

Review

✚ *The Magazine for Alumni, Parents, and Friends of Saint James School* ✚

Winter 2018



Trips to England & Iceland • 2018 SJIT Highlights • Winter Dance Showcase • Alumni Athletes Excel



Review • Winter 2018

first look

Dima Zdor '18 (#24) dunks over
St. Benedict's Precious Achiuwa (#5)
at the Saint James Invitational Tournament in February.

(photo by Donna Almany)



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advanced to the
national finals of a
speech competition.

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A group of SJS students and staff explored Iceland during spring break.

ON THE COVER

The Saint James campus was blanketed in ice during a winter storm. (Photo by Joel Ellis)

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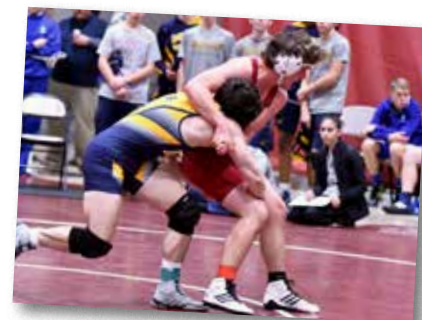
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SJS winter sports teams had a banner year. Read more on page 30.



LESSONS AND CAROLS

An annual holiday tradition at Saint James School, Lessons and Carols is beautiful evening of readings, reflection, prayer, and song led by the Chapel Choir. We are grateful for the opportunity to celebrate the season with so many members of the Saint James community who join us for the service.



HOLIDAY SOIREE

Our many talented musicians and singers shared holiday-themed performances around the fireplace in the Kerfoot Refectory during the annual Holiday Soiree. Treats and hot cocoa were served, providing the perfect atmosphere to get everyone in the Christmas spirit!



OLYMPIC SPIRIT

Ahead of the opening ceremonies for the 2018 Olympics in PyeongChang, Saint James students got into the Olympic spirit by competing in the inaugural Indoor Lawn Game Winter Olympics. Students had a great time facing off in Corn-hole, Ladder Ball, KanJam, and SpikeBall!



SHROVE TUESDAY

This year's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Race featured a come-from-behind win. Students compete in the relay race in teams, stopping at various points to flip their pancake in the skillet, before passing it on to their teammate. One dropped pancake opened the door for our winning team to cross the finish line first. Their win earned them a dinner at Waffle House on Father Keyes.



STUDENTS LEARN VALUABLE LESSONS IN GLOBAL AFFAIRS

A delegation of Saint James students attended a three-day high school Model United Nations conference hosted by the American University International Relations Society in Washington, D.C., from February 2-4. AmeriMUNC V, the fifth annual Model UN conference hosted by the AU, welcomed students from across the country. Students engaged with other interested scholars in committees that range from large-scale general assemblies to highly-specialized joint crisis committees. The conference provided a great opportunity for our students to learn about diplomacy and international relations while developing public speaking, critical thinking, and leadership skills.



SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAM TRAVELS TO HARVARD



Six Saint James students traveled to Boston for the 44th Annual Harvard Forensics Tournament sponsored by the Harvard Debate Council on February 17-18. The tournament featured a variety of speech and debate competitions held on the campus of Harvard University as well as some of the nearby secondary schools. The tournament drew approximately 1,500 students from nearly 300 schools representing 39 states.

Third form students **Venus Anani**, **Vince Anani**, **Francine Diaz**, **Nick Forrest**, **Emily Zhu**, and **Danny Zhang** were accompanied Ms. Angie Sievers and Father Samuel Keyes, the Speech and Debate Team advisor.

"It was an amazing experience, and the students were able to learn a lot by watching," said Father Keyes. "The third formers were inspired about the potential for our program heading into next year."

All six students competed in the Novice Division of Public Forum debate, a two-person team debate focused on a rotating current events topic (this tournament focused on the capital gains tax).

The Speech and Debate Team has been growing over the past several years, with the team entering interscholastic competitions in the Baltimore Catholic Forensic League.

Our students represented the school well and gained valuable experience.



CHANGES TO ACADEMIC PROGRAM AND SCHEDULE

Saint James School is making a few changes to the academic program and schedule for the 2018-2019 school year. Most notably, an **Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science** course taught by Dr. Jason Weibel will be added as an option for Sixth Form students.

"This is something the students were really clamoring for, and Dr. Weibel has the skills and knowledge to teach it," said Mr. Marc Batson, Assistant Headmaster.

The addition of this AP course will give the school 16 AP-level courses. In the class of 2017, 84 percent of students who took an AP exam scored a three or higher, potentially earning them college credit or qualifying them for more advanced classes when they began college.

Saint James will also add an additional course to the Fine Arts lineup, **Theater and the Creative Process**. Students will study playwriting as well as read and discuss 4-5 works. The class will be taught by drama director, Ms. Charlotte La Nasa. Currently in her first year at SJS, Ms. La Nasa started a Scripts club this year, and student interest from participants led to the creation of a more formal class.

In order to allow for more collaboration between English and History departments, the Fourth and Fifth Form English classes will be flipped. Students in Fourth Form will now take **British Literature** along with **Developing Nations**. Students in Fifth Form will now have **American Literature** alongside **U.S. History**.

"It will take us two years to fully make this switch, but it just makes sense," said Mr. Batson. "Students will notice a parallel between their classes and will learn more efficiently."

Several other changes round out the curriculum updates. The Political Economy class will evolve into a class now titled **Modern Times: Defining the United States in Politics, the Economy, and War**. It will be taught by Mrs. Anne James. A regular **Calculus** class will be added to give students an avenue to continue in that discipline without taking the more rigorous AP Calculus. Finally, an **Introduction to Religion** course will be added for new Third and Fourth Form students. It will be a comparative religion class taught by Father Samuel Keyes.

"We're also encouraging our teachers to do more experiential learning and get out of the classroom," said Mr. Batson. "Take advantage of our proximity to Civil War sites in history or measure water quality of the Bai Yuka in environmental science."

The major change to the daily schedule will be that teachers will now have lab periods on consecutive days. Eliminating the day between lab periods was a request of department heads, and will help faculty members teach more efficiently.

Overall, these changes will enhance the academic program at Saint James heading into the next school year.

CONCERT WITH NEW HORIZONS BAND

The Saint James School wind ensemble had a joint concert with the New Horizons Band, a group comprised of musicians age 50+. The entire student body came to watch this wonderful collaboration of music.



EGG HUNT FOR A CAUSE

The Kisseman Children's Foundation held their annual Easter Egg Hunt on the Saint James School campus. Many SJS students volunteered to help with the festivities. The event raised \$10,000 for educational initiatives in Ghana.



SJS STUDENTS "TAKEOVER" INSTAGRAM

As part of #takeovertuesday, one SJS student is selected to take photos and videos of his or her day to give a glimpse into life at Saint James from the student perspective. Make sure you follow Saint James on Instagram (@onlyatsjs) to catch it!



NEW ITEMS AVAILABLE IN ONLINE SCHOOL STORE

Show your Saint James pride! New items, including a special 175th anniversary t-shirt, are available for purchase in the online SJS School Store. We also have a selection of sweatshirts, polo shirts, jackets, coffee mugs, and children's apparel. Go to www.SJsschoolstore.com to check it out!



WWW.SJSSCHOOLSTORE.COM

JENNIFER YANG '19 RECEIVES HONORABLE MENTION AT 2018 BALTIMORE SCIENCE FAIR

In a highly competitive field, Jennifer Yang '19 represented Saint James with the best and the brightest science and engineering students in the region at the 2018 Baltimore Science Fair (BSF) on March 24 and 25. She received an honorable mention in the Biological Sciences category for her project titled, "Development of personalized therapeutic technology for the Hyper IgM Syndrome diseases using CRISPR/Cas9 system."

Jennifer said her experience at BSF was nervewracking, but it was a great opportunity to walk around and listen to other student presentations.

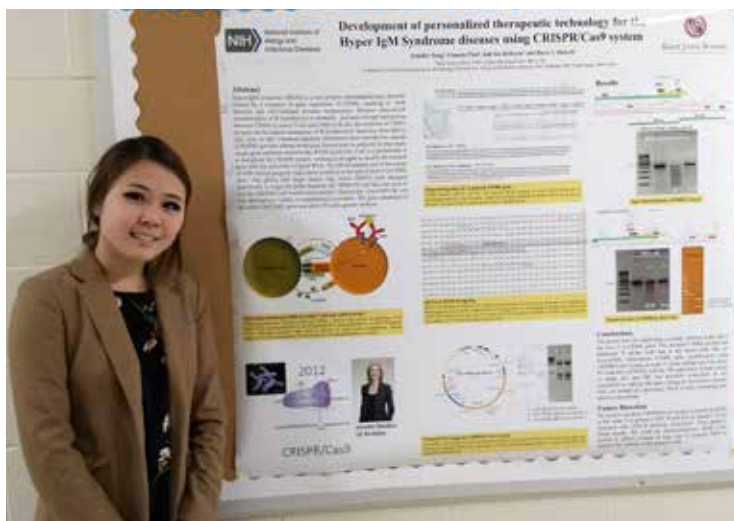
"Even though I didn't win the grand prize, it was a good learning experience," said Jennifer. "I am satisfied with what I have received since I acknowledge how competitive BSF was, and I am excited to continue my research."

After her presentation at BSF, she was also invited to submit her project to the Regeneron Science Talent Search, the nation's oldest and most prestigious science and math competition for high school seniors. This is an exciting opportunity for her to join other young scientists and to present her original research to nationally recognized professional scientists.

Jennifer did her work at the Laboratory of Clinical Immunology and Microbiology, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Bethesda, MD, where she had an internship last summer. She spent the first month of her internship observing and learning from her mentors, Suk See De Ravin and Uimook Choi. She then moved on to shadowing a nurse, and during this time she met a young patient with a genetic disease.

"He was so cute, it broke my heart," Jennifer said. "I did some research and discovered that disease was caused by a single mutation, and I had learned about this with my mentors. I asked if I could do my own research, and they said yes."

In the course of her research, Jennifer was investigating a new gene therapy. Gene therapy is any technique that aims to treat a genetic disease by actually manipulating the genetic code of the person and thus cure the person of the genetic disease rather than just treat the symptoms. The gene therapy she was researching was called CRISPR/Cas9, which stands for is Clustered Regularly Interspaced



Jennifer poses with the poster that explains her research project.

