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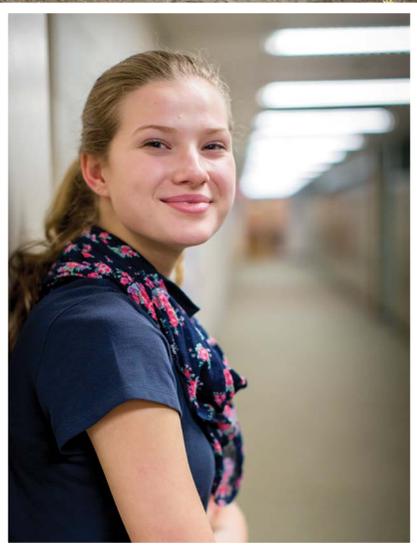
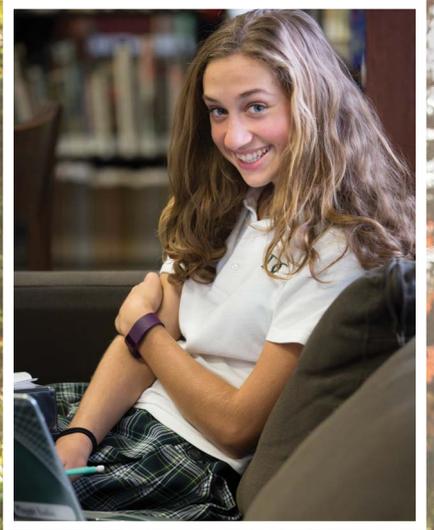
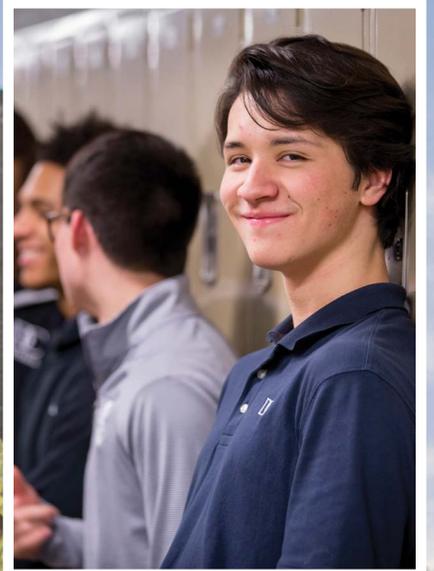
THE MAGAZINE OF THE DELAWARE COUNTY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
FALL/WINTER 2016-17

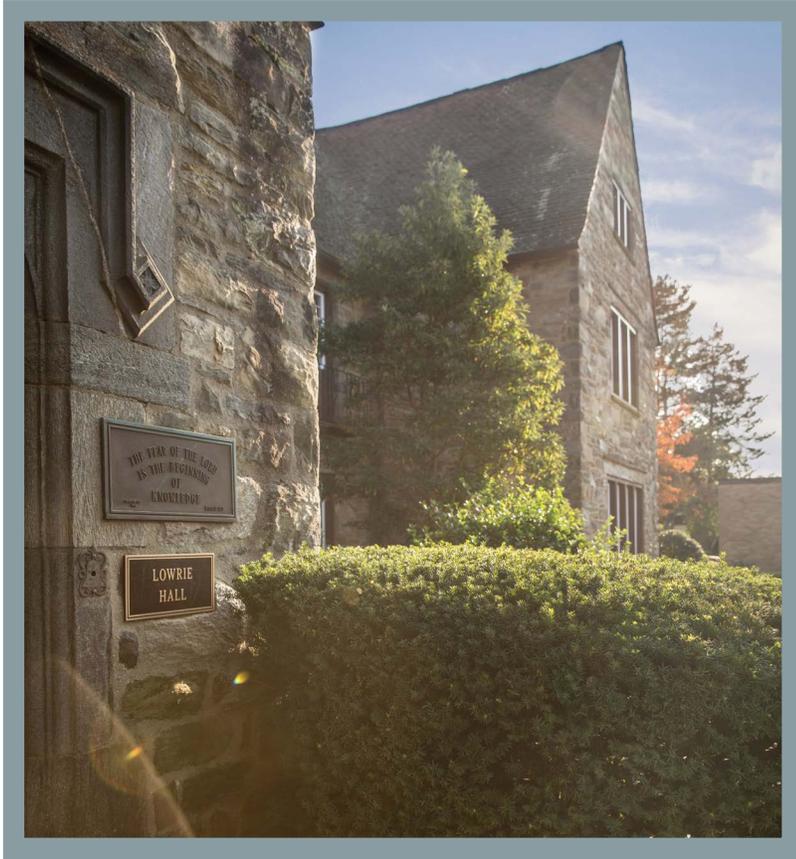
THE FEAR OF THE LORD
IS THE BEGINNING
OF
KNOWLEDGE
PROV 1:7

LOWRIE
HALL



DELAWARE COUNTY
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL





MISSION:

Our mission is to educate students who will serve God and impact the world through biblical thought and action.

2016-17 SCHOOL VERSE:

“For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love, and of self-discipline.” 2 Timothy 1:7

ON THE COVER: Lowrie Hall, Upper Campus. Photograph: Chris Leaman

Facing page, top left to right: Grace Irons, Shekinah Yanes, Glenn Kremin, Jalen Johnson, Xing Hua Swieson, Elizabeth Watts, Alison Levis, Emily Carroll, Maggie Linton, Rose Cramton, Olivia Smith, Tyler VanEerden, Edward Carrington.



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Fall/Winter 2016-17

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The Delaware County Christian School (DC) *Keynoter* is published bi-annually to communicate our school vision and news to alumni, friends, family, and prayer partners of the school. DC was established in 1950. Today, the school serves 703 students in Pre-K-12 on campuses in Newtown Square and Devon, PA. DC is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and by the Association of Christian Schools International. DC admits students of any race, color, and national/ethnic origin to all of the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national/ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, or athletic and other school-administered programs. In addition, DC is authorized under federal law to enroll nonimmigrant students.

A Unique Season of Growth

From The Head of School

As we consider the future and look to the past for inspiration and as a reminder of the 67+ years of Christian education offered at DC, I am cognizant of the fact that DC has been built upon the shoulders of Giants. From the beginning, the Curleys, Baylys, Scmidts, and numerous other families sacrificed much to found our great institution, seeking and purchasing a campus, and fighting the perspective that in the late 1940s assumed that starting a private school was unpatriotic – even if it was Christian. They persevered and held firmly to their beliefs that God had called them to this great task, and I for one am truly thankful.

Today, we know their vision, coupled with the work of our great God, has provided our children and thousands of others with a fantastic education, rooted in Christ. We know that without the intercession of our sovereign God, DC would not be what it is today. And, we know that because of the committed men and women teaching in our classrooms, these many years, DC continues to make an impact in the lives of students.

Ian Goldin and Chris Kutarna, in their book, *Age of Discovery* suggest that we are experiencing a new Renaissance globally. Here at DC, I believe we bear witness to the massive changes the world is experiencing as a result of the technological boom and the rapid growth in information being perpetuated as a result of this renaissance. Never before has information proliferated at such a pace as today.

According to economist Kenneth Cukier, digital information increases ten-fold every five years. That's a lot of data to manage. At DC, this means we look to the future with enthusiasm and anticipation. As we understand that all truth is God's truth, we know that the more information that exists, the more we stand to understand about God and His created order. As Christians, we also come to understand that the more we know of God, the more we realize we can never know enough, fueling a desire to know more. God's infinite being will forever be too grand to fully comprehend.

Combining a liberal arts approach to life and learning with our new academic programs such as the Schools for Applied and Innovative Learning (SAIL) and ARCHE, we seek to better understand the world around us with an ultimate goal of knowing our God more fully and serving him more deliberately. In this season of global information growth, DC seeks to grow in new and productive ways. As we do so, we believe we have the noblest mission of all – one that began nearly 68 years ago – to educate students who know and serve God, impacting the world through biblical thought and action.

Dominus Illuminatio Mea,

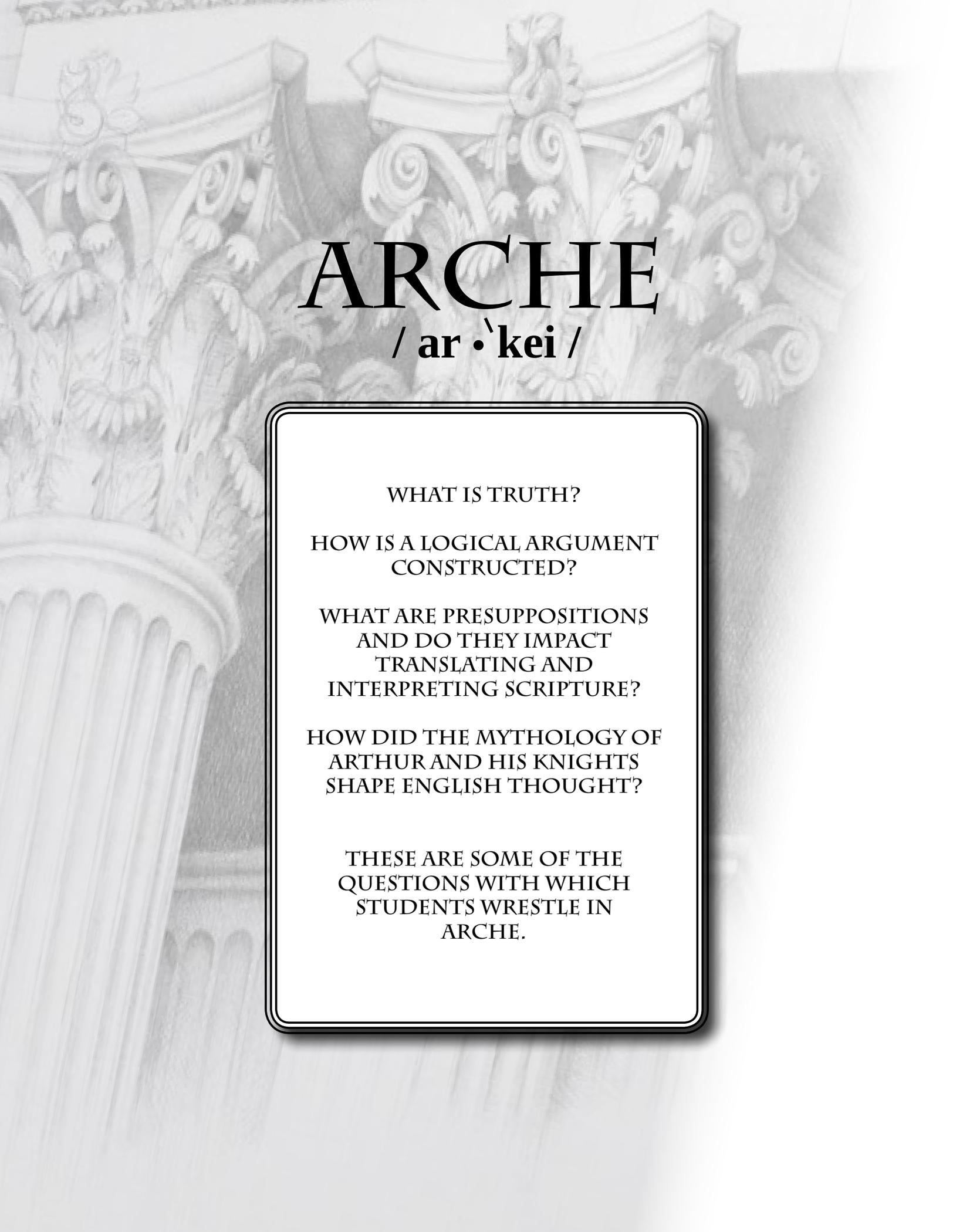


Dr. Timothy P. Wiens, Ed. D.



Pictured : Kindergarten students and twin sisters Anna and Elise De Wall





ARCHE

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WHAT IS TRUTH?

HOW IS A LOGICAL ARGUMENT
CONSTRUCTED?

WHAT ARE PRESUPPOSITIONS
AND DO THEY IMPACT
TRANSLATING AND
INTERPRETING SCRIPTURE?

HOW DID THE MYTHOLOGY OF
ARTHUR AND HIS KNIGHTS
SHAPE ENGLISH THOUGHT?

THESE ARE SOME OF THE
QUESTIONS WITH WHICH
STUDENTS WRESTLE IN
ARCHE.

ARCHE is a foundational freshman course that integrates History, Bible, and English.

The course title is an acronym for the skills of **ART, RHETORIC, CHRISTIAN HERMENEUTICS, AND ELOCUTION.**

ARCHE is also a Greek word for beginnings, a fitting title for a foundational ninth grade humanities course that studies the formation of societies from the ancient world until the 1500s.

