

The Drama Department presents...

# Shrek

## The Musical

Once upon a time...

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(COVER ART CREATED BY ISAAC SCAFE)

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Every quarter the Satoma Newsmagazine holds a creative writing and art contest for students who wish to have their work published. The works displayed are the winners of the contest for the 3rd quarter. Submissions were given numbers and voted on by the Satoma staff. Only after the winners were chosen were their names revealed to the staff in order to eliminate any bias.

## Ellipses

By: Elizabeth Short

I should like to know you  
when we are almost too young to know  
of harsh words  
where joyousness is unbridled  
and our laughs are as small as our fingers  
and toes.

I should like to know you  
When the wind is rushing and racing  
through your hair  
the sounds are louder, the sights are  
stranger, tastes more palatable  
in a kaleidoscope cacophony of  
thought and passion  
culminating with ended innocence.

I should like to know you  
when storms are raging into a squall  
on the sea  
lightning flashing and illuminating  
cracks in our skin  
clinging to rocks on shore whipped by  
winds  
but peace found in the eye of the  
storm.

I should like to know you  
when our bodies are worn and soft  
with experience  
scars and bruises all weathered out  
with care  
slowly spinning in half circles before  
the dawn  
warmth in sunsets our epitaphs.

I should think that you should like to  
know  
that the buds on our graves  
will grow into a flowerbed.



ARTWORK BY: MAIA LIM

**Thank you to all  
who submitted  
and we encourage  
you to keep  
writing and  
submit work for  
the next issue!**

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# And the award goes to...

## Grammys give this rapper a 'chance'

Award season is fast upon us, and this is the time when artists are recognized and commemorated for putting in the work. On February 12, 2017, James Corden hosted the 59th Annual Grammy Awards ceremony in the Staples Center in Los Angeles. Although 'queen bee' Beyonce slayed her performance whilst pregnant with twins and powerhouse Adele took home five awards, the real highlight was independent artist Chance the Rapper scoring three awards.

The twenty-three year old artist from Chi-town won best new artist, best rap performance for "No Problem", and best rap album for *Coloring Book* -- the latter a stunning feat considering he was up against the notori-

ous Kanye West's *The Life of Pablo*, Drake's *Views*, and DJ Khaled's *Major Key*. Chance's hip-hop mixtape, *Coloring Book*, is a rich fusion of gospel choir music with a sampling of soul, sick rhymes, and killer beats. The indie artist released his third album with no promotion whatsoever. Chance, surprisingly, has never sold actual copies of his music; he is not signed to any large record label. He drops his music online for free, and in his acceptance speech, said, "Shout out to SoundCloud for holding me down!" He makes his money from tours and merchandise, like his signature baseball caps with a number "3" emblazoned on them.

Lil Chano's victories are well deserved. This is an

artist who once bought back 2,000 tickets to one of his own shows so he could resell them to fans more reasonably. Genuinely humble and stunningly talented, Chance has really shown his true colors with his spectacular work.



CHANCE THE RAPPER ACCEPTS HIS GRAMMY. (PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES)

## Lion shows its 'roar' at the Oscars

This award season, one film that made a large impact on audiences was *Lion*. Based on the book *A Long Way Home* by Saroo Brierley, the movie tells the incredible true story of Brierley, who was separated from his family in Khandwa, India at the age of five. In 1986, Brierley was living on the streets with his family and followed his brother Guddu to the train station. The two were separated when Brierley wandered off to find his brother in the station, and ended up on a train. He was transported nearly a thousand miles away from his family and home, and ended up in Calcutta. He did not speak Bengali and had no support within the city. After surviving on the streets, he was taken into an orphanage. One year later, Saroo was adopted by an Australian family and given a new home. Later on, it is shown that Brierley

has built a life for himself in Melbourne, but distant memories of his original family linger like ghosts. He utilizes Google Earth to jog his memory of where his family lived and worked to survived. He and his adoptive mother, Sue, begin a once in a lifetime quest to find Saroo's birth family. He returns to India to discover painful truths and find a missing piece of his soul.

The film stars Dev Patel as Saroo Brierley, Nicole Kidman as Sue Brierley, and Sunny Pawar as young Saroo. Kidman's performance warms the heart as she portrays the ultimate love between a mother and her son. Sue Brierley loves her son, and Kidman expresses this with intensity in every moment of her performance. Patel, best known for his breakout performance in *Slumdog Millionaire*, is a true marvel in this film. As the audience

watches Saroo discover truth after truth, suffer the deepest of losses, and find himself in the most fulfilling way, they watch and feel every moment with him.

Patel manages to bring to life a character that viewers can't help but root for, as well as want to protect from harm. Perhaps the most compelling performance comes from young Sunny Pawar. Pawar, only eight years old, has stolen the hearts of movie patrons and celebrities alike. He breaks hearts with his performance as viewers watch such a young boy lose his entire world.

Winning multiple awards, *Lion* is a movie best watched with a box of tissues in close proximity. Viewers go through a rollercoaster of emotions but end with an incredible story about the love of family, undeniable history, and the triumph of the human spirit.



## Grammys, Oscars, and Golden Globes - Oh My!



THE CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM OF *MOONLIGHT* ARE FLOORED UPON RECEIVING THE UNEXPECTED NEWS OF THEIR OSCAR WIN. (ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES)

BY: ELIZABETH SHORT

Award season kicked off January 5th with the Golden Globes. Stars of both the big and small screen gathered together to celebrate this year's best films, television shows, and actors. Hosted by Jimmy Fallon, the night doled out award after award. *La La Land* stars Emma Stone and

Ryan Gosling took home the award for Best Actress and Best Actor in a musical or comedy, respectively. *La La Land* continued to snatch up awards, winning Best Original Score, Best Screenplay of a Motion Picture, Best Original Song, and Best Musical or Comedy Motion Picture. *Moonlight* took home the

Golden Globe for Best Drama Motion Picture. In the world of television, Netflix's *The Crown* won Best Drama TV Series, while *Atlanta* won Best Musical or Comedy TV Series, with actors from both shows also taking home Globes.

Next up was the Grammy Awards. Unsurprisingly, Adele and Beyoncé took home the most awards. Adele won a total of five Grammys, including Best Pop Vocal Album, Album of the Year, Best Pop Solo Performance, Record of the Year, and Song of the Year for her hit *Hello*. Beyoncé took home the awards for Best Music Video for *Formation* and Best Urban Contemporary Album for *Lemonade*. Music legend David Bowie, who passed away January 10th of last year, was posthumously awarded five Grammys in regards to his final album *Blackstar*. Chance the Rapper won best Rap Album for *Coloring Book* and was also named Best New Artist.

Lastly, the big one. The Oscars premiered February 26th, and need-

less to say, the winners were not all that everyone was talking about. Emma Stone once again won Best Actress, and Viola Davis, the only African American woman to be nominated three times, won her first Academy Award as Best Supporting Actress for *Fences*. Casey Affleck won Best Actor for *Manchester by the Sea*, and Mahershala Ali won Best Supporting Actor for *Moonlight*. *La La Land* and *Moonlight* once again swept the majority of the awards that night. The biggest upset, however, came with the final award of the night, the coveted Best Picture Award. *La La Land* was announced, to little surprise. Stars and home viewers alike were stunned when the *La La Land* creative team announced to the crowd of stars that there had been a mistake. Yes, an actual mistake at the Academy Awards. *Moonlight* had actually been awarded best picture. The creative team of the film approached the stage in awe to accept their award. This year's award season began, and ended, with an absolute bang.