Short Palindromic Repeats. These are RNA probes that can find specific locations in the DNA and then use Cas9 enzymes to cut the DNA. Once this happens the DNA can be manipulated to repair harmful DNA mutations that result in genetic diseases.

"CRISPR/Cas9 is one the biggest breakthroughs in gene therapy and holds many possible advantages over more traditional approaches such as viral gene therapy because it address many of the significant shortfalls of viral therapy," said Dr. Ian Brauner, SJS Science Department Chair. "Namely, CRISPR/Cas9 offers more control in where the DNA can be manipulated and unlike viral therapy, multiple locations can be target simultaneously."

For her research, Jennifer was working on a project to figure out how to optimize the efficacy of the CRISPR/Cas9 system to fix a mutation in white blood cells that results in a severe immune deficiency disease. She was able to successfully replace the mutated gene with a working copy into a experimental cell line.

Jennifer continued her research throughout the year, returning to NIH on long weekends and other school breaks. She will also intern at NIH again this summer. She hopes in the future to optimize CRISPR/Cas9 for her gene for clinical use in actual patient cells and to publish her work.

"I would love for my research to benefit actual patients," she said. ✚

ROULA HAMMER '19 ADVANCES TO FINALS OF NATIONAL SPEECH COMPETITION

Fifth Form student Roula Hammer will represent Maryland in the National Finals of the American Legion High School Oratorical Contest in Indianapolis from April 13-15. She won four separate constitutional oratorical contests at the local, county, district, and state levels before advancing to the national contest.

Participants presented rehearsed speeches, eight and ten minutes in length, covering an aspect of the U.S. Constitution, followed by shorter, unrehearsed speeches on a selected amendment. This year's shorter speeches were on Amendments 2, 3, 15, and Article 2, Section 4 of the Constitution. Each speech had to be 3-5 minutes and she had to be able to perform any one of them at random.

"To prepare for these, I did a lot of historical research, more than necessary, to make sure that I clearly understood each one and the reason why it was needed," Roula said. "Furthermore, I record myself performing these small ones and then listen to them when I'm getting ready in the morning, or when I'm not doing anything productive."

She won with her oration entitled, "We're All In The Same Boat Now." The oration was written after her father decided to run for circuit court judge. Roula was alarmed by the hyper-partisanship they experienced while campaigning.

"Because the election for judgeship is non-partisan, he attended both Democratic and Republican meetings to meet as many people as possible, and I accompanied him. While we were on this campaigning journey, I started to take note of the behavior of these politically active people, and it started to disgust me," she said. "We felt something in each party along the lines of, 'We're the

right party, we're the answer, everyone else is wrong, and we're not going to compromise.'"

Roula, who is captain of the Speech and Debate Club, also entered this competition last year, where she placed second at the district level.

She said one of the most important takeaways was that it helps to be passionate about the topic you are speaking about.

"It doesn't take much to speak like a robot, but to speak passionately and elegantly on a subject is a true ability," she said.

The topic of hyper-partisanship is certainly something she feels strongly about, and as she prepares to head to the nationals, she said she is less concerned about the competition than she is spreading her message.

"If my speech resonates with even just one person, then my job is done. I believe so strongly in this message, and with a chance to spread it to the nation, I am excited," Roula said.

We wish Roula well and are proud to have her represent Saint James School and the state of Maryland in this national competition. ✚



Roula at the state competition with her parents, Effie Kallas and David Hammer.

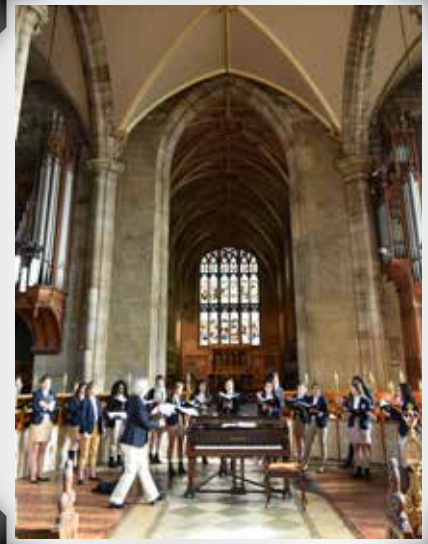
"WE'RE ALL IN THE SAME BOAT NOW"

Read an excerpt from Roula's oration. View the full oration at www.stjames.edu/Roula

The United States Constitution asks us, the citizens, to do four things: to vote, to pay taxes, to serve on a jury, and to serve in the military if called upon, remember? However, there is more to being a citizen of the United States. Indeed, Madison tells us right there in the very first line, "We the people, in order to form a more perfect union. . ." Our very first task, and, indeed, the whole purpose of the Constitution, is to seek a more perfect union. The time is now to heed Washington's warning. I believe that it is the duty of every citizen to resist hyper-partisanship and the falsehood of competition in politics. We must remember that this country, this democracy, is a team and we must, therefore, act accordingly; together, under a united cause.



We arrived in London and headed straight for Worcester with a stop at Oxford, Father Dunnan's other home. Everyone was a little tired from air travel, yet still enjoyed visiting what is the oldest university in the English world. Great to have Claire and Meredith from class of 2017 on the trip with us!



The choir's first concert came on the second day of the trip. Everyone shook off their jetlag and traveled to Warwick. The church was gorgeous and filled with history; we were very grateful for the opportunity to sing in such perfect acoustics.



The Saints traveled to Stratford-upon-Avon, our beloved Shakespeare from English class's birthplace. We saw amazing actors from the center performing scenes from Shakespeare's most renowned plays. This photo features Nick Forrest interacting with the actor in a scene from A Midsummer Night's Dream.



This shot was taken by Mr. Walton, and features the choir at the Lady Chapel in Ely Cathedral. This was perhaps the most amazing space a singer could find, boasting an unimaginable seven seconds of reverberation! This service was webcast and everyone gave their best despite suffering from the cold.



Mrs. Stowe was the mastermind behind this whole choir trip! Without her efforts none of this could have been possible. Thank you Mama Stowe, and everyone in the choir loves you!

This grotesque outside of Lincoln cathedral was my favorite thing from the whole trip. It was constructed during a recent construction of the cathedral and portrays the greed of human nature. This idea and carving of the grotesque appeals to me as a meaningful piece of art that shall not be overlooked.





SAINT JAMES CHAPEL CHOIR TOURS ENGLAND

Andrew Shen '18 selected his favorite photos from the SJS Chapel Choir's spring break trip to England. The choir performed at seven stops during their trip and still made time for sightseeing.



Senior Chorister Alex Kim marvels at the beautiful interior of King's College Chapel, Cambridge. Known for its magnificent collegiate choir, it was a mesmerizing experience for all members of the choir to visit a place we had only ever seen in Youtube videos. Everybody fell in love with Cambridge and many gained the aspiration to continue their education at this historical university.



The evensong service at St. Edmundsbury was most memorable because we sang with the cathedral men and boys! Sofie, Aimee, and Elsa, along with others, engaged in exciting conversations with the choir boys who had endless energy. They even exchanged social media! Intercontinental connection, yay!



Thank you to Mr. Harry for providing the choir with an elegant farewell dinner at the Lansdowne Club in London! This was the final trip for all the Sixth Formers in the choir! We will all miss our experience with the choir and be grateful for all it has helped us learn.



The London EYE! Thanks so much to Mr. Stimson, Mr. Forrest, and Mrs. Stowe for making this possible! NO ONE can complain about going miles high and enjoying a panoramic view of London!



A NORDIC ADVENTURE

During spring break, a group of SJS students and staff traveled to Iceland to take in waterfalls, glaciers, whales, and more. Taylor Spikell '20 shares a few of her favorite memories from the trip.



Our first stop on the first day following a Viking breakfast was this massive church in Reykjavik. The stain glass windows inside were stunning blending beautiful colors to depict Christ and his apostles. For this picture the group had to take a pause from shivering although our tour guide reminded us that we were in the south.



The magnificent Godafoss waterfall was in the north, Akureyri. On a day of touring around with a local who in fact is 33rd generation Icelandic, he showed us this waterfall. He gave us a wise tip for pictures next to cliffs; never back up if the cameraman tells you to, the cameraman can adjust himself.

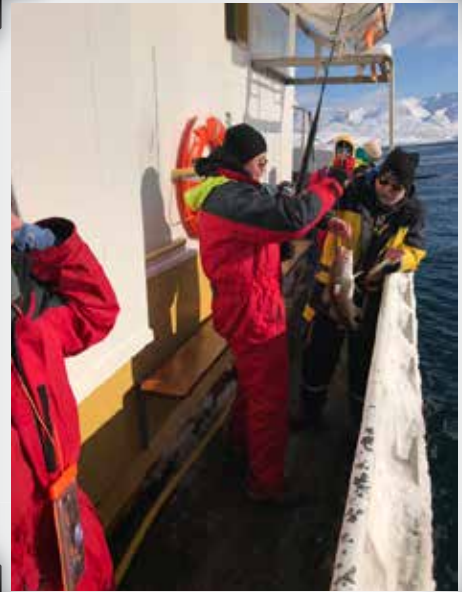


A valley of rock formations formed by hardened lava; although an old myth says that all the rocks are trolls that turned to rock after a party got out of hand and the sun came up.





On the way back to the marina from whale watching. The few that were not seasick huddled up like penguins for warmth on deck.



We anchored far away from the docks and watched two humpback whales. While taking a break from tracking the whales, many kids fished and Bill Li had some luck.



We had the opportunity to try fermented shark. It did not taste good



We went to the Blue Lagoon on the last day of the trip. The water was naturally hot and there was a station for the white mud mask. The steam was super thick and it was difficult to find people.



SECOND FORM PRODUCTION OF

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Making its Saint James debut, Second Form students embraced their chance to take the stage in Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. This familiar Christmas tradition tells the tale of the working class Cratchit family and showcases the powers of kindness and generosity through the awakening of London's grumpiest miser, Mr. Scrooge. Directed by Ms. Charlotte La Nasa, the

Second Form took this story by storm, asking questions about its history, the elements that develop its hero, and how to bring the tale to life on stage. Through exploring theater and the creative process, Saint James' youngest students learned the values of diligence, focus, and self confidence. Well done!



