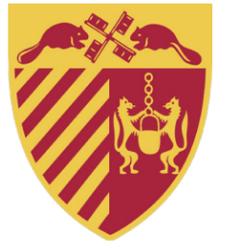


# The Blazer



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Fiat Veritas

## PASSING THE SECOND FACE OF JANUS

### A SUPERSTAR IS BORN, RIGHT HERE IN NYC

By CAROLINE ADAMS '21

On March 28, 1986, a Roman Catholic family on the Upper West Side of Manhattan welcomed a new member of their family to the world. Cynthia Louise and Joseph Germanotta had their first child, a beautiful baby girl that they named Stefani Joanne, at Lenox Hill hospital. Stefani would soon be known by a different name, and this was the day that one might say that a Star was born. The star in question is none other than the singer, actress, activist, and rule breaker, Lady Gaga. Although most know the pop icon for her experimental music, her bewitching and chilling performances in Ryan Murphy's American Horror Story, and most recently, her powerful role in the newest rendition of the classic, A Star is Born, few know of Gaga's humble beginnings as an artist in New York City. Indeed, much of the exposition of Gaga's story sounds much like the story of any other young woman who grows up loving music and acting. At age eleven Gaga, or Stefani, as she was known then, attended Convent of the Sacred Heart, a Catholic school on East 91st Street. She was a dedicated student but, like most of us, was a bit insecure, often feeling ostracized for being "too eccentric".

Stefani took up piano at the age of four and learned to create music by ear. Her parents were supportive of her musical endeavors, enrolling her in various arts programs in the city. She starred in a number of plays including Adelaide in Guys and Dolls. While unsuccessful in her attempts to audition for New York shows, she appeared in a small role in a 2001 episode of the Sopranos. Stefani gained early admission into NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, though in 2005, she withdrew from school to focus on her music. Stefani's story takes a tragic turn, as she revealed in 2014 that she was raped when she was 19. She suffers to this day with PTSD, yet she has persisted far beyond anything that could have been expected. Gaga would later go on to write a song entitled "Till it Happens to You" which details the agony of her experi-

ence and her struggles with scrutiny thereafter. Stefani formed a band with friends from NYU and played gigs around New York, emerging in the club scene of the Lower East Side. In 2006, a talent scout by the name of Wendy Starland recommended Stefani to a music producer named Rob Fusari. She and Fusari began dating in May of 2006, and it was he that gave her the instant recognizable name "Lady Gaga" which he deduced from "Radio Ga Ga" by Queen. Together, the pair promoted her career until Gaga was recognized by the major record label, Def Jam Recordings. She was signed and then dropped three months later. Gaga returned home and starred in burlesque shows, while, with unceasing determination, she continued to peruse music. She worked as a songwriter at Famous Music Publishing where her luck turned around when musician Akon recognized her vocal abilities, convincing Jimmy Iovine, chairman and CEO of Interscope Geffen A&M to allow Gaga to sign to his label KonLive. In late 2007, Gaga met RedOne, a songwriter and producer who helped her record her first album, singles from which were deemed "too racy" for many radio stations. This didn't stop Gaga, and she released The Fame which reached number one in Austria, Canada, Germany, Switzerland, the UK, and Ireland and in the top five in the US and Australia. In February of 2011, Gaga released "Born this way" with charting singles Born this Way, Judas, and The Edge of Glory. She also collaborated with Tony Bennett on a jazz inspired

album called Cheek to Cheek.