## Ed Sheeran brings fans together with *Divide*

BY: SYDNEY CORIO

Back at it again with the addition of a new year and an end of a year-long hiatus, singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran released his third album *Divide* to the public on Friday, March 3rd. This record features two singles—"Shape of You" and "Castle on the Hill"—that hit the radio in late January and managed to win over the top two spots on the charts for seven weeks.

"Eraser" is the first track of the album. The song contains thoughts on Sheeran's own life and mindset through statements such as "I think money is the root of all evil." Other tracks, such as "What Do I Know?" feature lyrics based around the idea of uniting the world in a realization of the faults surrounding humanity. These songs in particular give insight on Sheeran's journey around the world that occurred during his hiatus for the entirety of the previous year.

In addition, and on a more story telling note, the album also displays two Irish songs, "Nancy Mulligan" and "Galway Girl," which the singer's record label tried to prevent from being on the record. Despite the conflicting opinions, the track hit

#1 in Ireland almost immediately.

Conquering the top of the charts just mere hours after its debut, *Divide* is a continuation of Sheeran's crafted love songs and raps with a new face in the genre of pop/rock. This high rating is nothing less than expected, as the artist's other albums had been just as successful: Sheeran's first record, *Plus*, also reached number one, while his second record, *Multiply*, was titled as the bestselling album of 2014 in both the United Kingdom and Australia. Sheeran will be going on a world tour this summer following the album's release.



ED SHEERAN RELEASES NEW ALBUM *DIVIDE* MARCH 3, 2017 TO IMMENSE PRAISE.

## J. Cole is 4 Your Eyez Only

BY: DUDLEY ENGRAM

J Cole's album *4 Your Eyez Only*, was released on December 9, 2016. The title of this album is influenced by the late rapper Tupac Shakur's 4th album titled *All Eyez On Me*. Cole's new album is a representation of the parallel lives between Cole and his best friend growing up. This album is the second of Cole's to be completed without any features. With the challenge of having no features, both albums reached platinum status within the first two weeks of their releases. This new album has had the third most weekly sales in 2016 following Drake's *Views* and Beyoncé's *Lemonade*. This is Cole's 4th time topping the Billboard 200 chart for best album.

Cole and his friend, James McMillan Jr., both grew up on the streets of Fayetteville, North Carolina, but one stayed on the streets while the other did not. Cole's friend McMillan was shot and killed at the age of 22. The introduction of the album, *For Whom The Bell Tolls*, touches on Cole's feelings of hopelessness and his contemplation of suicide. The song titled "Neighbors" is in first person, as if it is his friend,



J. COLE ADDS A UNIQUE SPIN TO TRADITIONAL HIP HOP IN *4 YOUR EYEZ ONLY*.

McMillan, rapping. The two also had daughters around the same time who are now nearly the same age, which comes into play in the two-part song, "She's Mine." It begins with Cole finding his first true love in part one, while part two is about the love for his daughter.

Some may recognize the tracks "Immortal," "Deja Vu," and "Neighbors" from the radio. Following the release of this album, J. Cole will be going on tour during the upcoming summer. *4 Your Eyez Only* has found much success with the love from Cole's fans and has reached platinum status.

# This is Us tugs at the heartstrings once more

BY: COLLEEN SHARLOW

Before watching NBC's new hit dramedy, *This Is Us*, having a box of tissues nearby is strongly recommended. *This Is Us* weaves between the lives of three siblings and their father who share the same birthday. Kate is a lonely woman who has been battling her weight issues her whole life. Her brother is handsome, yet insecure sitcom star Kevin. There's also Randall, a smart, successful, businessman. He learns that his biological father left him at the door of a fire station when he was a newborn, and is now homeless and a recovering addict. Rewind thirty six years and there's big-hearted Jack whose pregnant wife Rebecca goes into traumatic labor while giving birth to triplets, and sadly, they lose

one of the babies. Heartbroken by their tremendous loss, Jack has a sentimental and touching conversation with the doctor who delivered the babies. Jack learns that a baby was brought in from the fire station and is up for adoption, and he and Rebecca decide to make the baby a member of their family.

Kate, Kevin, and Randall, also known to Rebecca and Jack as "The Big Three," go through ups and downs in their lives. *This Is Us* shows the three in their current lives as thirty six year old adults, and also has flashbacks of Kate, Kevin, and Randall when they were younger, along with their extraordinary parents Jack and Rebecca.

*This Is Us* has been nominated as television's Number 1 show, and



THE PEARSON FAMILY STAYS CLOSE TOGETHER DESPITE FACING HARDSHIP AFTER HARDSHIP.

(ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES)

has quickly developed a loyal and immense fanbase. There are twists and turns in every episode, along with touching, sweet, sentimental moments as well. Sterling K Brown (Randall) said, "Hopefully when

people watch this show they can say 'Oh, this is us. This is who we are,'" *This Is Us* usually airs Tuesdays night at 9:00 on NBC, and will return for season two September 19, 2017.

# Unfortunate orphans receive fortunate ratings



THE BAUDELAIRE ORPHANS SUFFER MISFORTUNE AFTER MISFORTUNE WHEN THEY LOSE THEIR PARENTS AND HOME IN A MYSTERIOUS FIRE.

BY: PAMELA PICERNO

Netflix's new show, *A Series of Unfortunate Events*, proves that happy endings aren't always the most interesting. The show begins when three bright, young children, Violet,

Klaus, and their infant sister Sunny Baudelaire, lose their parents in a fire that destroys their whole home. Their well-meaning, but oblivious banker, Mr. Poe, takes them to live with their nearest relative, Count

Olaf, who has forged his way into their lives to get his hands on the fortune left behind by their parents.

After being forced to live in squalid conditions and clean up after Olaf and his acting troupe, the children are rescued from his grasp. Mr. Poe brings the children to live with relative after relative, but Count Olaf worms himself into every home the orphans go to, seamlessly fooling every "responsible adult" in his path. Olaf usually finds a way to dispose, in one way or another, of everyone who stands in his way. Luckily, each time, the children manage to escape from his grasp by using their unique skills: Violet is an inventor, Klaus, a literature expert, and Sunny has four very sharp teeth. With help from friends of their parents, they start to

put the pieces of their parents' death together.

The show has a dry humor that appears in subtitles for Sunny's baby talk or in Count Olaf's outlandish accents and disguises. Even Lemong Snicket, the fictional author of the book series the show is based on, pops in occasionally to deliver his commentary on events with his grim sense of humor. The main message of *A Series of Unfortunate Events* is that not everything ends happily. While this seems rather depressing for any show, especially for one with a large younger audience, a world where adults don't always have all the answers while kids save the day over and over again provides a uniquely optimistic ray of light for all viewers.

# M. Night Shyamalan leaves audiences *Split*

BY: ASHLEY D'SOUZA

Renowned director M. Night Shyamalan debuted his new movie *Split* on January 20, 2017. *Split* centers around three teenage girls who are kidnapped by a mysterious and terrifying man, Kevin. The man keeps these girls prisoner in a dreary room, but reveals nothing about his plans for them. As time goes by, the girls desperately plan and execute multiple escapes, making every attempt to get out of the locked room. Every time Kevin enters the room, he looks the same but takes on a different personality. The girls

then realize that the he suffers from a severe personality disorder and try to convince one of his identities to help them escape. Kevin has a total of twenty-three different identities and the film centers around a power struggle between his lead personality, Barry, and his more dysfunctional personalities. The film really is for two separate audiences, each with "split" opinions. One thing remains clear: M. Night Shyamalan knows how to please his loyal fanbase once again. There are a few moments that could have been trimmed off and it does feel very lengthy at times, but

shocking twists and intense revelations will definitely leave viewers

with looks of awe on their faces as the film comes to an end.