Photos by Mr. Joel Ellis



UPCOMING ARTS EVENTS

April 24

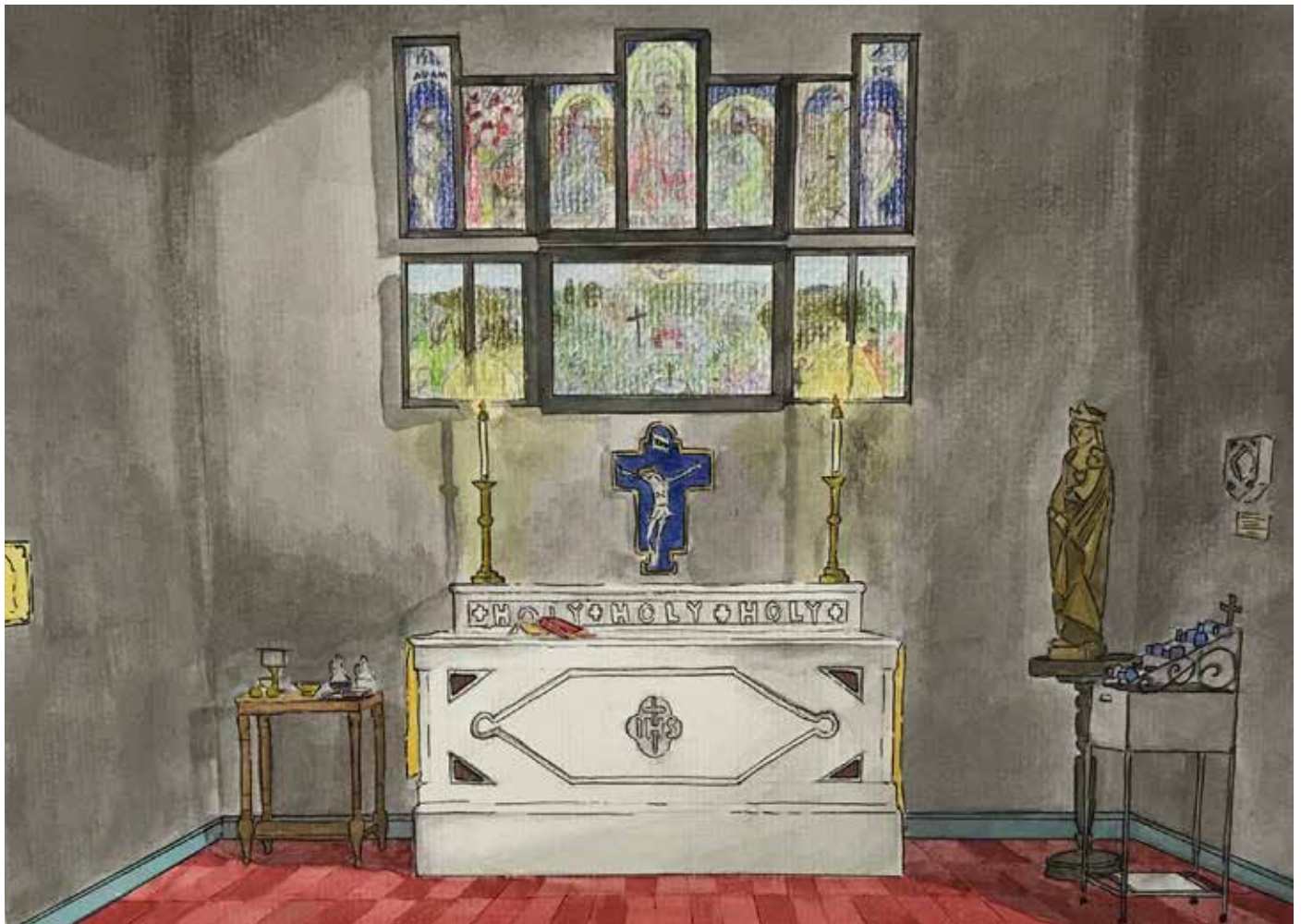
Scripts: Student Written and Directed Plays

April 28

Student Art Show in Kemp Hall
(Alumni Weekend)

May 25 & 26

Spring Musical - *Brigadoon*



Painting of the Mary Chapel by Will Moerschel '19 (son of Grant Moerschel '83) was exhibited in the AIMS Student Art Show.

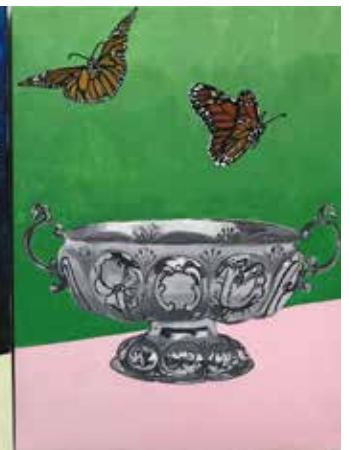
SJS ARTISTS ON DISPLAY

AIMS Student Art Showcase

Bob Fu '18, Will Moerschel '19, and Alexia Tiches '18 had artwork selected for the inaugural Association of Independent Maryland & DC Schools (AIMS) Student Art Showcase, which exhibited student art from independent high schools from all of Maryland and Washington, DC. The art was display on February 3-4 at the Mansion at Strathmore in Bethesda, Maryland.



Alexia Tiches '18



Bob Fu '18

Washington County Student Art Show

Jessica Geng '21 received 3rd place in the Drawing category at the Washington County High School Juried Art Show. Several other SJS students, including Bob Fu '18, Rosy Lin '19, Shirley Mao '18, Alexia Tiches '18, and Jason Zheng '18 also had artwork on display. A fantastic representation of Saint James School art!



Jessica Geng '21



Bob Fu '18



Alexia Tiches '18



Shirley Mao '18



Jason Zheng '18



Rosy Lin '19

Art Educators of Washington County Showcase



Saint James art teacher Mr. Jeremy McDonald had his work displayed in the 8th Annual Washington County Art Educators Show, presented by the Washington County Arts Council, Inc.

Mr. McDonald's entries included an acrylic painting of his daughter's hand wrapped around his finger and a set of ceramic cylinders that he created and pit-fired over the summer at Wright Hand Studios (owned by Steven Wright '75).



JUST DANCE

Evolution of Dance Program on Display at Winter Dance Showcase

Live bravely. That motto can mean many things on the Saint James campus. For students in the SJS Dance Program, it might mean pushing outside of your comfort zone and trying a dance class for the first time. Or getting up on stage with bright lights shining on you as you perform in front of your peers. Or taking charge as a student choreographer and turning your vision into reality.

In under five years, the Saint James Dance Program has seen impressive growth. The program has gone from being a small part of a campus talent show to having a full-blown Winter Dance Showcase featuring costumes, student choreography, and several styles of dance. This year, the dance program doubled in size to include 50 students, the highest number ever. When adding in all of the students who also worked behind the scenes on the Winter Dance Showcase, the production included about 25 percent of the entire student body.

The evolution of the dance program began four years ago when Mrs. Amelia Fitzsimmons, Senior Associate Director of Enrollment Management, was hired to work in the Admission Office and also assumed responsibility for the dance program.

Fitzsimmons began dancing at the age of three and competed nationally and internationally throughout her school years. She began teaching dance and joined the dance program at the University of Tampa, where she received her undergraduate degree. She continued teaching while getting her master's degree at George Mason University.

"My college dance adviser was a role model for me, and those connections have been a huge asset as I build the program here," said Fitzsimmons.

After she started at Saint James, she began setting expectations for the dance program.

"My goal for the first year was just to be more professional – have actual costumes and clean transitions between numbers," Fitzsimmons said. "We had three pieces and a solo performance by a senior, which was how our senior pieces began."

Another turning point for the program was a powerful dance titled, "The Last Text" which was about a teenager killed while texting and driving.

"I think after that piece, people realized that dance can convey a story. It was an emotional piece and caught people's attention," Fitzsimmons said.

The following year the program received more funding and a separate Dance Showcase was established. Fitzsimmons realized she would need assistance putting an entire show together. She turned to her experienced dancers for help with choreography, which has turned into an entirely student-choreographed show.

"It's been a great opportunity for our students. They are empowered to have ownership of the program," said Fitzsimmons. "It's up to them whether the show is awesome or awful depending on the work they put in."

Students who have been in the program for at least one year can apply to be a student choreographer. If selected, these students are responsible for holding an audition, casting, choreographing, directing, and producing each piece. This year's showcase included 11 student choreographed works.

Corinne Shaw '19 served as captain of the dance program, giving her additional responsibilities including teaching a ballet class every Thursday.

"Being the team's captain was a rewarding

continued on pg. 22 ►

► *Dance (continued from pg. 21)*

experience for me as I was able to explore new leadership opportunities all while connecting with my peers within the program,” Shaw said.

According to Shaw, being a student choreographer was also a very vulnerable experience.

“The pieces that students create come from themselves and their own visions which enables us to showcase our creativity in the way that we desire,” she said. “My piece this year was focused around Saint James’ 175th anniversary which was an extra challenge for me to make it a dance that the school could be proud of. Overall, seeing a piece in the showcase that my peers and I had worked so hard on was very rewarding.”

Fellow student-choreographer Alessia Regazzoni '19 enjoyed the opportunity to bring a story and feeling to life on stage.

“It’s rewarding to watch your piece from beginning to end and see how much the dancers have progressed in such a little time,” she said.

Many of the students in the dance program do not have prior experience. There are 10 rehearsals for each piece leading up to the showcase, which means a lot of hard work and dedication is put in to each session.

“For many of the dancers, they are getting up on stage for the first time. You have to be really committed because your performance has an impact on the number,” said Fitzsimmons. “In dance, you are all starters. Nobody is on the sideline.”

This year for the first time, boys were also able to join the dance program and receive credit for their



Dancers perform "How to be Loved" at the Winter Dance Showcase.

winter athletic requirement. Interest from boys had been growing, with a few boys participating last year on their own time. A *Dance for Athletics* workshop was also popular.

“At first I think a lot of them thought it would be easier. But they put in a lot of work to get up on stage,” said Fitzsimmons. “I think we created an environment supportive of people putting themselves out there and giving something new a try.”

