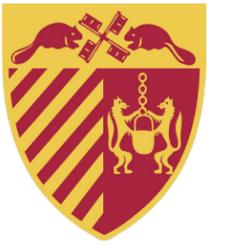




The Blazer



VOL. CXIV No. III Loyola School, 980 Park Avenue, New York, NY November 2018

Fiat Veritas

A TRANSFORMATION IN TRUTH

ROAMING A ROMERO ROME

BY ANALISA PISANO '19

Our school theme this year is “Transformed by Truth,” based on the life of Saint Oscar Romero. In keeping with our theme, Ms. Baber and six students traveled to Rome to witness the canonization of Archbishop Oscar Romero. Upon arriving in Italy, Allie, Chris, Will, Isabelle, Elizabeth, and Analisa (that’s me!) were more than ecstatic to be there. While the canonization was the main event of the pilgrimage, we were also blessed enough to visit a bunch of different churches and religious sites, many of which were Jesuit. On our first day, we went to the Church of St. Ignatius, the Pantheon, the Church of the Gesu, and, for the tourist in all of you, the Trevi Fountain. The Church of the Gesu was truly incredible not just because of the outstanding architecture, artwork, and enormous amounts of faith, but because it is where Saint Ignatius is buried. The next day was just as amazing, if not more, because we actually got some sleep! We visited my personal favorite church that we saw on the pilgrimage, St. Paul’s Outside the Walls. Do not be fooled by the name (like I was). St. Paul’s is not actually a giant wall, rather it is a gigantic basilica dedicated to Popes and Saints alike. It is absolutely beautiful, and if you ask any of us, we will tell you that our gasps were audible. Walking in left us all completely



Six Loyola students visit the Colosseum in Rome
Photo courtesy of Loyola Yearbook

speechless. Once again, the beauty of the building was not even the most spectacular aspect. St. Paul’s body is on display under the altar, and behind the main altar are four little chapels, one of which is where Saint Ignatius and his earliest companions took their vows. Needless to say, we were all greatly moved and there is nothing we would have changed about this journey. On Sunday, at the main event, the crowds were insane, and there was way too much pushing for a religious function. Don’t

worry though, Ms. Baber prepped us as if we were going into battle, so we were able to survive, clearly. Nonetheless, it was kind of fun huddling together in a group and trying not to get lost, trampled, or thrown on our way into St. Peter’s Square. We made it through, each carrying two liters of water, and actually got seats (a true blessing!). The ceremony was extremely beautiful and moving, and the mass was the same. Everything was read in so many different languages, and there were

flags from different countries. You could feel the representation and unity all for this one occasion, and it was one of the most powerful moments I have ever experienced. Between the music, the readings, the actual canonization, and the sense of community, it felt very clear that we were all there for a purpose, even if we were not sure what that purpose was.

We spent our last day at the Vatican and the Jesuit Curia. The Vatican was a bit overwhelming because of its size and all of the people there, but we did our best to take in as much as we could. Some of the highlights from the Vatican were seeing the Pieta and the Popes’ tombs. The Curia is basically the Jesuit headquarters in Rome. We got a tour of the property and the building which was absolutely beautiful, and we met with the Jesuits’ treasurer. Overall, this pilgrimage was absolutely incredible, and so faith-filled.



A group of Loyolans participating in the Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice in Washington, D.C.
Photo courtesy of Alex DeFranco '20

A VISIT TO THE IGNATIAN FAMILY

BY ELIZABETH NACION '19

On the morning of November 3, a group of Loyolans traveled to D.C. for the Ignatian Teach-In. For most of us, including me, we were experiencing such a conference for the first time and we weren’t sure what to expect. After hearing from the first few speakers, I was amazed by the relevance of the topics that were discussed and how willing speakers were to address Church controversy. After we listened to a keynote speaker, we each had the opportunity to choose which breakout session to which we attended. The one that most stood out to me was the session given

by Fr. Jim Martin S.J., who spoke at Loyola only a few years ago as part of For and With Others Week. Fr. Martin’s session was about welcoming the LGBTQ+ community into the Catholic Church, a topic which, until Pope Francis spoke out on the issue, was considered taboo. He talked about his book, *Building A Bridge*, in which he writes on the subject from a priest’s perspective. I found it refreshing to hear from a priest who was so accepting and focused on the love and respect that needs to be shown towards the LGBTQ+ community. Above all else, he was extremely perceptive about

the progress being made in the values of the Church. We also heard from different advocacy groups like Loyola Rising, a group of women from Loyola University Maryland who are bringing awareness to gun violence, in honor of the 10th anniversary of Freddie Gray’s murder, a victim of a shooting in Baltimore. We heard from students at Brophy who started the Dream On campaign, advocating for DACA recipients. Immigration reform was the focus of our advocacy on the last day of the Teach-In, another one of the many impactful topics discussed by the keynote speakers, ses-

sion leaders, and advocacy groups. We spent our Saturday night in preparation for Advocacy Day, where we spoke with a staff member of Senator Gillebrand’s office about our views on immigration and asked about her specific platform. Although each of us took so much with us from the weekend, we want everyone at Loyola to be able to advocate with us, and for us as a community to tackle the issues of our world. We are hoping that through the up and coming Loyola Advocacy Coalition, all of us will be able to come together for something greater than just us: Justice.

A TRIP TO THE ETERNAL CITY

BY ALLIE LONGWORTH '20



Students in St. Peter’s Square prepare for Romero’s canonization
Photo courtesy of Loyola Yearbook

In February of my Sophomore year, I went on a service trip to the Romero Center in Camden, New Jersey. I knew a little bit about Oscar Romero from my Theology class in Freshman year, but I never truly understood the message he spread to people worldwide. There is a quote on a wall of the Romero Center that reads, “So You Say You Love The Poor... Name Them,”—a quote which summarizes our entire Christian Service program. Oscar Romero, or rather, St. Romero, fought for something in which I strongly believe—helping those in need.

I first heard of Romero’s canonization in school at assembly, and it was as if God called me to apply for this adventure. Loyola is the first Jesuit school I have ever attended, and being here for three years has taught me what it truly means to grow in the Jesuit tradition. It means living out the Magis as well as embodying the Grad at Grad. Moreover, I felt called to this pilgrimage because I wanted to be open to growth, specifically as a Christian.

It has always been a dream of mine to travel to Italy, and taking it all in for the first time was breathtaking and unreal. After a long flight and being awake for 20 hours, I stood in front of the Vatican in disbelief and said, “Wait... where are we?”—a running joke for the entire trip. We visited sights including St. Peter’s Square, Pantheon, Piazza Navona, the Church of Saint Ignatius, the Trevi Fountain, the Capuchin

Crypt, the Spanish Steps, the Vatican Museum, St. Paul’s Basilica, the Church of the Gesu, the rooms of Saint Ignatius, the Colosseum, many ancient ruins, St. Peter’s Basilica, and finally, the Jesuit Curia. For five days, we saw more than I would see with my parents in at least a week—and all by foot! We truly were the pilgrim people.

If there is anything I have learned from this trip it’s that nuns are aggressive! On a more serious note, the fact that around 70,000 people from all over the world were gathered together for two hours was a breath of fresh air. In a world that is constantly separated, hearing everyone sing together, seeing everyone waving at the Pope, and being in the presence of such togetherness was truly inspiring. After I arrived home, I spoke to Mr. Daley and he mentioned how Ms. Baber described one instant during the canonization in which everyone—70,000 people—went completely silent. There is a saying that goes, “silence speaks louder than words,” and it is true. Despite the language barriers between the 70,000 of us, that moment of silence made me feel connected to each and every one of them. The pilgrimage to St. Oscar Romero’s canonization was truly a life changing and blessed event, and I will always remember the laughs, the gelato, and the sleep deprivation we shared. But more importantly, I will remember the love we shared for one another—even those we did not know.