Gaga's latest album, entitled Joanne, is a significant departure from everything she has so far produced. Joanne is a country and rock inspired album containing tracks that exhibit a softer, more accessible side of Gaga. Gone are the elaborate costumes, choreography, and eccentric electronic beats, replaced by a pink cowgirl hat, pianos and guitars, and the simple title Joanne. Joanne manages to somehow live through the reckless days of our a wild youth while also reflecting retrospectively. It tells the story of a heart that beats ridiculously quickly and shatters just as swiftly. With tracks like A-YO and the radio hit, John Wayne, Gaga captures the reckless insanity that fans have learned to love from her but shows us how easily her seemingly unflappable confidence can give way to a simple, crushed woman with Million Reasons, and title track Joanne. Amongst a collection of albums that break all sorts of rules, Joanne stands out for its simplicity, it's intimacy, and it's honesty. It would be impossible to write anything about Lady Gaga without discussing her latest triumph, the critically acclaimed, award winning, and heartbreaking film, "A Star is Born." This heartbreaking reproduction of a well loved classic takes new life in Bradley Cooper and Lady Gaga. Gaga Stars as Ally, a waitress who is attempting to peruse music by working in a Drag Bar. Cooper plays Jackson Maine, a tortured country star who struggles with hearing loss, alcoholism, and a drug addic-

tion. After Maine stumbles into the bar where Ally is performing, he instantly takes an interest in her, in both her talents and in her as a person. After pulling her onto stage to perform a song she wrote for him in a grocery store parking lot, Ally is rocketed into stardom. The film follows Ally and Jackson as both struggle to keep their love above the sea of Jackson's struggle with addiction and Ally's deviation from the individualistic persona that made Jackson love her. The film is a masterpiece in all respects: it has a soaring soundtrack, incredible performances, and gorgeous visual elements. It elucidates the struggles of addiction, depression, and the close minded nature of the media industry. The newest version of A Star is Born is a heartwarming and breaking piece that carries its own weight next to its predecessors.

Lady Gaga manages to redefine what it means to be a pop star in the modern age. Attempting to strike a balance between the widely consumable and the experimental, a constant struggle for artists is, in short, making music that challenges, redefines, and experiments while still being commercially successful. Gaga has struck that balance. While some pop acts are full of a tired and repetitive chorus, Lady Gaga is a soaring and unexpected bridge. Gaga will continue to be known as the unexpected and experimental star with a rare spark that few possess. She is currently working on her sixth studio album, and I doubt that I am the only one who is on the edge of their seat to see what comes next.

### VERIFIED VERITIES

By KATE LUI '20

- Japan has more pets than children
- One of the shortest wars ever lasted 38 minutes
- A warm frog makes faster croaking noises than a cold frog
- Some frogs survive the winter by freezing almost solid
- A woman's heart usually beats faster than a man's heart
- Spit can freeze mid-air at the North Pole
- The world largest menorah is taller than a three story building
- Small icebergs are called growlers or bergy bits
- An average Major League Baseball is used for only six pitches
- More than 99 percent of the species that have ever existed are now extinct
- Most swans in England belong to the queen
- Some cat spas serve catnip tea to their feline clientele
- The harder you concentrate the less you blink
- Male woodchucks are called he-chucks, females are called she-chucks
- A geep is part goat, part sheep
- Four thousand year old popcorn was found in a cave in New Mexico
- Giraffes have the same number of neck bones as we do
- Rats can't burp
- Warthogs don't have warts

### HERE WE COME A-WASSAILING

By ELIZABETH NACION '19

This year's Christmas Concert was the longest in Loyola history. With new student-led additions, senior solos, and senior social dancing, the concert was full of excitement. We started off strong with our orchestra, who played a mash-up of family favorite Christmas tunes. A Capella had many new members join the team, and they sang some strong unaccompanied versions of Someday At Christmas, Little Drummer Boy, and ended off with When Christmas Comes To Town, from a classic Christmas movie, The Polar Express. Next was another A Capella group, a quartet, to be exact. The Senior Section Quartet, named after the four boys started singing together, featured seniors Christian Conte, Andre Gillespie, Aidan Henegar, and Sam Klein. They arranged and performed their take on Jingle Bells, and Silent Night, with Andre even singing a verse in German! Chorus, Loyola's largest ensemble, had everyone singing along to Where Are You Christmas?, Underneath the Tree, and Hallelujah, ending with a small solo section featuring the senior girls. The Jazz Ensemble, newly named the