CASEY AND HER FRIENDS WAIT IN TERROR AFTER BEING KIDNAPPED BY A MAN DIAGNOSED WITH 23 DIFFERENT PERSONALITIES.



# Hoops for Heart

BY: SIMON LLAGUNO

The 9th Hoops for Heart basketball game took place on March 9th. In a classic exhibition game, current players on the boys and girls teams battled faculty and alumni.

The goal of the charity game was to raise money for the American Heart Association, an organization that works to combat heart disease. The BGA community worked together and raised \$5,700 for the cause.

The event wouldn't have been possible without the collective efforts of the school body. Chairpersons Noah Caruso, Stephanie Corea, and Julianne Kirbos worked with Sister Cynthia to organize the event. Phs. Ed. teacher Dennis O'Keefe was the announcer for the

game, while Athletic Director Mike Wolfthal was the scorekeeper.

At halftime, 55 people stepped up and attempted the half-court shot. Out of those 55, math Mark Fiore and junior Deontae Crawford were the only ones to make the shot. Sister Cynthia also gave a gift to alumni Jeremy Santos, whose son Matthew battles a heart disease. Raffle tickets were also sold to raise more funds for the event.

The game itself was compelling. Persistent defensive efforts from both teams prevented the score from running up to triple digits, as in last year's event. Even so, the game was a game of momentum and lead changes until the last buzzer. In the closing seconds, the students' team hit a three to put them above



COACH DARIUS GRIFFIN MAKES THE GAME-WINNING SHOT OVER THE OUTSTRETCHED ARM OF SENIOR KIERAN HODDER.

the faculty 53-50. However, Head Coach Darius Griffin responded. He hit a three over Kieran Hodder while getting fouled. He made the free throw, and the faculty won by

one point, 54-53.

Overall, the event was a tremendous success. Thanks to all who participated in the game and to those who came out to support the event.

# FREEZIN' FOR A REASON



STUDENTS BRAVE THE COLD TO RAISE \$4,221.49 FOR BGA, WITH \$2,036.36 GOING TOWARDS BGA SPORTS AND CLUBS.

BY: JULIA KEBULADZE

The 11th annual AOH Polar Plunge took place on Sunday, January 8, 2017, at Rooney's in Long Branch, New Jersey. To support BGA, many of the students, teachers, alumni and supporters took the plunge into the icy ocean waters.

All throughout December many students made donations to the event, as well as bought the Polar Plunge T-shirts sold at school. Students went around school with their donation sheets and had no trouble finding support from fellow students. Participants also collected from family members and alumni who love giving back to the BGA community. The support shown

for Catholic education was remarkable; it truly showed Ahr spirit! Several teams and clubs also set a fundraising goal to show support for the event including boys basketball, football, girls volleyball, the student council, cheerleading, drama club, band, and art club pledged their participation to the event. Thanks for showing your support!

An enormous amount of people arrived at the beach around 1:00 pm to see this year's theme, Elvis Presley's Birthday. Once the caution tape was down, the crowd ran through the snow covered sand into the freezing cold water. While their bodies were cold, their hearts were



ERIN SAGGESE AND SKYLER CARUSO COVER THE EVENT FOR THEIR VIDEO PRODUCTION CLASS. (ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF BGA PUBLICATIONS)

warm with the thought that they were doing this for their school. "I'm part of the drama department," said freshman Anna Hoegler, "and it felt great knowing that my contribution was going to help out the school and drama department I am a part of."

The Video Production class even came to show their support for the event. They interviewed participants to spread the news of the event's success to the rest of the BGA community. They also got some great footage of students plunging into the water!

The coordinators of the Polar Plunge were math teacher Jan

Merski, English teacher Amy Kate Byrne, and parent Mrs. Ammiano. Together, they made the whole event run smoothly. "Even though it was very cold, all of the students and faculty who came to the event embraced the spirit of the day and jumped right in!" said Byrne.

Students, parents, teachers, alumni and supporters made donations big and small, but they all made a difference. In total \$4,221.49 was raised in support of Catholic education. \$2,036.36 went specifically to BGA sports and clubs, but all donations will help Bishop Ahr retain its amazing spiritual and educational qualities for many years to come.

# TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

## Catholic schools week

BY: GIRLEY OYOLA

Catholic Schools Week started off with an annual Mass. The liturgy was dedicated to the Feast of St. John Bosco, priest and patron of schools.

The Mass was led by Father Keith and Deacon Rich. It began with senior students entering the ceremony holding candles and placing them on wall holders. The gathering song was “Malo! Malo! Thanks be to God!” sang by religion teacher T.J. Reilly and history teacher Patrick Gaston.

Father Keith’s empowering homily started with a story about Mr. Griffin and his father’s basketball coaching careers; he also focused attention on the importance of catholic schools because they provide a better education and lead to a successful, moral life.

The petitions were read by several students and faculty in different languages including Spanish,

Italian, and Polish, to symbolize diversity not only in our school but in the church as well.

When the Mass ended, Sister Donna presented the teachers who have dedicated a significant amount of time and effort to Bishop Ahr. Those recognized were physics teacher Liz Savner-Daadio and English teacher Al Morhmann. After, service awards were presented by Religion Department Chair Sue Williamson to students who have given up their own time and achieved a great number of service hours. The freshmen awarded were Jaleena Findley, Bethany Ciccarelli, and Amanda Markert. The sophomores were Gabriella Jakielaszek, Gina Santorella, and Trisha Ponik. Juniors Joo Eun Lim, Jude Roche, and Ethan Lim, and seniors Gabriela Abreu, Tara Genovese, and Krystyna Ebert also received the award. These students have worked hard to serve and live out the Beatitudes.

## Teacher Swap

BY: MADISON SQUERI

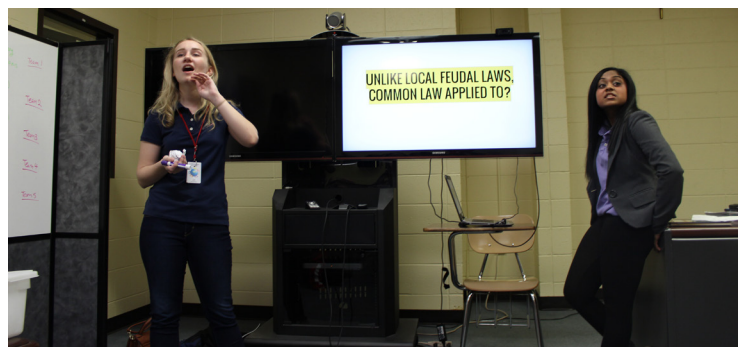
On February 2, 2017, senior students had the privilege of trading places with their favorite teachers for the day. In celebration of Catholic school education, students taught other students through fun-filled lessons and activities.

Not only was this an interesting day for the students, but for the teachers as well. Senior participants went to the extreme: dressing up as and impersonating their favorite teachers! Various teachers’ signature looks were stolen, from suits and dresses, to wigs and even mugs. Even Sister Cindy relinquished her position for a day, but her scooter

still made an appearance!

Underclassmen were amazed to see the effort senior students had put into becoming their “substitute” teachers, and laughs were shared all around. Classroom activities varied, including Kahoot review games and continuation of regular lessons.

