

# The Visor



Bishop O'Connell High School

Volume 57 Issue 4

## Festival of the Arts: God Bless America

Laura McLellan  
Front Page Editor

Once again, the Fine Arts Department has put together an amazing display of the artistic ability O'Connell has. Talented artists and musicians showed what they could do at the Festival of the Arts. This year's theme of America, which pairs nicely with the Superdance theme from earlier this year, was prominent. Stars and stripes decorated the gym and the courtyard coffeehouse, adding to the festivities of the day.

The gym was transformed by the artwork that lined the walls, and filled up all the space in between. Stunning pieces of artwork from all of O'Connell's art classes were featured. Especially mentioned in the program for their notable

work was the artwork by students of the AP Drawing class. Aside from the paintings, photographs, and sculptures from the Art Department, pieces of digital artwork made by the multimedia class from the Technology department also decorated the gym.

The auditorium was the place to be for visitors who wanted to listen to the best O'Connell's music program has to offer. The string orchestra performed, followed by the talented O'Connell singers. The jazz band performed some of their best numbers for the audience, as well. Many visitors came to listen to the performers onstage.

enjoyed homemade refreshments as they listened to the performances. After the sun set, glow sticks illuminated the audience and added to the cheery mood. The musicians sang, played instruments, and generally impressed their audience with their talent. Among the performances were duets and, notably, a few teachers on stage.

The gallery stage, in the

gym, had much larger ensembles performing. Groups like the sax ensemble, Clarinet Choir, and 5<sup>th</sup> Street Jazz band all graced the stage and performed. Many of the visitors who came to see the artwork in the gym couldn't help but stop for a while and listen to the music. At the end of the night, the gallery stage held the fashion show, which featured clothing styles from three decades of

American history.

O'Connell's Fine Arts Department put on a delightful array of music and art for its 2015 Festival of the arts. With the combined talent of O'Connell's singers, musicians, and artists, the Festival of the Arts was a huge success.



1  
Day until  
Last Day of  
Senior Classes!

6  
Days until  
Prom!

13  
Days until  
Senior  
Graduation!

28  
Days until  
the Last Day of  
School!

## Coach Orndorff Celebrates His 700th Win

Gabriella Cossich  
Staff Writer

Coach Tommy Orndorff achieved a huge milestone in his career at Bishop O'Connell High School after coaching his 700th win on Monday, March 7th 2015. This win was the last regular season game of the year, where the Lady Knights faced off against Paul VI, winning 10 to 0.

Coach Orndorff has coached the Knights to a 700-80 record in his

30 years at O'Connell. These wins include 21 Catholic league tournament championships and 19 Virginia Independent School state tournaments. Coach Orndorff emphasizes that the recognition is for his players. He says they are the ones who win the games and championships. He is grateful that so many great and talented players throughout the years have shown

interest in the program and have come forward to form great teams. Coach Orndorff believes that the success of the team has been attributed to their love for the game more than anything else.

Coach Orndorff never would have thought he would be working at

O'Connell for this long, but is glad that he did, and is not done yet. He states that there is still much to be done and he is glad to lead the Lady Knights in achieving new successes on the field.

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# Students Against Destructive Decisions Assembly

Sarah Sciulla  
*Spotlight Editor*

The Students against Destructive Decisions club performed in the auditorium for an assembly on Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. Members Kyra Alexander, Sara Wilson, Laura McKee, Katie Liverman, Nick Meruvia, John Brown, Jonathon Olaya, Reid Stevenson, Michael Armor, Alisa An, Jamal King, Ako Adams, Danielle Atalla, Maria O’Neill, and Gina Quinly led the assembly. All joined each other on stage to perform a wonderful tribute for awareness against drunk driving and destructive decisions.

The drama started with an opening scene showing Sara Wilson, Katie Liverman, Alisa An, and several others in a classroom taught by the lively Mr. Herbst. The students were all discussing their college destinations, and exclaiming how excited they were about them. Mr. Herbst advised them to make smart decisions, foreshadowing later events the last night of their senior year.

Several videos against drunk driving were shown on the big screen,

all of them were very heartbreaking and saddening. Afterwards, the drama continued, now set at a party that taking place at Maria O’Neill’s neighbor’s vacant house for sale. Designated driver, Sara Wilson, was unfortunately peer-pressured into smoking weed and drinking, even though she had promised



her friends, Kyra, Lizzie and Laura that she would stay sober for the drive home. Unfortunately, Kyra drank too much and needed to be taken home right away since she was getting sick. Sara’s friends begged her to drive Kyra home, and she reluctantly agreed. This, in addition to her

earlier decision to abuse the drugs and alcohol, sealed her fate and dramatically and tragically changed her life forever.

When the next act of the play began, the curtains lifted revealing Sara, Kyra, Alisa, Jamal, Danielle, and Ako all prone on the ground after a violent car crash. As the police sirens rang, officers Reid Stevenson and Michael Armor came to the scene and arrested Sara immediately for driving under the influence. Ako was pronounced dead at the scene and Alisa was rushed to the hospital where she was eventually determined to be brain dead.

Jamal King then delivered a heartfelt speech at Ako’s funeral, reflecting on what Ako’s friendship meant to him, and how the O’Connell basketball team would win the WCAC championship in honor of its fallen teammate. After it was announced that Alisa had died the day after the crash, a slideshow played at her funeral, consisting of pictures of her and her friends.

As the play came to a close, it was proclaimed that several of the students who were supposed to lead bright futures at college the next fall had been charged with several crimes. Nick Meruvia was charged with distribution of drugs and alcohol, Maria O’Neill was charged with breaking and entering, and Sara Wilson was charged with driving under the influence. The play was performed very skillfully, with the message to stop destructive decisions delivered loud and clear.

## Spring Concert 2015

Laura McLellan  
*Front Page Editor*

The O’Connell Spring Concert, titled *Gloria*, was a night where O’Connell’s music department came together to show off its best talent. Bands and choirs all performed, directed by Mr. Isaacson and Mr. Kadeli.

The symphonic and concert bands joined together to put on Gustav Holst’s first suite in e flat. Students Teresa English, Timothy Madden, and Jeff Joppich each took up the conductor’s baton for one of the movements. Additionally, the two bands performed ‘Elements’ by Brian Balmages, with Jacob Vanaman conducting the ‘Air’ movement of the piece. The band members were very

series of improvised solos from some members, the band performed “Too Soon to Go” by Michael Kamuf and “Feels So Good” by Chuck Mangione. Perhaps their most notable song, however, was “Orange-Colored Sky” by Milton De Lugg and Willie Stein, because the band accompanied singer Meghan Mack, who had chosen this song for the event.

The various choirs also performed during the concert, beginning with the O’Connell singers who performed three songs, “Early in the Spring” by R. Vaughn Williams, “The Nightingale” by Thomas Weeks, and “A Jubilant Song” by Norman Dello Joio. Maddy Collins soloed, and Elliot Kunkel



pleased with their performances, and were glad to perform together, especially since for many of the seniors, it was their last concert at O’Connell.

Senior Bassoonist Janelle Jacobs said, “It was nice to be able to play with the band for a concert one last time. Having a few seniors conducting songs worked really well and I’m proud of the band as a whole.”

After the symphonic and concert bands, the string orchestra, known as the “DJO Orchesquad,” took the stage. Violins, cellos, and a string bass performed Vivaldi’s “Alla Rustica” and themes from Tchaikovsky’s “Romeo & Juliet”. After intermission, the Jazz band performed. After starting with a

accompanied on the piano.

Each of the songs was very challenging, and O’Connell singer Christine Castro commented, “The O’Connell Singers did so well! The songs we sang were challenging but Mr. Kadeli pushed us past our limits. I couldn’t be more proud of our choir.”

The bands and choirs performed separately throughout the evening, but at the end of the evening they came together to perform Vivaldi’s “Gloria,” a piece that included six movements. The finale was the centerpiece of the evening, and its attention was well-deserved. The combination of all the instruments and singers made for a beautiful performance.