THE MOST IMPORTANT MIDTERMS OF THE CENTURY

BY GRACE COPPS '22

The 2018 Midterm Elections have been a hot topic ever since the 2016 Presidential Election. The results of these Midterm Elections give insight as to how the country will vote in the upcoming 2020 Presidential Election. Both parties campaigned furiously for seats in Congress. The Republicans hoped to maintain their majority in both the Senate and the House of Representatives, while the Democrats hoped for a "blue wave." Many celebrities got involved, lending their voices towards various campaigns. On November 6th, one could not walk down the

block without seeing a handful of "I Voted" stickers. Voter turnout went up—according to NPR, voter turnout reached a 50-year high, with over 47% of eligible voters hitting the polls. Fortune Magazine states that an estimated 113 million people voted—the first time a midterm election has ever had over 100 million votes. As for the results of election, the Senate and the House are fairly equally split between Democrats and Republicans. Democrats rejoiced in their reclaiming of the House, taking at least 227 out of the 435 seats. Republicans

held on firm to their majority in the Senate, taking at least 51 out of the 100 seats. The elections were certainly not a blow-out for either party, and it is not as easy to predict how the metaphorical cookie will crumble in 2020 as many had hoped. As of this writing, some seats still have to be declared (we're looking at you, Florida). Election Night in America 2018 was a night filled with firsts. Michigan's Rashida Tlaib and Minnesota's Ilhan Omar became the first Muslim women to hold seats in Congress. Jared Polis of Colorado became America's first

openly gay governor. Sylvia Garcia and Veronica Escobar became the first Latina congresswomen to hail from the state of Texas. Sharice Davids of Kansas and Deb Haaland of New Mexico will be the first Native American women in Congress. Davids is also Kansas' first openly gay representative. New York's very own Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez now holds the title as the youngest Congresswoman in American history. Kyrsten Sinema became the first female senator from Arizona and the first openly bisexual senator. And now, we turn our attention to 2020...



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Rep. of the 14th District of NY Photo courtesy of the New York Times

A CONGRESS THAT ACTUALLY WORKS

BY OLIVIA PASQUERELLA '22 AND KATIE SPILLANE '22

Do you love current affairs, the realm of politics and government, or simply the fine art of arguing? If so, then Student Congress may be the perfect way for you to express your opinion in a competitive, challenging setting and gain insight on the opinions and perspectives of others.

compelling aspects of Student Congress, such as the heated debates that can sometimes evolve into dramatic screaming matches, especially in cross-examination, where competitors ask the speaker questions, and dissect their argument after they give a speech. Additionally, in a chamber, which is the room where debates take

place in tournaments, students are referred to reverently as "Senator." Student Congress can sometimes seem like its own little world, but it is not limited to just the students here at Loyola. Student Congress members face the competition of students from schools all around the New York area, such as Xavier, Bronx Science, Stuyves-

ant, St. Joseph Hill Academy, and Pelham Memorial High School. Through local tournaments in New York City and national tournaments, such as the ones held at Harvard, Yale, Princeton, and Columbia, Student Congress can be a means of meeting new

people from all around the country. Even practices can be a lot fun. We meet about twice a week and talk all things politics. This year we have a very large Congress team as a result of the incoming Freshman as well as the Upperclassmen. So far

everyone has gone to at least one competition and some even went to Yale for a national competition. Olivia Pasquerella and Nick Imam already have a full qualification for States and hopefully there will be more to come. We are gearing up to have a great year!

Congress, which is a part of the Forensics team led by Ms. Holden, is a type of competitive debate. Similar to Model U.N. or a Mock Trial, students have the power to decide whether to pass a bill into law or shoot it down. Whereas the U.S. Congress is subject to lengthy speeches and filibustering, Student Congress is characterized by short, three-minute speeches wherein competitors state whether they believe the legislation being debated should be passed or rejected and cite several reasons why they are taking this stance, using evidence and reliable sources to corroborate. If that all sounds very boring to you, consider some of the more



Members of Forensics attend a weekend debate competition Photo courtesy of Loyola Yearbook

THE LOYOLA ADVOCACY COALITION

BY IKKI KAJIMA '19

Ask yourself this. Is Loyola the best it can be? Can it be better? The question lies on the ideas of truth, justice, harmony, and stability as we are called to ask if Loyola is truly existing to its fullest potential. What can we, as students, do to make our school better than it already is? We are faced with two choices: to become content with how our school is, or become a force of change. On Wednesday, November 14, the Loyola Advocacy Coalition introduced itself to the school, opening the opportunity for all students to take part in action and change at Loyola. We strongly encourage any and all to participate in any way that they see fit. Just think about

with the administration to give input and insight on the wants, wishes, and concerns of the student body, we hope to take the next step in our experience of Jesuit education. Very soon our school will be implementing a Composting Program to provide a resourceful method of recycling the waste that we produce every day at lunch. The lockers across from the tables in the Commons will be replaced with compost bins, beautifully painted by Caroline Adams and Alex DelFranco, along with a wonderful banner courtesy of Ms. Adams. Please anticipate in the weeks ahead an assembly information session to learn how to most productively dispose of our trash.

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The Blazer is the official newspaper of Loyola School, produced and published by the students of the school for the Loyola School Community.

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Students are encouraged to contribute to the school newspaper at any time by sending their articles to: 19eknapp@loyolanyc.org.

Students should be aware that their contributions, if printed, may be edited to fit the available column space of The Blazer. Content may also be edited to conform to newspaper norms.

The staff of The Blazer holds monthly meetings to plan upcoming issues. Students are strongly advised to attend these meetings to get a sense of what articles need to be written. We are most in need of straight-reporting articles about school life. We are least in need of editorials or other opinion pieces. Articles of general interest not specifically related to school life will also be considered but will be printed at the discretion of the staff. Such articles include, but are not limited to, movie reviews, book reviews, horoscopes, editorials, and humor. All decisions made by the staff regarding the suitability of an article are final.

A HOUSE FULL OF LETTERS IS BEING AN EXCELLENT PLAY THIS YEAR

By EMMA ANDERSON '22

Lights, camera, action! The Loyola Players are here to present their annual fall production, *House Full of Letters*. It tells the story of a strong-willed shopkeeper, Dania, trying to shield her sister July from sickness and grant her an acceptance to a higher class switch. The production is set in the Reunited States of America after the world has “ended,” and all remaining humans were brainwashed and were rescued from their old, chaotic lives by a man titled Brother Salvation. It covers topics such as political injustice, religion, and romance, all embodied into one play. As stage manager, I have seen this play at least 30 times, and each time around, I have learned something new about the world.

Senior Analisa Pisano stole the stage with her role as Dania (as she does in

every Loyola production!) while freshman Mary-Tyler Karnabi made a bold debut as July. Along the way, they meet Bastian, an articulate, intelligent exile who was dragged onto their doorstep. He was played by Ella Ritchie, who, yes, is a young woman. She has to disguise herself as a man for this play, which I believe displays a great degree of dedication. When July falls ill with tuberculosis, they set off on a journey and become entangled in a web of truths and lies. Adding to the creative mix of characters was Caroline Adams, who played Catalina, a strict and resilient military officer who helps conduct illegal trade. Caroline had to tweak her personality from her humorous, kind tone to a more serious one, but she has shown she is capable of doing so. Miranda Baez swapped her usual chipper

smile for a more solemn one to shine as Lena, a weary, weak woman who is left to fend for herself and her many indigent children. We most definitely cannot exclude Isabelle McNamara-Angel, who dazzled in her role as Magda, a patriotic government worker who discovers scandalous secrets which could haunt her fellow characters forever. Last but not least, Daniel Chappell sparkled the stage as Nico, a friendly ‘ol truck driver with a heart of gold. He also carries forbidden feelings for July, which leads to a tumbling series of events. With a show-stopping finale which will leave your jaw dropping, it is a given you should stop by and watch all of our future plays!