During the winter dance season, the group had company classes twice a week, technique classes twice a week, and a rehearsal practice with the student choreographer once per week. The dancers also take classes on stretching, fitness, yoga, and conditioning.

“Unlike other sports that are split up by Varsity and Junior Varsity on campus, the dance program maintained two classes a week where the entire company would dance together,” said Shaw.

“This time together gave the program a more family-like feeling which really helped in terms of holding a cohesive unit.”

Guest artists are brought in three times per year to teach various styles of dance. The guest artist series kicked off this year with Sierra Jimenez, who taught a hip hop class.



Corinne Shaw '19 and Jalen Anderson '18 partner together.



Student-choreographer Alessia Regazzoni '19 leads the way.



Aimée Egwudobi '18 performs in her choreographed peice.

“Sierra was my favorite guest instructor. She showed us how to get out of our comfort zone, which was challenging but fun at the same time,” said Regazzoni.

Charnice Charmant, former SJS staff member and dance instructor, surprised the students with her return to campus and taught an Afro-Modern dance class. The final guest artist this year was Lisa Irvine. Irvine previously studied at the School of American Ballet and later danced with Pacific Northwest Ballet. She also taught the Washington Redskins ballet during training camp.

“One thing that I love most about the dance program is that we are able to experience outside instructors that help to further our dance education,” said Shaw. “As a classically trained ballerina, I loved that we were taught by outside ballet instructors. However, I particularly enjoyed being taught by hip-hop instructors because I was able to broaden my dance education.”

The dance program is part of the Washington Area Independent School Dance Education Association (WAISDEA). Six dancers were chosen to represent the school

at WAISDEA festival and take part in workshops and master classes.

The addition of the Pohanka Fine Arts Center will open up more space in the Cotton Building that will be dedicated to the dance program. As the campus grows, opportunities abound for the Saint James Dance Program to grow with it, and we look forward to watching. ✚

Winter Dance Showcase Student Choreographers

Catalina Avellaneda '19

Jenny Cheng '20

Aimée Egwudobi '18

Roula Hammer '19

Elsa Jenkins '19

Alessia Regazzoni '19

Amanda Reyes '18

Corinne Shaw '19

Victoria Vando '19

Watch the Winter Dance Showcase:
www.stjames.edu/showcase

Follow @SaintJamesDance on
Instagram for program updates.



The dance team poses with guest artist Sierra Jimenez after class.

WINTER SHAKESPEARE SHOWCASE

Students who participated in the Winter Shakespeare ensemble performed scenes from a few of the Bard's greatest works, including the *Henriad*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Hamlet*, at a showcase on February 23. Directed by Ms. Charlotte La Nasa, the scenes were arranged to follow the rise and fall of a Shakespearean play, with brief introductions to give the audience context. It was a wonderful performance by our SJS thespians!



Three SJS Students Receive Recognition at Shakespeare Festival



In February, the Winter Shakespeare ensemble traveled to the Folger's Shakespeare Library Secondary School Festival. The festival is open to students in grades 7-12 who attend school in the DC, Virginia, and Maryland metropolitan areas. Students perform prepared pieces from Shakespeare for each other and share praise and feedback. The SJS Shakespeare group performed scenes from *Romeo & Juliet*. Alexia Tiches '18 and Jackson Pentony '21 received awards for Outstanding Characterizations, and Evan Fulmer '20 was awarded two Distinguished Actor awards.

A Sermon

For Founders' Day

February 26, 2018

The Revd. W.L. Prehn, Ph.D.

Trustee of Saint James and Headmaster of St. John's School, Ellicott City, Maryland

In the Name of the Living God:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

I wish I could express how deeply glad I am to be here with you at Saint James this evening. When he greeted me moments ago, Father Dunnan said, "Welcome home." Yes, I am home. I shall have to tell you sometime how true this is.* I thank you, Father Dunnan, for inviting me to preach today, and I also thank my fellow Mississippian, Father Keyes.

In the year 1825, the aldermen and citizens of Lancaster, Pennsylvania prepared to welcome a most distinguished visitor. Lionized by that patriotic generation almost as much as Washington, Hamilton, Adams, Jefferson, and others in the Revolutionary Generation, the Marquis de Lafayette was on a celebrity tour of the United States and would remain long enough to mark with his American comrades the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

In those days, Lancaster was one of the most important cities of America. With a larger population than many cities, and a booming economy, Lancaster was a destination for anyone who wanted to be in the swim of things in the new Republic. Thus it is not surprising that Lancaster would host Major-General Lafayette. What is quite surprising is that, among the select group asked to address the illustrious statesman and military hero, was a nine year old school-boy. That brilliant little boy was John Barrett Kerfoot (1816-1881), the Founder of Saint James. I ask you to pause to reflect on this: The Founder of your school was asked to address the Marquis de Lafayette at the age of nine.

By all accounts, Kerfoot was not only precocious but winsome and good. By the time he was nine years old, he had already gained much solid education and learning at the hands of his beloved priest and school-master, William Augustus Muhlenberg (1796-1877). Kerfoot was one of Muhlenberg's hand-made scholars who changed the world. So dear to each other were the Master and the Pupil, and this in spite of some disagreements over the years, that the Master left directions that the Pupil would commend his mortal remains to the grave when he died.

Moving back in time from that year, 1877, John Kerfoot served as the first Bishop of Pittsburgh; President of Trinity College, Hartford; Rector & Headmaster of the College and Grammar School of St. James's (for twenty-two years); Assistant Principal of St. Paul's College and Grammar School in Queens County, New York (Dr. Muhlenberg's school); and Head Boy of the Church Institute at Flushing, New York (Muhlenberg's first school on Long Island). In 1868, Kerfoot sailed for England and was present when the Archbishop of Canterbury convened the first Lambeth Conference of Bishops from the world-wide Anglican Communion. Cambridge University awarded Bishop Kerfoot an honorary doctorate that same summer, the Citation noting the Bishop's groundbreaking work in the top-flight Christian education of boys.

What a great blessing it is to all of you in this Chapel, and will be an advantage to all who are yet to come to Saint James, that your Founder was this kind of man – a true "school-man" but also a model

of piety, of scholarship and hard work, of sound learning, exemplary morals, and strong pastoral leadership. During the Civil War, Kerfoot left his post at the College to minister to wounded and dying soldiers and bury the honored dead. He was a *great* man and a great teacher. He was a most successful human being. Your Founder is worthy of our esteem. We should all want to be like him.



If it is true that John Kerfoot was a model human being, what are a few take-aways from his exemplary life?

First, aim high. One of Kerfoot's students here at Saint James went on to become the famous headmaster of a little school in New Hampshire called St. Paul's. Henry Coit (1830-1895) was only echoing his schoolmaster when he said, "A high aim is better than a low one." In fact, the Target for which we are aiming is just over the Horizon. We must be as wise and skilled as longbow archers who know we must aim high in order to *hit* the Target just out of sight. The high-aim philosophy espoused by Muhlenberg, Kerfoot, and their school-making protégés is as common-sense as good archery. It is simple but, trust me, it is the very secret to having a great school and not a merely good one. The Target is Heaven. "Our hearts are restless, O Lord, until they rest in Thee" (St. Augustine). We are seldom conscious of it, but you and I are wired to reach for Heaven.

This is not pious talk. The practical way to aim for Heaven in a school is to make *Character* the object of education. Character has been the end of education

in every great school for at least 2500 years. It is the philosophy of Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Aquinas, and many other sages. At the very minimum, Character is mature faith, moral goodness, integrity, and honor. But Character is also that constellation of attitudes, resolves, work ethic, learned skills, virtues, and confidence that make a man or a woman *effective* in the real world and well prepared for the Next. Character is the proper end of education. To grasp the concept, consider that the various elements of a superlative *academic* program are themselves one of the means to the development of Character.

Yes, the great insight of Muhlenberg, Kerfoot, Coit, and their scholastic heirs is that, if you aim above academic excellence to a higher, more noble and comprehensive objective, you *will* get a general academic excellence along the way.

There's a great difference between a school that uses its programs—including a rich and challenging course of study—as a means to Character, and the more common approach of using Character or “character education” as a means to academic and other forms of excellence. Do you see the subtle but huge difference between these two kinds of school? Saint James is in the first tradition, not the second. Such a situation is Win-Win for everyone concerned, not just the few naturally gifted souls. If Character is the object, then everyone works on a level playing field. Hence the aim of the Muhlenberg-type Church school is actually *higher* than many so-called great schools in America, but real academic achievement is gained in the bargain. C.S. Lewis wrote most wisely in *Mere Christianity*, “Aim for Heaven, and you get earth thrown in; aim for earth, and you get neither.”

In the high-aim philosophy of Kerfoot and his associates, idealism is not utopianism: Because the transcendent Goals of the School are *real* and worth reaching for, even though the desired outcome is *not yet* realized in your life or mine. In time, the conscientious student

begins to feel his or her power developing on the inside. Faith is required.

So you *must have faith*, and that is the **second point** I wish to make from the Founder's life and work. Kerfoot was an orthodox Christian believer, and this faith was his most precious possession. His faith was not the outcome of a rational, scientific inquiry. No, *saving faith* is not gained at the end of a logical syllogism. Saving faith is a gift from God, a gift of Grace, which begins and can only begin when a person believes certain propositional truths on the authority and testimony of an other or others, for example the authors of the Bible or a bishop or a preacher or the friend sitting next to you in this Chapel who is already a believer. Saving faith occurs when I accept in my heart and mind the powerful truth that *Jesus Christ is the Son of God and Savior of the world*; and, when, I assent on the testimony of others.

Like his scholastic mentor, Kerfoot always sought to demonstrate in a most “scientific” way the relationship between Christian faith and practice and education. This life-long project is indicated in a fascinating magazine article he wrote in 1843. He showed how important faith is, not only for our salvation, but for our learning. Kerfoot believed that, without what he called “first faith,” the learning process cannot begin at all.

The insight can be illustrated from a picture (I think from Locke's treatise *On Education*) of a master and a pupil standing together at a globe. The master is teaching the young boy geography. He points to a large, red, upside-down pear shape on the globe. He calls it “Africa” and the boy repeats the word, “Africa.” Above it is Europe, and across the blue “ocean” are North America and South America. The pupil already *trusts* the teacher, and the pupil *believes* on the authority of the teacher that what's been pointed to on the globe really are Africa, Europe, and so on. Kerfoot called this “first faith,” and he said that solid learning is impossible without this trusting relationship between teacher and

student. Have faith, and you will build an impregnable edifice of learning in your own life, and maybe even wisdom.