## Seniors vs. Faculty

Sara Sciulla  
*Spotlight Editor*

The final score of this year’s Seniors vs Faculty was 44-52, with the senior class losing the game by merely eight points. The game was played by seniors Michael Armor, Marty Knauf, Anil Gupta, Patrick Rohan, Nick Meruvia, Will Rapuano, John Brown, Nicolas Suarez, Brian Murray, Grace Drahozal, Mariel Cardenas, Elena Williams, Sarah Davis, Nicole Marinaro, Anna Flach and coached by Reid Stevenson. The announcers for the game were Jake Salazar, Luke Olaffson, Luke Collins, Robbie Esti and Justin Fitzsimmons.

The opening minutes were dominated by the seniors, quickly gaining a sizable lead on the faculty. As the game went on the faculty started a successful comeback spearheaded by Mr. Mihalich, Mr. Cresson, and Coach Disch. The faculty team was rounded out by Mrs. Borgiasz, Mr. Borgiasz, Mr. Blaser, Ms. Hogan, Mr. Sabatino, Ms. Boyd and Mr. Garofolo. The game was fast-paced, with seniors Patrick Rohan, Michael Armor, and Marty Knauf leading the starting line-up. The faculty played aggressively this year and did not relent in their quest to win. The teachers were fierce, taking shots whenever they could. Mr. Cresson sunk multiple three-pointers, Coach Disch had admirable rebound control, while Mr. Mihalich drove the ball down the court. The seniors fought hard with Coach Reid Stevenson frequently changing players to ensure everyone got playing time and enjoyed the event.

When asked about how he thought the team did overall, senior Nick Meruvia responded, “We came in with the right mindset... but our coach didn’t play the right players.” Although that might be

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**Faculty Moderator**  
Dan Culler

true, when asked how he thought his team did, Coach Reid replied, “We played a hard-fought game, and even though I put the best candidates in from my roster... the teachers still prevailed.”

Even though the seniors lost this round, they did come very close to being the first class to win over the faculty in over five years. Hopefully next year’s 2016 seniors will win the game, break the faculty’s winning streak, earn some donuts, and make history.



# The School is Alive with the Sound of Music

Laura McClellan  
*Front Page Editor*

O'Connell Drama has done it again. The hills of late 1930's Austria came alive for DJO's production of *The Sound of Music*. The O'Connell players told the story of Maria (Meghan Mack), a free-spirited postulate at Nonnburg Abbey (led by Isabel Fernandez as Mother Abbess), who is sent to the household of Captain Von Trapp (Ryan Annitto) to care for his seven children, Liesl (Kat Mendell), Freidrich (Jeffrey Hales), Louisa (Aly Speier), Kurt (Andrew Oliveros), Brigitta (Ava Coffin), Marta (Sophia Stalnaker), and Gretl (Elanor Vaughn). In her time there, she turns the household into a joyful place with song and fun, a far cry from the overly-strict place it had been before. It is not too long before Maria and the Captain fall in love, and are married only to face the challenge of invading Nazis who wish to conscript the captain, against his will. Fans of the movie were surprised to find larger parts for Elsa and Max (Maddy Collins and Jake Vanaman), and a romantic subplot between Captain Von Trapp and Elsa.

O'Connell Drama put on three performances on the weekend of April 24<sup>th</sup>. Each of those shows sold out of tickets, the show was so popular. This may be partially due to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Sound of Music* movie coming out, and the fact that *The Sound of Music* is a family-friendly, family-centric story. Indeed, many family and friends came, as well as plenty of members of the O'Connell community, but there were also

many members of the audience who came to see the story itself, especially in such a landmark year.

The cast was brilliant, as each performance was packed with singing,



dancing, and no small amount of drama. The songs in particular were exceptional, from solos ("The Sound of Music") to ensemble songs ("Do Re Mi"). There were a few songs in this show that were not in the movie, including two by Max and Elsa and a number of songs from the sisters of Nonnberg. The format of some songs were changed as well, notably when the whole ensemble sang "Climb Every Mountain" at the end of the show.

The cast's strength really showed when the power went out in the middle of the Friday night performance, and the cast was left with only backup lights and no microphones. They continued on despite

the set. The set, in fact, was the largest one O'Connell has had in many years, with nearly a dozen large set pieces built specifically for this show. In fact, tech was working on building sets for as long as the actors were practicing for the show, a process that began with auditions in January.

Aside from tech, the costumes department also worked hard to make the show look good. Each performer wore clothes that fit both their character and the era, helping to bring the show to life. Particularly impressive was the outfitting of many nuns, Nazis, and children, even going so far as to sew an entire wardrobe of play clothes for the children from scratch.

One of the hardest-working groups of all was the orchestra. Led by Mr. Isaacson, sixteen musicians accompanied the whole show. From a simple guitar to play an Austrian lullaby, to a whole ensemble to give a background for a party, their accompaniment set the mood of each scene. Their hard work made the show shine.

At the final performance, the whole ensemble took time to thank its director, Ms. Zimmerman, technical director, Mr. Holland, Vocal director, Mr. Kadeli, and musical director, Mr. Isaacson with flowers and thunderous applause. It was then that the seniors were bid farewell, many of them having been with the program for all of their four years. *The Sound of Music* was the perfect show with which to send them off.

**"An unforgettable experience. One of my all-time favorite high school memories."**

*-Ryan Annitto, Captain VonTrapp*

## Sadie Hawkins Dance: Huge Success

Gabby Douse  
*Copy Editor*

This past Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> the Student Council hosted the first Sadie Hawkins Dance that O'Connell has seen in decades. After a month of collaboration between the Freshmen and Senior Class Councils, and countless, creative "asking" strategy sessions among the Lady Knights, the dance was held in the courtyard at sunset.

As soon as the dance was announced the girls got into the spirit and developed some very interesting and creative ways to invite the guys.

"It was kind of terrifying, having to ask; but I had a lot of fun planning how I was going to do it! It was a nice change of pace," said senior Emma Holleran.

The dance had an impressive turnout of around 460 students. From 7:30 to 9:30 students boogied to music provided entirely by seniors. The evening started off with "DJ Frogman" Jason Pazirendeh, who was then followed by The Crew Girls and the night concluded with an hour of Chris Outlaw. Decorations

were similar to the Welcome Back Dance with the breezeway and courtyard being decked out in all-white lights; but also incorporated new elements such as white lanterns and glow sticks hanging overhead with flower petals sprinkled on the ground.

"We were lucky to have such great weather and such great people!" recounts Senior Class President John Patterson. "From everyone who helped set up, to our rocking DJ's, to our chaperones, to everyone who showed up to have a good time, the SCA can't say thank you enough for such a great night."

"It was nice to have the dance outside and luckily we had perfect weather; not too hot, not too cold. The dance began when it was light outside so it began as more of a social, but as the music got more intense the dance livened up," said Freshmen Class President Michael Berkowitz.

Sadie Hawkins was a team effort. Led by the seniors and freshmen, the entire school joined in on reinvigorating an old O'Connell tradition.

"I can't wait until next year!" exclaims Berkowitz.



## Graduation Day and Festivities

Devin Christenson  
*Spreads Editor*

Graduation day is just around the corner. May 28<sup>th</sup> will be a day filled with excitement, anticipation, and probably a little sadness; but most importantly, it will be dominated by a sense of pride and accomplishment. Four years of hard work have finally paid off for the class of 2015. The seniors have come so far since their freshman days. This day marks the end of their high school life, but also the beginning of their college and future life.

A major change in their life, this day will be one that the seniors will remember forever.

The seniors will further celebrate their completion of high school at the All Night Grad Party. With more than 95 percent of the senior class in attendance, this party will be the highlight of graduation. Activities that typically take place at the All Night Grad Party include basketball games, swimming, raffles, and there is even a casino room for the seniors to enjoy! It is a safe way to celebrate the accomplishment that the seniors have just achieved.

Spotlight on:  
**Will Rapuano**

Sara Sciulla  
*Spotlight Editor*

“O’Connell is the best school ever. Everyone is great, everything is great,” says senior William Rapuano. Attending the University of Tennessee next year, Will Rapuano is a widely-known senior here at Bishop O’Connell High School. When asked why he chose the



University, Will responded that he wanted to live in Tennessee after college, and that “he’d get in-state tuition.” Will also commented that he chose the University because he’s planning on majoring in supply chain management. When asked what he’s going to do when he gets there, Will says he plans to hang with friends and work at “REI”, which is a backpacking/clothing store in Tennessee.

Will also says that he plans to go backpacking in the mountains, and start running more often in Tennessee.