It’s not easy being a teacher, but seniors did a great job keeping their students intrigued throughout the class period. “Teacher swapping gave me a whole new appreciation for my teachers,” said senior Elizabeth Short. Senior students are definitely worthy of a pat on the back for their hard work, as are teachers for their dedication every day.



SENIORS ELIZABETH SHORT AND SAI ANBUMANI TEACH A HISTORY LESSON IN PLACE OF MR. JOHN ROCHE.



FRESHMAN JOSHUA ARNAULT AIMS TO TAKE DOWN A STACK OF CUPS WITH A RUBBER BAND IN “MINUTE TO WIN IT.” (ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF BGA PUBLICATIONS)

BY: MEGAN LIM

The Bishop Ahr community perfectly ended Catholic Schools Week on February 3rd with the annual Tournament of Champions. A day dedicated to friendly competition, Tournament of Champions consisted of a series of games and activities for willing students of each grade. As each person would partake in a certain activity, their performance was awarded a certain amount of points. Following this system, the grade level with the most points at the end of the day was rewarded with the satisfaction of being called winners.

Considerably the most exciting part of the day was seeing the many creative, eye-catching costumes among the school. Everyone was allowed the freedom to wear whatever they wished for the day, so long as it coincided with the corresponding colors to better distinguish between different grade levels –freshmen were required to wear yellow, sophomores red, juniors green, and seniors blue.

Enthusied and eager to show support for their peers competing in the games, many students went all-out in their attire. The costumes ranged from bananas and power rangers to superheroes and tooth fairies. Not only did the students take advantage of being able to wear what they liked, but the faculty did, as well. A few of the teachers dressed as well-known characters, including Winnie Mouse and Elsa from Frozen.

In “Minute to Win It,” located in the little theater, students attempted to complete various challenging tasks within the span of one minute. The selected participants readily rose to the challenges on the spot, carrying out demands such as catching a ping-pong ball with stacked cups, shooting cups down with a rubber band, and stacking items with the use of only chopsticks. Regardless of whether or not the participant seemed to be winning the challenge, the students in the audience remained zealous as they awaited the outcome. Their attitude remained the same for “Family Feud,” which took place in the Catanzaro Gym, as opposing teams took turns naming the most common associations with a particular category.

Then followed a series of more hands-on activities in the main gym, in which the different grade levels were able to compete face to face – the freshmen versus the sophomores and the juniors versus the seniors. The games included scooter racing, flag tag, basketball, tug of war, and volleyball. It was in this part of the Tournament that all students were the most involved, whether it was on the court or cheering for their peers from the bleachers.

The senior class won the tournament, followed by the sophomores, juniors, and freshmen. However, regardless of the outcome, the real victory was the BGA community coming together to end Catholic Schools Week on a fun note.



# SPRING INTO THE

## April 14: National Reach as High as You Can Day



A HAND REACHES OUT TO THE SKY.

BY: KRISTEL DOMINGO

Someone out there has had a wonderfully magnificent goal in this world. Reach for the stars on April 14th for “National Reach as High as You Can Day.” On this day, people can physically jump as high as they can, or figuratively reach for their dreams and goals. It is about people pushing themselves and going after the things of which they dream.

There are a myriad of ways to reach high. It could be aiming for better grades, setting a new personal record in sports, or simply going out of one’s comfort zone. Maybe it is starting that huge project, or doing something people never thought they could do. It is important to remember that failure is a part of the journey, and progress is progress no matter what. As a result, one will

have less of a hard time pursuing new challenges and pushing boundaries.

Many celebrities, past and present, have celebrated this holiday. British girl group Little Mix tweeted in 2015, “Today is National Reach As High As You Can Day so get out there Mixers and show ‘em what yer made of!” As Audrey Hepburn once said, “Nothing is impossible. The word itself says, ‘I’m possible!’”

## April 23: National Talk Like Shakespeare Day



PLAYWRIGHT WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE SITS DEEP IN THOUGHT. (ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES)

BY: ELIZABETH SHORT

William Shakespeare, arguably one of the greatest artists of all time, died four hundred and one years ago on April 23, 1616. To commemorate him, April 23rd has been dubbed National Talk Like Shakespeare Day. For those interested in participating, here are some quick tips provided by the Chicago Shakespeare Theater. Don’t be afraid of throwing a few rhyming couplets around, and speaking in verse is the best way to impress your friends. Replace “you” with “thee” or “thou,” change “it is” to “’tis,” and add “eth” to the ends of verbs. Also, feel free to address men as “sirrah,” ladies as “mistress,” and friends as “cousin.” While adding

interesting endings to words may seem like enough to make you seem like you just stepped out of Elizabethan times, there’s more to thank Shakespeare for than a few funny words. Without him, there wouldn’t be phrases like “waiting with bated breath,” “brave new world,” “dead as a doornail,” “for goodness’ sake,” “laughing stock,” and “heart of gold.” Know someone named Jessica or Miranda? Ever tell a knock-knock joke? Thank Shakespeare. In addition to countless plays, he contributed greatly to the English language as a whole. This April 23rd, take a few moments to “break the ice” with friends and pay homage to the man who made it all possible.

## April 30: National Honesty Day

BY: SIMON LLAGUNO

Though April starts with a day of deception, lying, and pranks, it culminates with a holiday that commemorates the virtue of honesty. Hirsh Goldberg created this day for this very reason. He was the author of five books. One of his publications, *The Book of Lies*, would later be translated into different languages for the rest of the world to read. Soon after writing the book, Goldberg created the holiday to encourage people to end the month with a sense of morality. He also

wanted to promote political honesty, designating the holiday on the day of George Washington’s first inauguration in 1789. Though there are no presidential proclamations for this day, it is still recognized as an official national holiday.

In the spirit of its name, National Honesty Day advocates honesty in all forms of relations and communications. It began as a campaign to denounce political deception and remember past government conspiracies, such as Watergate. Goldberg sought to foster the value of truth

in present-day politicians. In fact, he recognized companies, organizations, and individuals that remained truthful to their consumers with awards. Nonetheless, this holiday presents a challenge to all. Telling the truth isn’t always easy. Keeping secrets and failing to be honest in all relations can be detrimental. In some cases, the truth can hurt those people care about. In others, it can cost people their jobs. However, on this day, people are called to be honest and truthful to others, regardless of the consequence.



PINOCCHIO'S NOSE GROWS WHEN HE IS DISHONEST.



# SE UNIQUE HOLIDAYS

## May 6: International No Diet Day

BY: COLLEEN SHARLOW

In May of 1992, Mary Evans Young created International No Diet Day. She was dedicated to working towards helping people appreciate themselves and to love and accept their bodies. She developed her understanding of this after she was bullied as a teenager for being overweight. In her book, *Diet Breaking: Having It All Without Having to Diet*, she expresses how tired she is of hearing women debate about whether or not they should have a piece of cake at a party in fear of

ruining their diets. No Diet Day originated in the UK, but Young decided to make her holiday an international one.

May 6th, International No Diet Day, is an annual celebration of body acceptance and size diversity. It is also a day of promoting a healthy lifestyle and focuses on the health of your body at any size. International No Diet Day raises awareness in the potential dangers of dieting, and promotes the idea that you do not have to go on a diet in order to be happy and feel good about yourself.