It follows that Kerfoot did believe in proper authority in a school. This is the **Third take-away** we can derive from Kerfoot's life and example. Just as saving faith is believing on the testimony of the Apostles, and believing it on their authority alone, so sound learning depends on real authority in the School. Trust, obedience, and close relationships between student and teacher are essential if you will achieve your goals, academically and otherwise.

Fourth, go ahead and be a scholar. Everyone in this Chapel is called to be a scholar. The term ‘scholar’ is not reserved for the academically elite. It just means a lover of learning who is willing to work and dig for good and accurate knowledge. “Trust not in thine own understanding,” says the Proverb. Scholarship and Character go hand in hand. Pay attention. Work hard. Love to learn. Jacobean scholars and understand “the moral value of exact scholarship” (B.F. Westcott). Have the attitude that you know nothing and must find out everything. The only way to that knowledge is through *diligence*.

This related to a **Fifth point** upon which I'm certain Bishop Kerfoot would insist: Never rely on or over-estimate the importance of natural intellectual power. Rely on hard work instead; on stick-to-it-ness, grit, resilience, and careful preparation. Getting organized and being conscientious will be far more important to your success than intellectual brilliance. If you don't know how to get organized, ask someone who is to help you out. Henry James had a criterion to assess a work of poetry or fiction. “It may be clever,” he asked, “but is it *true*?” The test may be applied not only to a student's academic work but to a student's whole life: You may be brilliant, but are you demonstrating that fact in your daily life? You may be a good student, but how good are you on the inside?

And I have a special message for those

of you who are, perhaps, finding Saint James School a little easier than expected: *Beware! Watch out.* Don't fall into the trap. Get busy and challenge yourself. And, here is counsel for you if you are what is called an *under-achiever*: That is a moral problem you must correct now. I was an underachiever; so I speak of which I know. Most under-achievers are bright and are almost unconsciously "saving" their brains for some undetermined and glorious moment in the future. But that's not how it works. Your brain requires exercise and refining now while this scholarly diligence is the work of your life. Time is a-wasting. Get yourself a great education now. Don't wait. If, by the time you are eighteen years old, you've gotten yourself a top-drawer education, then you'll be light-years ahead of most of the people in your generation. But start now. Don't wait. Don't put it off.

The Sixth tip I glean from the life of Dr. Kerfoot is my last, then we'll finish our worship and get off to Dinner. It is Lent. So I say let God lead you into the desert of your life. Embrace the trials that come your way here at the School. Remember that it was the Spirit of God Who drove Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted of Satan. There are riches there, in the arid desolation. Look for God in the hard, agonizing unexpected places of your life. Know that you are not alone and there is always Help from above and help from your schoolmates.

Thucydides wrote in that great guide to morals called *The Peloponnesian War*, "We ought not to believe that there is much difference between man and man, but the superiority lies with the man who came up through the hardest school." Welcome rigor, brothers and sisters. And let me say what rigor is: Rigor is not facing an almost impossibly difficult subject-matter or academic task. Rigor is about *relationships* between human beings. Rigor is an intentional and agreed upon relationship between students and teachers and students and students, and this *relationship* is characterized by high expectations and constant accountability. That's rigor.

You know about it in sports. Welcome it in the other parts of your life. (Go watch "The Paper Chase" some time, a great movie with a beautiful actress. The movie shows what real rigor is: a big challenge faced in community.)

The mystic and poet Blake insisted that this world is actually supposed to be a pretty hard place in some ways, a "vale of tears." The reason you are here – on earth – is for the purpose of "soul-making." The purpose is not first of all happiness but holiness. Soul-making is a process. It takes time. It's not done until you breathe your last. Soul-making takes commitment. It takes living in a community like Saint James, because God's Grace is mediated in Christ through and to each of us. It takes both students and teachers who are clear about the goals and care about living into a Vision of who we already are in God's eyes but cannot easily see with our own eyes; not yet. We have to have faith in the outcome.

Do some soul-searching during these forty days of Lent. The soul is best searched when things are not easy. A good school is *hard*. That's okay, because the Helping Community is here to support you, to share the burden, to push, pull, or carry you over the finish line. Accept that a good school is hard, but it is not *too* hard. The pressure to perform is just right for each student. There is challenge every day for everyone in a good school. God will give you the Grace to welcome that challenge. Be glad you are in a place where your teachers and coaches *expect* much of you. Be happy that here at Saint James every part of human nature is addressed, inspired, exercised, and matured in the *common life* of the School every day and all day long. The common life is key!

My first headmaster boss became an Army Ranger after Vanderbilt. But he almost was not an Army Ranger, because he nearly failed to finish the obstacle course. A Ranger must move through five miles of obstacles with a heavy pack on his or her back. To make the time, there is a fair amount of running. My boss dropped to his knees 600 yards

from the finish line. He was exhausted. His legs had no more power to move him. He began to weep with frustration, disappointment, and embarrassment. The rest of the Platoon made it to the finish line. When they looked back and saw what had happened, they sprinted to him, lifted him to their shoulders, and carried him across the finish line just in time. He became a Ranger and served two tours in Vietnam. And he was a hell of a headmaster.



"The Glory of God is the man fully *alive*," wrote St. Irenaeus of Lyons, "and the life of man is the vision of God." It's taken me fifty years to realize that the word 'Glory' in the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament most often denotes human *completeness*. Glory is the human fulfillment that *can really happen* but only if we gain God's Grace, which means God's help – I mean if we are open to God's Life dwelling in us. "Grace completes nature." You are at Saint James to work hard on that nature which Grace is completing.

"High Standards and Hard Work in a Helping Community." There you have the essence of the school founded by John Barrett Kerfoot 175 years ago, Christian faith and practice being the very Foundation upon which we stand.

The Founders of this School envisioned a merry scholastic fellowship second to none in the United States. From this School where you sit all the great schools in the United States were founded. Did you know that? The great Church schools in New England and Minnesota and even in the Carolinas and Texas were modeled on your own Alma Mater. Seize the moment, ladies and gentlemen. Make the most of it. Be glad of it. Rejoice in it.

And don't forget this time of year to send up a prayer for John Kerfoot, a truly great man and your Founder. He was one of the faithful servants of "the new and living Way opened up to us" by Jesus the Christ.

Amen. ✚



The building site is being cleared for the Pohanka Fine Arts Center.

BUILDING EXCITEMENT

Construction of Pohanka

It's dirt for art's sake. Construction has officially begun on the Pohanka Fine Arts Center, a 22,000-square foot three-story building with an anticipated cost of \$7 million.

An access road has been added for construction vehicles and heavy machinery to enter campus, and the site of the future building is being cleared and utility lines are being added. The building will be located behing Claggett Hall, overlooking the Bai Yuka, and bringing the arts to a more central location on campus. What now is a large dirt pit will soon become a beautiful space for Saint James students to engage in the arts.

More students than ever before are taking offerings in studio art, music, theater, and dance, and the new building will accommodate and free up space in

the Cotton Building for those growing and thriving programs.

The Pohanka Fine Arts Center will include a concert hall for recitals, three artist studios, a gallery, a digital media lab, a 3D art studio, seven practice rooms, and seven teacher studios, where instructors will help students. It also will have a classroom and a choir-rehearsal room.

When the new building is complete, the Cotton Building will be reconfigured to better meet the needs of the theater and dance programs.

A site dedication ceremony was held in October for the new building, which is named for lead donors Geoffrey Pohanka '76 and his wife, Anne Kline.



Artist rendering of the new building.

MENT FOR THE ARTS

Fine Arts Center Begins

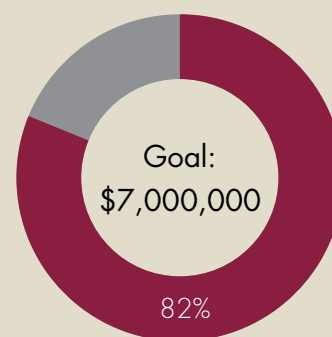
The new building is a significant investment in the arts at Saint James, and the School is seeking additional supporters for this important project.

"We have a little more than \$1 million left to raise, and we need support from generous donors to help us close the gap," said Father Dunnan.

If you are interested in supporting the arts at Saint James, please contact Margaret McGuigan, Director of Development, at 301-733-9330 ext. 3069 or mmmcguigan@stjames.edu. Gifts of any size are welcome and greatly appreciated. Naming opportunities are available for gifts of \$50,000 or more.

We are grateful for your gift in support of arts education at Saint James School. ✚

HELP US REACH OUR GOAL: SUPPORT THE ARTS AT SJS



Raised: \$5,770,000
To go: \$1,230,000

A BANNER YEAR

Wrestling, Basketball Teams Win Championships





VARSITY WRESTLING

MAC
Regular Season &
Tournament
Champions

VARSITY BOYS' BASKETBALL

MAC
Tournament
Champions

VARSITY GIRLS' BASKETBALL

IPSL
Champions

Continue for story on pg. 32 ►



► *A Banner Year (continued from pg. 31)*

Three teams, three championships. The Saints successful 2017-2018 winter sports season will be remembered by the banners hanging in Alumni Hall. The Girls' Varsity Basketball, Boys' Varsity Basketball, and Varsity Wrestling teams all captured tournament titles, with many individual accomplishments earned along the way.

"This winter season for the Saints was one of the best in recent history," said Athletic Director Scott Barr. "This is particularly satisfying since we strengthened the schedules of all three teams. The kids were challenged throughout the season and represented themselves and the entire community very well."

For the first time in program history, the Girls' Varsity Basketball team passed the 20-win mark. They finished the season with 21 wins and five losses. The Saints started the season by winning the Berkeley Springs Tip-Off Tournament. Victories over St. Maria Goretti, Coppin Academy, Holy Cross, and Bishop Palotti were regular season highlights. They then defeated Goretti to win the 2018 Independent-Parochial School League (IPSL) championship. To end their season, the team was invited to play in the prestigious Bishop Walsh Invitational Tournament. Invitations to the Bishop Walsh tournament are reserved for those teams that over the course of the entire season have proven to be among the best in the region. It is quite an honor to be invited, and we are proud that the

girls won the Team Sportsmanship Award.