Joining the Loyola Players is no easy task. You have to prove you have a talent and flair for acting, which all of these actors



The Loyola Players relax after performing *A House Full of Letters*
Photo courtesy of Loyola Yearbook

have done. Seeing the play during its final practices made me realize joining was all worth it. I have seen the play since its mere beginnings in September, and to finally glaze it with costumes and lights just shows how rewarding the experience was. We put endless hours of practice into the show, and the one

person we have to thank is our fabulous director, Mr. Haugh. He guided us through the ups and downs of theatre, and helped us grow as actors and managers. I had barely any experience walking into the job of stage manager, and after these two months I have learned so much about the toil the backstage crew en-

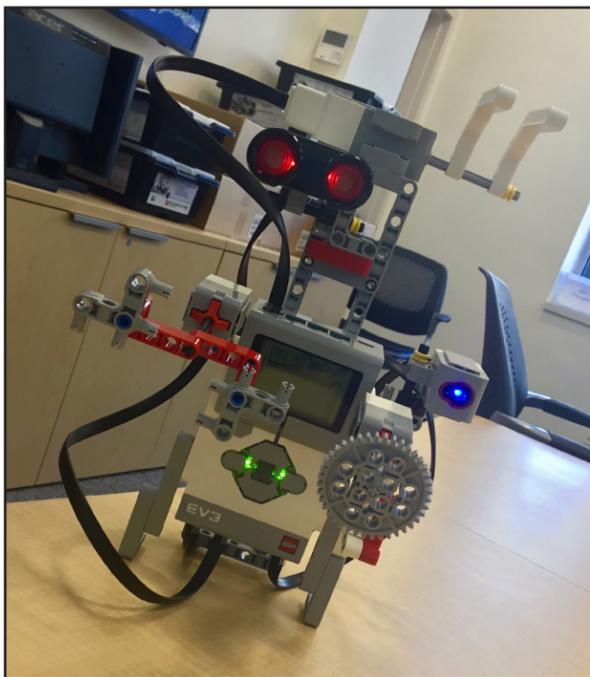
dures. Seeing this project string itself together over the course of these many weeks has proven how, if you put your mind to something, you truly can achieve it. So come on down (or up the dreadful five flights of stairs) to the Gannon Theater for our Spring production to show your support. Go Players!

THE ROOTS HAVE TAKEN HOLD AND THE STEM IS GROWING STRONG

By MOLLY MARESCA '19

If you are at least a Sophomore at Loyola, you will likely recall hours spent in our Computing Technology class with Ms. Watkins. Freshmen piled into the narrow rows of computers in the old library for an entire semester, summarizing “Feedly” articles and practicing Scratch coding. Along with the outdated classroom (now MIC 2), said Computing Technology class has also been replaced—this time with an updated STEM class.

According to Ms. Watkins, she, along with members of the Science Department, and Mr. Lewis had been floating around the idea of implementing a STEM curriculum for a



A Lego robot built by a group of Freshmen in STEM
Photo courtesy of Nicholas DelFranco '22

while. They had noticed a lack of programming knowledge amongst students, who would have had minimal formal teaching unless they enrolled in Engineering during their Senior year. Hoping to change that, the team began developing a curriculum over a year ago. Finally, their plans have come to fruition and the current Freshmen class partakes in a full year STEM course, rather than a one-semester class as existed previously. Additionally, the class of 2022 does not take Music History for a semester, but rather begins their Fine Arts requirements during their Sophomore year.

The STEM class, led

by Ms. Watkins, focuses primarily on coding and robotics. The curriculum first covers block programming and then transitions into LEGO Robotics for the remainder of the year. Students are assigned a variety of challenges to complete, including building a workable fan and a robot that can maneuver its way out of a maze. They often pair up to complete these tasks and work on them during double period labs for yet another unprecedented change in scheduling.

The review by the Freshmen taking the class this year is that STEM is an overwhelming and resounding success! Whether its the thrill of building with their

own two hands or finally cracking the elusive puzzle of code, everyone seems to be having a great time.

This Freshman class is only one step in Loyola’s ultimate goal to expand the STEM department. The class of 2022 is essentially the “tester” class and will be the first to experience a full four-year STEM track with updated electives that the rest of us have never taken. The courses are still in the works but will likely be mandatory and build upon one another. For the next three years, as each incoming Freshman class arrives, a new STEM class will be finalized with the aim that it becomes a long-lasting legacy at Loyola.

WOMEN HAVE TAKEN CONGRESS BY STORM

By SOFIA PASTORE '22

In 1872, Victoria Woodhull became the first woman to run for the U.S. Presidency. She received very few votes. In 1932, Hattie Wyatt Caraway became the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate. In 1933, Labor Secretary Frances Perkins became the first woman to serve in a Presidential Cabinet. In 1997, Madeleine Albright was sworn in as U.S. Secretary of State. She was the first woman to hold such a position. In 2016, Hillary Rodham Clinton made history when she secured the Presidential Election nomination for the Democratic Party. On Tuesday, November 6, women made history again.

After Tuesday’s Midterm Elections, a record number of women will serve in Congress starting in January 2019. So far, 98 women have won their races

for the House. In addition, 13 women have won Senate seats. This means that at least 121 women will serve in the 116th Congress, 14 more than the current 107. Not only did the number of women who were elected increase, the number of women who ran and were nominated went up as well. Of the 98 women elected, 85 are Democrats.

The record breaking movement of female candidates comes with a list of firsts among those elected. Democrats Rashida Tlaib and Ilhan Omar are the first Muslim women elected to the House. Ilhan Omar is also the first Palestinian-American woman to serve in Congress. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez is the youngest woman to be elected to Congress, at age 29, representing New York’s 14th District. The woman cur-

rently holding that position, representative Elise Stefanik, was elected in 2014 at age 30. Democrat Ayanna Pressley is the first black woman elected to Congress from Massachusetts. Democrats Abby Finkenauer and Cindy Axne are

Iowa’s first women elected to the House of Representatives. Democrat Veronica Escobar and Democrat Sylvia Garcia will be the first Latinas to represent the state of Texas in Congress. Democrat Janet Mills will be the first woman Gover-

nor of Maine. Republican incumbent Kim Reynolds is the first woman elected Governor of Iowa. Republican Marsha Blackburn will be the first woman to serve as Senator from Tennessee. Republican Representative Kristi Noem is the first

woman elected Governor from South Dakota. Representative Kyrsten Sinema, a Democrat and formal social worker, defeated her Republican opponent for a Senate seat in Arizona. Senator Sinema’s victory over Martha McSally marked the first Democratic triumph since 1976 in a battle for an open Senate seat in Arizona.

Women have come a long way in Congress. It all started in 1892 when Victoria Woodhull ran for U.S. president and received, just a few votes. Now, nearly 8 in 10 Americans said it is important to elect more women to public office. The share of Congress members that are women has risen from 20 to 23 percent.

Women still have more to do, but this year’s Midterm Elections were a step in the right direction!