FORGET DIETS WHEN A BIG, JUICY BURGER IS HERE. (ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES)

## May 6: National Free Comic Book Day

BY: ISAAC SCAFE

Superhero movies have been the rage as of recently. With releases like *Justice League*, *Guardians of the Galaxy Part 2*, and eventually *Avengers: Infinity War* generating masses of excitement, theaters will be packed with excited fans. Despite most of the hype surrounding superhero movies, most moviegoers probably don't know much about the characters besides what they see on the screens. Enter Free Comic Book Day, which occurs on the first Saturday of May, a holiday in which participating stores all across the globe give out, as the name says, free comic books.

In 2001, Joe Field, owner of Flying Colors Comics & Other Cool Stuff, introduced Free Comic Book Day while writing for a monthly magazine. While struggling to make deadlines during the spring, Field came upon the idea when he saw the Baskin Robbins right outside of his store's window. In an interview conducted by qualitylogoproducts.com, the shop owner was inspired by the ice cream store's "Free Scoop Night," which generated a long line into Baskin Robbins. Field submitted and shared his idea, which received tons of positive support from all areas of the comic book business.

The holiday was proposed with

three main goals. It intended to invite new customers who originally didn't have much knowledge about comics. Hopefully, with the comics, people would discover characters that'll draw them back to read even more. It also targeted former readers who may not have had the time to enjoy reading their favorite titles. Most important to most shopkeepers is rewarding loyal customers for continuing their years of interest with a free comic to further their collections.

Free Comic Book Day has been going on 15 years strong with no signs of slowing down. With a strong backing from loyal supporters and new readers popping up

every day, the holiday has brought new life to the comic book industry.



AN ARRAY OF COMICS BOOKS ARE FEATURED.

## May 29: Put a Pillow on Your Fridge Day

BY: SYDNEY CORIO

The origins of this strange holiday trace back to the superstitions of families' in the 1900's, who believed that good fortune and prosperity could be achieved by performing such an absurd task as placing a pillow atop their fridge. However, and in the twentieth

century, the concepts of pillows and refrigerators were entirely unknown. Instead of refrigerators, the individuals had larders, and as opposed to pillows, they possessed small, ripped segments of an article of clothing or a cloth. This ripped piece would then be placed inside or on top of the larder for purposes of bringing plentiful food and rich

fertility to their household.

As time went on, the larder eventually died out, and the production of the refrigerator took its place. But this did not mean the end of the tradition—it simply meant a new beginning in which the holiday evolved to be more modern in inventing Put Your Pillow on a Fridge Day!



A PILLOW ON TOP OF A FRIDGE COULD BRING GOOD LUCK.



## Kisses from Kylie

By Jillian Ramirez

The *Kylie Lip Kit* launched by *Kylie Jenner Cosmetics* first came out in 2016, but it has been brought into the spotlight once again following the opening of a second pop-up-shop in New York City. Fanatics started lining up 2 days prior to the pop-up's opening on February 13th to ensure they'd be the first of only 1,500 people allowed into the store that day. Many items featured on her website have been sold out for months, so this was the perfect opportunity for Kylie makeup enthusiasts to stock up.

The company that manufactures *Kylie Cosmetics*, *Seed Beauty*, claims that they run the factory 24/7 in order to meet demand. Even with the factories running full time, the need for Kylie's makeup products is still greater than the amount being made. The "rainbow wall of lip kits," which was revealed at Kylie's first pop-up, made another appearance in NYC. It consists of all of Kylie's original lipstick colors, ranging from shades of nude and pink, to bolder

shades of green and black. Each lip kit holds a pair of matte liquid lipstick and lip liner, sold at \$29. It comes into question whether or not *Kylie Cosmetics* is actually better than other brand names. The company's success revolves around Kylie as a beauty icon rather than the products themselves. Qualities such as texture, longevity, color, and pigment pay-off don't seem to matter much to customers. Even an initial "F" rating from the *Better Business Bureau* didn't impact sales. No matter the reason, *Kylie Jenner Cosmetics* is a booming business thanks to American teenagers who crave her image.



|| FOUR OF KYLIE'S NEWLY RELEASED SHADES

## What's Trending Now

#theoscars

#MarchMadness

#WinterStormStella

#BeautyandtheBeast

#hurtbae

#saltbae

## UConn Women's Basketball sets new record

By: Madison Squeri

The UConn Huskies have been known for being anything but average, especially since three of their players were drafted into the WNBA in 2016. Forward Morgan Tuck was going to the Connecticut Sun, guard Moriah Jefferson was going to the San Antonio Stars, and forward Breanna Stewart was going to the Seattle Storm. In fact, UConn became the first school ever to have three of their players selected as the top three picks in the WNBA draft, Stewart as the first, Jefferson second, and Tuck third. But on Saturday February 18<sup>th</sup>, the Huskies made history yet again. The UConn Huskies have not been defeated since November 17, 2014 in a double overtime loss to the University of Stanford. They were seeking win number 101, which would be yet another win to add on to their 25-0 record for the 2016-2017 season.

The game was against the Tulane Green Wave, who were 16-10 going into the game. The game proved to be a nail-biter, but in the end, the

UConn Huskies came out on top. This was not an easy victory for the Huskies however.

In fact, that game was the second-smallest margin of victory to date, with a difference of only 3 points, the final score being only 63-60. This, to some people, is an unbelievable margin, due to the fact that the Huskies had beaten the Green Wave by a whopping 44 points a month prior to this game. A possible reason for this small margin was that guard Kia Nurse was sidelined for this game due to an ankle injury. Because of this, the Huskies struggled immensely from the field, finishing 6-for-20 on three-point attempts and shooting only 38% from the field. UConn also committed 18 turnovers and scored only 28 points in the first half, a season-low for them.

Aside from their missteps, the UConn Huskies did come out on top and won their 101<sup>st</sup> game, the longest winning streak of any women's college basketball team to date, and made it one for the record books.



|| THE UCONN'S WOMEN BASKETBALL TEAM CELEBRATE WINNING THEIR 101ST GAME (PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES)



# Musical makes theater goers into 'believers'

BY: COLLEEN SHARLOW

This weekend the drama department is bringing the unconventional fairytale of *Shrek – The Musical* to life on the Little Theater stage. The plot closely follows that of the original movie but with the addition of some zany, energetic, and surprisingly poignant songs. The show opens with a glimpse into Shrek's past before he bursts onto the stage in typical Shrek fashion. Senior Rafael Parsacala tackles the title role, completely immersing himself, and consequently his audience, in the fantastical world. As Shrek finishes singing his opening song, "Big Bright Beautiful World," he exits just before the fairytale creatures, who have been evicted from the kingdom of Duloc, enter. They sing, "Story Of My Life," to vent their frustration at always being treated poorly just because they are 'different.' When Shrek re-enters to find his swamp overrun by this motley crew he tries to frighten them off. However, they manage to convince him to help them get their homes back so that he can live in peace again. They send him off on his journey with the "Goodbye Song" as they take over his home.

Shrek begins his journey and runs into his unforgettable sidekick – Donkey. Played by senior Alexa Karp, Donkey is unabashedly himself and pesters Shrek to allow him to tag along in, "Don't Let Me Go." Karp said of the role, "the best part is getting to say all of the iconic lines from the movie

but, at the same time, being able to put my own spin on them and the character." Shrek reluctantly allows Donkey to join him, and the two set off to find Duloc and its tyrannical leader. The scene transitions to a dungeon in Duloc where the audience meets the Napoleonic villain, Lord Farquaad (junior John Obolsky), as he tortures the Gingerbread Man for information about a princess. When 'Gingy' reluctantly submits and tells him about a princess in a Dragon guarded castle, Farquaad decides to send someone else to rescue the fair maiden from the Dragon's fiery clutches. Farquaad's big production number follows as he and his sycophantic citizens explain how wonderful "Duloc" is. When Shrek interrupts the festivities, Farquaad realizes he is the person who could rescue the princess. So, he makes a bargain with Shrek. If Shrek rescues the princess then he can have the deed to his swamp and all the fairytale creatures will be removed.