Will says that when he graduates College, his biggest dream is to “start an I.T. firm for startup businesses; this will be where people come and give us ideas. Then our firm will help them design and make their company, while giving them investments and advice.” When asked what his philosophy on life was, Will exclaimed that, “Whatever I do... I’m the best at it... I want to leave my mark on the world.”

Since he was very young, Will has been striving to achieve greatness, including starting lacrosse in the first grade and continuing it

until his junior year. However, life hasn’t always been easy for Will. Being diagnosed with Tourette’s syndrome and dyslexia at a young age affected Will dramatically, on several levels. When asked about his disability, Will responded “I’ve always had awful Tourette’s since my early life. Since then, I’ve developed compassion for kids that have disabilities.” Will then went on to comment, “People think of you as if you don’t matter as much as other people.

This is because people do not and cannot completely understand everything you go through. Everyone has stuff they’re going through. Tourette’s, you can’t hide that from people.” When Will graduates from the University of Tennessee, he wants to start a foundation for kids with Tourette’s and dyslexia.

When asked what his favorite thing about Bishop O’Connell High

School was, Will responded, “I loved the teachers. My two favorite teachers of all time are Mr. Sullivan, because he’s real and gives it to you straight, and Mr. Patton, because he’s a good guy, smart, and runs class and connects with the students.”

When asked what advice he’d give to upcoming seniors, Will said, “Work hard, and get good grades. I didn’t try until my senior year and I know I could’ve excelled more than I did. Just do your homework; it’s that easy.” Likewise, Will’s advice for incoming freshman was similar: “Keep your heads down. Don’t act out in front of the upperclassmen. Have humility. Don’t act like you’re something you’re not.”

**Class of 2015 Universities**

Quinne Otu  
*Features Editor*

The seniors have finally reached the end of the year. Most of them have decided on a university and are content with their decisions. There are a variety of choices the seniors have made. They range from in-state schools, to schools in different states and even in foreign countries! Many of the seniors who have decided to go to in-state schools will be attending colleges such as Virginia Polytechnic University, James Madison University, Virginia Commonwealth University, Marymount University, and the University of Virginia. The variety of schools that the senior class will attend is very large and there will be O’Connell alumni in many parts of the states! A few of the out-of-state schools that claim some of the seniors

include East Carolina University, Highpoint University, and the University of South Carolina.

Some students have decided to take a different route and enter the Naval Academy. There are even a couple students headed out of the country for college. Not to worry, though; they’re only going as far as Canada.

“Everyone is going to be so spread out next year. The class of 2015 will be all over the U.S and even in different parts of the world. I think that that is really amazing but it makes me miss my class even more, knowing that they will be so far from me,” Gabby Douse explained sadly.

On May 1, the senior class was allowed to wear the shirt or sweatshirt of their college choice. It was an exciting day because everyone was able to show which school



**College Freshmen: Look Out!**

Quinne Otu  
*Features Editor*

The end of the year is almost here for the seniors! With these final steps toward graduation, they are preparing for a new life as college students. They are getting ready to live without their families and learn to handle situations on their own. This is a very exciting time for the seniors and many have finally decided on their colleges, but another exciting thing to be ready for is living away from home.

The transition from being a senior and then going back to being a freshman entering college can be a tough one, but not impossible. Here are a few tips for starting the college year right:

Get involved with your school! If in high school you tended to be a student who did not participate in school activities and clubs, make a change! Join clubs, teams and other fun activities! You may find something you never knew you would enjoy!

“The last 4 years in college have helped me to grow so much as a person. You learn something new every day and meet someone new every day. College helps you to grow mentally, spiritually and socially; and it’s 4 years that you’ll never get back, so live it up,” remarked Nile Otu, an alumnus of O’Connell.

Be open- minded! This new atmosphere is a perfect way to explore different sides of your own

personality, and the world you live in! Go out and learn something new about yourself and the many people around you!

Make new friends! It is definitely difficult to let go of the many friends that were made in high school, but in college, there are so many new people that it would be a lost opportunity if you were to not make a bunch of friends! Don’t be shy! The new people in your new college come from around the world with different backgrounds, stories, and lifestyles, so be sure to indulge in that fact and make as many new friends as possible!

Prioritize! Many students will enter college with a mindset similar to a high school one. When going into college, it is important to remember that the college experience is great, but also, it has to be taken seriously! Make time to get organized, do homework and even though it may be hard, find a way to separate yourself from your new friends to be productive.

“I’m entering college with an open mind and open heart! I’m going to accept more people into my life and learn from all my new experiences,” Jordan Hunt says excitedly.

Last, but not least, have fun! The next 4 years of your life are going to be filled with so many new opportunities and great experiences! Take each day at a time and make this really count, because the things you do in college should bring about great memories that will last for the rest of your life.



they would be attending and feel proud of their decision. The class of 2015 walked up and down the hallways happily displaying their enthusiasm for their new school, and many were stopped in the hall to be congratulated.

“I was very proud to wear my VCU sweatshirt on that day. It made me feel like all my hard work

was worth it and now I can show everyone that it really paid off,” Joseph Goyanko proudly explained.

This year’s seniors are very excited to take on the college world next year and they cannot wait to explore the different adventures they will have at their different colleges, along with the new friends they are sure to make!

## Crew's Spring Season

Ryan Brideau  
*Campus News*

The 2015 crew spring season is slowly coming to a close. Following a grueling and physically demanding winter season the team was more than ready to get back to the Potomac River and resume its racing. Their spring season



team qualifying for petite finals and the Varsity Women's team placing first in petite finals. Al Uriquia was the last race before the crew team's championship season, which begins with the WMIRA (Washington Metropolitan Interscholastic Rowing Association) championship race on May 9th.

officially began in early March, consisting of practices every day after school and on the weekends. However, the season did not begin as the team had hoped. The first four scheduled races were cancelled due to freezing temperatures and wind. At two of the events, the Regional Park Regatta and the Baltimore Invitational, multiple boats were capsized or submerged in the icy water. Senior and Men's Varsity team captain Jeff Dixon says,

"Carrying the winter training momentum through the beginning of spring was a challenge."

It was not until April 18th that the team was able to race at the Smokey Jacobs Regatta on the Occoquan River.

"It was difficult to get back into a competitive mindset after so many cancelled regattas; so facing off against all the other crews so quickly was definitely difficult," junior Devin Christenson explains.

Not long after the Smokey Jacobs Regatta the team returned to the Occoquan River for the Al Uriquia Regatta on April 25th, the Varsity Men's

Though their ability to race was at first stunted by the weather, the crew team continued to train, keeping Stotesbury Regatta in their sights. Devin adds,

"If WMIRA's is like states, then Stotes is like our championship—it's the largest high school rowing event in the world. It's the culmination of nine months of hard work."

Last year the crew team performed well at Stotesbury. The Men's Junior 4 placed 4th overall, the Women's Lightweight 8 placed 5th overall and the women's Junior Varsity 4 placed 3rd overall, winning the first Stotesbury Medal the Women's Team has seen in years. For the seniors, this race has become even more important, as it may be one of the last regattas they ever row. Senior Jack Beecy reflects on the last four years on the crew team,

"Rowing teaches you so many valuable lessons without your even knowing. It teaches brotherhood and brute strength."

As the race draws near the team will do everything they can to ensure they perform their very best. The O'Connell community wishes them luck.

## Men's Baseball 2015

Thomas Borek  
*Sports Editor*

With a record of 15-6, the Bishop O'Connell Baseball team has found their groove. After an 0-3 start, the team has been crushing opponents left and right, such as Bishop Ireton, winning 10-0 in 5 innings, and beating St. Mary's Ryken two times in one day, each game decided by one run. The boys went down to Myrtle Beach in early April, and won 4 out of 5 games, losing only the championship game.

The team is coached by the very experienced Coach Padgett, who has been taking the team to new heights over the past 3 years. The win percentage for the team has steadily risen, and they have multiple players committed to play

in college. The team started off slow but hopes to finish strong and win a championship this year.

Senior Sean Paulsen says, "We've had a strong season with lots of ups and downs; and late in the season is when we need to show teams what we're made of."