Ilhan Omar speaks to a crowd of voters before the 2018 Midterm Election
Photo courtesy of Time Magazine

A GAME FOR THE AGES

By NICHOLAS DELFRANCO '22

Last Monday, a battle between two spectacular football teams occurred. The Kansas City Chiefs and the Los Angeles Rams valiantly tried their hardest in the highest scoring Monday Night Football game in history. Both teams came into the game with stellar records of 9-1. The highly anticipated game was originally scheduled to be played in Mexico City, but unfortunately the stadium's field was very rough and the conditions were not suitable for play. Since the game was technically a Rams' home game, the NFL moved the game to Los Angeles, keeping true to its word.

Finally the night arrived, and the two dynamic teams were ready. The Rams had the first possession, and Jared Goff, the Rams' quarterback and the 1st pick in the 2016 draft, led the offense straight through the Chiefs,

and threw a touchdown to Robert Woods. Surprisingly, Greg Zuerlein, the Rams' kicker missed the PAT (colloquially known as the "extra point"). The Chiefs disappointingly were stopped and had to punt on their next drive. The Rams seized the opportunity to score, and Jared Goff fired a touchdown pass to Josh Reynolds. With the Rams winning 13-0, the Chiefs needed to score quickly, and that is exactly what they did. In four long plays, the Chiefs' gunslinger and star rookie, Patrick Mahomes, threw a touchdown to the speedster Tyreek Hill. The Rams got close to scoring again, but had to settle for a field goal. The Chiefs quickly answered with a field goal of their own, making the score 16-10, Rams. On the next drive, the Rams did not get far before Jared Goff got sacked, and fumbled

the ball, giving the Chiefs a good chance to take the lead. On the first play, Pat Mahomes threw a 21 yard touchdown to their running back, Kareem Hunt. The Rams on their next drive punted, giving the Chiefs the ball back with about four minutes to go. Patrick Mahomes then got sacked by Aaron Donald, who forced a fumble which was returned for a touchdown. Now the Rams were leading 23-17 with two minutes left in the second half. Two minutes, however, was all Pat Mahomes needed to throw another touchdown. The Chiefs' kicker, Harrison Butker missed the PAT, making the game go into halftime tied at 23-23.

The Chiefs received the second half kickoff, but did not make it far before Aaron Donald sacked and forced another fumble from Pat Mahomes. With this great opportunity, Jared



Chiefs' wide receiver Chris Conley waltzes into the end zone evading Rams' cornerback Marcus Peters
Photo courtesy of arrowheadaddict.com

Goff drove down the field and ran the ball in from seven yards out, breaking the tie and giving the Rams the lead. Pat Mahomes, however, quickly diced up the defense and threw his fourth touchdown of the game to his athletic tight-end, Travis Kelce. With the score tied again, the Rams

drove down and kicked a field goal, giving themselves the lead 33-30. On the first play of the Chiefs' next drive, Pat Mahomes blundered and threw a pick-six right to the Rams defender. The Rams were now ahead by a sizeable margin of 40-30. The next drives for each team ended quickly. Suddenly, Pat Mahomes chucked up a bomb to the speedster, Tyreek Hill, who outran every single Ram defender, to score a 73-yard touchdown. With the Chiefs having some hope, their defense stepped up and forced Jared Goff to fumble, and the Chiefs returned the fumble for a touchdown. In the sudden turn of events, the Chiefs regained the lead 44-40. Jared Goff stayed calm and drove down the field to throw another touchdown. The score sat at 47-44 for two more drives until Pat Mahomes threw his sixth touchdown of the

game. Jared Goff quickly responded with his own 40-yard touchdown to his tight-end, Gerald Everett. Running out of time, Pat Mahomes chucked up a long pass that was unfortunately intercepted by a former Chiefs cornerback, Marcus Peters. The Chiefs got the ball back with 50 seconds left and Pat Mahomes gave one final effort that was intercepted again to end the game.

The game's final score was 54-51, in favor of the Rams, and the third highest scoring game in history. The game ended with over 1000 yards of offense as each quarterback played magnificently. The most surprising part of the whole game, though, was the three defensive touchdowns, because both defenses are not generally regarded as good. This shootout game was a true classic and will go down as one of the most exciting games in history.



Chiefs' defensive tackle Chris Jones pressuring Rams' quarterback Jared Goff
Photo courtesy of arrowheadpride.com

COME LAUGH WITH US

By CHRISTIAN DI MONTE '21

I'm sure many of you have heard the announcements for Comedy Club in the morning and think to yourselves, I wonder what's going on in there? They're in the Gannon, maybe they're messing around with the stage props? Maybe they're making a modern day Shakespeare production. What if they're binge-watching The Office up there?

One morning, when I was sitting in my mentor period, the topic of Comedy Club came up and people started asking, "What do they do there?" I had the same question. I decided I would go and try it out, saying, "I volunteer as tribute!" So, on that Day 4, during activities, I made the long voyage up to the Gannon, and walked in, all to see no one there. Since I walk into wrong classes sometimes, I figured I was in the wrong place. Just as I started to turn to leave, Chip walked in and said, "Hey, Christian." When I saw that Chip was there, I thought to myself, "One of

my friends is here, I'm not alone!" After him, Sebastian walked in, one of my friends who kept telling me I should join Comedy Club. I could tell he was excited that I actually kept my word and decided to show up.

Five minutes passed filled with piano playing and talking until Mr. Daley

showed up and welcomed me as a new member. I had no idea what to expect, so I asked him what we did here at Comedy Club. In my mind, I was thinking stand-up comedy, where you get up on stage alone for everyone to stare at, and you hope that your voice doesn't crack at that one very convenient moment.

Mr. Daley explained to me that what we did was actually improv comedy. I have done improv comedy and improv comedy shows before, so I thought, "Alright, let's see how this goes."

We got started with a few warm-ups such as Zip-Zap-Zop, a game where you have to look at someone and say either zip, zap,

zop, or anything that comes to mind. We got some very random and out there ideas that made everyone laugh, so I think it was the perfect warm-up to get everyone in a good mood. Forget all the tests you have next week, let's enjoy ourselves and have a good time now.

After the warm-ups, we got right into the skits

which usually consist of two roles that correspond to each other in some way, such as an interviewer and interviewee. Most of the time, we would add something to the skit, such as accents, to really make things fun and interesting.

This format usually continues on throughout the rest of Improv Comedy Club meeting, and we take the advice given to us by Mr. Daley and our peers to improve on the skits. The current members of Improv Comedy Club number a little over four (Woo Hoo!). While there are already a large number of members, we are all encouraging more people to join. Even if you don't participate, come check it out. There's no harm in stopping by to see if you like it. I know many of you are curious, even some teachers are interested to see what Comedy Club is all about. That's why we are welcoming everyone to come by and see what happens down at our little, old Improv Comedy Club.



