performs" Although the original based during the 1600's,

or in our school's production the 1950's- hypocrisy is still a constant theme in the modern world as well. Whether it be as simple as ordering a double cheese burger with 'Diet' Pepsi to the more serious topic of police brutality, hypocrisy surrounds our daily lives.

Julia Burke '18, who has the role of Elmire in the play, talked about how "When Tartuffe joins the family there is a line that he has 'Neither a shoe or shoestring to his name' because he enters this family as kind of a poor guy but then they see him elevated in class because of his religious association." In this line, Julia referred to Tartuffe's 'overly religious' persona which earned him respect and a higher status within the society. Julia also expands on why she thinks that some people, like Tartuffe, use hypocrisy stating that "I think people get greedy. Some people in power want more power or the people without is just want power by any means necessary."

Jose Pablo (JP) Payro '18, the student playing the role of Tartuffe, agreed with Julia about his character, saying "I feel like people who do use deceit in sadistic ways ... might be looking at things from a different perspective and using their own set of judgment or moral code to get something ... and that their moral code may not be as straight as those who don't." Additionally, when asked about the relevance of *Tartuffe* today he states that, "We do live in a society currently that is very divided in terms of especially its politics. I do believe that artifice, especially political artifice in recent times has affected many people

meaning that a lot of people will find it easy to relate to some of the aspects of *Tartuffe* and what it means to be deceitful." He mentions how "... there is a big part of *Tartuffe* in all of our lives ... hypocrisy has and will be around us throughout the years whether it be from like a white lie to figures of authority manipulating the ideas of mass amounts of people."

Nonetheless, regardless of the more serious theme of hypocrisy, *Tartuffe* is a great family comedy. Although we won't get a chance to see the original performance, the SSSAS drama crew is working very hard to create an interpretation that will be sure to entertain everyone. Madame Van Way, said this *Tartuffe*. The fall play is happening on November 3rd, 10th, and 11th. Be sure to buy your tickets and clear your schedules!



Pictured above (left to right): Julia Burke '18, Tessa Moore '18, Mary-Margaret Lemkhuler '19, Ben Johnson '18

The Voice Staff:

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Jamie McLucas '18 | (Editor) |
| Afua Nyantakyi '18 | (Editor) |
| Makeda Melkie '19 | (Staff Writer) |
| William Harrison Brown '20 | (Staff Writer) |
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