Stage Band, played some funky renditions of Christmas (Baby, Please Come Home), This Christmas, featuring vocals from senior Elizabeth Nacion, and Christmas in L.A.. Their performance featured solos from Steven Morris, James McDermott, Brij Gautam, and Daniel Chapell. Last of the musical performances, was the student-led rock band, Domino Theory. Beginning with a beautiful speech by guitarist Joe Ugarte, the band first performed the classic, Last Christmas, by Wham! Moving on to a less traditional pick, they played Christmas Wrapping, by The Waitresses, which was specifically dedicated to the song-recommender himself, Mr. Johnson. They ended off with another classic, Santa Claus is Comin' to Town. Mr. Lyness brought the whole crowd to their feet once again with his annual caroling! Last, but certainly not least, the Senior Social Dancers gave us a show with their Christmas mash-up of hip-hop, salsa, waltz, and ballroom dancing, thanks to dance instructor Katie Pettit. Thank you everyone, especially our director Mr. D'Alessio, for making this Christmas Concert such a hit!



At the Christmas Concert, the Senior Social Dancers stole the show. Courtesy of the Loyola Yearbook

HANNAH'S HEARTBREAK

By ANDREEA GRIGORESCU '21

The iconic Miley Cyrus lives best of both worlds. She released a new song with British musician Mark Ronson on November 29, and got married to Liam Hemsworth the very next month on December 23. Although both incidents were surprising, most people expected Liam and Miley to get married since they were already engaged while nobody expected Miley to drop a new hit single. The song harkens back to Miley's roots, giving the song a pop and country kinda of feel. (Yes, I know what I said about country but this stands as an exception.) The title of the song is Nothing breaks Like A Heart, which conveys a deep meaning that has been complimented by a music video.

While the song has almost nothing to do with the breakup of a relationship, it describes more of a break up with society. A heart is an object so delicate that even the smallest things can damage it, yet in the same breath it can persevere through a thousand lifetimes of trauma, all the while radiating hope for the future. Miley says, "Mark was very trusting about my ideas. It's all about what is heartbreaking to us in society every single day—waking up to the news of violence, judgment, and hypocrisy. It's about a deeper heartbreak than losing love in a romance or relationship." Miley describes all the things that can be eating away at your heart and how much of the fault can be traced back to society. She mentions how it just highkey sucks be-

cause all these things are happening and you can't do much about it, feeling like a bystander overlooking this disturbed world, watching society crumble right at your finger tips while doing absolutely everything you can and seeing no improvement. We sit on this planet we call Earth, a place we have made our home, and created this "society" to better ourselves, to make living good. Yet instead of helping one another and building each other up to further this amazing place, we are constantly tearing each other down. What good does that do? Imagine a glass vase dropping and smashing on the floor in slow motion. It's happening very slowly yet once it hits the ground, the vase shatters all at once. This is similar to the image that Miley depicts in her music video, replacing the vase for a car crash. It's a long, 3 minute and 59 second car crash that goes into all these heartbreaking real life moments that are happening in today's society. She doesn't tackle every problem in society because there are way to many, but she does recall a few recent and important ones.

The video starts off with a kid playing with bullets. Later on, during Miley's car crash, she goes through a shooting range where young kids are at target practice with their parents. This image reflects the reality behind recent school shootings and young gun violence. The image of a girl being taught how to shoot illustrates that ignorance can be inherited and passed down. Children are