A barren stage begging to be taken by a troupe of young, aspiring comics
Photo courtesy of breweryarts.com

SOUP'S ON: LONG LIVE THE KING OF POP ART

BY CAROLINE ADAMS '21

On August 6, 1928, two Slovakian immigrants named Julia and Ondrej Warhola had a child. When the child was eight years old, he contracted chorea and was confined to bed for a year. It was during this time that Julia, an artist herself, taught him how to draw, sparking a legendary career. That child's name was Andy, and he later shortened his last name to Warhol. Today, Andy Warhol is one of the most well-known modern artists of the 20th century. When Andy Warhol was 14, his father died, a tragedy that left Warhol so upset that he couldn't attend his father's funeral. His father, who recognized his son's artistic inclination and capability, left his life's savings to his son for his college

education. Warhol attended college at the Carnegie Institute of Technology. He then moved to New York City, and began his career as an illustrator. He gained notoriety for his Pop Art, and started the Factory, his art studio where he regularly hosted parties. It was a cultural hotspot, and even inspired "Walk on the Wild Side" by Lou Reed. Warhol was also the victim of a murder attempt by radical feminist Valerie Solanas, who reportedly was enraged that Warhol declined using her script for one of his movies. He survived, but later died on February 22, 1987 from complications with his gall bladder. Thousands of people attended his funeral at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Andy Warhol's work

expresses a simple yet powerful idea: Art is for everyone. Through pieces such as The Campbell's Soup Cans and his portraits of celebrities, he closes the gap between pop culture and the art displayed in museums, eroding the boundary between high art and everyday items. Warhol unifies his audience by capturing a familiarity that people can understand. He commented on the nature of American consumerism, saying: "What's great about this country is America started the tradition where the richest consumers buy essentially the same things as the poorest... A Coke is a Coke and no amount of money can get you a better Coke than the one the bum on the corner is drinking." Warhol, as a son of immi-



Andy Warhol examines a print of his world-famous Campbell's Soup Can
Courtesy of revolverwarholgallery.com



Andy Warhol exhibit at the Pittsburgh Museum
Photo courtesy of warhol.org

grants, was intrigued by the mass media consumption of American popular culture. In fact, Warhol's commentary on popular culture has been the subject of much debate among art critics since the Pop Art collection debuted. Some argue that Warhol's work serves as a harsh critique of a mechanic culture beguiled by the gaudy world of celebrities and money. Others believe that Warhol sought to celebrate and glorify American popular culture.

Andy Warhol's real medium was not paint or silk-screen, but the eyes of his audience. He never actually defined what his work meant. Some pieces, such as Marilyn Monroe, which

was created when Warhol received news of the star's suicide, seem to express the detached, superficial sorrow that the public displays upon the news of wide-scale tragedy. Warhol's portraits of political leaders, such as Jackie Kennedy in Red Jackie, Richard Nixon in Vote McGovern, and Mao Zedong in Mao, serve as a commentary on the ever-blurring line between political office and stardom. Throughout his career, Andy Warhol was fascinated with the way the public viewed the world.

While Andy Warhol's collection of work is easily recognizable, and many have reproduced his techniques, his real work is usually impossible to see all at

once. Most of it is scattered in different museums or the homes of wealthy collectors, while some is in the form of video installations, books, and films. For the first time in 31 years, however, a full career retrospective of his work is on view at the Whitney Museum of American Art. It includes over 350 pieces, a size and scale quite befitting the personality and life of the artist it commemorates. The exhibition includes everything from Warhol's famous portraits to his short films, even including one of his time capsules! I highly recommend exploring it, and if you take your student ID, you can even receive a discount on admission.

TO NOT MAKING YOUR EARS BLEED

BY ANDREEA GRIGORESCU '21

I am going to be straight with you. I am writing this because I was asked to. But I'm also writing because I want to educate you all and expand your musical taste and knowledge. My musical taste is all over the place: you can catch me listening to almost everything but hillbilly Country Music (No Tea, No Shade, But I just hate country music—don't come for me!). Although my music is all over the place, I am somehow always looking for new music, yet never know where to go. I usually end up looking through Spotify and skipping every song since they're not quite to my liking. Now, I am not saying that my recommendations will be amazing or even great. You might even absolutely hate or despise my recommendation, but I still wish for you to give it a try, even if you already know the artist. Music cannot simply be put into words. Often music is created because the artist isn't able to describe what they feel or mean, but I'll try my best to extrapolate because I'm shooting for at least 500 words. Here goes nothing...

Album of the month: SYRE by Jaden Smith.

Jaden Smith is a 20-year-old American rapper and son of the famous actor Will Smith. Some of you might know Jaden since he has recently gotten very popular. One of the most famous songs on this album is Icon.

The name of the album, SYRE, means a person who is blunt or straightforward. The album was released on November 17, 2017 and is about this character Syre, of whom Smith said, "It's really just become a legacy of this guy, this kid, who chases the sunset—and then one day, it chases him back and he can't get away—it really is the story of me [sic] coming to be a young adult, and it wasn't easy at all." He dedicates one song to his ex-girlfriend and his failure to dissociate with his father's fame. SYRE expresses sadness, anger and regret following the breakdown of a relationship, making references to Adam and Eve and the myth of Icarus.

SYRE is one hour and 30 minutes long. There are exactly 17 songs, yet they

flow together into one encompassing concept piece. To get the most out of this album, you should listen to it straight through. Of course you can listen to each song separately, and you will still understand what's going on. The only thing you will miss occurs at the end of each song—some type of transition leading to the next. A great example is found in the four songs B, L, U, E. (They spell out the word "Blue"). The songs all connect—there will be points in each where the song sort of ends when in reality it's not even half way through. Or, thinking you're still on the first song, you'll check and realize that you are already three songs in. The way Jaden is able to connect the tracks and make them work so smoothly is breathtaking. It all flows so perfectly that it's hard to make sense of how someone as young as 20 could craft something as meaningful as SYRE.

Now the album itself isn't just one style, it's a mix of multiple. Jaden says SYRE is "A Beautiful Confusion" and that's



Album cover of SYRE
Photo courtesy of spotify.com

exactly what it is. Its not just constant rapping for 17 songs, it is so much more than that. There is no way to perfectly understand what it means, but to get a better picture it helps to look back at history. Jaden was inspired both by Kanye West's "The

Life of Pablo" and Frank Ocean's "Blonde," so if you know those artists and albums then you can kind of get a sense of what "SYRE" must sound like. As some random guy on the internet said, it is like a "full of soaring harmonies and dark, moody produc-

tion and combines folk, metal, '70s rock, Christian pop and Detroit techno.... it is like putting a Spotify playlist on shuffle." To truly understand what the heck I am even talking about, just go listen to the album. You must hear it to believe it.

THE WOMAN WHO FELL FROM THE SKY

By RYAN HOGAN '20

Imagine yourself falling. Fast. You feel the wind rushing all around you, but you can't move, can't focus on anything but the forever expanding jungle beneath you getting closer and closer. Imagine a chunk of metal from the plane you've been shot out of careening past the row of seats you're still buckled into, plummeting with you on your descent. Imagine spinning out of control, blurring the green of the earth and the dark grey of the sky. Imagine the world going totally black. Now imagine waking up on the ground, the blue sky barely visible through the canopy.

Juliane Koepcke was only 17 when she fell from the sky on Christmas Eve, 1971. The daughter of Hans-Wilhelm and Maria Koepcke, two German ornithologists, Juliane was born in Lima, Peru, and knew the Amazon better than both of her parents combined. She spoke both German and Spanish, and often lent a hand in her parents' research. She had a pet toucan, and could identify most of the birds of the jungle by their songs. She knew the behaviors of the creatures of the Amazon River, from the smallest fish to the largest reptile. She was perhaps one of the most well equipped-people to be stranded in the jungle with no equipment.

Juliane's father had gone back to Germany for a conference in mid-December

of 1971, and wanted his wife and child to be with him for the holidays. To save money, they bought an early morning flight, LANSA 508, with the dodgy airline of the same name. Two LANSA flights had crashed earlier that year, and their planes were often constructed by motorcycle repairmen in trade for cheap labor. The Koepcke's departed seven hours late, after rushing its refueling. The plane was still in Peruvian airspace when it encountered intense turbulence. The Christmas dinners that the passengers had been stowing flew out into the aisles. And then the lightning outside shook the plane so hard it began to fall to pieces. The last words Juliane ever heard her mother say were a morbid "This is the end! It's all over!" Juliane was then torn with her seat from the plane, and fell 2 miles into the heart of the Amazon Rainforest.