While Shrek and Donkey embark on their new quest, the audience has the chance to meet the princess the two are meant to rescue. "I Know It's Today" allows the audience to see a time lapse of Young Fiona (senior Brittany Bernath), Teen Fiona (freshman Carolyn Foley), and Fiona (junior Abigail Lancia) as she spends day after day and year after year trapped in a tower. "It's so incredible to bring such a classic movie, and such memorable characters that so many people love, to life



LORD FARQUAAD SITS HIGH ON HIS HORSE WHILE HIS MEN STAND AROUND HIM

on the stage" Lancia said about the show. She lets the audience in to see Fiona's quirky sense of humor and atypical princess behavior.

Before Shrek and Donkey can rescue Fiona, they must face the Dragon who holds her captive. Voiced by senior Olivia Menture, the Dragon sings, "Forever," when she finds Donkey wandering through her keep, letting him know that he is never going to leave her. While Donkey distracts the Dragon, Shrek surprises Fiona and, much to her chagrin, drags her from the tower when he hears Donkey's frantic pleas for help. Shrek battles the Dragon while Donkey cheers him on and Fiona sings, "This Is How A Dream Comes True." Seniors Ricky Peguero, Justin Martinez, and Zachary Pandorf puppeteer the twenty foot long Dragon alongside Math teacher Kevin McCarthy or English teacher Amy Kate Byrne (alternating performances).

Once the Dragon is trapped inside the keep, the three heroes finally have a chance to truly meet one another. Fiona is confused and upset to find out that Shrek is not the handsome prince of her dreams but an ogre. Shortly after, the audience learns about the curse that transforms Fiona into an ogre herself every night. Act one ends when the three characters dream about the life they would live if they could have their choice in, "Who I'd Be." The bittersweet but uplifting ballad is a perfect build that leaves the audience eagerly anticipating act two.

Act two begins with Fiona embracing her newfound freedom in, "Morning Person." She meets the pied piper and takes a mo-

ment to whip his rats into shape with a rousing tap number. Shrek and Donkey come in at the end of the number, slightly disturbed by the dancing rodents, and the three continue on their journey. On the way Shrek and Fiona argue about which of them had a rougher life in, "I Think I Got You Beat." However, by the end of the song they begin to realize that they have a lot more in common than they had previously thought. As the act progresses, the two begin to fall in love but Fiona's curse, a misunderstanding, and Lord Farquaad stand between them and their happily ever after.

The show contains beautiful messages about embracing who you are and not allowing anyone or anything else determine what your story should be. Many of the students in the show are seniors and have been a part of the department since their freshmen year and they are torn about their last show. "It's bittersweet, because it's the perfect show to end our time in the drama department, but we're sad to leave it all behind," said Bernath and senior Kelcie Haver.

*Shrek - The Musical* is a tremendous undertaking. When asked about the most challenging aspect of the show, drama director Lea Gossett said, "There are so many moving pieces – the costumes, the make-up, the sets, the lighting, the music - that it can be overwhelming at times. But everyone pulls together to make it possible."

Showtimes are 8:00pm on March 24th, 25th, 31st and April 1st and 3pm on March 26th & April 2nd  
Adult tickets are \$15.00 and student tickets are \$10.00



LEFT: THE DRAGON PEERS DOWN AT LORD FARQUAAD AND SHREK THROUGH THE CATHEDRAL WINDOW

RIGHT: JORDAN GOINS AND TRISHA PONIK ARE TWO OF THE THREE LITTLE PIGS (ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF NANCY THIELMANN)



# New Face, New Ideas

BY: MARY PUCCI

At noon on Friday, January 20, Donald Trump was sworn in as the 45th President of the United States. With over 30.6 million people watching, Trump raised his right hand and vowed to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States. With Melania Trump at his side, Trump faced the nation that elected him as President.

With a divided nation and all eyes on him, President Trump gave his sixteen-minute inaugural address. His theme was the same as the central theme of his campaign, "Make America Great Again." President Trump promised to put America first. His plan for furthering the country outlined how America would be the main priority. He also spoke of placing the government power in the hands of the people. He spoke of a unified nation, looking forward to a government led by the people.

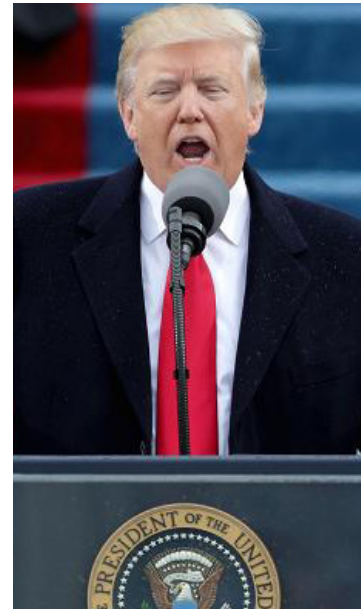
For the celebrations, not many A-list celebrities were to be seen. The inauguration planner, Tom



THE INCOMING FIRST FAMILY MEETS WITH FORMER THE PRESIDENT AND FIRST LADY BEFORE THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY.

Barrack, gave his explanation for this. He stated, "instead of trying to surround him with what people consider A-listers... It's a much more poetic cadence than having a circus-like celebration that's a coronation. That's the way this president-elect wanted it. I think it will be contributive. It will be beautiful. The

cadence of it is going to be, 'Let me get back to work.'" Barrack also stated that Trump is now the president of the people. He claimed that his campaign is over and that he must get in to build bridges and heal wounds. Despite the pushback, President Trump seemed confident and undeterred.



RECENTLY SWORN IN, PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP DELIVERS HIS INAUGURATION SPEECH TO HIS LOYAL SUPPORTERS. (PHOTOS COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES)

## Rifting Against Time

BY: ISAAC SCAFE

Towards the start of the new year, scientists realized that one of the largest icebergs ever recorded will break off from the Antarctic soon. Growing since mid-December, the Larsen C iceberg, which is about the same size of Delaware, has been separating itself from Antarctica at an alarming pace. Since the start of the year, the gap between the iceberg and ice sheet has grown

by 18 kilometers or about 11 miles. Scientists have forecasted that the iceberg could break off in the next couple of months.

The iceberg, which is attached to the Larsen C ice sheet (twice the size of Hawaii), is about 5,000 square kilometers and makes up 10% of the ice sheet. The rift itself is about 70 miles long, 300 feet wide with only 20 kilometers left until it drifts off to the sea. The resulting iceberg caused by the rift would leave the largest in recorded history.

While the Larsen C iceberg is a large mass, it won't necessarily cause an increase in the sea level. The iceberg acts like a barrier that would leave the ice shelf vulnerable, making it susceptible to more breakage. This could cause the rest of the Larsen C ice sheet to flow into the sea. The separation of the iceberg could potentially cause a 3.9-inch rise in the sea levels. While there is a chance for the Larsen C ice sheet to reform, scientists think that it won't grow back to its original size.