This is Liberal Arts Learning at its Best

Taught by Rachel Kamm, Katie Kling, and Drew Pearson, ARCHE cohesively aligns three curricula chronologically and thematically. In a recent unit of study the Roman Empire and epic heroes were explored. Simultaneously, students were learning about the history of the Jewish people and the expected Messiah, followed by the arrival of Jesus. Ninth grade student Brendan Tuttle observes, "It's been really cool and helpful to see the combined timeline throughout all three subjects. Historically, when you're taking a look at the empires of the time, you can biblically examine what part of God's plan for His people is occurring. Additionally, in English, we look at certain documents from the given time which provides a social perspective."

While there are many top-notch independent schools across the country teaching humanities courses that integrate English and history, ARCHE goes beyond elements of humanity and acknowledges divinity, proclaiming that God's truth is evident and relevant in all disciplines. Students are challenged to compare various narratives and philosophies with the truth of biblical Christianity. They also develop and apply analytical skills to the Gospels, historical documents, and literary texts. Ultimately, the goal is that the student will grow in understanding of truth so that he/she is able to actively engage texts, rightly discern their meaning, and properly apply them to his/her life.

Students earn three credits from ARCHE, and they are listed on the transcript as one English credit, one History/Social Studies credit, and one Bible credit. ARCHE has provided a very positive learning experience for DC ninth graders - so beneficial, in fact, that another team of teachers representing the three departments is developing a tenth grade integrated humanities course for next year.



Drew Pearson is known for his relational, energetic teaching style, highlighted with an occasional slap on the desk!



An expert of the provocative question, Katie Kling leads her students into deep and complex thinking.



Rachel Kamm's love of literature likens her love of learners and love of the Lord - the perfect combination in a DC teacher.

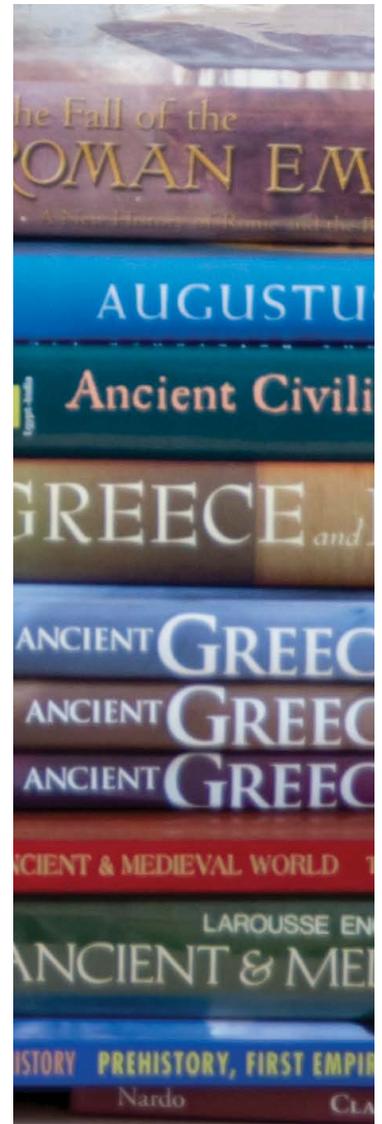


ARCHE

THE COURSE, NOW IN ITS SECOND YEAR, IS CHARACTERIZED BY THREE UNIQUE ELEMENTS: CONNECTIONS, TEAM, AND COMMUNITY.

1. Connections - The three ARCHE teachers make explicit connections between the subjects for students; each one builds upon, supports, and complements the content and skills of the others. Additionally, students develop their own ability to think about topics they study, linking concepts and terms to create a more robust understanding and analysis of the subject matter. The team noted that because they are teaching writing frequently and regularly across the three subject areas, students have done more writing in this integrated course than when the classes were separate, which is a great benefit.

2. Teamwork - There is a synergy that arises from the three faculty - specialists in their content areas - working collaboratively. One of the features they enjoy most about teaching ARCHE is that they can pass ideas back and forth amongst themselves. Additionally, a team of three teachers opens the door for a variety of instructional techniques and configurations that would not be possible with just one teacher in the room, ranging from small group rotating discussions to modeled dialogue between the three teachers. They benefit from seeing their colleagues' teaching methods and can reflect together on the effectiveness of a given lesson and the approaches that resonate most with individual students.



3. Community - ARCHE meets four times per week in double-period blocks. The frequency and duration of classes lends itself to developing a comfortable and safe learning community. Students note that going to ARCHE is like entering into a special world where they look forward to seeing their classmates and their three teachers. They collaborate with, listen to, and learn from each other, just as their three teachers do in planning for and leading the class.

“It’s been really helpful to see the combined timeline throughout all three subjects. Historically, when you’re taking a look at the empires of the time, you can biblically examine what part of God’s plan for His people is occurring.”

MORE THAN A GARDEN



Lower School Aquaponics Program Yields New Growth in Scientific Learning

Aquaponics is a system of aquaculture in which the waste produced by fish supplies nutrients for plants grown hydroponically, which in turn purify the water. Each morning, lower school students can be seen checking on the plants and fish in the Lower School's new aquaponics cart. Through their observations, the students are learning how plants grown hydroponically relate to aquaculture in a closed ecosystem.

Currently the students are growing kale, parsley, and a variety of herbs. Students are learning the aquaponics system is a cycle that never ends. Plants can be grown all year, and tend to grow faster than vegetables grown on a farm. Plants grow without soil and with artificial light. In many countries, the use of aquaponics provides people access to fresh protein, herbs, and vegetables that could not be grown otherwise.

Through their daily interactions at the aquaponics cart, students learn about the needs of plants and animals, discover the difference between living and non-living things, how plants and animals live and grow together, and how ecosystems function.

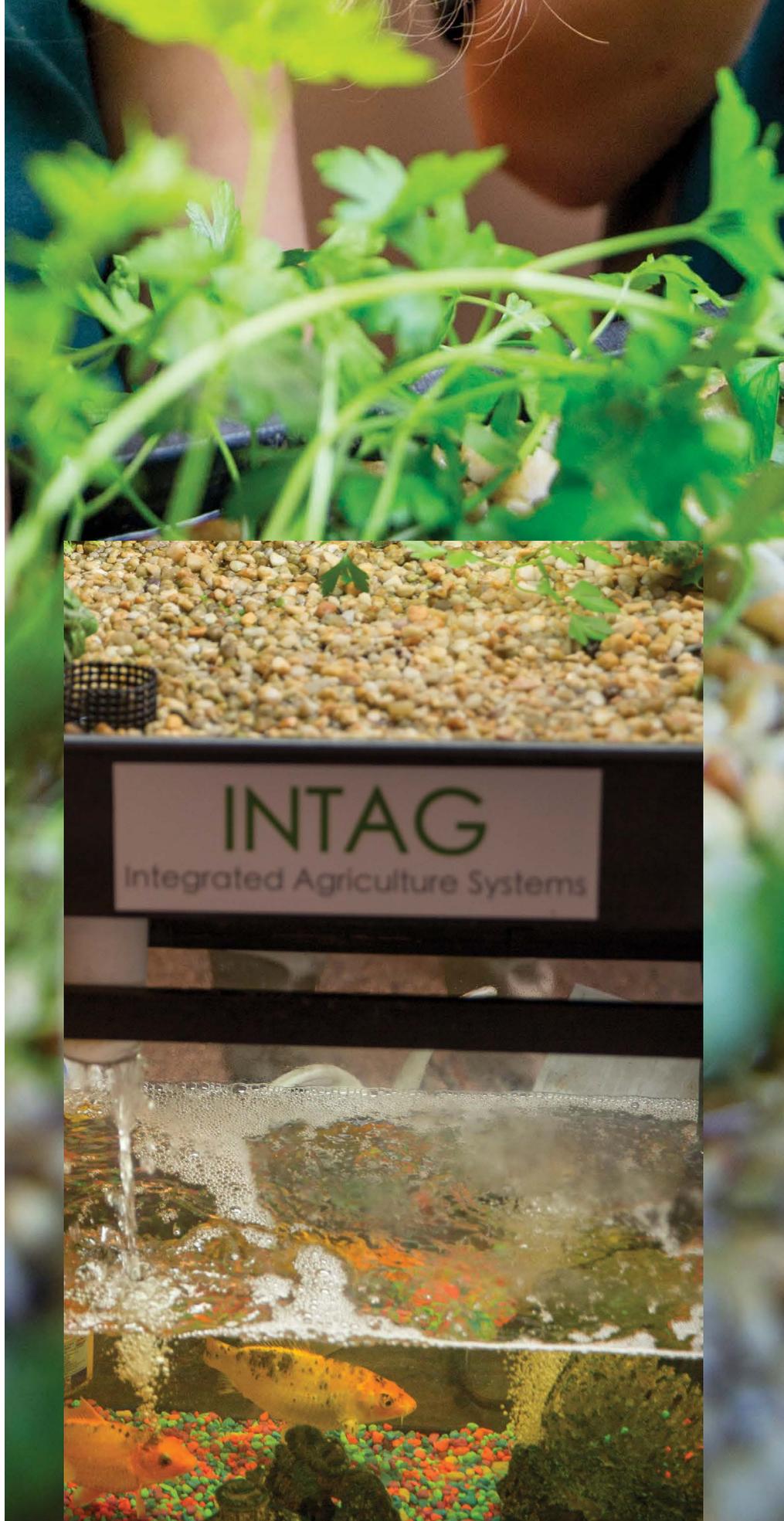
Pictured left: first graders Conner Wynne and right: Elizabeth Yohannes & Joel Rajasekaran



On October 19, the Lower School faculty participated in a faculty development session on aquaponics. Leann Tepsich-Cox, M.Ed from the University of Pennsylvania instructed classroom teachers on how to use an aquaponics cart in the classroom.

First grade teacher Brooke Sanville is already seeing the benefit of incorporating aquaponics into her science curriculum. She notes, "During our life science unit in first grade, we were able to use the aquaponics cart to discuss the needs and wants of plants and animals. One of the inquiry questions that we explore is, 'Do plants need soil to survive?'" The aquaponics cart is the perfect tool to explain that plants do not need the soil; they need the nutrients that are in soil.

The aquaponics cart has also given the first grade a wonderful way to experience the joy of growing our own healthy food. Kale chips are a new first grade snack time favorite!"



DR. TIMOTHY WIENS BEGINS E.M.B.A. PROGRAM AT OXFORD UNIVERSITY



The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce Dr. Wiens acceptance into the Executive Masters of Business Administration program of the Said Business School, University of Oxford in Oxford, England. This part-time, 21-month program, which began in January 2017, provides Dr. Wiens with a tremendous opportunity to further enhance his leadership potential and management capabilities on behalf of our students and our school.

Dr. Wiens notes, “I chose this program because it was one of only a few MBA programs in the world that focuses on innovation and social entrepreneurship. Likewise, it embodies the principles of SAIL in that it is very multi-disciplinary and collaborative. I am studying with people from all over the world, including countries such as Azerbaijan, Egypt, South Africa, and the United Kingdom, to name only a few of the 34 nationalities represented in my cohort. Incredibly, my college advisor grew up in Villanova, graduating from Harrington High School! He was excited to learn that I was from Delaware County. I have already had some meaningful and challenging conversations with my peers and professors, and the breadth of their experience is going to make for an incredibly rich learning experience. I have also had the opportunity to bring faith and Hebrews 11:1 into my first oral presentation. This experience will stretch me in many ways, and I hope that it will also encourage you to find new ways to stretch yourselves as well. We grow in the knowledge of the Lord when we are uncomfortable; I know that we are strengthened when we are stretched.”

Please continue to pray for Dr. Wiens as he works toward completion of this very beneficial program and as he provides leadership to DC in his role as Head of School.

JOEL SCHUSTER '96 LEADS ADMISSIONS OFFICE

Current school parent and alumnus Joel Schuster '96, was recently appointed as Interim Director of Admissions for the 2016-17 Academic Year.

Joel joins DC's Leadership Team after completing nine years as Lead Pastor at Marsh Creek Church in Exton, PA, where he guided the church through godly leadership, a servant's heart, community outreach, and marketing acumen. Prior to serving as Lead Pastor, Joel served as Associate Pastor at Marsh Creek, as Project Manager for Residential Systems Design, and in several other church ministry positions. He holds a Master of Arts in Religion from Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary and a Bachelor of Arts in Biblical and Theological Studies from Gordon College.



Annual Leadership Conference For Educators

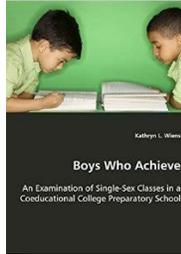
Dr. Kathryn Wiens, Director of DC's Schools for Applied and Innovative Learning, was the keynote speaker at the Department of Education's Annual Leadership Conference held on September 28, 2016 in Washington, D.C. Attended by educators from across the country, the conference was sponsored by the DoE's Office of Non-Public Education.