not corrupting themselves, they are being corrupted. Throughout the chase we see posters and pictures with Miley's name everywhere. There are many people with signs that are supporting Miley, but simultaneously ignoring the real issues in the world. She drives by some nuns and the figure of Jesus and everyone seems to care only about her wild ride (an old Hannah Montana reference), showing how corrupt the world can get. The next place Miley drives by is a lovely strip club, which is filled with only priests! This is a reference to the recent sex scandals the church has had and also a metaphor for the fact that the church doesn't often practice what it preaches. We then get a quick snippet of two girls taking a selfie with snapchat filters, while Miley literally breaks a hole in the wall with her car. The two girls are so wrapped up in their phones and social media that they're oblivious to what's around them. Miley then crashes into a home where, in a hot tub with rubber ducks, two women are kissing. This might be referring to her other video "BB Talk" but it also serves to include the LGBTQ+ community. Then we see a quick shot of Mark jumping into the car with Miley before they drive past a group of football players kneeling. This is to show their support for football players' right to kneel during the American National Anthem. Miley then enters a store where everything is chaotic. It seems to be a Black Fri-

day event with numerous fights showing that people are constantly fighting for material goods when actual terrible things are happening in the world. Also in the back there is a person holding a big stuffed teddy bear most likely refers to her famous "We Can't Stop" performance from the VMAs. At the very end of the video a crowd engulfs Mark and Miley.

Now we are in the last 7 seconds of the video with Miley standing on a pile of books with her hands out. The car is behind her with its doors open to resemble a cross. This is to represent that society seems to only learn and care about celebrities, and how celebrities are the new religion.

Miley might not be the most appropriate role model yet she doesn't get enough credit for the things like this that she does. This video is truly inspirational and will hopefully reach many people and help educate them on the truth behind what's really going on in this "perfect" world.

CHRISTMAS AT LOYOLA

By WILL MILLER '19

On December 21st, the Loyola community gathered together to celebrate Christmas at Loyola. It was a fun day with no classes or work, thus allowing the students and the faculty to come together and enjoy the Christmas season before the holiday break began. The morning started with our individual mentor groups throwing Christmas parties with donuts and Christmas music. Afterwards we all gathered in the gym for the start of the community celebration. This year, Mr. Lewis continued the tradition of the principal sharing a story when he read us his beautiful reflection on a painting of Mary he saw when he was at Spring Hill College in Alabama. He then put a picture of the painting on the screen for us to see as Mary Did You Know, sung by the Pentatonix, played in the background. After this, we all gathered

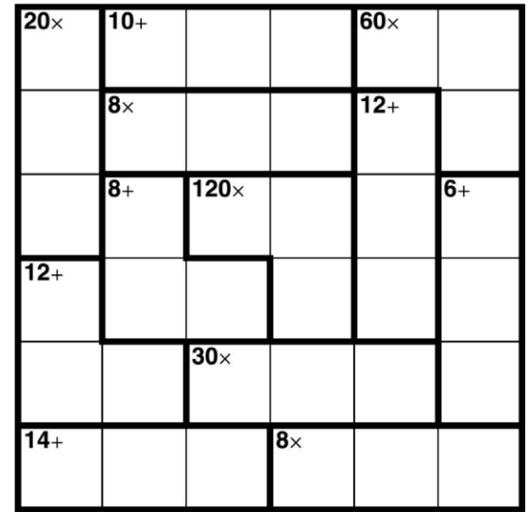
for mass in Wallace Hall. When mass was over, we returned to the gym to exchange our Kris Kringle gifts with our mentor groups and prepared ready for the Christmas assembly that the Student Government worked so hard to put together. The assembly would not be complete without a Santa Claus, but we needed to compete to determine out who would be best at the job. We had to make sure that we found the right person. After a few failed interviews were

shown on the screen, the Student Gov. decided to put together a big tournament to see who the strongest competitors were. Some highlights of the contests included throwing rings onto reindeer antlers and a high-stakes relay race. Of course in the end we all found out that the best Santa Claus was Mr. Egner! There were also raffles with prizes ranging from a Loyola baseball cap to a grade-wide dress down day that the Freshmen won.