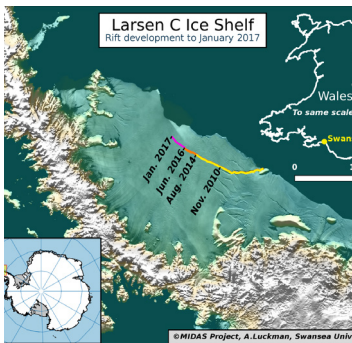
THE LARSEN C ICEBERG IS ABOUT A THIRD OF A MILE DEEP. (PHOTOS COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES)

Similar events have happened with the Larsen A and B ice shelves in 1995 and 2002 respectively when both collapsed, leading to accelerated rates in ice breakage.

A leading common cause often linked to the rift is global warming. There is a fear that the rising sea levels could put thousands of coastal cities at risk. At the same time, other scientists have linked the rift with just a normal process.

Despite the Larsen C iceberg forming since August, there is still

a lot of uncertainty shadowing it. Theoretically, the rift could cause a rise in the sea level, yet there is no promise of that happening. Sure, there is a possibility that the rise in temperature is the reason behind the ice sheet breaking, but there isn't enough evidence to confirm it. Scientist can't even guess when the iceberg might break off, which could be any time from a couple of days to years. For now, the world must wait and see how drastic the results will be when it does.



FORMING SINCE 2010, THERE IS ONLY A SMALL GAP BEFORE THE ICEBERG BREAKS OFF.



# SPORTS *Spotlight*

**Name:** Erik Gonzalez

**Nickname(s):** E Gonz

**Grade:** 12

**Sport:** Bowling

**Pre-game rituals or good luck items?** Chilling with Dudley before a match

**Pump up song?** *90210* by Travis Scott



**Name:** Sophia Nogales

**Nickname(s):** Soph, Sophie

**Grade:** 12

**Sport:** Swimming

**Pre-game rituals or good luck items?** Listening to music

**Pump up song?** *2 a.m.* by Adrian Marcel



**Name:** Renee Viviano

**Nickname(s):** Rvivs

**Grade:** 12

**Sport:** Cheerleading

**Pre-game rituals or good luck items?** Team prayers, same Dunkin order before every competition

**Pump up song(s)?** *All I Do is Win* by DJ Khaled, *Hall of Fame* by the Script



**Name:** Michael DeSantis

**Nickname(s):** Mike

**Grade:** 12

**Sport:** Wrestling

**Pre-game rituals or good luck items?** Drinking a lemon-lime Gatorade and wearing my St. Christopher necklace

**Pump up song?** Tonz's practice playlist



**Name:** Austin Brooks

**Nickname(s):** AB

**Grade:** 12

**Sport:** Baseball

**Pre-game rituals or good luck items?** Drink a fruit punch Gatorade

**Pump up song?** *Lord Knows* by Meek Mill



**Name:** Marcus Adeniyi

**Nickname(s):** Darkus, Midnight

**Grade:** 12

**Sport:** Wrestling

**Pre-game rituals or good luck items?** Drink a green apple Gatorade

**Pump up song?** *Black Friday* by Kendrick Lamar



**Name:** Joseph Mollica

**Nickname(s):** Joe

**Grade:** 12

**Sport:** Lacrosse

**Pre-game rituals or good luck items?** Properly stretch before a game and envision myself making saves

**Pump up song?** *Fuel* by Metallica



**Name:** Lauren Diehm

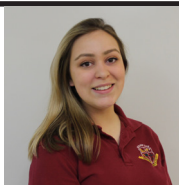
**Nickname(s):** Laur

**Grade:** 12

**Sport:** Lacrosse

**Pre-game rituals or good luck items?** Claddagh Ring

**Pump up song(s)?** *New Americana* by Halsey, *Energy* by Drake



If you are interested  
in being a part of

## Sports Spotlight

for the 4th edition  
email Ms. Amy Kate Byrne  
@ [abyrne@bgahs.org](mailto:abyrne@bgahs.org).

# 'Ahr' boys bounce back

BY: PHILIP MEZZACAPPA

One of the current health/gym teachers, Darius Griffin, is the new head coach for the varsity basketball team. He took charge in training the team and molded them into exceptional players. Although he learned that there was much more to it than expected, he felt good calling the shots for a team he used to play for. Some of the players include seniors Sean Kudelka, Alex Guketlov, Sean Legall-Fleming, Kieran Hodder, and Charles Hinton. Griffin needed boys who could lead the team on and off the court. That's where Kudelka and Junior Alex Santiago have served admirably. With Griffin's coaching skills, Kudelka's vocal guidance, and Santiago's tremendous abilities on the court, these guys became the dynamic trio of the varsity team. The first conference game was a slam-dunk as they beat South River 74-35.

But their victory was short-lived as they encountered obstacles. The

boys struggled a bit, going on a brief losing streak. Halfway through the season, they also lost the likes of Junior guard Simon Llaguno. Nevertheless, they bounced back triumphantly winning seven conference games beating South Plainfield 54-52, Metuchen 66-52, Middlesex 55-42, South River (again) 77-27, Kennedy Memorial 60-34, Spotswood 79-51, and Carteret 70-54. Then their winning streak was snapped by South Plainfield.

Luckily this loss didn't want to make them take a permanent seat on the bench for long. Instead, they rebounded back into the final two games, convincingly winning against Metuchen 75-45 and Middlesex 62-44 and then losing their last conference game to Old Bridge 63-48. Although they did lose their last conference game to Old Bridge 63-48 and lost the state playoffs to Union Catholic, students definitely respect them for

their laborious work and entertaining season. Juniors Alex Santiago and Deontae Crawford undoubtedly helped the team by scoring the most points. Crawford led with 131 rebounds, 23 assists, and totaled with 388 points. Santiago got 36 rebounds, 31 assists, and only two points lower than Crawford with a total of 385. Kudelka aided the team with a season total of 84 rebounds, 36 assists, and 186 points total. Hodder also supported the team with 47 rebounds, 14 assists, and 162 points total. The varsity team has a record of 9-3 in the Blue Division conference and an overall record of 14-12.

Now that the season has ended Griffin is looking forward to future accomplishments. When asked about the ending of the season, Griffin explained: "It could have ended better but it set us on the right track for the future."



ALEX SANTIAGO GOES UP FOR A FINGER-ROLL.

## Back 2 back champs

BY: ALEXIS SWANSON

From cheering the boys' basketball team on the sidelines to showing off their skills on the mats, this varsity cheer team gave it their all. The team took on multiple competitions as a varsity small all music team with a military themed routine. They competed all around New Jersey and even competed at Nationals in South Carolina. Few people had an idea of what to expect from this newly structured and coached varsity cheer team.

New coaches, Jordyn Mueller and Chelsea Mueller, began coaching the varsity all music team this year and led the team along with captains and seniors Julia Fedor and Danielle Freund. The team's first completion on January 22nd gave a hopeful look for what was to come with first place, grand champs, and the creative choreography award. They also went all out and received first place at Woodbridge and Howell competitions. At states on March 5th, the lady Trojans came out on top as state champs for the second year in a row. When the girls competed at states on March 11th

and received first place nationally. The season had much success with multiple wins and a national title.



VARSITY CHEERLEADERS TOSS UP BIANCA BACCHIONE. (ALL IMAGES COURTESY OF BGA PUBLICATIONS)

## Trojan's final splash



NOAH CARUSO LEADS THE RACE TREDDING THE WATERS.

BY: MAIA LIM

Both trojan swim teams have had an outstanding season this year. With head coach Amanda Miller-Cleveland, and assistant coaches Christopher Lewandowski and David Arva, the girls and boys pulled out with close wins and new records. These talented individuals dove head on into the term with persistent practice and hard work throughout their season.