Dr. Wiens presented her recent findings on the moral formation of students in independent schools. This study, which is part of research being conducted by The University of Virginia's Institute for Advanced Studies, seeks to identify

how schools define and approach the formation of character and citizenship in students.

Dr. Wiens holds a doctorate from Boston University. She is the author of the book *Boys Who Achieve* and is a widely published researcher on issues of gender and learning.

Learn more about the School Cultures and Student Formation Project at www.moralecology.org.



Dr. Kathryn Wiens, Director of DC's Schools for Applied and Innovative Learning

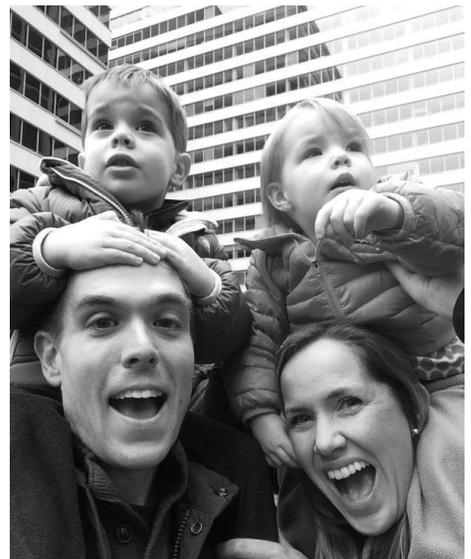
Introducing Ron Hoch - Alumni Coordinator & Director Of Student Life

The Alumni and Development Office is pleased to announce the appointment of Ron Hoch as DC's new Alumni Coordinator. Ron steps into this role following the departure of DC's first Alumni Coordinator, Kim Tanis O'Bryan '89 who completed ten years of service in June 2016. In his new role, Ron will build on Kim's efforts to build alumni engagement and to coordinate alumni events.

The 2016-17 academic year marks Ron's 10th year of service at DC. During this time, Ron was an integral part of the upper school Bible department. For the last four years he has also served as the school's Director of Student Life. In this capacity, Ron works with student leadership, coordinates student service hours, and plans weekly chapels.

Ron is a graduate of Cairn University and holds a Master's in Theology from Reformed Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Julianna, have two children, Asher (3) and Nora (21 months) and are expecting another child this summer. They are members of Tenth Presbyterian Church where Ron serves as an Elder. Ron's dual role as Alumni Coordinator and Director of Student Life places him in a unique position to facilitate alumni interactions with current students.

Alumni, we encourage you to reach out to Ron with any alumni news, updates, or if you are interested in serving as an alumni volunteer. You can reach Ron at 610-353-6522 X2381 or by email rhoch@dccs.org.



Ron Hoch, Alumni Coordinator & Director of Student Life and family

Faculty Profile



ANDREW PIASECKI FINDS CHEMISTRY WITH DC UPPER SCHOOL STUDENTS

Mr. Andrew Piasecki is a first-year faculty member, teaching chemistry and biology in the Upper School. Andrew holds a B.S. in Biology from Cedarville University and a M.A. in Secondary Education from St. Joseph's University. In just a few short months, Andrew has made strong connections with students in and out of the classroom. His story unfolded through a set of circumstances clearly marked by God's leading.

Before the end of his senior year of college, teaching was not on Andrew's radar. Even as he and his wife Jess committed to going to China to teach English upon graduation, the motivation was to engage in missions work and teaching was simply a vehicle through which to do that. However, during his three years in China, Andrew developed such a love for teaching that he began to think about teaching in the disciplines he studied - chemistry and biology. When God called Andrew and Jess back to the Philadelphia area, he enrolled in a graduate program at St. Joe's to earn a Master's in Secondary Education. Subsequently, he applied for the science position at DC and accepted the call.

For Andrew, the best moments in teaching are those when students grasp a concept really well; the light bulb turns on and they experience an "a-ha" moment. He also enjoys working with international students, tapping into his English teaching experiences in China to explain science terms. For example, in teaching the concept of electron affinity, he very simply defined affinity as "to like something." Understanding the vocabulary helps to move second language learners from memorizing to comprehending.

As a result of his experience teaching English in China, Andrew has a high degree of empathy, particularly linguistically, for international students. He understands all of the effort that goes into learning a second language that is so different from one's first language, and he has experienced the challenges of adjusting to a new country and culture. This shared experience enables him to develop good rapport with international students. Additionally, the classroom management skills that he developed while teaching in China have translated to his classroom.



For Andrew, one of the greatest highlights of this year thus far was attending the Christmas Banquet as a chaperone! He enjoyed seeing students have fun in an environment different from the classroom. Another highlight was a bubble lab in biology. Students used bubbles to investigate five characteristics of cell membranes, modeled on a bigger scale.

Andrew also appreciates partnering with parents. One way he does this is by sending home two discussion questions each week that capture key takeaways from the week's lessons. Parents and students are encouraged to discuss the questions as a way to solidify student learning and to invite parent participation. Partnering with colleagues is equally important to Andrew. On a weekly basis, he joins Chuck Patterson in the resource room to work with students who need support in chemistry.



We are thankful God has called Andrew Piasecki to serve in the DC community. His love for the Lord, his care for students, and his partnership with colleagues and parents has been a tremendous blessing to many.

ACSI EXEMPLARY ACCREDITATION



Delaware County Christian School was recently granted an exemplary accreditation rating by the International Commission on Accreditation of the Association of Christian Schools International. Exemplary is the highest level of accredited member status that may be granted by the Association to a school. Delaware County Christian School joins the list of exemplary Christian schools which comprise less than two percent of the 1000 ACSI accredited schools. Exemplary accreditation requires a school to demonstrate that it has met forty additional demanding and specific criteria above the regular accreditation standards. These criteria include the areas of governance, executive leadership, school viability, student learning, spiritual development, and school culture.

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING SEMINAR PROVIDES VALUABLE TRAINING

The Student Support Services Team, comprised of middle school resource room teacher Gina Critchlow, upper school resource room teachers Jody Puckett and Chuck Patterson, and Dean of Academics Robin Bronkema, recently attended a seminar on Executive Functions presented by Dr. Cheryl Chase.

Executive Functions is an umbrella term for a set of cognitive processes that are required for mental and behavioral self-control. Examples include task initiation, self-monitoring, planning and prioritizing, and working toward larger goals over time. Because deficits of the executive functions are found to co-exist with certain learning disabilities and ADHD, and because executive functions support effective study skills, the resource room teachers have begun to identify in their students specific areas for growth related to these processes. By targeting these areas with particular strategies, students will be poised to progress in skills that will serve them in many areas of learning and life.

Lower school teachers: Kristen Levis-second grade, Diane Clark-music, and Joy Ludwig-Head of Lower School

DONNA DALY AND SUE KANALEY COMPLETE WILSON CERTIFICATION



Congratulations to lower school faculty members Donna Daly and Sue Kanaley who



recently completed certification in the Wilson Reading Program.

This 12 month program includes intensive online instruction and a practicum component encompassing 60 student lessons. The Wilson Reading Program directly and systematically teaches students how to fluently and accurately decode. Since it is very interactive and multisensory, it teaches total word construction and students learn to encode as they learn to decode. Donna notes, "This program fits perfectly into our kindergarten program with the teaching of sound/symbol relationships and decoding/encoding of one syllable words. The children love tapping out words for reading and spelling!"



Focus on the Arts

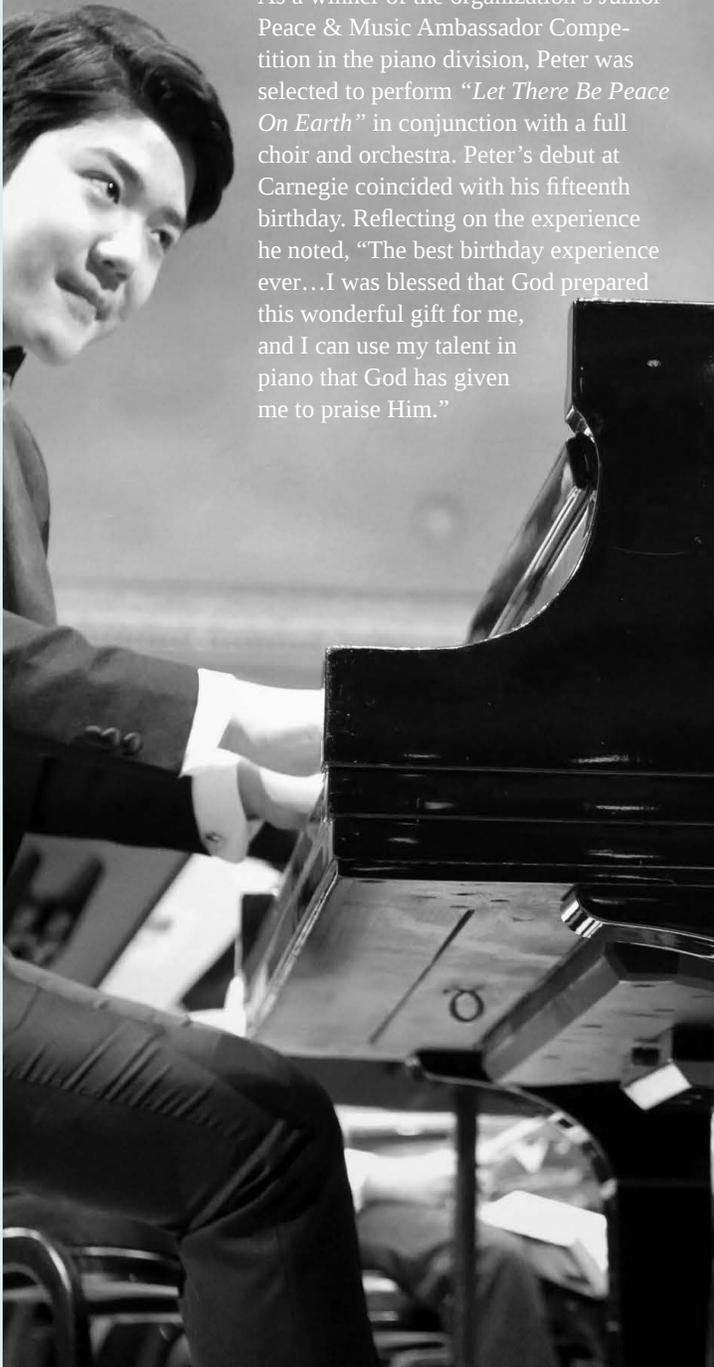


Painting by Senior Julie Zhu

PETER WANG PERFORMS AT CARNEGIE HALL

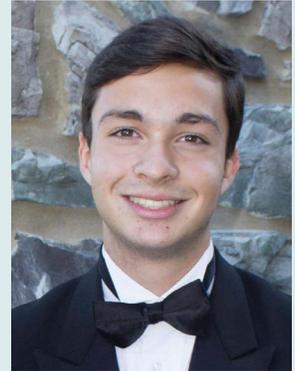
Sophomore Peter Wang was among the talented musicians who performed at Carnegie Hall on December 19 as part of the “One Voice, One World” holiday concert sponsored by the Harmony for Peace Foundation. Established in 2009, this non-profit organization aims to promote world peace through the unifying art of music.

As a winner of the organization’s Junior Peace & Music Ambassador Competition in the piano division, Peter was selected to perform “*Let There Be Peace On Earth*” in conjunction with a full choir and orchestra. Peter’s debut at Carnegie coincided with his fifteenth birthday. Reflecting on the experience he noted, “The best birthday experience ever...I was blessed that God prepared this wonderful gift for me, and I can use my talent in piano that God has given me to praise Him.”



MOORHATCH MOVING ON AS REGIONAL ACCOMPANIST

Congratulations to senior Cody Moorhatch! For the third year in a row, Cody was the winner of the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association District 12 Piano Accompanist Competition. Comprised of Philadelphia, Delaware, and Chester Counties, District 12 is one of the most competitive regions in the entire state of Pennsylvania.



Cody represented DC at the PMEA District Chorus on January 12-14 at Penncrest High School. His performance there qualified him to compete at the upcoming Region VI Festival and Concert scheduled for February 23-25, 2017 at Strath Haven High School in Wallingford, PA. A first or second place finish at this level will advance Cody to the all-state competition in April.

CONCERT CHOIR IN THE COMMUNITY

The Knight Tones Select Choir participated in the 2016 West Chester Christmas on December 2. Sponsored by QVC and the Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce, this annual tradition includes a parade and a full lineup of events throughout downtown West Chester. The Knight Tones performed in the lobby of the historic Wells Fargo Bank. Built in 1836, this building is the oldest commercial structure in West Chester to serve continually as a banking institution and provided wonderful acoustics for the choir. Thank you to the many parents, faculty, staff, and alumni who stopped by to listen to and support the group. The 70 member Concert Choir also sang during morning services at the historic Tenth Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia on Sunday, December 18.