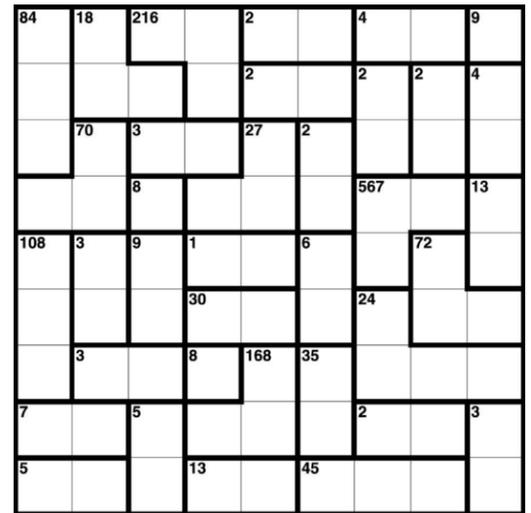


Full of school spirit, a group of seniors play a game of ring toss. Courtesy of the Loyola Yearbook

PUZZLE COLUMN



EASY



DIFFICULT

The Blazer

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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.

## THE RACE AROUND THE WORLD

RYAN HOGAN '20

The whole world was counting on Donald Crowhurst. His family, his followers, and his country needed him to finish the task he had undertaken nearly a year before. Donald was one of nine men entered in the Golden Globe Race, which was sponsored by the British newspaper The Sunday Times. The goal: to sail around the world via the Clipper Route for the reward of £5,000. Crowhurst was the underdog of the competition, shaping up to be the fastest finisher of the journey with only a month of sailing left. Little did the world know that Crowhurst was lying.

The Sunday Times had sponsored sailor Francis Chichester in 1966 on a solo voyage following the Clipper Route, from England down to the Cape of Good Hope, turning to the East to stop at Sidney, Australia, continuing on toward Cape Horn, and going back to England on a Northward conclusion. Chichester completed the journey in 226 days, a circumnavigation record for the time. The popularity garnered by Chichester's voyage was unprecedented for The Sunday Times, so they devised a new, non-stop solo race along the Clipper Route, to be launched in the summer of 1968. The race was open to anyone who applied, sailor and landlubber alike, without any vetting process to discern their nautical capabilities.

Nine men took to the challenge, five of whom would drop out before leaving the Atlantic Ocean. Among the long lasting racers were English marine merchant Robin Knox-Johnston, South African Naval Lieutenant-Commander Nigel Tetley, avid sailor, spiritualist, and Frenchman Bernard Moitessier, and electronics entrepreneur Donald Crowhurst. Each man was to set off within the time-

frame of June 1st and October 31st. Knox-Johnston was the first of the main contenders to set sail, leaving on June 14th in his 32 ft. Suhaili down to the Bay of Biscay. Moitessier, sailing on the Joshua, left over two months later on August 22nd. Tetley's Victress, his plywood trimaran houseboat, took to the sea from a port in Plymouth on September 16th.

Donald Crowhurst was far from prepared to sail when the Halloween deadline arrived. Born in India in 1932, he moved to England shortly after the colony had won its independence. His family's savings were invested in a sporting goods factory in India, which burnt down shortly before Donald's father died in 1948. His family troubled financially, Donald left school and joined the Royal Aircraft Establishment, through which he was trained as a pilot, joining the Royal Air Force in 1953. He lost the position in 1954 for reasons unknown, and would thereafter intern with the Royal Engineer Corps. He was finally dismissed from the army in 1956, after allegedly stealing a car. Now a free man, Crowhurst established his own business, Electron Utilisation, attempting to establish a market for his patented radio direction finder The Navigator.

Business was far from booming for Crowhurst and when the Golden Globe Race was announced in early 1968, he saw it as a means of advertisement and publicity. Having never sailed on open ocean before, and without a ship to venture with, Crowhurst mortgaged his home and electronics business to fund his newfound mission. He was financed heavily by entrepreneur Stanley Best, who helped him to fund the self-construction of a trimaran. Construction of the Teignmouth Electron began

in early August, and was almost completed by the time Crowhurst was required to leave. He decided to work while on the move, sailing from his construction site in the Isle of Wight to his launch-port in Teignmouth, some 150 miles in the opposite direction of the voyage. At the Electron's christening, the champagne bottle knocked against the ship's hull didn't shatter, a sign considered by most sailors to spell doom for the journey.