First, the girls started with a win against Mother Seton; the team continued through the season to the GMC's where the girls finished fourth overall. The senior captains were Skyler Caruso, Emily Louie, and Sophia Nogales. Both Louie and sophomore, Sarah Hardy quali-

fied for the Meet of Champions. This year, Hardy not only qualified for Meet of Champions but also set another notable record for her 200 IM. The boys' team had a successful season despite only being composed of nine swimmers. Their team was headed by captains and seniors Noah Caruso, Kyle Printon, and Duncan Merriman-Mendez. Placing seventh overall in GMC's, the team had excellent individual events and relays. Senior, Printon, qualified for the Meet of Champions. The boys' team also qualified for States for the first time in BGA swim history. The accomplishments made by the swim team exceeded expectations, ending with a season of encouragement, support, and exceptional meets.



# Running through the cold

BY: CHRISTINE HOUGHTON

The runners and throwers of winter track brave the cold temperatures that come with the season. From late November through February, these athletes run, throw and sweat their way through workouts to be able to compete against some of the best high school athletes in the state. The seniors leading this team were Sean Booc, Fernando Sullivan, Nina Acosta, Justin Martinez and Brianna Hincapie. Meets during the winter season take place indoors so long trips into south Jersey and out of state are common for the team. The fact that the team is very hard working was confirmed by head coach Ron Hush when he said, "All runners ran well, but not all medaled." One of the most outstanding achievements of a winter track

athlete was made by Gabi Stankosh when she won the indoor 1600 meter race for the second year in a row.



JUSTIN MARTINEZ LAUNCHES THE SHOTPUT.

# Coming down on the mats



GIUSEPPE CAPASSO SIZES UP HIS OPPONENT. (ALL IMAGES COURTESY OF BGA PUBLICATIONS)

BY: ISAAC SCAFE

Throughout the winter season, the wrestling team hit the mats, putting in strong performances leading to an undefeated division season and 12-14 record overall. The team beat Middlesex, who went 26-4 during the season, to win the Blue GMC Division. The division champions, led by seniors Seth Acosta, Marcus Adeniyi, Andrew Brazicki, Giuseppe Capasso, Michael DeSantis, Nicholas Jensen, Dylan O'Connor, and Gaven Ringwood, performed well during the GMC tournaments with Brazicki, O'Connor, and Ringwood placing 2nd, 3rd, and 6th respectively in their weight classes. Replicating their success from GMC's, the wrestlers placed highly during the state tournament. Sophomore David Loniewski III shone

brightly during the competition, placing in the top 24 out of 300 in his bracket. Brazicki and O'Connor ended their high school wrestling careers placing in the top 16 and 12 in their weight classes.

Adding to their already successful season, Brazicki, O'Connor, and Ringwood all reached milestone victories for the school. All three wrestlers joined the exclusive list of students who achieved their 100th wins to cap off their senior year. Coach Nicholas Tonzola wasn't only excited to see three of his wrestlers reach that milestone but to also see them off as they won their division. "For them to get their 100 wins and to contribute to the team winning the division is quite the accomplishment and I couldn't be any prouder of them."

# Girls shoot for the stars

BY: COLLEEN SHARLOW

The girls' varsity basketball team has grown to their full potential and have been demonstrating their talents on the court. Under the leadership of new head coach Brittney Griffin, the Lady Trojans attained an overall record of 16-5. Key players were seniors Elizabeth Cimilluca and Brianna Jackson, juniors Sara Decker and Elyssa Jackson, and freshmen Megan Herka and Emma Boslet. Newcomers Herka and Boslet have made a huge impact on the court, being two of the leading scorers on the team. Guard Cimilluca commented on her senior year season by saying: "We worked so very hard this season, and really bonded and worked together as a team and that is all that counts."



BRIANNA JACKSON GOES FOR A LAYUP.

# Striking out the competition

BY: ISAAC SCAFE

The varsity bowling teams had an outstanding season filled with accomplishments for both the girls and the boys. The teams were coached by TJ Riley (boys) and Mark Fiore (girls), who were both named GMC Blue Division coaches of the year. Steered by Coach Riley and Coach Fiore, the teams were poised to make great strides in all competitions.

The girls had a productive season building upon an experienced team of 4 seniors and 3 juniors without losing a single bowler due to graduation. Led by seniors

Jenna Ciancimino, Nicole Genser, Christine Kelly, and Jaylin Matysik, the team finishing the season strongly. Capping off their season was junior Katie Eicher who made the GMC All Blue-Division team, qualified for the GMC Individual Tournament Finals, placing 10th amongst all competitors.

The boys, headlined by seniors Andrew Funk, Adrian Genao, Erik Gonzalez, Bryce McCall, and Spencer Tardy, built on new and old talent which led to them to first place in the GMC Blue Division finishing with a 12-4 record and placed 6th during the state tournament. Funk, Gonzalez and sophomore Kyle Heyman were included as part of the All Blue-Division All Star team. The team performed well during tournament season with the bowlers reaching the quarterfinals during GMC with Tardy qualifying for the GMC Individual Tournament Final. Adding on to their success, the team qualified for the Group 1 State Tournament and Funk who qualified for New Jersey State Individual Tournament. "It was a fun experience and it was a good way to end off the season." Funk said when interviewed. "It was a goal I set out for since freshmen year and, even though I didn't do as well the second day, I still take pride in."



ERIK GONZALEZ BOWLS A STRIKE.

Join us for the 47th Annual Memorial Prayer Service and Palm Sunday Liturgy.

Sunday, April 9th in The Little Theater at 9:30 A.M.

Following the Mass, the PTG serves a breakfast in the cafeteria. Tickets are \$12.00 per person and are due March 31

2nd Annual BGA/STA Alumni Family Day



May 20, 2017

Reconnect - Revisit - Reminisce Information will be posted on www.bgahs.org

Cell Phone Collect



Cell phones in good working order can be brought to Room 215. Service hours will be awarded.

Please make sure cell phones are unlocked.

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Tuesday, April 11

You are invited to join us before Stations for a simple soup supper in the cafeteria 5:30-6:30.

Stations will follow in the Little Theatre at 7 PM.

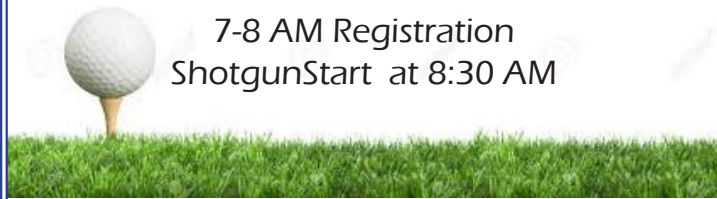
In preparation for the supper, please call 732-549-1108 ext. 648 to let us know the number of people who will be joining us. There is no cost but a free will offering will be accepted for the TASK and Elijah's Promise soup kitchens.

ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

May 4, 2017

Royce Brook Golf Club 201 Hamilton Road Hillsborough, NJ

7-8 AM Registration ShotgunStart at 8:30 AM

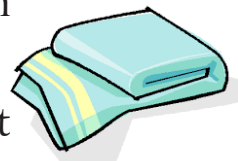


Please Donate



BGA will donate new white adult crew socks to TASK, and is also collecting new blankets for local soup kitchens.

All blankets and socks can be brought to Mrs. Wilton in Room 215.



Please provide a receipt to receive service hours.