Knight Tone members pictured above: Christian Yanes, Michael Alford

MUSICIANS MAKING THEIR MARK WITH THE DELAWARE COUNTY YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Junior Natalie Kim and freshman Abby Chung are members of the 2016-17 Delaware County Youth Orchestra.

The DCYO is a highly selective ensemble of 88 students who range in age from seventh to twelfth grade. Now in its 45th season, the orchestra is committed to providing student musicians who have exceptional ability the

opportunity to rehearse and perform major works that are part of the traditional symphonic repertoire.

Abby Chung auditioned for the Delaware County Youth Orchestra for the first time this past August and was selected as one of three oboe players for the 2016-17 season.

Abby has played the oboe since fourth grade and is a member of the Upper School Concert Band. She also enjoys taking art classes at DC and has participated in several theatre productions.

Reflecting on her experience so far Abby says, “I really love being in an orchestra, especially this one. I love all the people and the community. It is amazing to be surrounded by people who love music and who create such beautiful music together.”

As a five year member of the orchestra, Natalie Kim is now first chair violin and serves as the orchestra concertmistress.

“As concertmistress, I have the responsibility of leading both the violin section and the entire orchestra. The role of concertmistress is truly the epitome of leading through example. This could mean exaggerating my body language while I’m playing, cueing entrances, or consistently looking up at the conductor to remind others to check in with the tempo. In addition, I take care of any violin music related problems such as misprints, unusual bowing, or fingerings.”



Pictured above: Natalie Kim, Abby Chung

Focus on the Arts

Natalie began playing the violin before the age of three. She credits her father David, Concertmaster of the Philadelphia Orchestra, with playing an integral role in developing her love for and proficiency in music.

“My dad has not only helped me with all aspects of my playing, but he has also served as a role model for me, both as a musician and as a person. Throughout my years of solo playing, chamber music, teaching, and orchestra, my dad has always been there to coach, guide, and practice with me. As the Concertmaster of the Philadelphia Orchestra, he has been a tremendous aid and blessing to me as the concertmistress, especially during my first year filling that role. But more than his incredible talent, I have always been amazed and inspired by his character. My dad is one of the most humble people I know, and you can hear it in his playing. There is always so much heart and genuine emotion during his performances, not arrogance or pride. That is what I strive to be.”

As Concertmistress of DCYO, Natalie has enjoyed getting to know her conductor as well as her peers. “Because I sit directly beneath the conductor and I consistently have to be in tune with whatever he is doing, we have gotten to know each other very well, making both of our jobs easier. I’ve also been able to reach out to my peers and build strong bonds with them.”

Natalie plans to continue with the DCYO through her senior year. While she is not considering a music related career at this time, Natalie is planning to continue performing at the college level and probably beyond. “Violin is a fun hobby that I love and am passionate about...I would really like to maintain the enjoyable aspect of my instrument because I want to, especially through college.”

You can enjoy the beautiful music of the DCYO at their 45th anniversary concert on May 20, 2017 at 3:00pm in the Kimmel Center’s Perelman Theater.

The guest soloist will be David Kim, who will perform Mendelssohn’s *E Minor Violin Concerto* in a program that also includes Marquez’s *Danzon no. 2* and Sibelius’ “*The Moldau*” from *Ma Vlast*.



Pictured above: David Kim and daughter Natalie



A Tale of Two Ballerinas

From their earliest years, seniors Molly Wells and Rhonda Rinicella dreamed of becoming ballerinas.

Having pursued their shared passion for over a decade, we asked these fellow classmates and friends to share their journeys and to reflect on some of the lessons they learned along the way.

Read their stories and we think you will agree - their grace, poise, and beauty flow from the inside out.

Molly's Story

I've been dancing ballet since I was five years old. My family was living in Minnesota at the time, and my parents thought it would be something fun for me to do. What started as a hobby quickly became something I wanted to do professionally. I fell in love with ballet, not only because it is a way to express beauty, but because I feel God's pleasure when I dance. Every time I step into the studio, or onto stage, I dance for one reason: to worship God. He is what motivates me to keep dancing.

There are a lot of challenges in ballet, such as injuries, eating disorders, competition [with others], etc. Thankfully, I've only had minor injuries and have never had problems with my diet. However, I used to compare myself to other dancers all the time. It's very hard not to compare yourself to the dancers around you. Every day I do the same steps as the person next to me. We watch ourselves in mirrors to correct every mistake. This can become stressful at times but my faith in Jesus Christ grounds me. Every time I start to compare myself to others, I tell myself that God created everyone differently, and so nobody is going to be the same. It no longer makes sense to compare myself to other

dancers; we are so different, it would be like comparing apples and oranges. This way of thinking extends to all areas of life, including school. DC has done an amazing job teaching me that I am unique and beautiful to God.

My family and friends have supported me ever since the beginning. Every year, a whole group of friends come to see me in *The Nutcracker* and in my spring performance. Their support means the world to me and I am so thankful to have friends like them. This past Christmas, my main role was the Sugar Plum Fairy, which I performed with Delaware Valley Ballet Theatre. I also performed other small roles such as Principal Chinese, Principal Russian, Snow, Waltz of the Flowers, Christmas Tree Star, and Felicity. Performing is such a magical experience, and I am extremely thankful that I could be a part of this publication.

I plan to attend college next year with a double major in dance and political science. After that, I would love to dance with a small company. However, I'm very interested in history and politics, so eventually I would like to have a career in that field.

Rhonda's Story

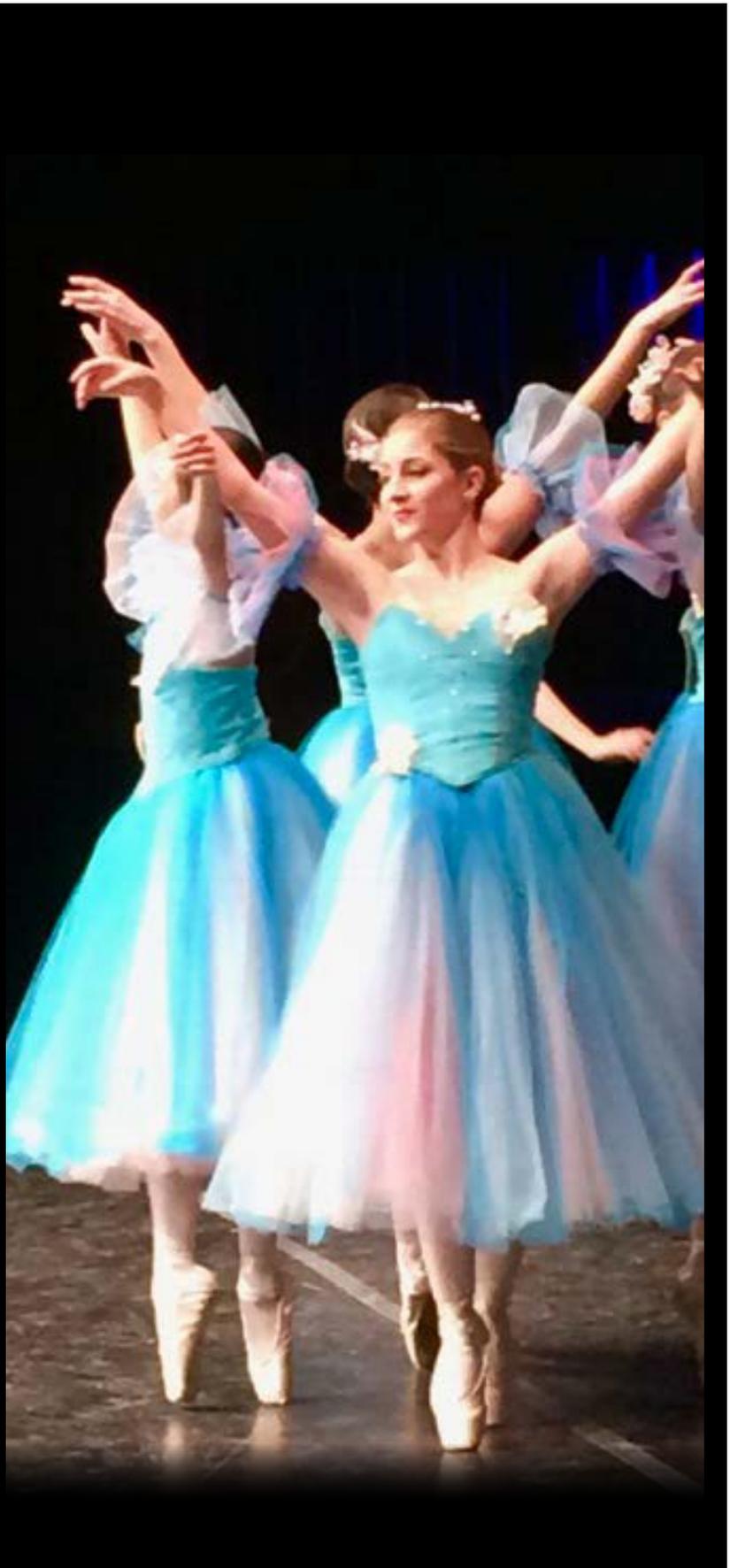
I started dancing fifteen years ago when I was three years old. I begged my mom to put me into a dance class, and my love for the art has been growing ever since. Although I have been dancing for a lot of years, my desire to improve keeps me motivated as well the joy I feel in mastering a move or performing a lead role. For me, this joy is indescribable.

Over the years, I have experienced some significant physical challenges in my dance career. A difficult birth left both my feet seriously injured. The doctors said I would be fine, as long as I didn't ever dance.

Because of this injury I have sprained, torn, and broken my ankles on many occasions, but I never let these injuries stop me. Through these injuries God showed me what a gift it is to do what I love and my trust and love for Him are what motivated me to persevere. He is my strength. The encouragement of my family and friends along the way has been incredible. I have never performed in a show where my family and friends haven't been in the audience to support me. Each year, my friends ask when I'm performing and when they can buy tickets to the performances. This love and support has meant the world to me and I thank God for surrounding me with such loving and supporting friends and family. Many of my DC teachers have attended my performances over the years as well - every single attendance touches my heart.

I dance with the International Ballet Theater Academy and am blessed to call this studio my home. In our recent production of *The Nutcracker*, I danced in "Waltz of the Snowflakes," "Waltz of the Flowers," and my solo role was "Russian" otherwise known as "Trepak." Last year, I danced the role of Clara.

Regarding my future plans, while I do not want to dance professionally, I do want to continue dancing throughout my entire life. I plan to minor in dance in college if possible or at least take as many dance classes as possible. One thing I know for sure - I will remain dedicated to dance and to God's direction and look forward to seeing where my love for this art takes me in the future!



Around Campus



Great things are happening on our campuses!
Here's a recap of some exciting events that
took place this fall and winter.

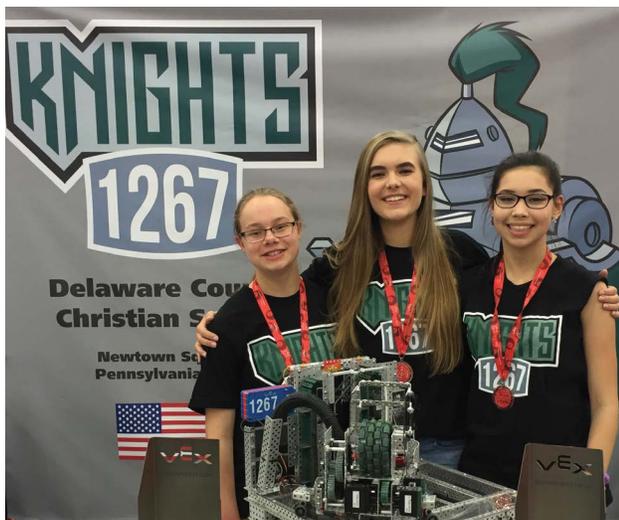
*Pictured: Elizabeth Matthews, Kayley Matthews, Kira Berol
Photo credit: Kathryn Azar*

SCHOOL CLUBS

HI-Q SEASON UNDERWAY

The DC Hi-Q team opened its season victoriously on December 2, posting a 51-33-30 victory over host Ridley High School and 2015 championship finalist Sun Valley High School. A strong second place finish against Archbishop Carroll and current champion Radnor High School on January 10th positioned the Knights for a very competitive season.

DC's 2016-17 Hi-Q team consists of (*front row:*) Caleb Chung, Daniel Nichols, Jedaiah Ngalande, Hannah Master, (*back row:*) 18-year Advisor, Mr. Thom Houghton, John Cai, Carson Atlas, Koudio Toukou, Abby Chung, Rachel Yeung, and Danielle Strafford.