To start the playoffs, the team played O'Connell's conference rival, PVI. The final score was 3-1 in favor of the Knights. The team faces St. John's in the WCAC Semifinals, and if they win they go on to play in the championship. If the team loses, they still have another shot at winning a title in the Virginia State Tournament. Everybody mark your calendars, because the baseball team needs you there cheering them on through the playoffs.



## Men's Lacrosse 2015

Thomas Borek  
*Sports Editor*

The Bishop O'Connell Men's lacrosse team has had a bumpy year so far, but they hope to finish strong. With many rough patches including injury and heartbreaking losses, there have been some silver linings. The Knights went on the road and beat the number one team in Delaware, a state known for its development of young Lacrosse players, and arguably one of the best "Lacrosse States" in the country. Senior Stephen Sheppard scored the deciding goal from his knees, and shutdown defense solidified the win.

Also, the Knights have blown out multiple opponents, such as beating Flint Hill School 16-4, John Paul the Great 15-6, Lake

Braddock 13-5, and Fork Union Military Academy 19-2. The team also played a very strong game against St. Albans, winning 9-8 in a nail biter. On April 17 the Knights played a game against conference opponent St. Mary's Ryken that supported the Wounded Warrior Project. The Knights lost that battle 9-16, but morally

there was no loser, because both teams were supporting our nation's heroes. The Knights are currently 9-8, and face their rival PVI on Wednesday, May 6 in the quarter finals of the WCAC tournament. The program has not fared well against PVI over the past 4 years, but the players are determined to change that. The team is seeking revenge for their 6-11 early season loss to PVI.

Senior defenseman Tommy Buttarazzi says, "O'Connell's lacrosse program has progressed immensely since I came to the school as a freshman. Now



it is time to put four years of hard work to the test and beat PVI in the playoffs." Before the season started, players were going to optional workouts to improve their stick skills, conditioning, and strength. There was no off-season for the lacrosse

team, and now it is time for them to show PVI what they are made of in the first round of the WCAC playoffs. The Team also hopes to do well in the Virginia State tournament, which starts May 9. The Knights need your support, so come out and cheer on your peers as they finish up the year strong.

## New Head Football Coach

Gabriela Douse  
*Copy Editor*

The new football coach for the 2015-2016 season has been announced! Coach Colin Disch, who has spent the last three years as an assistant coach and the defensive coordinator, has been chosen to head the football program next season. Several are excited to see what he will do for next year.

According to an article posted on

linebacker for the University of Albany football program. Disch was the all-time leading tackler in Albany football history, and received the All-American, Northeast Conference Defensive Player of the Year.

After graduating from the University of Albany in 2008, he went overseas to play professional football in Germany.

Returning to the States, Disch served as an assistant football coach at Stonehill College in Massachusetts and St. John



the O'Connell website, athletic director, Joe Wootten said,

"Coach Disch has been an integral part of building our football program over the last three years. We are confident he can lead the team to the next level."

Everyone is extremely excited to have Coach Disch as Head Coach.

Dr. Vorbach adds, "Colin Disch has demonstrated that he is both a superb mentor for young men and an excellent football coach, with the ability to develop each individual player. He has used his talents to support our Catholic mission and we look forward to him continuing to do so as our Head Football Coach."

Coach Disch was an inside

Fisher College in New York.

Coach Disch, according to an article on the O'Connell website, says that he looks "forward to this great opportunity, I am thankful to be a part of this school community and feel fortunate to be able to work with these young men and build them up through the game of football."

We are excited to see where the season will go with such a great coach. Coach Disch is replacing Del Smith who is returning to Bridgewater College as defensive coordinator for the Eagles football program.

Quotes taken from article on the O'Connell website, administered by Mrs. Spurlock.



**ALABAMA**

**Auburn University**  
Jeffrey Joppich  
Adrian Turrisi  
**University of Alabama**  
Gianna Mastrofini

**CALIFORNIA**

**Stanford University**  
Emma Morris  
**University of California-Davis**  
Shannon Cross  
**University of San Diego**  
Katie Liverman

**DELAWARE**

**Delaware State University**  
Jaylen Johnson  
**University of Delaware**  
Laura McKee  
Elena Williams

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

**American University**  
Timothy Madden  
**Catholic University**  
Michael Burrill  
Angela Hay  
Theresa Matula  
Rachel Narvaez  
Joseph Negash

**George Washington University**  
Jeff Dixon

**Howard University**  
Grace Thomas

**FLORIDA**

**Stetson University**  
Allie Clemente  
Riley McGovern  
Carly Swanson

**Rollins College**  
Arman Darui

**University of Florida**  
Moises Reyes  
Sara Wilson

**University of Miami**  
Amanda Green  
Kristian Laursen

**University of North Florida**  
Katherine Meckus

**GEORGIA**

**Armstrong Atlantic State University**  
Janelle Jacobs

**Georgia Tech**  
Jennifer Ternullo

**University of Georgia**  
Claudia Dubay  
Megan Plombon

**ILLINOIS**

**DePaul University**  
Oumar Barry  
Dallan Beam  
Nicolas Suarez

**INDIANA**

**Butler University**  
Madeleine Lucchetti

**Indiana University**  
Hosung Lee

**Purdue University**  
Zhen Luan

**KENTUCKY**

**University of Kentucky**  
Luke Collins  
Steven Sheppard

**LOUISIANA**

**Louisiana Tech University**  
Mary Natalie Magee

**MAINE**

**Clark University**  
Olivia Barksdale

**MARYLAND**

**Frostburg State University**  
Jordan Hunt  
**Loyola University**  
Gina Quinly  
Joshua Wells

**Mount Saint Mary College**  
Isabelle Policarpio  
Erin Sweeney  
Ryan Thomas

**U.S. Naval Academy**  
Julia Bailey  
Michael Galvin  
Michael Hurley  
Collin Snyder

**Morgan State University**  
Jaaron Walls

**University of Maryland**  
Everett Richmond

**MASSACHUSETTS**

**Merrimack University**  
George Hawkins  
Tylar Thompson

**MICHIGAN**

**University of Michigan**  
Natalie Chiamas

**Mississippi State University**  
Caroline Adrian

**MISSISSIPPI**

**University of Mississippi**  
Caroline Adrian

**NEBRASKA**

**University of Lincoln-Nebraska**  
Daniella Atalla

**NEVADA**

**University of Nevada**  
Jessica Landry

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**Dartmouth**  
Alisa An

**NEW YORK**

**Bard College**  
Nicole Lawler

**Cornell University**  
Matthew Funkhouser

**Farmingdale State College**  
D'Marco McElhinney

**Hofstra University**  
Lisa Humfelt

**Marymount Manhattan College**  
Roman Endo Ondo

**New York University**  
Ryan Brideau

**Pratt Institute**  
Jiahong Guo

**Saint John's University**  
Tya Carter  
Helena Howard

Asia Martin  
Gabriela Reyes

**Stony Brook University**  
Stefanie Page

**Syracuse University**  
Brooke Fernandez  
Anil Gupta

**NORTH CAROLINA**

**East Carolina University**  
Daniel Dumais  
Sarah Harvey  
Charlotte Hathaway  
Erin McDonald  
Reid Stevenson

**High Point University**  
John Carter  
Michael Fraser  
Maria Gentry  
Rachel Gillum  
Nick Meruvia

**Meredith College**  
Stephanie Semaan

**University of North Carolina-Wilmington**  
Calli Dukas

**Wake Forest**  
Yuchu Wu

**Balton College**  
Gabriela Douse

**OHIO**

**College of Wooster**  
Brian Murray

**John Carroll University**  
Edward Gleeson  
Gabriel Susinski

**Miami University**  
Diana Valentine

**Ohio State University**  
Mary Husk

**Shawnee State University**  
Darren Solomon

**PENNSYLVANIA**

**Allegheny College**  
Robert Crowe  
Anne Di Gregory

**Bucknell University**  
Shannon Murphy

**Cannon University**  
Anthony Howard

**Drexel University**  
Sarah Cahill  
Christian Marrero  
Duquesne University  
Daniella Juarez

**Gettysburg College**  
Cathy Adams

**Lehigh University**  
Kathryn Gliot

**Pennsylvania State University**  
Thomas Borek  
Natalie Oldenburg  
Michael Tobin

**Saint Francis University**  
Jamaal King

**Saint Joseph's University**  
Maria O'Neill  
Patrick Rohan

**Ursinus College**  
Kevin Fraser

**Villanova University**  
Sarah Davis  
Meagan Leverone

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

**Clemson University**  
Lauren Harkes  
Carrie Shawkey

**College of Charleston**  
Alexandra Lucchesi  
Zakary Swenson

**University of South Carolina**  
Victoria Adams  
Jack Diebler  
Turner Richmond

**TENNESSEE**

**University of Tennessee**  
Luke Olafsson  
William Rapuano

**Vanderbilt**  
Katherine Ward

**TEXAS**

**Rice University**  
Catherine Soltero

**Southern Methodist University**  
Andrew Elias

**Texas A&M**  
Maureen Readdy

**University of Houston**  
Santiago Estupinan

**VERMONT**

**University of Vermont**  
David Ahlstrom

**VIRGINIA**

**Bridgewater College**  
Phillip Gil-Perea  
Gabriela Monje  
Daniela Rutherford  
Anton Woody

**Christopher Newport University**  
Jack Beecy  
Nico Blanchfeild-Felice  
Sean Brown  
Ellen Dhondt  
Elias Gazala  
Elise Leith  
Nathan Lyle  
Joshua Speier