Donald left the port at midday, clad, for some indiscernible reason, in a yellow one piece, as ready as he could be to being the year long challenge. He failed to sail out of the port, and was dragged back in to wait for a better current. His voyage truly began a few hours later. A month into the race for Crowhurst, five of the nine men entered into the race had already retired, Nigel Tetley was off the coast of Brazil, Bernard Moitessier was nearing Cape Town, and Robin Knox-Johnston was well into the Indian Ocean, moving with less speed than the Frenchman, but still far in the lead.

Crowhurst was given a camera to document his journey, and was reporting with a calm and collected attitude. Off camera, his diary was littered with frantic notes of panic and destruction. Many screws had come loose, and water would slowly fill the boat in calm waters. With death on the Southern horizon and humiliation and financial ruin at his back, Crowhurst was forced to make a devious decision. He chose to lie. Without any means of GPS tracking to make sure he was on course, he sent a Morse radio message to The Sunday Times claiming that the winds and tides had changed in his favor, boosting his average of 60 nautical miles a day to 243 nautical miles in a single day, a new world record! Crowhurst's apparent luck became a sensation back in England, and the tide of the race suddenly changed for his favor.

Crowhurst filled his logbook with fake weather reports and mileage. He detailed the real journey in a secret logbook, writing that he was actually off of the coast of South America, waiting in the sea for

reports of how Tetley, his nearest competitor, would be coming towards an end to the journey. He falsified reports of generator malfunctions, and would maintain radio silence for four months. At the same time, Moitessier had an epiphany. Only 20 days away from catching Knox-Johnston at Cape Horn, he became dissuaded by the commercialization of the race, and submitted his choice to quit by slingshotting a message in a bottle at a passing news ship. Moitessier continued sailing on the Joshua all the way to Tahiti, therefore circumnavigating the world one-and-a-half times.

Robin Knox-Johnston completed the race on April 22nd, 1969, after 312 days at sea. Crowhurst began reporting over his radio at around that time, as his fake position had caught up to his real one. Tetley, only roughly 1,000 nautical miles in front of Crowhurst, became nervous of his possibility to lose the award for fastest time, and was in such a mental wreck that he sank the Victress, sending out a Mayday call on May 21st. In reality, Tetley had no cause for fretting,

because the four months of isolation had overcome Crowhurst's sanity.

The final entries of Donald Crowhurst's secret log are the ramblings of a mad man. In eight days adrift at sea, he 25,000 words on God, his own position in the universe, and the shame he was terrified to bring to his family and his country. The Teignmouth Electron was discovered abandoned on July 10th, 1969. After a search for Crowhurst's body, his secret log was discovered, and his deception revealed to the world. Donald Crowhurst was estimated to have jumped ship on July 1st of that year. Robin Knox-Johnston, the only finisher of the Golden Globe Race, donated the money he had won to Crowhurst's family.

Fifty years after The Sunday Times' initial announcement of the competition, a new Golden Globe Race was initiated. 18 sailors entered in July of 2018, of which only 5 remain. The current leader is Jean-Luc Van Den Heede, who is set to break the record for non-stop solo global circumnavigation with two weeks from this publishing.



Donald Crowhurst relaxing on his boat.