"INVENT IT BUILD IT"

The October 2016 "Invent It Build It" Expo sponsored by the Women's Society of Engineers (WSE) featured three members of DC's Robotics Team. The expo, which took place at the Philadelphia Convention Center, coincided with a series of workshops sponsored by the WSE that promotes the world of engineering to students in grades 6-12.

DC junior Kate Carrington and sophomores Rebecca Harris and Hannah Master (*left to right*) were invited to showcase their passion and success in the field of robotics. In April 2016 this highly gifted trio advanced all the way to the World Vex Robotics Competition where they received the Innovate Design Award.

SAIL CHILD DEVELOPMENT CLASS

The development of children into flourishing human beings has serious consequences to families, churches, schools, and society at large. Students in the Child Development SAIL Class spent a full semester studying the aspects of child development from birth through age 5. A highlight for students in this class was the opportunity to spend time at the Lower Campus with kindergarten students. Members of this SAIL class enjoyed interacting with the kindergarteners to hone their observation skills of young learners' cognitive, social, emotional, and physical growth. Lots of fun for all the students - big and small!



Around Campus

COMMUNITY SERVICE



Pictured above: Janae Johns, Tyler Smith, Jason Motley

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY OF SERVICE

Twenty-one upper school students participated in MLK Day of Service events organized by St. Paul's Baptist Church in West Chester on January 16, 2017. The students joined rank with close to 500 volunteers from Chester and Delaware Counties who participated in 25 different service projects. A number of DC students worked with Stop Hunger Now to package 20,000 reconstituted meals. Other students volunteered with Mobile Meals, a group that prepares, assembles, and delivers homemade meals to local police, firefighters, first responders, and homebound private residents. This was a wonderful opportunity for our students to serve others in the name of Jesus. Junior Abby Simbiri notes, "The MLK day of service turnout was amazing. It was really great to participate and to serve the community with so many people. It was wonderful to work in conjunction with different area churches and seeing how fortunate I am to have the home and family that I do was very humbling."

GIFTS FROM THE HEART

Lower school students provided over 250 Christmas gifts for children participating in Philadelphia based bible clubs. This long standing DC service project supports the work of Bible Club Ministries who minister in several Philadelphia neighborhoods. Each student is given the name of a child they can pray for and encourage with a small Christmas gift. The service project is a highly anticipated event in the Lower School every year.



Pictured above: Abby Simbiri, A.J. Gerow, Katie Tanis

COMMUNITY SERVICE



A FIELD TRIP TO WHERE???

Seventh grade students visited the Pioneer Crossing Landfill in Birdsboro, PA this fall as part of their “Trash Talk” SAIL class. In this course, students investigate consumption and waste management and learn how it affects society both locally and globally with a special emphasis on the God-given mandate to be engaged stewards of our world.

LEARNING THE ROPES OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT



Senior Niya Ray is proud to call Lansdowne, PA home. Lansdowne was first settled in the late nineteenth century as a summer resort for wealthy Philadelphians. Today, this Delaware County suburb retains its small town feel with historic homes, tree-lined streets and a vital business district located on the town’s main thoroughfare.

Niya notes, “I enjoyed growing up in Lansdowne and love the fact that I can walk to the town’s shops and farmers market.”

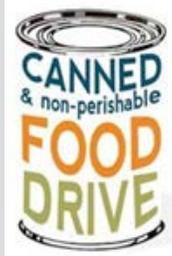
Niya’s love for Lansdowne has grown in a different and deeper way over the past year. At the end of her junior year, she noticed an item in the borough’s newsletter seeking applicants for the position of Lansdowne Borough Junior Council Member. With some encouragement from her mom, Motia, Niya applied and was selected to fill the one year term. This role has given Niya a unique opportunity to serve her community and to learn first-hand about the decisions faced by local governments. She explains, “I have the privilege of sitting in on council meetings and lending a youthful opinion on matters that affect Lansdowne. I also sit in on particular committee meetings working closely with the aspects of infrastructure,

community relations, and economic development.” Niya has especially enjoyed gaining a deeper understanding of aspects relating to economic development within the borough.

Learning from the adult members of the Lansdowne Borough Council has been another great plus for Niya. She reflects, “Members of Council have mentored me in many ways. Through their examples, I have learned how to clearly articulate my points and beliefs and have learned how to participate in a civil discourse with people who are older and more experienced than me. Most importantly, I have learned the art of listening and observing.” All in all, the experience has been a tremendous opportunity for Niya to serve her community and to develop a skillset she will use throughout her lifetime.

FOOD DRIVE BLESSES FAMILIES IN NEED

DC’s schoolwide food drive supported the work of Cityteam in Chester and Christ’s Church in South Philadelphia. Lower school students collected enough items to fill 46 boxes of canned goods and non-perishable foods. A number of lower school students and their parents delivered the boxes to the church who in turn distributed them to neighbors in time for Thanksgiving. Middle and upper school students collected several barrels of food items which were donated to Cityteam in Chester.



Around Campus

THE ARTS

DC PLAYERS "SHOESTRING THEATRE" COMEDY, CAMEOS, COMRADERY

The DC Players presented Eddie McPherson's "Shoestring Theatre" on November 18 and 19.

This delightful comedy featured senior Maddie Courey as Sanders, the director of a small community theatre production who is left reeling when the budget for her "epic" production of "Cinderella" is cut by 80 percent. With comedic twists and turns, a cast of "misfit" performers, and a variety of cameo appearances by faculty and staff, "Shoestring Theatre" was an instant hit with the audience. Supporting Courey on stage was a wonderful cast comprised of 20 ninth through twelfth grade students. Production Director Mrs. Arlene Warmhold notes, "The premise in the storyline of this production included a strong element of comradery. It was wonderful to see this same experience develop among the members of our talented cast."



SINGING FOR THE CITY

Seven DC students performed this past Christmas season with the 2016-17 Philadelphia Boys and Girls Choirs. Middle school students Jason Wearing, Caden Atlas, Benjamin Favino, and Phillip King passed proficiency levels this fall earning them the choir's iconic red blazers and the opportunity to perform at several venues throughout the Christmas season including the Philadelphia Academy of Music and the Kimmel Center. Members of this year's Philadelphia Girls Choir include middle school students Emma Carrington, Franchesca Sulli, and Jazmine Scotton. The Philadelphia Girls Choir presented their 2016 Holiday Concert to a sold out 700 member audience at The Church of the Holy Trinity on Rittenhouse Square on December 10.

Pictured above: Jason Wearing, Ben Favino. Back: Caden Atlas, Philip King

MS THEATRE "GOLDILOCKS ON TRIAL" FAIRY TALE GOES MODERN

In November, the middle school theatre department presented "Goldilocks on Trial."

This was the first production for DC's new theatre teacher, Mrs. Molly Courtwright. She notes, "My cast of 24 veteran and brand new actors was the best group of middle school students I have encountered to date. The cast nailed comedic elements of this production with a maturity that greatly outpaced their years."



Pictured right: Katy Schuster, Kouassi Toukou, Ben Favino, and Ashley Swaner as Goldilocks,

LET EARTH RECEIVE HER KING!

Lower school students ushered in the Christmas season by sharing the Good News of the King's birth at their annual Christmas concert. This year's program, "Let Earth Receive Her King!" was written and directed by Lower School Music Teacher Ms. Diane Clark.



Pictured above: Ayo Akinlade, Beau Lyren, Corina DeBellis

SPIRITUAL LIFE



MOMS IN PRAYER

We are thankful for our Moms in Prayer group who gather together weekly on both the Lower and Upper Campuses to pray for our students and our school. Come and join this important work!

“The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth.” Psalm 145:18

Moms in Prayer members pictured left-right: Patti Chung, Susan Dental, Valerie Lange, Courtney Gifford, Faye Cramton, Mia Chung Yee, Alyssa Harvey, Francine Toukou



STUDENT LIFE

MIDTERM STRESS BUSTERS



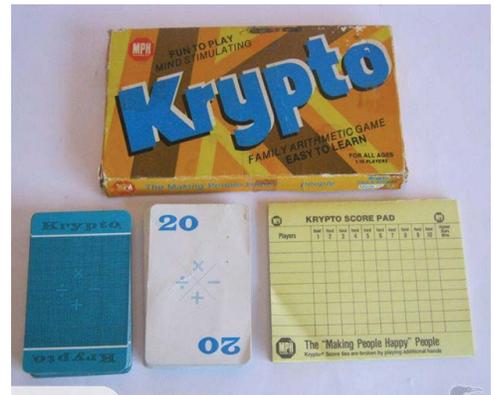
Middle & upper school students enjoyed some special “Countdown to Christmas” activities during their December mid-terms including a delicious milk and cookies study break, courtesy of Drs. Katie and Tim Wiens, and fun photos with friends on Ugly Christmas Sweater Day!



Pictured left: Juniors Isabelle Brewster and Kira Berol

KRYPTO MANIA!

Members of the Upper School Math Club hosted weekly Krypto tournaments for middle school students during the first semester. Middle school students competed enthusiastically displaying their mathematical prowess while playing this popular card game.



FALL FEST FUN!

In October, DC hosted the annual Fall Fest. Members of the Lower School Parent Teacher Organization (PVO) planned a wonderful day full of fun for many DC families and their friends! The day included hayrides, pumpkin painting, games for the whole family, and delicious food! Many thanks to the members of the PVO who organized this wonderful event for all of us to enjoy.



Lower School Teachers: Linda Nixon, Susan Horton, and Karen Good



*Pictured above: The Schaefer family - runners all!
Grace '12, P.J. '14, Hannah, James, Mary, and Charlie. Parents: Kathleen and Peter.*



Cheerleaders: Tirzah Peddy, Niya Ray, Sarah Perry



5-K National Anthem Singers: MS students, Ben Favino, Emma Carrington, Kyler Shaheed-Freeman

FIFTH ANNUAL 5K SUPPORTS ANNUAL FUND



Now in its fifth year, the DC 5K and One Mile Fun Run/Walk has quickly become a new school tradition.

This year's event took place on Homecoming Weekend with over 110 participants and nine corporate sponsors. This year's race raised nearly \$10,000 for DC's Annual Fund.

Pictured left: Pricie Hanna, Vice-President of the DC Board of Trustees with son Colin Hanna '99, daughter Jeanne Hanna Bickhart '92, and grandchildren Henry and Jack.



Powderpuff Game 2016: Senior Claudia Norton



SAVE THE DATE FOR **HOMECOMING 2017**

October 20 - 21, 2017

Watch for more info in the next
issue of *Keynoter Magazine*

HOMECOMING 2016

Several years ago, DC's traditional Fall Sports Day was expanded to a full-fledged Homecoming Weekend with the express purpose of increasing school tradition and alumni engagement. Since that time, Homecoming has fast become a highly anticipated event for members of our school community both past and present.

This year's theme was "There's No Place Like Homecoming" - a jam-packed weekend offering activities for all ages that did not disappoint. A full three days of middle and upper school athletics was a key focal point of the weekend. Overall the Knights went 8-0-1 in athletic competition.

Other Homecoming highlights included Grandparents' Day for students in grades 6-12, a pep rally and powderpuff football game, the DC 5K, a homecoming dance, and a Munchkin Land carnival for the kids. Grads who returned to campus enjoyed reconnecting and participating in alumni soccer and flag football games and attending reunions. Memories were made and old friendships rekindled. All of which goes to show that truly...

There's No Place Like Homecoming!



CATCH ALL THE LATEST ALUMNI NEWS:
[FACEBOOK.COM/ALUMNIATDC](https://www.facebook.com/ALUMNIATDC)
INSTAGRAM: DC_ALUMNI



Linked in



Building Bridges Through Art & Authentic Relationships

Liz Steele-Coats '03 Impacts Her Community and Her Alma Mater

Impact. We talk a lot about this at DC. Impact is a key component of our mission statement and is one of our six core values. By God's grace we want to develop students who use what they have learned at DC to impact their homes, churches, and communities for Christ and His kingdom. Liz Steele-Coats embodies this goal.

Four years ago, Liz joined the Lansdowne Arts Board with the goal of revitalizing the borough and fostering more community events centered around the arts. Lansdowne had been known for having strong arts and culture - in fact, Liz's parents helped her start an arts festival fifteen years earlier that grew into a major yearly event - but the budgets supporting those festivals were cut, a common predicament when towns face financial difficulty. Instead of standing by, Liz decided to do something about it.