"I'm proud of the way this team came together; we competed hard every day in practices which made game days a little easier," said head coach Nate Naylor. "Every player played an important role and helped us make this one of the best seasons in Saint James girls basketball history."

The Boys' Varsity Basketball team overcame an injury-plagued regular season to defeat Flint Hill in the Mid-Atlantic Conference (MAC) tournament title game in front of a fantastic Saint James home crowd.

The Saints tackled a brutally difficult schedule, including playing three of the top five teams in the country. They played in the State College Tip Off Tournament, the Slam Dunk at the Beach Tournament, our own Saint James Invitational Tournament, and then played and hosted the MAC tournament. In the MAC Tournament, they demolished the three opponents they faced, winning each game by more than 20 points. Watching the team come together at the end of the season after enduring multiple injuries and setbacks was a highlight.

"I thought the team was able to fight through so much adversity during the season," said head coach Dan Prete. "We played a schedule that demanded excellence. We played against some of the top teams in the country along with two state championship finalists, we had an injury bug that hit us, but we were able to fight and learn from

our experiences. That fight and those experiences paid off with an incredible run through the MAC playoffs and ultimately winning the championship."

As if that wasn't enough, the Varsity Wrestling team had a dominant season, winning both the MAC regular season and MAC Tournament to bring home the outright MAC Championship for the first time since 2004.

In the regular season, the Saints defeated Georgetown Day 69-10, St. Andrew's Episcopal 48-32, Sidwell Friends 60-24, and The Potomac School 60-21. This dominance earned the Saints the regular season MAC Championship. They traveled to Sidwell Friends to participate in the MAC Tournament, winning the title with a score of 146 points, while second place Sidwell Friends finished with 107 points. The Saints had champions at six of the 14 weight classes.

"Winning the MAC regular season and tournament title is an accomplishment that our team and coaches are very proud of. We have set that as a goal (along with beating Sidwell) each of my seven seasons as the head wrestling coach, and to finally do it is a testament to the individuals on this year's team, as well as all the alumni who have helped lead the way with their hard work and enthusiasm," said head coach Steve Lachut.

Read on to learn more about each team's accomplishments, as well as individual athletes who received recognition. Go Saints! ✚

TJ QUELET '19 SETS SJS RECORD FOR WINS



TJ Quelet with mom, Julie, after his 100th career win.

Fifth former TJ Quelet had a record-breaking season for Saint James wrestling. TJ surpassed the 100-win milestone this season after a victory against South Hagerstown. He won the Holloway and MAC Tournament titles in his weight class, and as captain, led the wrestling team to MAC regular season and tournament titles. TJ finished this season with an amazing 36-6 record, and now holds the school record for victories with 122 career wins. With his Sixth Form year still to come, it's clear TJ will be setting the bar high for future wrestlers at Saint James.

Tucker Almany '17 Named Academic All-American



Tucker Almany '17 was named a 2017 U.S. Lacrosse Academic All-American. Saint James has had many All-American athletes over its long history, but Tucker is believed to be the first Academic All-American. To be eligible a student-athlete must meet the following criteria:

- The player must have exemplary lacrosse skills and achievements;
- The player must show good sportsmanship on the field;
- The player must exhibit high standards of achievement in the classroom with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.7 GPA out of a 4.0 academic scale over his entire 4-year high school career.
- Players should have left their mark beyond the lacrosse field and classroom by making significant contributions of service to the school and/or community.

Tucker was a four-year goalkeeper for the Saints, where he was named the *Herald Mail's* 2017 Washington County Player of the Year, earned three All-IPSL honors, and multiple All-MAC and All-County accolades. He now attends and plays lacrosse at Saint Joseph's University.

WINTER ATHLETIC RECOGNITION



Amir Harris '18
Herald-Mail Player of the Year
1st Team All-County
All-MAC



Christa Bartlett '19
Herald-Mail Player of the Year
1st Team All-County



Nate Naylor
Girls Basketball
Herald-Mail Coach of the Year



Bryce Golden '18
All-MAC
1st Team All-County



Callum Baker '19
2nd Team All-County



Dima Zdor '18
2nd Team All-County



Anthony Garcia '18
All-County
Honorable Mention



Skylar Treadwell '20
1st Team All-County



Tessa Douglass '19
2nd Team All-County



Morgan McMahon '21
2nd Team All-County



Morgan Moseley '20
2nd Team All-County



TJ Quelet '19
All-MAC
1st Team All-County



Jason Kim '18
All-MAC
2nd Team All-County



Ben Couling '20
All-MAC



Teddy White '20
All-MAC



Shea Pena '19
All-MAC



Nirmal Singletary '19
All-MAC

Boys' JV Basketball

Coaches Award	Caleb Norris
Most Improved Player	Will Zimmermann
Most Valuable Player	Jaxson Schultz

Girls' JV Basketball

Coaches Award	Lauren Aguila
Most Improved Player	Samantha Brown
Most Valuable Player	Mary James

JV Wrestling

Coaches Award	Daniel Peacher
Most Improved Player	Ken Tam
Most Valuable Player	Asa Hammer

Boys' Junior Basketball

Coaches Award	Luke Barnes
Most Improved Player	Leo Cucuzzella
Most Valuable Player	Sidique Thomas-Sualley

Junior Varsity Winter Athletic Award Winners



VARSITY BOYS' BASKETBALL

Coach Dan Prete

MVP: Callum Baker

MIP: Wilson Ramabu

Coaches' Award: Jalen Miller

The Boys' Varsity Basketball team had many new faces combined with a few veterans who all came together to have an outstanding season. As every year moves forward, the Boys' Varsity Basketball team continues to play a schedule that is second to none. The overall record of the teams that Saint James competed with was 476-214. They played three teams ranked in the top 5 in the nation, along with three other teams that were ranked regionally. As always the team's main focus was the brutal Mid-Atlantic Conference (MAC), which continually produces top teams and players from the DMV.

The team was able to fight off a tough schedule and injuries to ultimately win the MAC Tournament Championship over Flint Hill in front of an incredible Saint James School student body and community. Sixth formers Bryce Golden, Anthony Garcia, Amir Harris, and Dima Zdor took control of the team and brought home the championship to Saint James.

During the season,

the team traveled to State College Tip-Off Tournament, Slam Dunk to the Beach in Delaware, and hosted the Saint James Invitational Tournament (SJIT), all of which prepared them for the final MAC run.

The SJIT again was a highlight of the season, in which the Saint James community comes together to run a national-level high school

basketball event, in which the nation's eyes are upon us. We are so proud and excited to be able to put on such an incredible event not only for our team but for our community.

The Sixth Form players — **Spenser Adams, Tre Davis, Bryce Golden, Dima Zdor, Anthony**

Garcia, and Amir Harris — will be missed, but they were able to show the underclassmen how to come together as a group and fight for the ultimate prize of winning the conference. Thank you to our seniors and their efforts for an incredible 2017-2018 season!





Talented Field Highlights 2018 SJIT

From February 1-3, spectators filled the field house to capacity to watch some of the top teams and players in the country compete in the 2018 Saint James Invitational Tournament (SJIT). In its 32nd year, the tournament featured high-flying dunks, stifling defense, and all-around electrifying play.

The SJIT field included Saint James School, Findlay Prep (NV), Vashon High School (MO), St. Benedict's Prep (NJ), Our Savior New American School (NY), Sunrise Christian Academy (KS), Riverdale Baptist (MD), and Benedictine College Prep (VA). Three of those teams, St. Benedict's, Findlay Prep, and Sunrise Christian, were ranked in the top 20 in the country.

After winning their first-round game, the Saints

lost to St. Benedict's and Findlay Prep. The Saints gave each team a battle and gained valuable experience playing against a couple of the country's top teams.

"The teams and individual talent that was on display at this year's SJIT must rank up with the best of all time. The teams were all extremely competitive and all of them left the SJIT and pushed for their conference, state, and national titles. The SJIT is now considered one of the best high school basketball tournaments in the country," said coach Dan Prete.

In the championship game, Sunrise Christian defeated St. Benedict's by a score of 68-58, snapping St. Benedict's 35-game win streak. Congratulations to Sunrise Christian!

VARSITY GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Coach Nate Naylor

MVP: Christa Bartlett

MIP: Morgan Moseley

Coaches' Award: Tessa Douglass

The 2017-2018 proved to be the most successful season in Saint James history, even more successful than last year's which in and of itself is a great accomplishment. The team's success can be attributed to hard work before and during the season on developing their individual skills, their willingness to play together, and a desire to compete even in the face of adversity.

The team's record, 21-5, marks the most wins and highest winning

percentage in a season by a Saints team. The team won the Berkeley Springs Tip-Off Tournament for the third year in a row, the IPSL regular season and tournament for the first time in school history, and the team was invited to play in the prestigious Bishop Walsh Girls Invitational Tournament



at the end of the season. At the conclusion of the tournament, in which some nationally and regionally ranked teams competed, the squad won the Team Sportsmanship Award.

Over the course of the season the team's average margin of victory was just over fifteen points a game. The team broke the 60-point mark on nine occasions and gave up 35 points or less eight times. Collectively, the girls averaged fourteen steals and 31 rebounds per contest. These statistics made the team the strongest in Washington County.

Individual game highlights include defeating cross-town rival and IPSL foe St. Maria Goretti on their court and then at home to win the

IPSL Championship by the scores 56-42 at Goretti and 61-40 at home for the championship. The Saints also defeated a very strong squad from Coppin Academy on the road, 57-53 in overtime. The team also earned victories over highly regarded Arch Bishop Pallotti and Holy Cross.

Individually, the team was led by Co-Captains **Christa Bartlett** and **Tessa Douglass**, both Fifth Formers. Bartlett, the team's point guard, averaged just over eight points per game, but more impressively averaged more than five steals and four assists per contest. She also was one of the region's most tenacious defenders. Douglass, who played forward, averaged more than three points a game, but was one of the



team's clutch performers who had a knack for scoring when the team most needed a basket, or coming up with a clutch steal or rebound.