**College of William and Mary**  
Fernando Agront  
Srijan Bhasin  
Mackenzie Nihill  
Stephanie Tabash  
Raei Tesfazghi  
Fabio Quiroga

**George Mason University**  
Ryan Annitto  
Kevin Embrey  
Jack Katz  
David-Chris Otu

**James Madison University**  
Lily Bourne  
Thomas Buttarazzi  
Mariel Cardenas  
Kendall Christenson  
Juliana Conrad  
Teresa English  
Robert Esti  
Justin Fitzsimmons  
Jane Greenhalgh  
Emma Holleran  
Megan Lau

Anh Le  
Meghan Mack  
Emma Malloy  
Jonathan Olaya  
Sean Paulson  
Jason Pazirandeh  
Jorge Pena  
Amanda Peranich  
Carmen Pizzano  
Christina Roberts  
Madeline Roewer  
Avery Scarborough  
Mary-Claire Shaffer  
Andres Soto  
Diana Thanh Huynh  
Emma Williams  
Matthew Wisniewski  
Clarissa Zorilla

**Longwood University**  
Celia Kennedy  
Amanda Meszaros  
Eva Wittkoski

**Marymount University**  
Patrick Black  
Paolo Garcia  
Shannon Miller  
Mauricio Monje  
Taylor Mouchti  
Cassidy Olimpo  
Quinne Otu  
Yuly Rivas  
Ryan Robles  
Diandra Saravia  
Giuliana Solano  
Kevin Tavera  
Sara Tesfay  
Vincent Villanueva  
Cesar Zepeda  
Joseph Azurin

**Northern Virginia Community College**  
Dylan Ebner  
Precious Ezoua  
Juneus Magsakay  
Jacob Norris  
Kevin Ramirez  
Brett Riddick  
Fiorella Cepeda Verde

**Old Dominion University**  
Kyra Alexander  
Austin Maiden

**Radford University**  
Nicole Davey  
Gabrielle Franco  
Amanda Meyer  
Mary Schlesinger

**Randolph Macon**  
Justin Carlitti  
Jacob Salazar

**University of Mary Washington**  
Victor Ascensao  
Cory Bassam  
Cole Hogan  
Patrick Hughes  
Madalyn Kelly  
Sara Sciuella  
James Toth

**University of Virginia**  
Austin Brown  
Ria Duffy  
Tarah Fisher  
Hannah Gavin  
Robert Hails III  
Yu Hong

Martin Knauf  
Nadine Ly  
Nicole Marinaro  
John Patterson  
Claire Saunders  
Katelyn Seeger  
Alexander Socarras  
Stephen Thiringer

**Virginia Commonwealth University**  
Rachel Cuevas  
Albert Fung  
Dustin Gee  
Andrew Gionfriddo  
Brian Golab  
Joseph Goyanko  
Thao Khia  
Yonas Mailot  
Kathleen Reilly  
Tammy Tran  
Uyen Tran  
Anna Weaver  
Teresa Williams

**Virginia Military Institute**  
Kevin Caggiano  
Miguel Saunders

**Virginia Tech**  
Stephen Anderson  
Michael Armor  
Dominic Bernero  
Christine Castro  
Theresa Cordero  
Grace Drahozal  
Sarah Escobar  
Jenna Ferraro  
Anna Flach  
Josephine Glorioso  
Katherine Guillen  
Matthew Kissinger  
Antonio Marrero  
Christopher Outlaw  
Shelby Reiger  
Susan Rodriguez  
Matthew Salvador  
Kevin Shepard  
Kane Van Doorn  
Benjamin Watson

**Virginia Union University**  
Eric Dunbar

**West Virginia**  
West Virginia University  
Nicole Gardener  
John Ray

**Wisconsin**  
Wisconsin-Madison University  
Seowon Mun

**Wyoming**  
University of Wyoming  
Pierce Douglas

**INTERNATIONAL**  
McGill University  
Francesca Pastore  
University of British Columbia  
Sofia Echeverria  
University of Western Ontario  
Maggie McLellan



## Goodbye, O'Connell!

Gabriela Douse  
Copy Editor

When I first stepped through the doors of O'Connell in August of 2011, four years ago, I was excited. I was excited to see what O'Connell would offer: the life experience and the knowledge to help me get into college. High School is said to be the hardest time of your life. You are supposed to discover who you are as a person. That statement is true; but when you think about it, it is not nearly enough time. For me, high school seems like a blur, even though I haven't graduated yet, it seems that it went by too fast! Here I am one moment, a scared little freshmen not knowing anything. Then I'm walking through the doors as a senior in high school, with my car keys in hand.

I can't say I didn't like high school; I certainly can't say that it was the bane of my existence. The feelings and thoughts are complex, though. So much happened: some good, some not so good. I know I learned a lot from my teachers, things I will remember when I start to have gray hair. There's always that one teacher, who changes one's life in high school. You may not realize it at the time, but who knows? Maybe you do. That teacher stuck by you through anything; they listened to your problems and gave you advice. For me, that was Ms. Funk, my junior year theology teacher. I will be honest, I did not truly appreciate her at first, and I thought she gave too much work. I was thinking "This is too much homework for Theology." But by Thanksgiving Break, I loved her.

I don't think High School ever goes the way you expect it to. While it's happening, it can seem to drag on forever; but when it's over, it seems like everything happened in the blink of an eye. I don't know how to feel about it now, but in the years to come, I know I will look back on my high school years and be proud of what I've accomplished.



*Mr. Culler, who has spent eight years as the Visor's Faculty Moderator and English teacher, is retiring. After 42 years as a teacher in Fairfax County and Diocese of Arlington schools, he is glad to relax a little. He considers it a great blessing to have spent so much time in O'Connell's catholic community. He would like to offer the O'Connell community his best wishes as he bids farewell.*



## Thanks for the Memories!

John Patterson  
Editor-In-Chief

*The Visor* has been one of the most unique experiences I've had at O'Connell. This school is full of stories, and, through interviews and investigation, I've been able to uncover some of them. Where does O'Connell's food company, Flik, get its food? Where does Sra. Rubio go over the summer?

Is Gatorade REALLY good for you? I found answers to these questions, and I know there are more stories fluttering in the halls that I'll never catch. Journalism taught me to ask

questions, but there are never enough answers. There are always more questions to ask; always more stories to hear. I see this as an amazing thing. After I leave, students and faculty alike will be making new stories and there will be a new *Visor* staff to find them. I know I leave the newspaper in the hands of some amazing rising seniors who are already outdoing me!

I would recommend that every student consider taking Journalism. In one class I fulfilled both my computer and fine arts credit, developed as a writer, and learned journalism's past and present, which helped me in my history and government courses. I got to write four articles for *The Arlington Catholic Herald* and learn two Adobe programs. It's a class that gives you bang for your buck!

One of the greatest things journalism has given me is the opportunity to get to know Mr. Culler. I met Mr. Culler before I was even in high school when he went with my family to a *Washington Post* presentation my sister was in. Cait (the superior journalist of the family) was Editor-in-Chief of *The Visor* in

2011. We still have yellowed copies of her *Visor* issues tucked in various nooks of the house. Mr. Culler helped her publish some of the best issues O'Connell has ever seen, and also helped her decide on a college and get into the prestigious *Washington Post* program. Three years later Mr. Culler was ready to take on the baby of the Patterson family.