It was clear that while Liz and her fellow board members shared a love for the arts, they did not share religious views. So Liz learned how to navigate the choppy waters of working with people who hold different beliefs - how to hold fast to her Christian convictions without coming across as judgmental or unloving. The key to healthy collaboration was building relationships, something that Liz learned a great deal about in her time at DC. She knew firsthand the way that meaningful relationships can make a difference: "Having teachers care about me, not only academically, but emotionally and spiritually, had a big impact on me....People want to be cared for. They want to know that you love them and are invested in them."

Liz took the lessons she learned at DC about building caring relationships and applied it to her work with the Lansdowne Arts Board. She showed them she cared about the community by vigorously promoting a positive family environment in the events that the board was planning. She showed them she cared about their families in particular by encouraging them to safeguard their family time and to establish a healthy cycle of work and rest. She was generous, sacrificial, and humble. In short, she was teaching them a biblical worldview in word and deed. The result? "We don't always agree, but we work really well together," she says. Her impact among her peers on the Arts Board has in turn had an impact on the entire borough of Lansdowne.

Now Liz is taking those same lessons about caring for people and making an impact in the life of DC as an adjunct instructor for four arts courses in DC's Schools for Applied and Innovative Learning (SAIL). "I always wanted to give back to DC in some capacity," Liz reports. SAIL turned out to be the perfect opportunity, first in graphic arts and then with her Found Objects Metal Sculpture Workshop. Here Liz has the opportunity to develop meaningful relationships with students the same way the DC faculty did with her. Through those relationships Liz can relay to students the type of impact Christians can have within their communities when they remain faithful to Christian convictions. Few of our alumni are better equipped for such a task.



The Schools for Applied and Innovative Learning (SAIL) is built to teach students to engage with authentic problems and current issues, and develop the agency to work toward solutions that impact their communities and the world for Christ. The courses offered in these schools are characterized as interdisciplinary, collaborative, product-based, and hands-on.

*IMPACT: Reasoning Critically and acting biblically, we are equipped to impact the world for Christ
- A DC Core Value*



Pictured: Freshman Erin Mulholland and Liz Steele-Coats

Students in this fall's Found Objects Metal Workshop learned to manipulate copper, wire, and stained-glass elements in conjunction with found objects in order to create unique 3-D mobiles based on the work of Alexander Calder. Under the tutelage and guidance of Liz Steele-Coats, students discussed the ever-increasing need to reuse or up-cycle as artists to have a positive impact on the environment. Students were encouraged to incorporate unused or discarded materials into their sculptures. They also explored the physics of sculpture and how to

balance things proportionally to form a self-sustaining piece of artwork.

Freshman course participant Lily Tucker notes, "Mrs. Coats teaches in a relaxed way but with clear guidelines that leaves tons of room for creativity. She has taught me to wrap metal, make beautiful mobiles, and I even learned how to solder metal. Using recycled and up-cycled material made me realize that art can be made from anything new or old and still look incredible."

1958

Dr. Daniel Hussar '58 is the 2017 recipient of the Remington Honor Medal, the highest honor awarded by the American Pharmacists Association. Dr. Hussar received this award in recognition of his great impact on the pharmacy profession and patient care. Dr. Hussar has taught at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy at the University of the Sciences for 51 years and has influenced over 10,000 students. One individual who nominated Dr. Hussar for this honor noted that he "is a paragon of professionalism in pharmacy. He has impacted the professional thinking and attitudes of practitioners in all corners of the nation as well as abroad through his thoughtful and thought-provoking editorials and speeches." Congratulations Dan!

1986

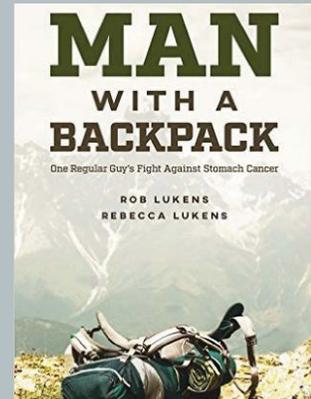
Clif Davis '86 earned his D.A. in Music from Ball State University in December, 2016. His dissertation entitled "Developing an Annotated Guide for Collaborative Planning of Choral



Concerts Based on Sawyer's Eight Stages of the Creative Process" covers original research on best practices in group creativity in the choral setting. Clif acquired a M.Div. in Church Music from Southern Seminary and a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Villanova University.

1990

Rebecca Lukens '90 recently published a memoir by her husband, **Rob Lukens'90**, recounting his deadly battle with stomach cancer. Rob was unable to complete the book before he died so Rebecca saw it through to completion and published *Man with a Backpack* in October, 2016. The book is available for purchase at amazon.com.



1993

Ben Thankachan '93 is currently the COO of Humankind Water. Humankind Water sells bottled water and other beverages for one purpose: to provide help to countries in desperate need of clean drinking water. For every bottle of Humankind Water purchased, 100 days of clean drinking water are provided for one person. Humankind Water has funded the placement of over 130 wells and filters across 8 countries and 4 continents.

1994

Dr. Jeff Dill '94 wrote an op-ed piece entitled, "At Local Faith Based Schools, Compelling Models of Integration," which was featured on Philly.com in December 2016.



Andrea Siccardi Kagey '94 is DC's newest employee. She is serving as an instructional aide in the Lower School.

1997

Kevin Gelzhiser '97 was invested into the Order of Saint John (Bailiwick of Brandenburg) as a Knight of Honor by the Herrenmeister of the Order, H.R.H. Prince Oskar of Prussia in September 2016. The Johanniterorden is the German Protestant branch of the Knights Hospitaller, the oldest surviving chivalric order, founded in Jerusalem in the year AD 1099. Its founding mandate was to provide care for sick, poor or injured pilgrims coming to the Holy Land in the Middle Ages. The Johanniterorden continues this work to the present day by supporting hospitals, ambulance services, and medical relief throughout the world. Kevin began his work with the Order while working in Switzerland and continues that work in the US with wounded warriors at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.

Chala Holland '97 is the Principal of Lake Forest High School in Lake Forest, Illinois. A feature article highlighting her achievements and the circumstances surrounding her hiring was published in the Chicago Tribune. The article can be found at <http://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/lake-forest/news/ct-lfr-lfhs-chala-holland-tl-1001-20150928-story.html>

1998

Daniel J. Cross '98 is an Associate Professor of Mathematics and Physics at Geneva College. Daniel earned a Ph.D in Physics from Drexel University and a B.S. in Mathematics and B.A. in Physics from Cedarville University. Dr. Cross currently resides in Beaver Falls, PA with his wife Karin and their two sons, Miles and Andrew.



2004

Rachel Hepkins Thompson '04 earned an undergraduate degree from Messiah College in 2008 and a J.D. from Liberty University School of Law in 2012, where she met her husband. She is now serving as an immigration attorney in the Roanoke Valley with the Poarch Law Firm. The work she is doing has a huge impact on her clients and she says that she can't imagine doing anything else.



2002

Kyle Winter '02 and his wife Rachel welcomed their second child, Hayden, to their family on August 13. The Winter family is expecting to move to Sihanoukville, Cambodia in 2017 in order to start a restaurant that will provide jobs and skills training to those that have been hurt by the sex trafficking industry. They are partners with YWAM Strategic Frontiers. You can learn more about their work and how to support them on their website winterfamilynews.com



Jenn Horton Grandlienard '04 and her husband Stuart are pleased to announce the birth of Zeke Isaiah on December 31, 2016. Zeke is welcomed home by big brother Knox (2). (see picture bottom center)

2005

Katie Griffiths Pfeffer '05 and her husband Oliver welcomed their 2nd daughter, Lucy Marie into the world on August 10, 2016.



DJ Horton '02 and his wife Anne announce the birth of a daughter, Millie Anne, on November 3, 2016. Excited big brothers are Griffin and Levi. The Horton's currently reside in St. Charles, Missouri.



2007

Laura Ressler Cook '07 graduated from Liberty University in August 2015 with a Masters of Public Health and a minor in Global Health. She is currently working for ATI Physical Therapy as an athletic trainer and as an adjunct professor at Eastern University.



2007

Renee Militello Rappold '07 is an officer in the United States Navy Nurse Corps. She was commissioned in 2011 and worked at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, MD from 2012-2015 where she cared for wounded warriors. She is currently stationed at the Internal Medicine Clinic at Camp Lejeune, NC.

2009

Mario Mascioli '09 is currently an athletic trainer for the Philadelphia 76ers. Mario is a graduate of West Chester University.

2010

Nick Mascioli '10 earned his B.S. in Exercise Science from West Chester University and is a strength and conditioning coach for the Pittsburgh Pirates.

2011-12



Josh Ryken '11 and Anna Chovanes '12 were wed on June 4, 2016. They now reside in Lakewood, CO. Anna is enrolled in a graduate program at The Colorado School of Mines.

2015

Fiona Eichinger's '15 article entitled, "Refugees in Search of Justice" was published online with *Cornell Claritas* in September, 2016. Fiona is a sophomore in the Honors College at the University of Pittsburgh

Ellie Schmucker '15 is serving as Production Manager with *Cornell Claritas*, an interdenominational Christian journal organized and operated by students at Cornell with the goal of promoting Christian "conversations within the academic community." Her article, "A Day of Rest: Wimbledon's Middle Sunday," was published with the journal in July 2016.

2013

After two years of anonymity, Jack Davis '13 was revealed as the most recent Penn State Nittany Lion Mascot.

The Nittany Lion Mascot has been around since 1904. Jack joins a proud heritage of 49 former student mascots who have helped fans cheer on Penn State to many victories.





REUNIONS

The Class of 1996 held their 30 year reunion in October, 2016 at The Sterling Pig in Media, PA. *Left to right: Melysa Marmer Bartone, James Durbano, Ed Diffin, Carol Thomson Kleit, Deborah Muench Harvey, Carol Dell Kleit, Elrena Evans, Beth Eldredge Banks, Leslie Myers Bidy, Jessica Hall Weld, Sharon Riley, Ben Hoffman, Sara Witmer Schuster, Joel Schuster*

The Class of 1981 held their 35th Class Reunion in July 2016. Event organizer Tim Sanville reports, “The class reunion was fantastic. We met at the Sheraton Suites Hotel in Wilmington and then walked to The Queen, Wilmington’s newest state of the art performance venue, where classmate and guitarist Sam Smick performed for three hours. We then headed back to the hotel for a catered dinner. Half of our group spent several hours together over breakfast the following morning.”



The Class of 2011 gathered at the Landmark Americana in West Chester, PA in June 2016 for their 5th Year Reunion. *Left to right: Nicole DeLoach, Cameron Dickson, Mark McLaughlin, Chris Barlow, James Kurtz, Meghan Daly, Johnny Markland, Blake Goebel, Jesse Eldredge, Jake White, Abel Teano, Jordan Sbraccia, Jon McAleer, and Jordan Chavous.*

**COMING
SOON**

THE CLASS OF 1967 - 50TH CLASS REUNION

FRIDAY, JUNE 23-SATURDAY 24, 2017. HELD AT CONCORDVILLE INN, GLEN MILLS, PA
CONTACT JK WILLIAMS AT JK@EGMINISTRIESINC.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

THE CLASS OF 1977 - 40TH CLASS REUNION

OCTOBER 20-21, 2017. HELD AT THE DC UPER CAMPUS
CONTACT DAWN SPECHT (DGSPECHT@YAHOO.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION

Alumni News

CURRENT STUDENTS AND ALUMS INTERFACE ON COLLEGE, CAREER, AND SERVICE

In his dual role as Director of Student Life and Alumni Coordinator, Ron Hoch recognizes he has a unique opportunity to facilitate meaningful interactions between current students and DC graduates. One recent event organized by Ron, "Fun with Alums," is a great example of how students and alums can come together for a time of shared learning and encouragement. This event, which followed the All School Christmas Chapel, brought 17 alums to campus who met with small groups of upper school students to share insights into decisions and opportunities that students will face in life post-DC. Ron notes, "This type of event helps prepare students for the future, and at the same time, presents an opportunity to show alumni that the DC community is proud of our alumni's accomplishments and values their input." This event was a pilot of a larger alumni mentoring program that the Alumni Office is developing, so graduates please keep an eye out for further updates and requests for help.



ALUMNI -

We'd love to hear from you.

Do you have news to share? Email Ron Hoch at rhoch@dccs.org with an update. We would love to include your information in the Alumni News and Notes section of our next *Keynoter* magazine.

Jake Godino '08, is DC's Athletic Coordinator.

FUN WITH ALUMS PARTICIPANTS

Thank you to all of our "Fun with Alums" alumni participants and to the members of the SAIL Marketing Class who wrote the following bios.

DAN HUSSAR '58 - PHARMACY, HIGHER EDUCATION

Dr. Hussar graduated in 1958 as part of DC's first graduating class. After graduation, he attended Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science where he earned a B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. in Pharmacy. He is currently the Remington Professor of Pharmacy at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia. His favorite memories of DC are of the friendships formed with students and faculty, and the godly example that his teachers set for him. He was captain of the intramural softball team, which won three consecutive championships during his time at DC.