She woke up still in her seat. Her glasses were gone, rendering her nearly blind. She had a fractured collarbone that didn't hurt her, and she had just enough strength in her legs to walk. She had only one sandal, and the short dress skirt she had no idea would be getting dirty that day. She knew that if there were search helicopters looking for her, there was no way she would be seen through the canopy. The first thing she heard after adjusting to

her terrifying isolation was running water. A stream nearby to where she landed would save her from this ordeal. Juliane knew that streams connected to rivers, and that people were bound to be living near a massive river. She collected as much food from the crash as she could find, and followed along the stream in search for the river.

It took four days to reach the river, and by then she had run out of food. The mouth she found led to a part of the river that was too twisty and shallow for people to live near, so she started swimming. Juliane often came into close contact with Cayman crocodiles, but knowing that those creatures are more afraid of humans than the other way around, she had to steady her movement and keep from freaking out when they would swim underneath her. She knew that the real threat to her safety while in the river was poisonous stingrays that lived on the river floor. She swam and floated waving a stick in the water in front of her to keep the rays away.

She had not eaten for six days when she found the first sign of civilization: a boat docked in front of a small hut. She pulled herself onto the shore, and fell asleep exhausted inside the shed. The next morning she awoke to the voices of men the shack. They were lumberjacks, and they believed the pale, emaciated female

in front of them was a water goddess. She told them who she was, and they brought her back into civilization by boat. Her eyes were so bloodshot from exhaustion and starvation that the people she encountered along the river believed her to be a demon, stopping the lumberjack's boat, demanding explanations. The day-long trip was only lengthened by these sudden stops. She passed out on the boat, and slept until morning.

The next day she was met by her father and admitted to a hospital in Lima. Reporters from all over the world tried to get an interview. One even dressed up like a nurse to get into her hospital room. Juliane was soon sent home, but the press did not leave them alone, so her father sent her to Germany to heal and finish her education. Juliane studied at the University of Kiel, and returned to Peru to become a mammalogist. She released a memoir in 2012, *When I Fell From the Sky*, detailing the events of the eleven-day trek. In her book, she claims that she made peace with the whole event when she went back to the wreckage of LANSA 508 to make a film with noted documentarian Werner Herzog. Shortly after the third crash of 1971, LANSA Airlines was shut down, ensuring that no person would need to endure the same journey as Juliane Koepcke.

A MOVING PICTURE ON ALL HALLOWS' EVE

By DYLAN BOUSQUETTE '20

Now that Christmas music has started to play and distant relatives are showing up at your doorstep, you're probably wondering what good movies are out right now. Well, if you're not feeling the holiday cheer yet, you might want to go see Halloween. Acknowledging that this is the wrong issue of the Blazer for this movie, thematically speaking, I would like to say that it's still a very enjoyable movie. The tone of the movie might not be what you're expecting, but it's certainly not bad. This reboot of the franchise takes the classic film and adds a current, almost realistic mood to it.

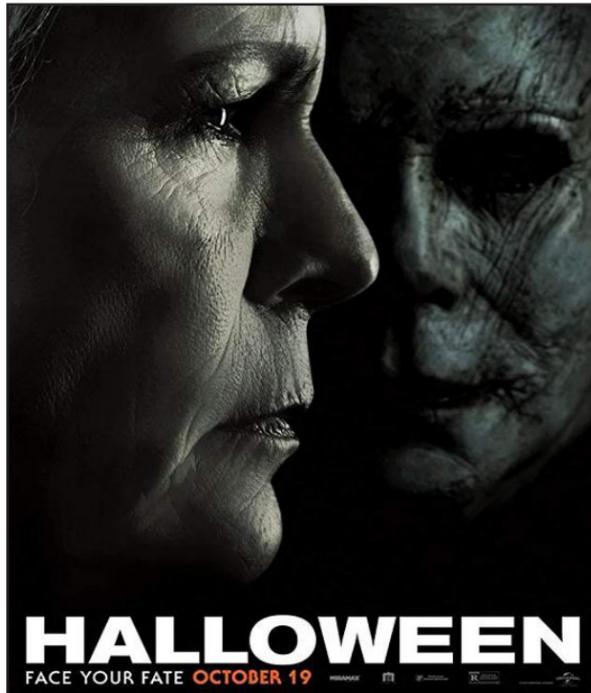
This movie is a direct sequel to the original 1978 Halloween movie, that introduces an older, more paranoid Laurie Strode who has spent her whole life preparing for Michael's escape. Jamie Lee Curtis' portrayal of Laurie as a broken alcoholic, yet survivalist character, really makes the movie. The characters demonstrate a mixture of crippling fear

and tactical determination and precision.

The idea is introduced that Laurie and Michael are in some sort of constant game of cat and mouse, but the role of each is undefined. Dr. Loomis' apprentice, Dr. Sartain, theorizes that Michael and Laurie's struggle is what keeps both of them alive and functioning as individuals: a refreshing re-interpretation of the Jamie-Michael connection that fell short in the previous incarnation of the franchise. This time the familial connection is presented as more primal and basic to the survival of both individuals. The concept in general was just really cool.

I would warn those going to see the movie that it isn't "scary" in the traditional way. I think that the thematic tension and the events of the night for each character make the movie intense and exciting, but not scary in the sense that Michael jumps out at the audience.

Near the end of the movie there is a final standoff between Lau-



Poster for *Halloween*, released on October 19
Photo courtesy of IMDB.com

rie and Michael which was the highlight of my movie-going experience. I haven't been so engaged by a movie climax in a while and as the conflict progressed, the methods of each character became more and more clear. In one moment of cinematic genius, the camera begins to follow Michael in his pursuit of the Strodes, un-

til Laurie appears in a surprising fashion usual, expected of a killer in these movies.

Overall, this thematic movie is more of a physiological thriller. It deals a lot with the topics of human nature and the driving forces behind the most deranged members of society. I would highly recommend you see this movie.

PUZZLE COLUMN

9				1	6		4	
2	4				7			
	7	1		2				6
		2		9		4		3
			1		2			
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6				8		3	2	
			4				6	1
	8		2	6				5

SUDOKU - EASY

		5	3				8	
							2	
1			9		5			4
		9		6			7	
7		2	5		1	9		8
	8			2		4		
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	1				5	6		

SUDOKU - MEDIUM

1		6		9				
	2	9			6			8
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5			7			1	3	
				5		9		6

SUDOKU - DIFFICULT

9+			6x				
1-			5		10+		
12+	5+				2		
					2÷		
1-			12+				

KEN-KEN - EASY

16+	3÷			3-			360x
			15x		6-		
20x	60x		336x				5-
			6-		2		2-
3					3-		3-
12x			1-				13+
	3÷			1-			7

KEN-KEN - DIFFICULT

HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS

BY THEODOR GEISEL '21

Every Who Down in Whoville Liked Christmas a lot...
But the Grinch, Who lived just north of Whoville, Did NOT! The Grinch hated Christmas! The whole Christmas season! Now, please don't ask why. No one quite knows the reason.

It could be his head wasn't screwed on just right.
It could be, perhaps, that his shoes were too tight.
But I think that the most likely reason of all,
May have been that his heart was two sizes too small.
Whatever the reason, His heart or his shoes,
He stood there on Christmas Eve, hating the Whos,
Staring down from his cave with a sour, Grinchy frown,
At the warm lighted windows below in their town.
For he knew every Who down in Whoville beneath,
Was busy now, hanging a mistletoe wreath.
"And they're hanging their stockings!" he snarled with a sneer, "Tomorrow is Christmas! It's practically here!"
Then he growled, with his Grinch fingers nervously drumming, "I MUST find some way to stop Christmas from coming!"