Morgan Moseley and **Skylar Treadwell**, both members of the Fourth Form, scored just over 11 points and 16 points a game respectively. They also were strong rebounders averaging, between the two of them, more than 18 per contest. Treadwell also notched nearly two blocked shots per game, and was the leading scorer at the Bishop Walsh Tournament, while Moseley shot an impressive 50 percent from the field over the course of the season.

Morgan McMahon (Third Form), a newcomer to Saint James, was one of the region's most impressive players for her class averaging

more than 13 points per game. She was also a competitive defender, and she was recognized at the Bishop Walsh Tournament for coming in second in the three-point shooting contest.

Off the bench, the team's reserves included newcomer **Abby Barnes** (Fourth Form) who played forward and was a tenacious rebounder. **Lily Noel** (Fifth Form) and **Amelia Shaw** (Third Form) showed great improvement in both their ball handling and shooting skills. **Taylor Spikell**, **Rachel Lavasseur**, and **Darcy Farrell**, all members of the Fourth Form, worked hard over the course of the season and showed improvement in their all-around play and sense of confidence as basketball players. **Gracie Bowers** (Fifth Form) was sidelined for most of the season with a leg injury,



but continued to support the team with her cheering from the bench.

The end of the season brought a number of awards and recognition for the team from Hagerstown's local newspaper, the *Herald Mail*. Christa Bartlett was named Player of the Year, Morgan Moseley and Skylar Treadwell were named to the All-County First Team, while Tessa

Douglass and Morgan McMahon were named to the All-County Second Team. Coach Nate Naylor was named Coach of the Year.

As the entire team is scheduled to return for next season, they sky is the limit for how well next season will go for the Saints!



VARSITY WRESTLING

Coach Steve Lachut

MVP: TJ Quelet

MIP: Jason Kim

Coaches' Award: Jack Guillard

The 2017-2018 season for the Saint James Wrestling team was a banner year, literally. The Saint achieved their number one team goal for the season and won an outright MAC Championship, the program's first since 2004. All season long the Saints were led by its quartet of captains, Jason Kim, Shea Pena, TJ Quelet, and Andrew Shen.

The Saints opened the season with a less-than-ideal fifth place (out of thirteen teams) finish in the Admiral Holloway Tournament. Although the Saints did not achieve

the team placing they would have liked there were several performances worth highlighting. Leading the way for the Saints was Fifth-Form captain **TJ Quelet** who captured his second Holloway title at the 170lb weight class, winning each of his three matches by fall. Fellow captain, Sixth Former **Jason Kim** took second at 113lbs. Also placing for the Saints were Fifth Former **Nirmal Singletary** (third at 106), Second



Former **Reichen Storey** (fourth at 106), Fourth Former **Teddy White** (third at 126), and Fourth Former **Ben Couling** (fourth at 285).

In a back-and-forth season where the Saints were marred by injury and illness, the team never seemed to gather much momentum, and at times struggled, especially against strong public-school competition. However, when it came to MAC competition, the Saints were dominant. Saint James won all four-league dual meets by an average margin of 37.5 points. They defeated Georgetown Day 69-10, St. Andrew's Episcopal 48-32, Sidwell Friends 60-24, and The Potomac School 60-21. This dominance earned the Saints the regular season MAC Championship.

After setting the early season goal of winning the outright MAC Championship (regular season and tournament titles) the Saints knew

there was still work to be done. On February 9, the Saints traveled to Sidwell Friends to participate in the MAC Tournament. Intent on meeting their goal, the Saints wrestlers delivered another dominant performance. Winning the title with a score of 146 points, the next closest competitor was Sidwell Friends with 107 points. The Saints crowned champions at six of the 14 weight classes. Nirmal Singletary (106), Jason Kim (113), **Shea Pena** (120), **Teddy White** (126), **TJ Quelet** (170), and **Ben Couling** (285) all won their respective weight classes. Perhaps most impressive about the dominance was that the Saints line-up had wrestlers from eight different countries.

After the MAC Tournament, the Saints turned their attention to the Maryland Independent School State Championship. Although the Saints were not able to repeat



their 2017 performance, which earned them the 'B' Division State Title, they still performed well. Leading the way again were Kim and Quelet. Jason Kim finished in 8th place at the 113-pound class, collecting three falls along the way. TJ Quelet finished in 7th place at the 160-pound class, winning two matches by fall, and a third by technical fall. This was his third straight top-seven finish at the state tournament.

Several Saints finished with records of .500 or

better on the season. Fourth Former **Griffin Almany** had his season cut short due to injury but finished with a record of 18-3 at 106lbs. Teddy White finished the season with a record of 20-14 at 126lbs; his second consecutive 20-win season. Shea Pena (Fifth Form), who also missed matches due to injury, finished with a record of 14-11 at 120lbs. Co-Captain Jason Kim finished his season with a record of 24-16. Ben Couling, **Tom Tang** (fifth

form), **Jack Guillard** (fifth form) and Nirmal Singletary all finished with winning records as well. Leading the way though was captain TJ Quelet, who finished with a season record for 36-6, splitting time at the 160 and 170-pound weight classes. TJ now holds the school's career win record, with 122 wins.

The JV Saints didn't compete much but finished the season strong at the school's annual JV tournament. In all, ten Saints placed in the top

six of their weight classes: Reichen Storey (3rd), **Carl Erickson** (5th), **Oliver Li** (4th), **Lucas George** (6th), **Asa Hammer** (4th), **Ken Tam** (5th), **Kevin Jin** (5th), **Joel Martirano** (6th), **Rolando Patron** (3rd), and **Benny Buah** (4th).

The Saints will only lose two full-time starters to graduation, so with diligent work in the off-season, the 2018-2019 squad could be very exciting.





NEXT LEVEL SU

Saint James Alumni Hit College Basketball

Five former Saints left their mark at their respective colleges this basketball season, hitting milestones, setting records, and earning honors. AJ Carr '14, Obi Enechionya '14, Grant Golden '16, Kerri Kline '14, and Justin Robinson '15 lit it up on the court, achieving an unprecedented level of success from a group of SJS alumni athletes playing in college at the same time.

"Our basketball program has a long history of sending good players to the collegiate level, but I cannot recall ever a group achieving this much success at the same time," said Athletic Director Scott Barr. "This puts Saint James basketball in

rarified air as I suspect that we are one of a small handful of schools to ever have this kind of success at the collegiate level in a single year."

Not only did these athletes stand out on the court, they also embodied what it truly means to be a student-athlete, excelling in the classroom as well.

At Shepherd University, AJ Carr '14 ended his four-year playing career with 1,519 points and 804 rebounds, good for 14th and seventh all-time for the Rams. He earned 2018 First Team All-Mountain East Coast (MEC) honors, and was twice named the MEC Player of the Week. Carr led the Rams in scoring with 16 points per game, and was voted Most



SUCCESS

Ball Milestones

Valuable Player by his teammates and coaches.

Collectively, the Shepherd team had a 3.38 GPA this season. Carr will graduate in May.

Obi Enechionya '14 surpassed the 1,000-point mark this season, ending his four-year career at Temple University with 1,296 points. A former *Herald-Mail* Player of the Year while at Saint James, he averaged 10.4 points and 6.1 rebounds per game and blocked 41 shots.

Enechionya was chosen as the American Athletic Conference Men's Basketball Scholar-Athlete of the Year. He has been a member of Temple's Athletic Director's Honor Roll (3.0



continued on pg. 44 ►

► *Alumni Athletes (continued from pg. 43)*

GPA or higher) and Dean's List. He will graduate with a degree in communications studies.

Enechionya hopes to continue playing basketball professionally, and recently played in the prestigious Portsmouth Invitational Tournament (PIT). The PIT invites the best college basketball seniors from across the nation to participate in front of NBA representatives.

Grant Golden '16 just finished a record-setting freshman year at University of Richmond. He took a medical redshirt in 2016-2017 after collapsing on the court during a game and underwent heart surgery to correct an accelerated heart rate.

He made an epic comeback this season, scoring 498 points, breaking the record for most points by a Spider freshman. Golden was selected Third-Team All-Conference and All-Rookie Team in Atlantic 10. He was also named A-10 Rookie of the Week three times.

Kerri Kline '14 ended her four-year career at St. Mary's College of Maryland with 1,229 points, good

for fourth-place all-time at SMCM. The senior captain cemented her place in the Seahawks record books by becoming the all-time leader in three-point field goals made with 169.

Kline has been a member of the Capital Athletic Conference All-Academic team, carrying a 3-plus GPA and will graduate with a degree in political science.

In his junior year at Virginia Tech, Justin Robinson '15 had a magnificent season for the Hokies, reaching the 1,000-career point mark on his way to leading his team to three straight wins over Top 5-ranked opponents. He led the Hokies to a berth in the NCAA Tournament. Robinson was Tech's first-ever player to collect the Naismith National Player of the Week (February 12), after scoring a career-high 32 points against NC State and 20 points and seven assists in the upset of then-No. 2 Virginia.

Robinson was the Gatorade Player of the Year for Maryland as a senior at Saint James. He earned 2018 All-ACC second team honors and



Justin Robinson '15 takes a free throw during his days playing for the Saints.

was named to the U.S. Basketball Writers Association (USBWA) All-District 3 team.

That is quite a list of amazing accomplishments for our alumni athletes. Three of those players (Carr, Enechionya, and Kline) are preparing to graduate in four years, not an easy feat while balancing the demands of playing college athletics.

"Playing collegiate level sports is a significant commitment and eats up hours of time every single day. Between practices, games, travel, film study, weight training, etc., it can be a challenge for anyone to find time for studying," said Barr. "To graduate in four years means that these student-athletes applied the Saint James process and worked incredibly hard. I know I speak for many when I say we are very proud of each."

We look forward to seeing what is next for these extraordinary student-athletes, whether on the court or off. ✚



Former Saint Grant Golden '16 is now starring at University of Richmond.



SAINT JAMES SCHOOL SET TO HOST CIVIL WAR CONFERENCE FOR TEACHERS

Saint James School is launching a conference designed to educate and better equip history and government teachers to teach the American Civil War. At the Saint James Civil War Conference for Teachers, educators will study the Civil War in greater depth to gain a more accurate understanding the war and the consequences for our nation. The conference will take place August 5-8. Participants will stay on campus and meals will be provided.

Mr. Jim James, SJS Associate Director of Enrollment Management, who is organizing the conference, said the School's 175th anniversary was a driving factor in starting the conference.