ADAM SACKS '89 - ECONOMICS

Adam is the Founder and current President of Tourism Economics. He is a member of the US Department of Commerce Travel and Tourism Advisory Board. He and his wife, Bethany, are the parents of Corin, Annabelle, and Jude, who are current DC students.

CHUCK GRIEB '85 - ARTS, ANIMATION

Chuck graduated from DC in 1985. After completing his undergraduate degree at Edinboro University, he earned a Master's Degree at USC. With an impressive resume that includes major projects for both Nickelodeon and Disney, Chuck currently finds joy in teaching art and animation at Cal State Fullerton where he also serves as a program director.

JEREMY HOOPER '95 - CHURCH MINISTRY, EDUCATION

Following graduation from DC, Jeremy earned a B.S. in Elementary Education from West Chester University. He holds an M.A. in Education from Arcadia University and is currently pursuing an M.A. in Christian Ministry through the Rollins School of Divinity at Liberty University. Following a 12 year career as an elementary school teacher, Jeremy moved into full time ministry. He currently is the Children's Pastor at Morning Star Fellowship in Quakertown, PA.

JEFF WISNEWSKI '95 - EDUCATION

Mr. Jeff Wisnewski is not only a DC alumnus, but has been an integral part of the DC community for years now. This spring marks his 10th year as Varsity Baseball Coach and he has taught upper school history since 2001 after graduating from West Chester University. "Wiz," as he is affectionately called, is loved by many students, past and present.

DAWN POULTERER '90 - EDUCATION

Dawn Poulterer attended Messiah College where she received a B.A. in English Literature. She completed her secondary education certification at Eastern University and earned a Masters in counseling at Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary. Dawn has served as a teacher and counselor at Covenant Day Christian School in Charlotte, NC for the past 11 years. Her favorite memories of DC were being in the *Fiddler on the Roof* musical and her junior year English class.

DAN SELKE '01 - ENGINEERING

Dan served in the US Navy as a Nuclear Reactor Operator for a number of years before working with ONExia Inc designing turn-key manufacturing equipment for aerospace and medical services. He currently works at Exel's Limerick Generating Station in Operations.

LIZ STEELE-COATS '03 - ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Liz is a graduate of Temple University's Tyler School of Art. Besides being a mom and a DC SAIL teacher, she owns a small business called A New Creation Art Company. She crafts jewelry, copper, and garden sculptures and pottery. Liz loves to travel and trying new things. The Dominican Republic is currently her favorite travel destination.

A number of recent DC grads participated in a College Panel. This group, known to many current students, addressed their transition to college and life after DC.

GRACE HARPER '13 - Grace is a senior at Rutgers University Honors College

BRANDON SMITH '13 - Brandon is an Education major at Eastern University.

FIONA EICHINGER '15 - Fiona is currently a sophomore at the University of Pittsburgh.

BECCA HEGMAN '15 - Becca is currently a sophomore at Messiah College.

WYATT HARKINS '16 - Wyatt is attending John Jay College.

KATHRYN YOUNG '04 - BUSINESS & SALES

Kathryn currently serves as the Director of Operations at Richardson Sales Training and Coaching. She earned a B.A. in Business Administration with a focus in International Business and Marketing from Temple University's Fox School of Business in 2009, where she had the opportunity to study abroad at University College of Dublin. When she's not working she enjoys singing, sewing, and standup paddleboarding.

JEREMY VANDERSLICE '08 - NON-PROFIT

After completing his undergraduate degree at West Chester University, Jeremy attended Indiana Wesleyan University to complete a Masters of Divinity. He currently serves on the staff at Providence Church in West Chester, PA as the Program Director for the Westside Community Center. Jeremy's favorite DC memory is winning the Coach's Award for JV Baseball from "Wiz" (Coach Jeff Wisnewski '95) because "I rode the bench and found every foul ball that was hit into the woods."

NATHAN SWAVELY '10 - WEB DEVELOPMENT

Nathan attended Geneva College for two years before transferring to West Chester University where he earned a B.A. in Marketing. He is employed at ProMetrics, Inc. in King of Prussia as a systems analyst. One of his fondest memories of DC is singing the national anthem at a Phillies game with the choir.

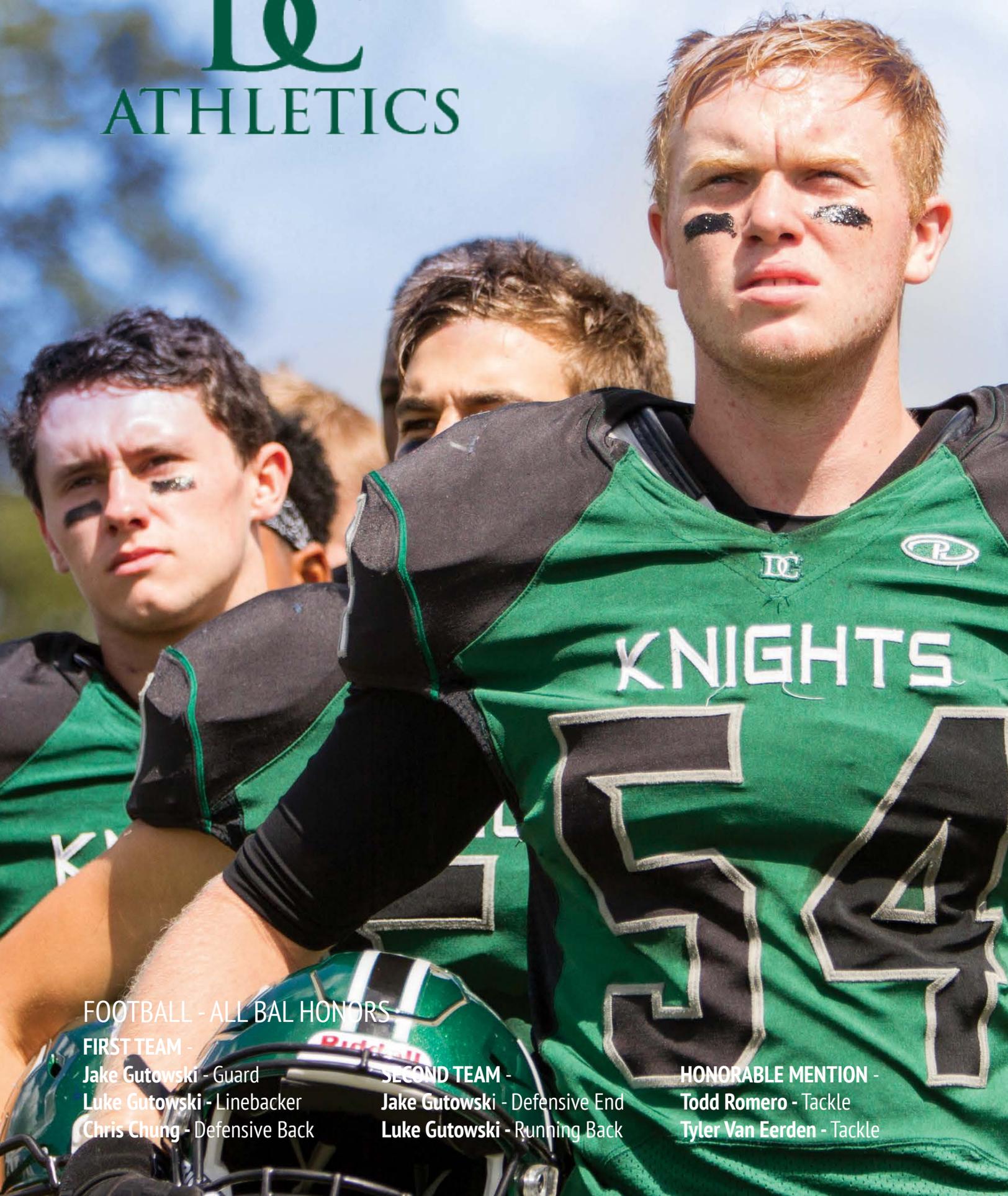
NICK MASCIOLI '10 - ATHLETIC TRAINER/ PROFESSIONAL SPORTS

Nick is a certified personal trainer and massage therapist with a degree from West Chester University. He works at Marple Sports Institute and as a trainer with the Pittsburgh Pirates.



Matt Hummel '08, currently Upper School History Teacher shown with senior Ana Yee

DC ATHLETICS



FOOTBALL - ALL BAL HONORS

FIRST TEAM -

Jake Gutowski - Guard

Luke Gutowski - Linebacker

Chris Chung - Defensive Back

SECOND TEAM -

Jake Gutowski - Defensive End

Luke Gutowski - Running Back

HONORABLE MENTION -

Todd Romero - Tackle

Tyler Van Eerden - Tackle

JAKE GUTOWSKI RECEIVES ALL-STATE RECOGNITION

Head Football Coach Drew Pearson describes senior Jake Gutowski as a player who stands above the crowd. Jake's relentless effort on the field did not go unnoticed amongst league and district coaches who named Jake to the All-State Second Football Team - Class A.

Coach Pearson notes, "Jake's work ethic and athletic ability is matched by his strong moral compass and his servant leadership. His moral compass is driven by his faith. He knows the difference between right and wrong and consistently chooses 'right.' I always felt confident knowing that Jake would model a consistent life of integrity whether someone was watching him or not. This moral integrity and relentless effort enable him to have a leadership platform. He lives a life worth following and others respect him for it. Due to the quality of his life, he could easily just 'command' that others follow him. However, what makes Jake special is that he lives a life of service. As a result, others want to follow him. He would often be one of the last people off the practice field, because he was either putting equipment away or building a relationship with a younger player. The same is true in the locker room. He was often seen cleaning it up or caring for another player. At our last regular season game, the opposing school custodian commented on Jake's servant behavior as he swept the locker floor following a loss."

These characteristics embody what DC's athletic program desires for every athlete. Congratulations Jake!

FALL 2016 COUNTY & LEAGUE HONORS

ALL DELAWARE COUNTY

VARSIITY CROSS COUNTRY

Honorable Mention:
Maggie Linton, Charlie Schaefer

VARSIITY GIRLS SOCCER

First Team: Alex Thompson,
Honorable Mention: Ronnie
Marie Falasco

BICENTENNIAL ATHLETIC LEAGUE

VARSIITY BOYS SOCCER

First Team: Brody Veleber,
Daniel Nichols
Second Team: Dante Felice,
Daniel Deger

VARSIITY CROSS COUNTRY

First Team: Maggie Linton
Second Team: Charlie Schaffer

VARSIITY FIELD HOCKEY

First Team: Allie Zubyk
Second Team: Ana Yee,
Ava Berzinsky
Honorable Mention:
Elizabeth Eppright

VARSIITY GIRLS SOCCER

First Team: Alex Thompson,
Claudia Norton, Taylor Mingle
Second Team: Lily Tucker,
Elizabeth Eudaly



CROSS COUNTRY RUNNERS GO THE DISTANCE

Junior Charlie Schaefer and senior Maggie Linton capped off their 2016 cross country season with a trip to the PIAA State Meet. This milestone marked Maggie's second appearance at state level competition in one year; she was the PIAA State Runner-Up in the 800m race last spring. In cross country, she finished 39th among runners from Class A. Additional honors for Maggie this season included All-BAL First Team, All-County Honorable Mention, and a fourth place finish at Districts. Maggie plans to continue her running career next year as a freshman at James Madison University.

In a number of ways, junior Charlie Schaefer was the "heart" of the boys' cross country team this past fall. He prepared for the season by running over 300 miles during the summer, achieved a number of top places in the races, and finished 121st in the Class A State Meet in Hershey. His diligence to his running, combined with his care and love for his teammates, spoke clearly to other teams and coaches of his strong testimony. With these leadership qualities, Charlie will captain the cross country team next fall.