Photo courtesy of Daily Mail UK

## THE ACADEMY AWARDS FOR 2019

By DANIEL MORENO '20

The 91st Academy Awards Nominations are in! The most famous event in the movie industry will occur on Sunday, February 24, 2019 at 8pm EST at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles, California. The Academy Awards, or the Oscars, has been criticized in recent years as not having an ethnically diverse variety of nominees. This year, however, records have been broken with Marvel's "Black Panther" and Netflix's "Roma" both nominated for Best Picture. Marvel's "Black Panther" is the first superhero movie ever to be recognized and nominated for the infamous

award. The reason for the the movie's rise in fame is the recognition of its cultural impact. Also groundbreaking for its cultural impact is Netflix's "Roma." Roma is Netflix's first best picture nominee, and really highlights the power Netflix has in the Movie Industry in terms of streaming platforms being able to transcend theater-bound films. "Roma" also has Yalitza Aparicio, is the First Indigenous Woman nominated for "Best Actress." One of Netflix's "Roma" producers, Gabriela Rodriguez, is set to be the first Hispanic Woman Nominated for Best Picture.

Here are a handful of nomination lists for some of the most prestigious awards offered on that glorious night:

### BEST PICTURE

- "Black Panther"
- "BlackKkKlansman"
- "Bohemian Rhapsody"
- "The Favourite"
- "Green Book"
- "Roma"
- "A Star Is Born"
- "Vice"

### ACTRESS IN A LEADING ROLE

- Glenn Close, "The Wife"
- Yalitza Aparicio, "Roma"
- Lady Gaga, "A Star is Born"
- Olivia Colman, "The Favourite"
- Melissa McCarthy, "Can You Ever Forgive Me?"

### ACTOR IN A LEADING ROLE

- Bradley Cooper, "A Star is Born"
- Christian Bale, "Vice"
- Viggo Mortensen, "Green Book"
- Willem Dafoe, "At Eternity's Gate"
- Rami Malek, "Bohemian Rhapsody"

### ACTOR IN A SUPPORTING ROLE

- Mahershala Ali, "Green Book"
- Adam Driver, "BlackKkKlansman"
- Sam Elliott, "A Star Is Born"
- Richard E. Grant, "Can You Ever Forgive Me"
- Sam Rockwell, "Vice"

### ACTRESS IN A SUPPORTING ROLE

- Amy Adams, "Vice"
- Marina de Tavira, "Roma"
- Regina King, "If Beale Street Could Talk"
- Emma Stone, "The Favourite"
- Rachel Weisz, "The Favourite"

# The Knightly News

## THE BALL IS IN OUR COURT NOW

BY CHANDLER NAYLON '19

A roster full of fresh faces wasn't going to faze the Loyola Varsity Knights as they entered the 2019 regular season. They were coming off a historic year marked by a league championship and a bid to the NYSAIS state tournament, but it also saw thirteen seniors hang up their jerseys. So with only three remaining players, the new-look

Knights immediately got to work. They opened up with a commanding win against BWL and continued to grow as a unit despite tough losses against Friends Seminary and Regis. Christmas break arrived, and Knights ventured down to Florida for their annual basketball trip. It was during that one week that they found their

identity, placing third in the Rock Holiday Classic Tournament after a huge win versus Lake Mary Prep. The team strengthened mightily, both in their cohesion and individual skillsets. With league play heating up and postseason drawing closer, the Knights now have one goal in mind: back to back.



Boys Varsity Basketball prepares for a monstrous block.  
Courtesy of the Loyola Yearbook

## STAN'S SOAPBOX: A TRIBUTE TO STAN LEE

BY STAN LEE

Let's lay it right on the line. Bigotry and racism are among the deadliest social ills plaguing the world today.

But, unlike a team of costumed super-villains, they can't be halted with a punch in the snoot, or a zap from a ray gun. The only way to destroy them is to expose them—to reveal them for the insidious evils they really are. The bigot is an unreasoning hater—one who hates blindly, fanatically, indiscriminately. If his hang-up is black men, he hates ALL black men. If a redhead once offended him, he hates ALL redheads. If some foreigner beat him to a job, he's down on ALL foreigners. He hates people he's never seen—people he's never known—with equal intensity—with equal venom.