For Tomorrow, he knew, all the Who girls and boys,
Would wake bright and early. They'd rush for their toys!
And then! Oh, the noise! Oh, the Noise!
Noise! Noise! Noise!
That's one thing he hated! The NOISE!
NOISE! NOISE! NOISE!

Then the Whos, young and old, would sit down to a feast.
And they'd feast! And they'd feast! And they'd FEAST!
FEAST! FEAST! FEAST!

They would feast on Who-pudding, and rare Who-roast beast.
Which was something the Grinch couldn't stand in the least!
And THEN They'd do something He liked least of all!

Every Who down in Whoville, the tall and the small,
Would stand close together, with Christmas bells ringing.
They'd stand hand-in-hand. And the Whos would start singing!
They'd sing! And they'd sing! And they'd SING!

SING! SING! SING!
And the more the Grinch thought of this Who Christmas-Sing,
The more the Grinch thought, "I must stop this whole thing!"
"Why, for fifty-three years I've put up with it now!"

"I MUST stop this Christmas from coming! But HOW?"
Then he got an idea! An awful idea!
THE GRINCH GOT A WONDERFUL, AWFUL IDEA!
"I know just what to do!" The Grinch laughed in his throat.
And he made a quick Santy Claus hat and a coat.
And he chuckled, and clucked, "What a great Grinchy trick!"
"With this coat and this hat, I look just like Saint Nick!"

"All I need is a reindeer..." The Grinch looked around.
But, since reindeer are scarce, there was none to be found.

Did that stop the old Grinch? No! The Grinch simply said,
"If I can't find a reindeer, I'll make one instead!"
So he called his dog, Max. Then he took some red thread,
And he tied a big horn on the top of his head.
THEN He loaded some bags And some old empty sacks,
On a ramshackle sleigh And he hitched up old Max.
Then the Grinch said, "Giddap!" And the sleigh started down,

Toward the homes where the Whos Lay asnooze in their town.
All their windows were dark. Quiet snow filled the air.

All the Whos were all dreaming sweet dreams without care.
When he came to the first little house on the square.



The Grinch in the process of stealing Christmas
Photo courtesy of awclub.com

"This is stop number one," the old Grinchy Claus hissed,
And he climbed to the roof, empty bags in his fist.
Then he slid down the chimney. A rather tight pinch. But,
if Santa could do it, then so could the Grinch.
He got stuck only once, for a moment or two.
Then he stuck his head out of the fireplace flue.
Where the little Who stockings all hung in a row.
"These stockings," he grinned, "are the first things to go!"
Then he slithered and slunk, with a smile most unpleasant,
Around the whole room, and he took every present!

Pop guns! And bicycles! Roller skates! Drums! Checkers!
boards! Tricycles! Popcorn! And plums!
And he stuffed them in bags. Then the Grinch, very nimbly,
Stuffed all the bags, one by one, up the chimney!
Then he slunk to the icebox. He took the Whos' feast!
He took the Who-pudding! He took the roast beast!
He cleaned out that icebox as quick as a flash.
Why, that Grinch even took their last can of Who-hash!
Then he stuffed all the food up the chimney with glee.
"And NOW!" grinned the Grinch, "I will stuff up the tree!"
And the Grinch grabbed the tree, and he started to shove,
When he heard a small sound like the coo of a dove.

He turned around fast, and he saw a small Who!
Little Cindy-Lou Who, who was not more than two.
The Grinch had been caught by this tiny Who daughter,
Who'd got out of bed for a cup of cold water.
She stared at the Grinch and said, "Santy Claus, why,"
"Why are you taking our Christmas tree? WHY?"
But, you know, that old Grinch was so smart and so slick,
He thought up a lie, and he thought it up quick!
"Why, my sweet little tot," the fake Santy Claus lied,
"There's a light on this tree that won't light on one side."
"So I'm taking it home to my workshop, my dear."
"I'll fix it up there. Then I'll bring it back here."

And his fib fooled the child. Then he patted her head,
And he got her a drink and he sent her to bed.
And when CindyLou Who went to bed with her cup,
HE went to the chimney and stuffed the tree up!
Then the last thing he took Was the log for their fire!
Then he went up the chimney, himself, the old liar.
On their walls he left nothing but hooks and some wire.
And the one speck of food That he left in the house,
Was a crumb that was even too small for a mouse.
Then He did the same thing To the other Whos' houses
Leaving crumbs Much too small For the other Whos' mouses!
It was quarter past dawn... All the Whos, still a-bed,
All the Whos, still asnooze When he packed up his sled,
Packed it up with their presents! The ribbons! The wrappings!
The tags! And the tinsel! The trimmings! The trappings!
Three thousand feet up! Up the side of Mt. Crumpit,

He rode with his load to the tiptop to dump it!
"PoohPooh to the Whos!" he was grinchishly humming.
"They're finding out now that no Christmas is coming!"
"They're just waking up! I know just what they'll do!"
"Their mouths will hang open a minute or two,
Then the Whos down in Whoville will all cry BooHoo!"
"That's a noise," grinned the Grinch, "That I simply MUST hear!"
So he paused. And the Grinch put his hand to his ear.

And he did hear a sound rising over the snow.
It started in low. Then it started to grow.
But the sound wasn't sad! Why, this sound sounded merry!

It couldn't be so! But it WAS merry! VERY!
He stared down at Whoville! The Grinch popped his eyes!
Then he shook! What he saw was a shocking surprise!
Every Who down in Whoville, the tall and the small,
Was singing! Without any presents at all!
He HADN'T stopped Christmas from coming! IT CAME!
Somehow or other, it came just the same!
And the Grinch, with his grinch-feet ice-cold in the snow,
Stood puzzling and puzzling: "How could it be so?"
"It came with out ribbons! It came without tags!"
"It came without packages, boxes or bags!"
And he puzzled three hours, till his puzzler was sore.
Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before!
"Maybe Christmas," he thought, "doesn't come from a store."
"Maybe Christmas...perhaps...means a little bit more!"

And what happened then? Well...in Whoville they say,
That the Grinch's small heart Grew three sizes that day!
And the minute his heart didn't feel quite so tight,
He whizzed with his load through the bright morning light,
And he brought back the toys! And the food for the feast!
And he, HE HIMSELF! The Grinch carved the roast beast!

A CITY OF DREAMS

BY ELIAS ALMARY '20 WITH ALEX DELFRANCO '20

On my long road to school
Deep in Manhattan,
A dark and stormy place,
Live horrors even a fool like me,
Would not dare try to face.

Out of the window looms a concrete city
Built over hundreds of years by immigrants like us
A city we know, a city we love
Although it is quite a pity
That through all the work and all the toil
We're still on the back of the bus

I see a city that was great, but is now overrun by pollution
The future I see holds these problems with no solution
A city riddled with ghosts begging for someone to help
In the streets of the city a victim's cry, a yelp

I walk into the city and all I feel is pain
A stain, the disdain of those we know and adore
To sustain would mean caring for ourselves and the poor

On the television I see
All the people who agree.
Because racism and plight,
All the world's gore,
Would, put together, be too difficult to ignore
For a teenager who is not white

As the black of night begins to grow near
And Brooklyn still seems too far
It is the ride back home I must fear
In my empty subway car

STANDISH COMEDY

BY CARA MULROONEY '20

What do you call the age of a pilgrim?
Answer: A pilgrimage

What kind of music did the Pilgrims like?
Answer: Plymouth Rock

If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring?
Answer: Pilgrims

What happened when the turkey got into a fight?
Answer: He got the stuffing knocked out of him!