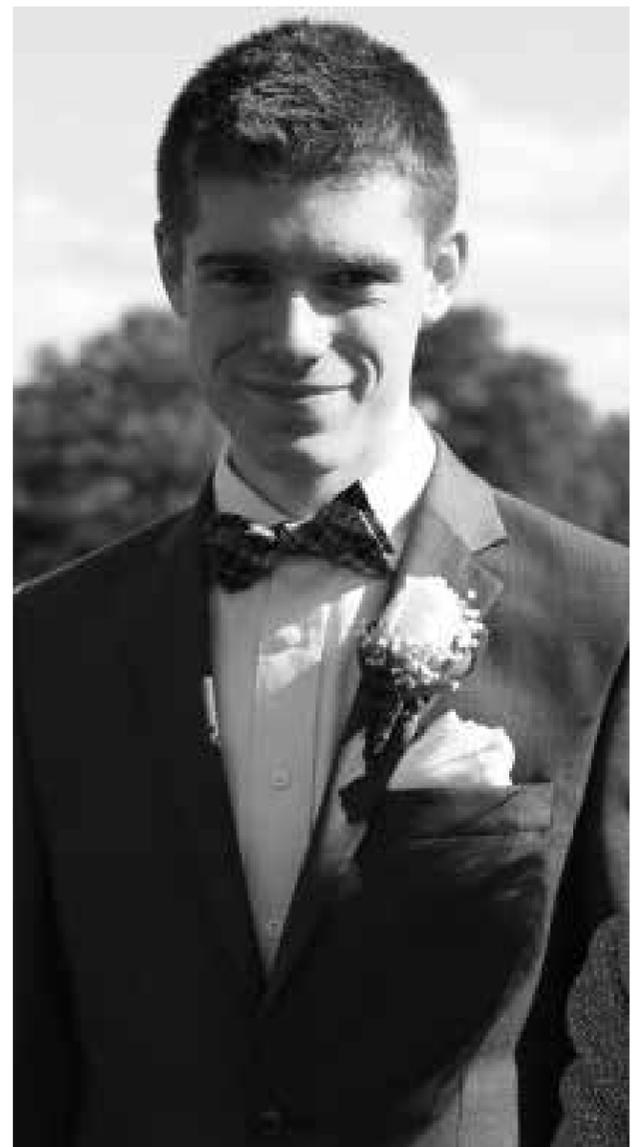
By working on the paper, I've learned a lot about journalism, life, and Mr. Culler. During one of our last classes, Mr. Culler showed us a performance by his old band. Mr. Culler's band was called The Dan Culler Band. Add this snippet to his casual reference to a cross-country motorcycle



trip, it's safe to say Mr. Culler has had some Culler-ful experiences in his life.

Mr. Culler is a great example of the stories around us, waiting to be found. So many amazing things are only one question away! O'Connell is a fascinating place, one that is not investigated enough. I'm honored to be a part of O'Connell's growing history, and I hope you take the time to discover it.

God Bless,  
John Patterson



# Key West: A Wonderful Getaway

Reid Stevenson  
*Sports Editor*

The Southern Florida Keys are a very popular travel destination, mainly for citizens of the East Coast. One of the more popular islands in the Keys is Key West. Key West is the southernmost point in the United States and is only 90 miles north of Cuba. The island maintains a steady 75 degree average year round. Considering it is the southernmost point in the U.S., the island consists of warm weather and rarely any cool weather, which is ideal for the tourists. Along with the warm weather, the crystal clear blue water and marine life also make Key West a very well-known and popular vacation spot.

There are many different attractions in Key West that help it maintain its famed vacation reputation. The attractions include snorkeling, jet skiing, fishing, parasailing, kayaking, and, of course, the professional street



*The famous Seven Mile Bridge connects the Keys.*

entertainers. One of the more popular attractions is the home of famous author Ernest Hemmingway. You are able to get there on foot from almost anywhere on the island, considering the fact that the residents of Key West have one of the easiest commutes in the country. There are also many other ways to get around, such as, biking, skateboarding, or even motorized scooters.

The island of Key West is also very animal-friendly, you may even see chickens on the main roads! You may also dine at many different sea food restaurants with top of the line cooking and incredible entertainment. Along with the restaurants, there are many delightful options for breakfast, including the well-known coffee house Cuban Coffee Queen.

Overall, Key West a wonderful getaway with many attractions and beautiful scenery. The warm weather always seems to be there, which is why it has countless tourists all the time.



*Comporrobles, España*

## Las Aventuras de la Señora Rubio en España

John Patterson  
*Editor-in-Chief*

In Senora Rubio's classroom there is a little picture of the Spanish countryside displayed on the wall. Despite almost being overwhelmed by the surrounding exam schedules, fire exit maps, and Spanish projects the picture still claims its spot on the wall. It boldly displays the word "Camporrobles."

Camporrobles is a quaint Spanish village with less than 1000 residents, but it blossoms to a population of 3000 over the summer. Sra. Rubio is one of these seasonal visitors. She returns to this small little corner of Spain almost every year.

"I go because my family is there," she explains. "It's a place where everybody knows everybody." She describes now in Camporrobles everyone buys their bread at the bakery and their meat at the butcher.

The market is only visited twice a week. The town's Wikipedia page is one sentence long. Her father was born there, and that side of her family has lived there for generations. Now the little village has become the annual meeting place for her family. In Camporrobles, however, "everybody is family."

After visiting Camporrobles, Sra. Rubio and her family will travel around Spain going to Segovia, Avilla, Toledo, and Madrid. Sra. Rubio will return from Spain in time for the school year to start, but will be heading right back on October 8<sup>th</sup> to lead a group of O'Connell students participating in a Spanish exchange program.

Students are not the only ones that travel over the summer. Sra. Rubio is one of many teachers that spends the summer break visiting family, returning to familiar places, and seeing new sights. No matter what season it is, Sra. Rubio keeps Camporrobles on her wall and in her corazón.

# Salamanca!

John Patterson  
*Editor-in-Chief*

One of the many outstanding travel opportunities at O'Connell is the summer trip to Salamanca, Spain. Senorita Yanine has already started planning for the next trip, happening the summer after this upcoming one. The trip occurs in the first two weeks of July, and she typically takes a group of about 10 students.

Once the students arrive they get to take classes at the University of Salamanca, the oldest university in Europe. The university was founded in 1218. After a welcoming ceremony, the students take placement exams and then choose between Spanish culture, language, or history and art. After taking classes all week, Srta. Yanine takes the group to Madrid over the weekend to visit museums like the famous El Prado, where they get to see the paintings of

famous Spanish artists like Velazquez and Goya. After having studied these paintings in the classroom, students get to see them in real life, such as Pablo Picasso's most famous work, *Guernica*. The group will also be visiting Avilla and Toledo, the home of El Greco. The students return home with an unforgettable experience and two college credits.

"I became much closer friends with the people on the trip, and was surprised by how much I learned!" says Meagan Leverone, who went on the Salamanca trip this past summer.

Srta. Yanine was able to make this amazing connection with the University of Salamanca as she is an alumna, taking part in the university's Master's program. Through this program she has been able to reconnect with her old professors and introduce them to her students. Srta. Yanine considers Salamanca a second home: as an alumna she gets to have her upcoming wedding in the university's chapel!



*Beautiful Salamanca, is one of Spain's cultural treasures.*



# Election 2016: Candidate Roundup

As we see the elections in the United Kingdom wrap up and our own S.C.A. elections take place, we are reminded of the upcoming presidential election here in the United States. Keeping in mind the fact that the Class of 2015, the Class of 2016 and many in the Class of 2017 will be old enough to vote next November, here are some of the candidates in the race, as well as some who might soon join it:

## Joe Biden

72, *Possible Democratic Candidate Vice President; Delaware Senator*

In the past decade, Joe Biden's role on the campaign trail has been that of any vice president; that is, as an attack dog. Considering his frequent gaffes, Biden would face quite a challenge gaining the Democratic nomination in 2016. That said, Joe Biden, a Catholic, has been an effective, if at times embarrassing, vice president and a very influential senator for decades.