"Father Dunnan has always wanted a conference of this kind at Saint James," said James. "This is the 175th Anniversary of Saint James, so it is a good time to move ahead with this project. I was excited to take on this opportunity because I love history and have always had a fascination with Civil War history."

The School will take advantage of its proximity to prominent Civil War locations, with planned outings to local battlefields, museums, and landmarks. Attendees will also examine a case study of the College of Saint James during the Civil War, looking at Dr. John Barrett Kerfoot's (headmaster, 1842-1864) diary and other texts.

"Saint James's location is ideally situated for a conference of this nature," said James. "We will visit Antietam and Gettysburg among several other historical

landmarks. What is perhaps most exciting, though, is the fact that we will have lots of discussions about how best to teach this challenging material in the classroom."

The conference will be guided by Civil War experts, including Dr.

Tom Clemens

(Battle of Antietam historian) and Mr. Patrick Falci (Actor and Chief Historian for the film, Gettysburg).

"The conference faculty is chock full of leading Civil War experts and scholars," said James. "Teachers will spend four days becoming immersed in the subject, ultimately gaining a better sense of the social, political, and economic issues of this tumultuous period."

To see the conference itinerary, view the list of guest experts and their bios, or to register, please visit the conference website: www.stjames.edu/civilwarconference.

"This is truly going to be a once-in-a-lifetime experience," said James. ✚

Saint James Civil War Conference for Teachers

August 5-8, 2018

More Information:

[www.stjames.edu/
civilwarconference](http://www.stjames.edu/civilwarconference)

Contact:

Mr. Jim James

wjames@stjames.edu
301-733-9330 ext. 3028



Please join us for Alumni Weekend 2018 as we commemorate Saint James School's 175th Anniversary!

We have many special events and activities planned for all ages.

This year, we honor the members of the class of 1968.

This class will celebrate its 50th Anniversary.

To learn more about the events and to RSVP to the dinner, please visit:

www.stjames.edu/AW2018

ALUMNI DINNER HONOREES

We are pleased to announce that the Alumni Council selected Roland and Dona Young (parents of Taylor, SJS '09) as recipients of the Exceptional Service Award. This award honors individuals who have provided exceptional service to the School and its alumni, and Roland and Dona have made an impact on the School in many ways since Taylor's arrival at Saint James in 2004.

We will also honor a special member of the community with the Alumni Award. This award goes to an alumnus or alumna who has demonstrated exceptional dedication to the School. The recipient will be announced during the dinner.

We hope you will join us in honoring Roland and Dona and the Alumni Award recipient at the 175th Anniversary and Alumni Dinner on Saturday, April 28.





ALUMNI WEEKEND 2018 EVENTS

Time	Event	Location
FRIDAY EVENTS - APRIL 27, 2018		
5:00 - 6:30 pm	Half Century Club Reception Honoring Class of 1968 <i>(invitation only)</i>	Biggs Rectory
7:00 pm	Alumni Reception	Cushwa Brewery
8:30 pm	Fireworks	Softball Field
SATURDAY EVENTS - APRIL 28, 2018		
9:00 am - 2:00 pm	Registration and Student Art Show	Kemp Hall
10:00 am	Dedication of Young House	Young House
10:00 am	Campus Tours	Claggett Steps
10:00 am - 4:00 pm	175th Anniversary Self-Guided History Tour	Around Campus
11:00 am	All-Alumni Meeting	Kellam Auditorium
Noon - 2:00 pm	BBQ Picnic Lunch	Kerfoot Refectory & Fulton Lawn
Noon - 4:00 pm	Lawn activities - Ice Cream Truck, Cornhole, Horseshoes & More	Fulton Lawn
2:00 - 3:00 pm	History of SJS with Revd. Chip Prehn	Kellam Auditorium
2:00 - 4:00 pm	Kids' Activities	Fulton Lawn
2:00 - 4:00 pm	Paint n' Sip Class <i>(RSVP required)</i>	Bowman-Byron Fine Arts Building
4:00 pm	Ted Camp's Open House	Old Orchard House Lawn
5:30 pm	Cocktails	Kerfoot Refectory
6:30 pm	175th Anniversary & Alumni Dinner	Kerfoot Refectory
SUNDAY EVENTS - APRIL 29, 2018		
11:00 am	Eucharist of Thanksgiving	Chapel
12:15 pm	Farewell Brunch	Kerfoot Refectory

CLASS NOTES

1966

The Hon. William H. Adkins, III retired from his position as Talbot County District Court Judge after serving for 33 years behind the bench.

1979

Brad Bailey joined Luminoso Technologies, an MIT Media Lab startup, to lead business development in financial services and life sciences for AI solutions.

1982

Aaron Chatkin and his wife Dawn are avid travelers and particularly enjoy cruising. They just completed their 30th cruise, which took them to Italy, Greece, and Croatia (*see photo*). They live in Gastonia, NC with their two bulldogs, Herman and Oliver.

1983

Grant Moerschel caught up with friend and classmate **Tatsuo Ishi-i** (*see photo*) while traveling in Tokyo.



Aaron Chatkin '82 and his wife Dawn.

1986

George K. Karos is in his second year as Executive Director of the Avon Park Florida Chamber of Commerce.

1999

Julia McDonald Yuhasz was honored for her work with the Four State Community Veterans Engagement Board in Martinsburg, an organization she has been involved with since its inception. She was presented with a certificate of appreciation honoring her work helping to get the organization off the ground.

1998

Wynne Beers and wife Nikki Estey returned from a two-year assignment in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo. Wynne is now serving as deputy military advisor to the State Department's Bureau for African Affairs. They are living in Alexandria and look forward to reconnecting with friends and classmates.

2003

Caroline (Combs) Adams and her husband Jason celebrated the birth of their son, Miles Kelly Adams, on November 28, 2017.

2006

Gideon Tower Dodge and Ann Burris Roach were married on November 25, 2017 at Christ Church in Easton, MD (*see photo*). Father Dunnan officiated the wedding. Groomsmen in attendance were Alexander Rogers '06, Alexander Smith '06, Nikolas Holtz '06, Michael Siegel '06, and Alexander Bust '06. Also in attendance were Robert Wilson '06, Mukudzei Mugwagwa '06, William Cornelison '06, and Brandon Pfeifer '05. The couple resides in Easton, MD.

Ben Naylor and his wife Kathleen welcomed their second son, George O'Hara Naylor, on October 12, 2017. George joins big brother Bill, age 3. The family lives in Suffern, NY where Ben works as Chief of Staff at SUNY Rockland.



Grant Moerschel '83 and Tatsuo Ishi-i '83 in Tokyo.



Gideon Dodge '06 married Ann Burris Roach.



Gideon Dodge '06 with Saint James classmates and Father Dunnan.

CLASS NOTES

2007

Will Jeffery married Jaclyn Woolsey on September 30, 2017 in Charleston, SC. The ceremony was officiated by Father Dunnan.

2011

Sung Mo Ku (*see photo*) represented the Korean National Lacrosse Team in the Torch Relay event for the 2018 Winter Olympics in PyeongChang. He will go on to compete in the World Lacrosse Championships in Israel this summer.

2014

Maximillian Brady is preparing to graduate from the University of Georgia with a BS in Bio-Chemistry and a BA in German. He is a Presidential Scholar and plans to attend medical school next year.

Madison Fahey, a senior lacrosse player at Loyola University Maryland, was named the Patriot League Defensive Player of the Week after helping her team limit to an 18-5 win over Lehigh.



Sung Mo Ku '11 (*with lacrosse stick on right*) took part in the torch relay for the Winter Olympics.

IN MEMORIUM

Dr. Thomas B. Whitbread '48 died on October 1, 2016. Tom taught for many years at the University of Texas, Austin and published several books of poetry.

Perry "Dick" Swanson '51 died on March 14, 2018. He is survived by his wife Marcia and children Sherry Dandrea and David Swanson, and brother David Swanson '55.

Nelson Johnson '52, USAR (Ret.) died on June 2, 2017. He is survived by his sister, two sons, seven grandchildren, two nephews, three grand-nephews, a grand-niece, and former wife Harriet Johnson.

Spencer Shackelford Leavitt '73 died on January 5, 2018. He is survived by his mother, Frances Shackelford Leavitt, his daughter, Alden Hale Leavitt, and siblings Brooks Leavitt II, Dana Leavitt, and Frances Leavitt Lee.

James S. McCanless '73 passed away on October 14, 2017.

Nancy Ferris passed away on January 22, 2018. She was the grandmother of Nicolette Ferris '18 and Henry Warner '18.

Ralph Rodney Garver, Jr. (USAF, retired) passed away on April 5, 2018. He was the father of Philip Shafer Garver '89.

Jean Eckhardt McWilliams passed away on December 21, 2017. She was the grandmother of Drew '02, Sarah '05, Colin '07, and Grant '09 McWilliams.



GET IN TOUCH WITH US

The Office of Development and Alumni Relations wants to hear from you. Send your news items to:

Kim Dudash

Director of Communications

Saint James School
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Hagerstown, MD, 21740
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THE SAINT JAMES SCHOOL COLUMBARIUM

Planning a Final Resting Place

Saint James School holds a special place in the hearts of many. For 175 years, alumni, trustees, and friends of the School have forged life-long relationships with the institution that has played a defining role in their lives and the lives of their children and loved ones. From birth to baptism to marriage, from daily chapel to holiday celebrations to Commencement blessings, the School has marked significant moments throughout the journey of life for countless members of this community. It seems therefore fitting that alumni, trustees, and friends of the School may choose Saint James as a final resting place at the conclusion of their journey.

Situated behind the chapel, under the shade of campus maple trees, the Saint James columbarium is an elegant, crescent-shaped red brick structure designed to reflect the spirit and tradition of Saint James. The columbarium contains 60 niches, each fashioned to hold the ashes of up to two people. Positioned at its center is a restful sitting area for remembrance, reflection, and prayer. This serene location affords Saint James families the opportunity to select their final resting place behind the altar of the chapel that has played such an important role in their lives--the Altar of God that connects heaven to earth, and life to death.



For more information, please contact Margaret McGuigan at 301-733-9330 ext. 3069 or [mmmguigan@stjames.edu](mailto:mmmcguigan@stjames.edu) or visit our website: stjames.edu/columbarium.