What key has legs and can't open doors?
Answer: A Turkey.

What would you get if you crossed a turkey with an evil spirit?
Answer: A poultrygeist!

What's the smallest unit of measurement in the Pilgrim cookbook?
Answer: Pilgram.

What do you get when you cross a Pilgrim with a cracker?
Answer: A Pilgraham.

What sound does a turkey's phone make?
Answer: Wing, Wing!

What do you wear to Thanksgiving dinner?
Answer: A Har-VEST.

HISTORICAL TRIVIA

COURTESY OF HISTORY CLUB

This is the inaugural appearance of History Club's Trivia Section! Every issue we'll be asking a series of questions about a specific topic or event, usually chosen in reference to a theme or occasion within the month. Be the first to email your responses to HCAAnswers@loyolanyc.org and receive a surprise!

This month we are focusing on the November theme of Thanksgiving, a holiday tradition dating back to feasts between European settlers and Native American Tribes. We hope you enjoy the questions, and if you have any ideas or want to write stop by History Club!

What was the name of the ship that the Pilgrims boarded in England that brought them to the New World and what was their religion?

What was the name of the ship that left from Holland to meet the rest of the Pilgrims, but quickly sprang a leak and was abandoned?

What was the name of the leader of the Pilgrims, who chronicled their journey in the Atlantic and in the New World?

What was the name of the leader of the Native Americans, who taught the Pilgrims to farm?

How long did the original Thanksgiving feast last?

The Knightly News

A VOLLEY OF QUESTIONS

BY LEXA HONECK '22 AND AMANDA MCGREAL '22

Lexa Honeck: "How many years have you been on Varsity Basketball?"

Regina Potenza: "This is my second year."

Amanda McGreal: "How do you find it to balance a varsity sport and school?"

Regina: "Time management is very important. I have to utilize commuting time by studying and doing homework."

Lexa: "Do you enjoy being on a varsity sport?"

Regina: "I enjoy it very much! The older girls have been so nice and welcoming to me."

Lexa: "How do practices usually go?"

Regina: "Practice begins by the team breaking up into small skills-practice groups for 15 minutes. Then we go through our warmup routine, which is followed by drills, sprints, scrimmages, and lastly a closing workout."

Lexa: "Do practices really prepare you for games?"

Regina: "We have been sprinting many 16's and practicing our plays so that will we be prepared for our games. The team this year is strong and I think we will have a strong performance in our games this year."

Lexa: "Do you have any special rituals or traditions you do right before games?"

Regina: "When we are on the bus going to an away game we blast our team song, which this year is 'Whatever It Takes' by Imagine Dragons, which gets us into the game men-

tality."

Amanda: "How does it feel to be a Sophomore on a varsity team?"

Regina: "It is a great experience. As a Freshman I was very nervous about how the Upperclassmen would treat me and if I would be able to adjust to the rapid game speed of varsity. Now as a Sophomore I have gained more experience and want to welcome new members of the team."

Lexa: "How do you think the team is looking thus far?"

Regina: "This year we gained many new mem-

bers who each bring different skills to the team. Our Team Captains Annie Kinnaly and Katie Nakano have added a before-practice skill session so that we can work on basketball fundamentals and a closing practice workout to strengthen our muscles. Mr. Palladino has taught us new drills to focus on different aspects of the game and has taught us new plays we can use to catch our opponents by surprise. The team is looking very promising this year and I can't wait to see what the season brings!"



Kate Lui '20 poised for one of her dynamic serves
Photo courtesy of Loyola Yearbook

RUN SMART, RUN HARD, GO LOYOLA!

BY CHELSEA CAMPOS '21 AND VALENTINA MARINI FICHERA '21

Loyola's cross-country team is coached by Mr. Donacik and Coach Janec. The team has practice after school at Central Park every day. The practices vary each day of the week so that the runners can challenge themselves in different ways. "Hard" workouts consist of jogging for two miles to a track on the West Side, sprinting up a hill multiple times, and jogging two miles back to school. On "easy" days, runners jog for thirty to forty-five minutes on the Central Park Bridle Path.

In cross-country, it is believed that pain is inevitable and suffering is optional: if you do not feel any pain while running then you did not perform your best. Although the workouts are rigorous, they make each and every member of the team a better runner and push him or her closer to mastering

stotanism. Stotan is a portmanteau word, coined by Percy Cerutti, that combines the adjectives stoic and spartan. Stotans accept the challenges of training, injuries, races, and disappointments without complaining because they understand that simply by continuing to work hard, they will get better and stronger. The fundamentals which Mr. Donacik's Cross-Country Team follow are based off these ideas—that setting goals, working hard, and challenging yourself are crucial to becoming a better athlete.

Cross-country meets typically occur most Thursdays and Saturdays of the season, where Loyola runners compete with runners from other schools in Freshmen races (1.5 miles) or Junior Varsity and Varsity races (3.1 miles). The daily training and weekly

meets prepare the runners for Champs, which closes the cross-country season. Loyola is currently holding the status of being a two year consecutive winner of Champs, and the Cross-Country Team is working toward a third year win. Run Hard! Run Smart! Go Loyola!



Members of the Cross Country Team decompress after a meet
Photo courtesy of Loyola Yearbook

PASS, KICK, DRIBBLE, AND TRICK

BY EMILY STREZ '22



Lauren Catherall '20 deftly evades her competitor
Photo courtesy of Loyola Yearbook

As fall comes to a close, so does another great season of Loyola sports. There have been wins and losses—but none compare to the amazing penalty shootout that led the JV soccer team into the playoffs. "The composure of my teammates helped me to stay focused" said Ben David '22. With amazing goals

scored by Ryan Casey '21, James McDermott '22 and Phil Sommer '22, along with great saves by goalie Ben David, this staggering win which led them to the playoffs is a testament to the true camaraderie of the team. According to Mr. Egner, the JV coach, everyone worked together and was willing to learn which is how

they were able to improve throughout the season. What does the JV team hope to accomplish next season? According to Mr. Egner, the goal is always to make the playoffs, and with 12 Freshmen who are currently on the team, the Loyola soccer program as a whole will only improve in the future. Go Loyola! Go Knights!



The Varsity Knights celebrate an exciting victory
Photo courtesy of Loyola Yearbook

THE GREAT IGNATIAN CHALLENGE IS BACK!

BY ALEXANDER DELFRANCO '20

This year we reprised the Great Ignatian Challenge, a canned food drive in which a group of local, Jesuit high schools work together to reach a common donation goal of 50,000 pounds. All schools who participate are also given a contribution to their scholarship funds from a generous and anonymous donor. This year marks the third

annual "competition," as the school which gathers the most pounds on a per-student basis will receive a larger donation.

For both of the past two years the Challenge has existed, Loyola has taken home first place, with over 4,000 pounds in the first year and 11,000 in the last year. This time around we hope everyone was able to give

what they could, knowing all of our contributions are going to shelters in the city and to people who desperately need them.

While donations and drives are not expressly part of our Christian Service program, they do fall in line with the Catholic Social Teaching goal of maintaining a "Preferential Option for the Poor," a statement which Loyola fully endorses.

Today, more than ever, we as a city need to stand together against hunger and poverty. We hear so much in the news about other countries struggling with hunger, yet we rarely look at ourselves. With over 100,000 people sleeping in shelters just last year in our city alone, it is imperative that we continue to support organizations that provide food and shelter to those who need it most. The first step to changing the world can be found right here at home.