## Jeb Bush

62, *Possible Republican Candidate Florida Governor*

A son of a president and the brother of another, Jeb Bush would surely face opposition to the continuance of the Bush dynasty. Once identifying himself as Hispanic, Bush, a Catholic, took progressive stands on immigration during his successful tenure as governor. Jeb Bush's centrist political stances might make him electable, but at the cost of alienating many in his own party.

## Ben Carson

63, *Republican Candidate Neurosurgeon*

Doctor Ben Carson rose to prominence as a result of his outspoken criticism of President Obama's policies at the 2013 National Prayer Breakfast. In the past couple years, Ben Carson has certainly raised eyebrows with his inflammatory comments on controversial topics like homosexuality (the "prison" incident) and Obamacare (calling it the worst thing since "slavery"). Formerly an independent, Carson has railed against the culture of political correctness, saying it is "dangerous." Add his lack of any real political experience, and it is evident why many see Carson as a breath of fresh air in the Republican Party.

## Hillary Clinton

67, *Democratic Frontrunner Secretary of State; New York Senator; 2008 Presidential Candidate; First Lady*

Much like her husband, former President Bill Clinton, nothing really seems to stick to Hillary Clinton. Despite being hounded by scandal (Benghazi, State Department email, foreign donations to Clinton Foundation, etc.), Clinton continues to enjoy high approval ratings. Hillary Clinton has become increasingly liberal, likely to attract donations from the far left. That said, Clinton has a proactive vision on American foreign policy. At the end of the day, if nothing changes, Hillary Clinton will be the 2016 Democratic nominee. After all, former Independent

candidate Juaquin James Malphurs (a.k.a. Waka Flocka Flame; 28) has already thrown his support behind her.

## Ted Cruz

44, *Republican Candidate Texas Senator (Junior)*

Many have accused Ted Cruz of nearly causing another government shutdown. Despite this, Cruz, an Evangelical Christian and a Tea Party leader who is tough on immigration, could easily be the poster child of the G.O.P. That said, some have already questioned whether Ted Cruz, born in Canada, is even eligible to be president.

## Carly Fiorina

60, *Republican Candidate 2010 California Senate Nominee; C.E.O. of Hewlett-Packard*

Carly Fiorina emerged as a darling of the Republican Party after her work on the 2008 McCain campaign. Her status as a Washington outsider has led many to believe she can reinvigorate the Republican Party. On the other hand, her perceived failures at HP, and the fact that she has outsourced many of the operations of her campaign to India, has warranted scorn among conservative analysts.

## Lindsey Graham

59, *Soon-to-be Declared Republican Candidate South Carolina Senator; South Carolina Congressman*

A moderate Republican, Lindsey Graham has drawn the ire of many from his own state for his compromises with the Democratic Party, his occasional criticism of the Tea Party and his support of socially liberal positions. On the other hand, Graham, a former Air Force colonel, is a war hawk, advocating an interventionist foreign policy.

## Mike Huckabee

59, *Republican Candidate Host of Fox News Show; 2008 Presidential Candidate; Governor of Arkansas*

Outspoken but charismatic, Mike Huckabee, a Southern Baptist minister, does not shy from speaking about his Evangelical faith. Huckabee is a right-leaning Republican who has even proposed ending the Internal Revenue Service (I.R.S.).

## Martin O'Malley

52, *Possible Democratic Candidate Maryland Governor*

A Catholic, Martin O'Malley attended Gonzaga High School right here in D.C. While O'Malley, the former mayor of Baltimore, was the inspiration for one of the characters on H.B.O.'s *The Wire*, he has struggled to make his

name known outside the D.M.V.--but not for lack of trying. Despite his best efforts, O'Malley remains at about the two percent mark on most polls. Further left than Clinton, Martin O'Malley enacted multiple liberal reforms in Maryland, eliminating the death penalty and succeeding in making Maryland schools (arguably) the best in the country. However, it will be hard for O'Malley to brag about the significant decrease in crime in the state after the recent riots in Baltimore.

## Rand Paul

52, *Republican Candidate Kentucky Senator (Junior); Ophthalmologist*

Doctor Rand Paul has followed in the political footsteps of his father, former Texas Congressman Ron Paul (79). An isolationist, a Tea Party sympathizer and a firm believer in the Constitution (especially the Second Amendment), Paul has emerged as the leader of the libertarian faction of the G.O.P. Being a conservative and an ardent proponent of small government, Paul opposes Obamacare, gay marriage and abortion and supports a flat tax, but, at the same time, also approves of medical marijuana and condemns mandatory minimum sentencing laws and N.S.A. surveillance.

## Marco Rubio

43, *Republican Candidate Florida Senator (Junior)*

Right-leaning Marco Rubio enjoys the support of the Tea Party and, maybe more importantly, a significant portion of the Hispanic community. A Catholic, Rubio supports social conservatism, condemns any use of marijuana and wishes to raise the age at which individuals can reap the benefits of social security. In terms of foreign policy, Marco Rubio is more of an interventionist, and has been supportive of the Obama administration's actions against I.S.I.S. in Iraq.

## Bernie Sanders

73, *Democratic Candidate Vermont Senator (Junior); Vermont Congressman*

Technically an independent, in the past, Bernie Sanders has called himself a "democratic socialist." He has expressed admiration for the social democracies of the Nordic countries. It is no surprise that Sanders is considered one of the most left-wing politicians in all of Washington. What is surprising is that, despite his political leaning, in 2011 Bernie Sanders was ranked the third most-liked senator. His political career began in the sixties with the Civil Rights Movement and

continued on to his position as mayor of Burlington. As president he says he would cancel the Keystone XL Pipeline project and, more dramatically, that he would work to remedy the rampant income inequality of modern America. Obviously, Bernie Sanders will face an uphill battle seeking the Democratic nomination considering a significant portion of the American population already believes President Obama is too liberal.

## Rick Santorum

56, *Soon-to-be Declared Republican Candidate 2012 Presidential Candidate, Pennsylvania Senator; Pennsylvania Congressman*

Born right here in Northern Virginia, Rick Santorum is known for his charisma and conviction. A Catholic, Santorum is a staunch social conservative, a position that led to ridicule in the 2012 election cycle (Santorum's "Google problem"). More of a fiscal centrist, Rick Santorum has criticized Obamacare, environmentalists and even the libertarian movement.

## Scott Walker

47, *Possible Republican Candidate Governor of Wisconsin*

Despite not having actually announced his candidacy, Scott Walker is currently the frontrunner in the Republican race. Walker's political ambitions first became evident in college, at least until he dropped out. An Evangelical, Scott Walker is a traditional social conservative. Walker has said that, if elected president, he would take a hard line on terrorism and that he would oppose any deal with Iran that can endanger American allies in the future. In 2011, in an effort to balance the budget, Walker took on the unions, which ultimately led to a recall election which he won against all odds. This show of fiscal conservatism has made Scott Walker a darling of the Republican Party.

## Elizabeth Warren

65, *Possible Democratic Candidate Massachusetts Senator*

Despite saying time and again that she is not even considering a run for president, Elizabeth Warren remains in second place in Democratic polls. Further left than Clinton (but not Sanders), Warren fights for a higher minimum wage and is a champion for lower student loan interest rates.

\*Candidates ordered alphabetically.

Diego Garcia  
Outside News Editor



## Mayweather vs. Pacquiao

Reid Stevenson  
*Sports Editor*

The epic fight between Floyd Mayweather and Manny Pacquiao was held on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. There were many celebrities and fans that attended the fight, including Beyoncé and Jay-Z. The place was packed, not to mention the millions of other fans watching the fight via pay-per-view. Considering the cost of pay-per-view in HD is \$99.95 and \$89.95 for SD, there were also plenty of people who were unable to watch the fight. Altogether, the fighters received \$300 million dollars for the evening's efforts.

Once the fight was underway, the place was electric and there were millions of people tuned in to watch. Floyd Mayweather was the popular vote to win over Pacquiao. Mayweather was victorious over the Pac-man, and

fought long and hard to achieve the goal of winning this mega-fight. After the fight however, there were many fans that complained about the cost of the broadcast. The main complaints were the fight was not interesting or exciting enough to watch and not worth close to \$100.00.