Now, we're not trying to say it's unreasonable for one human being to bug another. But, although anyone has the right to dislike another individual, it's totally irrational, patently insane to condemn an entire race—to despise an entire nation—to vilify an entire religion. Sooner or later, we must learn to judge each other on our own merits. Sooner or later, if man is ever to be worthy of his destiny, we must fill our hearts with tolerance. For then, and only then, will we be truly worthy of the concept that man was created in the image of God—a God who calls us ALL—His children.

Pax et Justitia,

Stan

## A TEAM FOR THE AGES

BY GUS VON MAUR '22

My name is Gus von Maur and I am a member of the 2018-2019 Junior Varsity basketball team at Loyola. There are many ways to describe our basketball team, but the term that comes to mind when I think of the team is determination. Although we are not the most talented team in the league, there is no doubt in my mind that we have a chance to win the NYCAL Championship this year. Our team fights for every loose ball, does not stop playing until the clock hits zero, and supports each player through the highs and lows. Some key points driving us to our success have been our leading scorer, Andrew Naber, the center of our offense, Alex White, and best of all, Coach J, the man who has pushed us hard enough to get us to the number two seed in the league. With ninety-eight points in six games, Andrew Naber has proven himself to be the best shooter on the team. However, he is not our only threat on offense, as Alex White has more defensive and offensive rebounds than I can count. Coach J has the asset that no other coach has in this league: his mind. He thinks of plays that will trick the other teams' defenses as well as making sure everybody does their role athletically and academically. Now you may be asking yourselves, what makes our team special enough to win the NY-CAL playoffs? The answer is simply that our team's



Junior Varsity Boys Basketball flying across the court.  
Courtesy of the Loyola Yearbook

chemistry is too much for the other teams to handle. Everyone gets along with each other, making sure that no one feels terrible for a poor pass or shot. In

conclusion, the Loyola JV Knights are a special group of kids with amazing assets. They are certainly a threat to all the other teams in the league.



Varsity Girls Basketball gracefully winning the tip-off.  
Courtesy of the Loyola Yearbook

## WORKING OVERTIME: THE NFL CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

BY DENNIS COPPIN '20

The Los Angeles Rams edged out the New Orleans Saints 26-23 on Sunday in an overtime thriller, with a Super Bowl appearance and both teams respective seasons on the line. A disoriented Rams offense got off to a slow start against the Saints' defense, as they were left scoreless after the first quarter, down a deficit of 13-0. A bold Saints offense was not content to settle with a field goal on one of their first quarter drives while veteran quarterback Drew Brees completed a fourth down conversion through misleading the defense into an offside penalty. The Rams were able to shorten the deficit to 3 going into halftime after a strong 2nd Quarter. Two strong third quarter drives by both the Rams and the Saints gave way to an action-packed end to the game, the Saints

still holding a tight lead going into the fourth quarter. The Rams were able to drive all the way up the field yet they chose to settle for a field goal just a few yards shy of the goal line on fourth down. The game was sent to overtime after a clutch game-tying field goal by Rams kicker Greg Zuerlein. In overtime, the Rams finished out the game strongly and took home the win to Los Angeles.

The New England Patriots faced off against the Kansas City Chiefs in a shootout that put high numbers on the scoreboard. Receiving duo Julian Edelman and Rob Gronkowski exposed gaps by running slot routes and Tom Brady delivered in a classic fashion. Regardless of whether or not he is the greatest of all time, Brady's performance on Sunday showed that the

dynasty built by him and Bill Belichick is far from over. However, the Kansas City Chiefs did not go down easily. Rookie quarterback Patrick Mahomes launched passes down his field in the usual style. WR Tyreek Hill and TE Travis Kelce both had productive outings. Despite the Chiefs taking a lead with around two minutes to go, Tom Brady led a crucial drive miraculously converting on several third downs against a determined defense. Having led the team into overtime, Brady and the Patriots destroyed any chance of a Chief's victory with an efficient drive to the end zone.

The Super Bowl has been decided. It will be Rams vs. Patriots. Both teams are powerhouses with innovating coaches and will be put to the test on Sunday, February 3rd.