Along with the complaints about the fight, there was also a rumor spreading around of a rematch between the two fighters. Neither of the fighters were opposed to having a rematch when asked. Floyd Mayweather called Pacquiao a "sore loser" after the fight. There was also a rumor going around after the fight that Manny Pacquiao was having issues with his shoulder before he stepped in the ring. He is scheduled to have shoulder surgery soon to get himself back to full health. Then, after he is fully recovered, maybe we will see both Mayweather and Pacquiao step into the ring for one last fight.

## Pitch Perfect is Back!

Quinne Otu  
*Features Editor*

Pitch Perfect, one of the funniest movies of 2012, is coming back with a sequel! During the first few weeks of the release of the first movie, everyone went wild! It seemed that everyone who saw the movie, loved it. Fans raved about the amazing singing, actors, and unique covers of songs by the various a capella groups in the movie. The best singing groups in the movie were the main rivals, the girl's acapella team, the "Barden Bellas" and the boy's team, the "Treblemakers." Their feud against one another throughout the movie had people very interested in what was going to be the final outcome. People were also buzzing about the funniest characters like Patricia or "Fat Amy" and the most interesting characters like the main story liner, Beca Mitchell. Shortly after its release, just about anyone who had seen the movie could quote their favorite parts! Now Pitch Perfect has surprised everyone once again by coming out with a sequel, Pitch Perfect 2! The musical comedy will come out on

May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and will have the same characters that everyone knows and loves. However, the movie will also introduce new characters to the cast that will surely become favorites as well.

Frankie Endo Ondo expressed his excitement. "I'm really excited for Pitch Perfect 2 because the first one was really funny! I can't wait to see what happens in the new one!"

The plot of the new movie revolves around a problem Fat Amy has during a musical performance at the Lincoln Center, The "Barden Bellas" are suspended from a capella performing in the Academy Circuit! With this new blow to their reputation, The Barden Bellas must clear their name and regain their status. They decide to enter into an international competition, which no American team has ever won! This seemingly impossible task calls for the team to work hard and work together. As hard as the competition may be, the Barden Bellas are forced to grow and learn. This strengthens their sisterhood and creates even stronger friendships among all of the members.



# The Avengers: Hulk, Block Bust!

Rose Sloate  
*Entertainment Editor*

The new Avengers movie, *Age of Ultron* hit theaters May 1<sup>st</sup> led by an all-star cast of Scarlett Johansson (Natasha Romanoff/Black Widow), Robert Downey Jr. (Tony Stark/Iron Man), Jeremy Renner (Clint Barton/Hawkeye), Chris Evans (Steve Rodgers/Captain America), Mark Ruffalo (Bruce Banner/the Hulk), and Chris Hemsworth (Thor).

The sequel to the 2012 film starts out with the team trying to obtain Loki's scepter. Once the scepter is in their possession, Tony Stark harnesses its power and creates a peacekeeping program named Ultron that is supposed to give the Avengers a break from saving the world. But as Ultron downloads information on the world around him, the program starts to blame the Avengers for the world that seems to be on the brink of collapse.

According to Ultron's master plan, the only way to achieve the desired evolution of the human race is world destruction and a new, better world would be born from the rubble. The battle is fought and sacrifices are made but you'll have to go see the movie to see who wins the war.

With new faces such as Elizabeth Olsen (Wanda Maximoff/Scarlet Witch) and Aaron Taylor-Johnson (Pietro Maximoff/Quicksilver) joining the Avengers' team and some fan favorite superheroes leaving the team, *Age of Ultron* was voted liked by 90% of its viewers (on Rotten Tomatoes). The film shrugs off the seriousness of its predecessor and envelops the audience in sarcastic humor. With hit after hit on the Avengers team, the movie could be viewed as overstuffed but doesn't neglect any of its characters. *Age of Ultron* has critics raving and has everyone on the edge of their seats due to the cliff-hanger at the end of the film.



## Sweetlife Festival

Rose Sloate  
*Entertainment Editor*

"The sweetlife festival" was previously a one-day festival but for the first time ever on Saturday, May 30 and Sunday, May 31 artists from all over the world are participating in the now two-day music festival hosted by 'weetgreen.' The headliner on Saturday is Kendrick Lamar, followed up by artists such as Billy Idol, Tove Lo, Bleachers, and Lucius. Calvin Harris kicks off the following Sunday with a later lineup of The Weeknd, Charli XCX, Marina & The Diamonds, and Vance Joy. The festival itself takes place at Merriweather Post Pavilion; gates open at 12:00pm both days.

The festival was first established in 2012 when the company 'sweetgreen' invited some local indie bands to perform

in the center of Dupont Circle which a little over five hundred people attended. Now, five years later, over twenty-three thousand people attend the music and food festival. The small idea of a music festival has since blossomed into one of the most highly anticipated music events of the season. Ever since 'sweetgreen' was created in 2007, music has been a huge component of the company. The original purpose of the festival was to encourage various groups of people to expand their knowledge of different musical genres and consume some of the best food provided by 'sweetgreen.' Since the first 'sweetgreen' opened in Georgetown, the company now has twenty-nine locations throughout the North East and will soon be introduced in California!

Tickets are not yet sold out, and can be purchased on 'the sweetlife festival's' online website.

### Here's a summer playlist to get pumped for Sweetlife:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Cherry Wine // Hozier                        | Orange Sky // Alexi Murdoch                     |
| Tiger Striped Sky // Roo Planes              | Reckless Serenade // Arctic Monkeys             |
| Georgia // Vance Joy                         | Say You Like Me // We The Kings                 |
| I'm Yours // Jason Mraz                      | Use Somebody // Kings Of Leon                   |
| More Than You Know // Eddie Vedder           | Shut Up And Dance With Me // Walk The Moon      |
| Home // Phillip Phillips                     | Spark // Fitz and The Tantrums                  |
| Bridges // Broods                            | Counting Stars // Augustana                     |
| The One That Got Away // Katy Perry          | The Mona Lisa // Brad Paisley                   |
| Waiting On The World To Change // John Mayer | Honey, I'm Good // Andy Grammar                 |
| Sitting, Waiting, Wishing // Jack Johnson    | Itchin' On A Photograph // Grouplove            |
| Shark Attack // Grouplove                    | How Loud You Heart Gets // Lucius               |
| Fine By Me // Andy Grammar                   | Little Vessels // The Lighthouse and the Whaler |
| Blue Moon // Beck                            | Summer Home // Typhoon                          |
| Postcards From Italy // Beirut               |   |



### Jorge and Claire

“So I made a promise that I was going to show her my bunny before I graduated and I decided that I would use that to ask her to prom. I had AP Calculus on Tuesday so I thought that would be the best day to ask. I went home after the morning exam and picked up the sign, bought some flowers, and got my bunny into the car. I drove over to school and managed to get a good parking spot in front of the school. We had decided to get food after school and that I would wait for her at my car. She came up to the car; then I surprised her with a sign and a very fluffy bunny. She said yes!”

### John and Emma



“I got out of 7th period to set up. I thought it would take a really long time but it only took maybe 15 minutes. I had two beach chairs, a beach towel, a beach umbrella, beach sand, tropical Capri-Sun, and the essential sign and flowers. Once I was ready, I just sat there in my bathing suit, sipping Capri-Sun and listening to the Beach Boys for a while. Once school ended she came right out, said yes (Hurray!), and zipped off to practice. It was awesome! Shout-out to Reid for carrying the 50 pounds of sand back to my car.”

### Danny and Charlotte



Danny performed Van Morrison’s Brown Eyed Girls to Charlotte, who has brown eyes.

*“Hey, where did we go  
Days when the rains came?  
Down in the hollow  
Playin’ a new game  
Laughin’ and a-runnin’, hey hey  
Skippin’ and a-jumpin’  
In the misty mornin’ fog  
With our, our hearts a-thumpin’  
And you, my brown eyed girl  
You my brown eyed girl”*



### Marty and Grace

“It was right after Danny asked Charlotte. The Peanut Butter Jelly song started blaring from somebody’s car, and I thought ‘Somebody’s getting asked to Prom!’ Then Marty came out of the crowd dancing covered in peanut butter and I thought ‘I’m getting asked to Prom!’ Ben threw jelly on me and everyone came out of nowhere with signs and bread costumes. It was really creative! And really messy.”