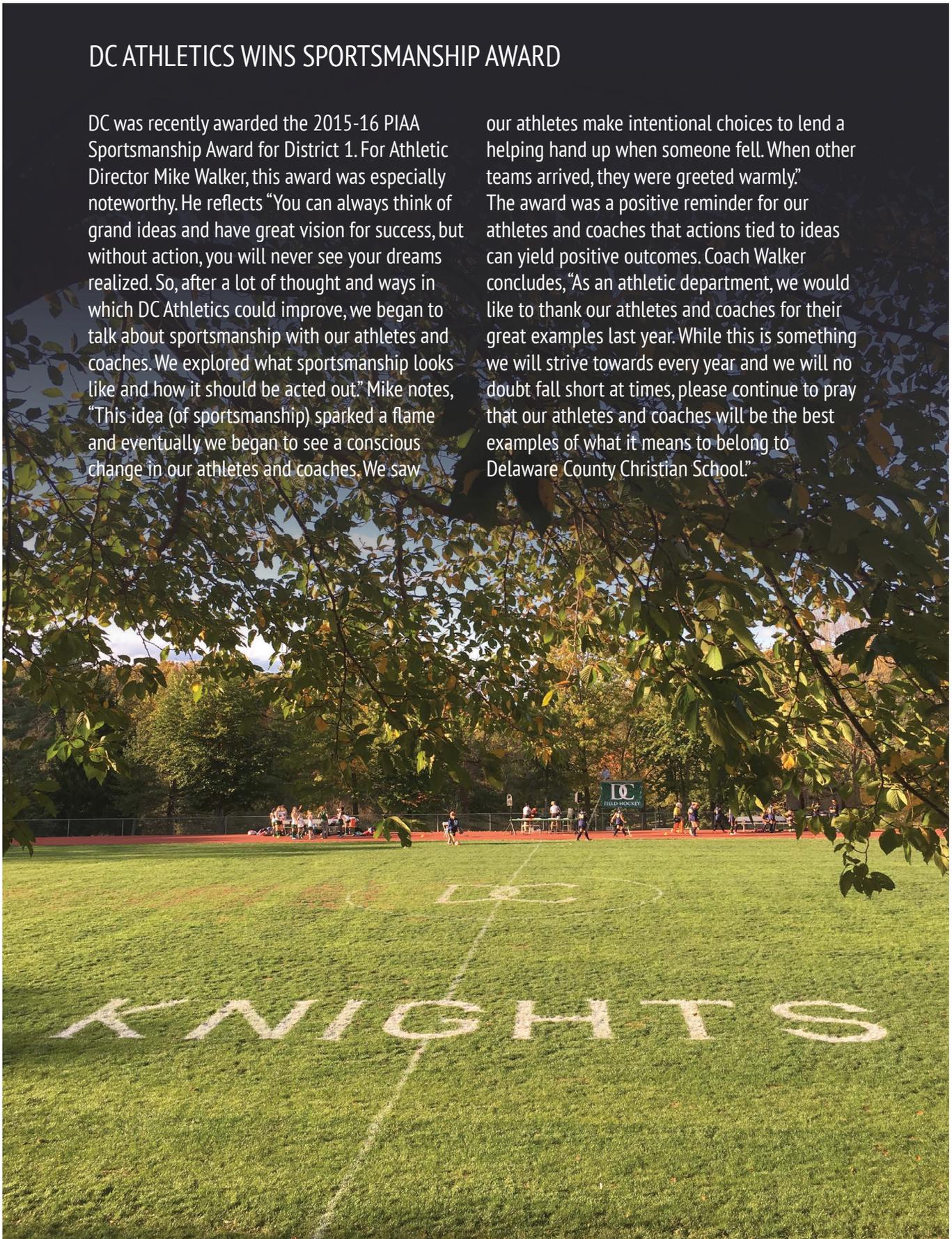


DC ATHLETICS WINS SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

DC was recently awarded the 2015-16 PIAA Sportsmanship Award for District 1. For Athletic Director Mike Walker, this award was especially noteworthy. He reflects "You can always think of grand ideas and have great vision for success, but without action, you will never see your dreams realized. So, after a lot of thought and ways in which DC Athletics could improve, we began to talk about sportsmanship with our athletes and coaches. We explored what sportsmanship looks like and how it should be acted out." Mike notes, "This idea (of sportsmanship) sparked a flame and eventually we began to see a conscious change in our athletes and coaches. We saw

our athletes make intentional choices to lend a helping hand up when someone fell. When other teams arrived, they were greeted warmly."

The award was a positive reminder for our athletes and coaches that actions tied to ideas can yield positive outcomes. Coach Walker concludes, "As an athletic department, we would like to thank our athletes and coaches for their great examples last year. While this is something we will strive towards every year and we will no doubt fall short at times, please continue to pray that our athletes and coaches will be the best examples of what it means to belong to Delaware County Christian School."



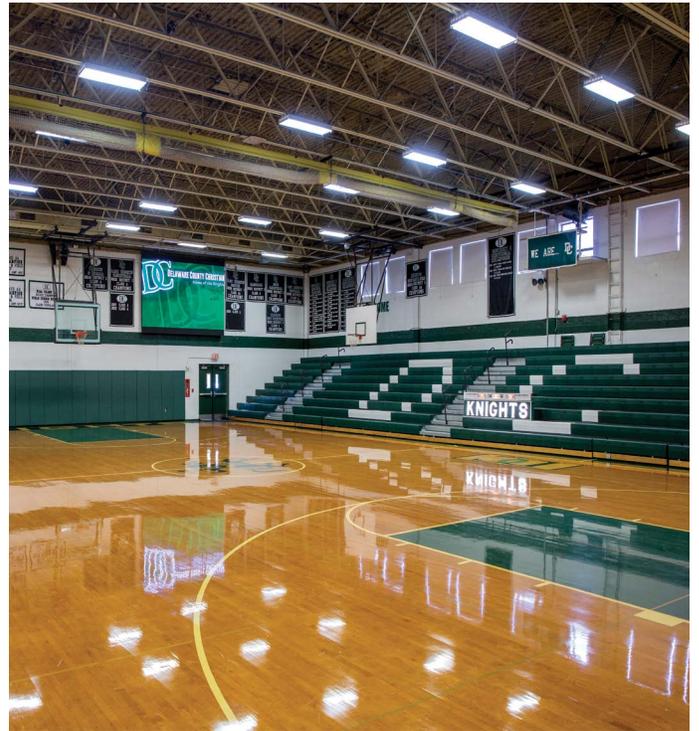
Focus on Athletics

SCOREVISION COMES TO DC

DC's Athletic Department is excited to announce the addition of new, innovative display boards in the lower gymnasium at the Upper Campus. The new boards are multi-media displays manufactured by ScoreVision, a digital scoreboard company that combines the latest digital technology bundled with advertising packages that generate revenue for schools.

Because DC was the first school on the east coast to purchase this type of scoreboard, ScoreVision approached Director of Athletics Mike Walker with a unique opportunity to become a demo site as they look to expand their east coast market. Mike Walker has been working closely with ScoreVision's development team to create DC specific graphics and videos in order to make our basketball game experience the best in the state.

The addition of these new display boards will positively impact a number of school events beyond athletics, including robotics and all school chapels. Additionally, the revenue stream garnered from advertisements will add value to the athletic experience of all athletes. The Athletic Department is grateful for the provision of the boards at a significantly reduced cost and fans are enjoying the enhanced energy and atmosphere the boards lend to basketball games as well.



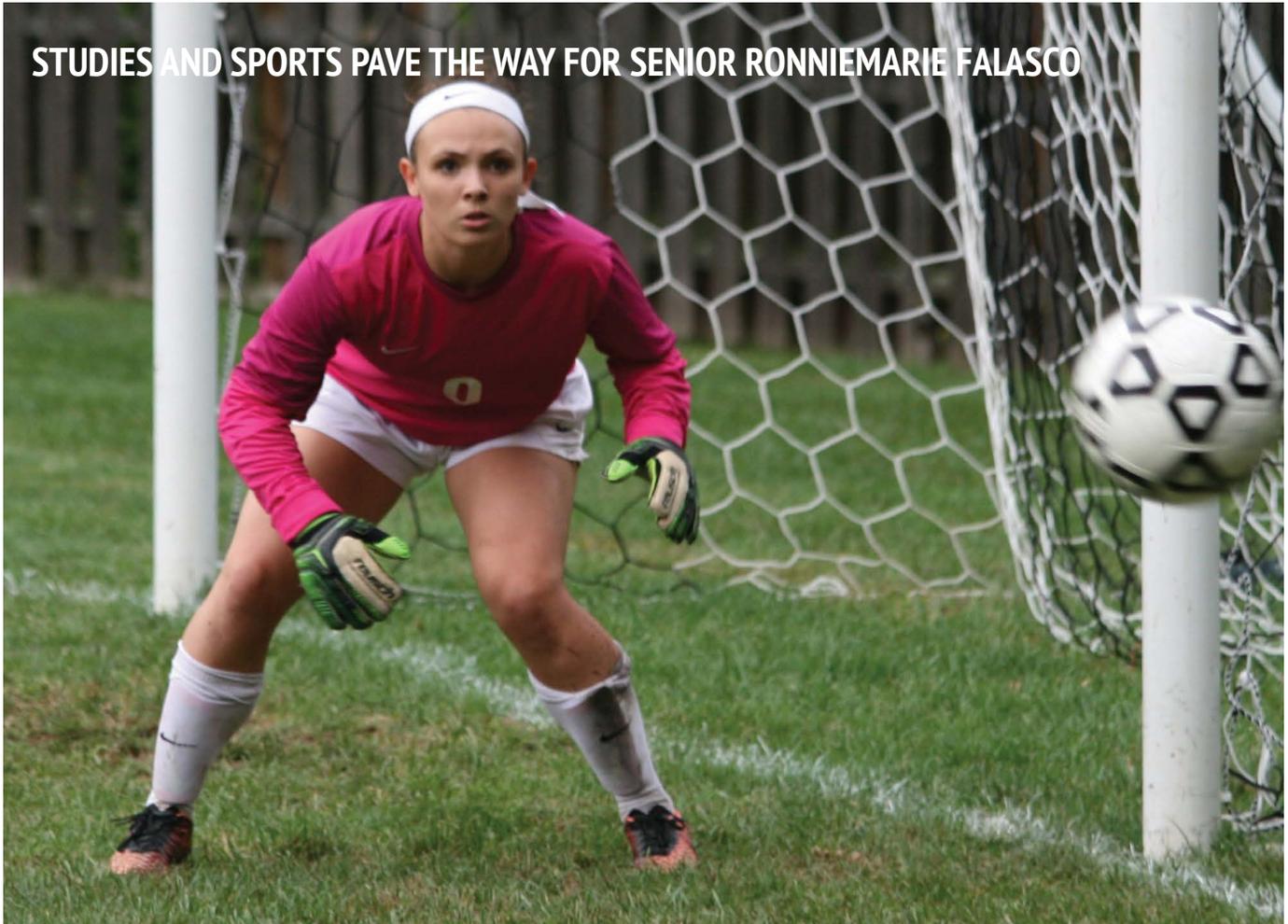
Pictured: Senior Jordan Parks



DC HOOPS TIP OFF SEASON IN TRADITION

The 52nd Invitational Tournament took place on December 3-4 with DC hosting Atlantic Christian, Gloucester County Christian, and The Christian Academy. This annual DC tradition continues to be the longest running Christian school basketball tournament in the country. Led by senior Taylor Mingle, the Lady Knights defeated Gloucester in the opening round and finished second in the tournament behind TCA. Sophomore Monica Lebaudy, along with Taylor Mingle, represented DC on the girls all-tournament team. The varsity boys faced TCA in their first game. Following a rough first quarter, the Knights beat TCA handily and went on to beat Atlantic Christian in the championship round by double digits. DC senior TJ Tann was the MVP of the boys all-tournament team. Also named to this team was DC senior Jordan Parks.

STUDIES AND SPORTS PAVE THE WAY FOR SENIOR RONNIEMARIE FALASCO



Student-athlete RonnieMarie Falasco was recently named a regional finalist in the Coca-Cola Scholars Program.

The group of 250 regional winners were selected from an original applicant pool of 86,000 students from across the country. All Regional Finalists receive \$1,000 in scholarship monies and will be considered for an additional \$20,000 scholarship that will be awarded to 150 students nationwide. RonnieMarie has also been named one of 50 semi-finalists student-athletes vying for a scholarship through The Foot Locker Scholar Athletes Program. She joins this elite group

from a nationwide pool of 13,000 applicants. RonnieMarie was a member of the girls varsity soccer team for the past three years and is a member of the indoor track team, but her true passion is softball. Last spring she was named the top catcher among Pennsylvania's Division 1-A high schools, was First Team BAL and was also named as the 2016 BAL Constitution Division MVP. She will continue her love of learning and sports next year at Amherst College as the college's number one softball recruit in the Class of 2022.



Congratulations to senior Alex Thompson who signed with Division 1 St. Bonaventure on January 31, 2017. Alex made a verbal commitment to the women's soccer program at St. Bonaventure last year.



Pictured: Senior Ben Tyson

FROM THRILLING VICTORIES TO DISAPPOINTING DEFEATS FALL ATHLETES EXPERIENCE SEASONS OF GROWTH

VARSIY FOOTBALL

Football ended the season with a 3-7 overall record and a 2-4 league record. Despite a slow start to the season with some tough losses and injuries, the team reached the district final where they lost to league rival Jenkintown High School. Junior Luke Gutowski proved to be a great addition to the squad this season, leading the team in total yards rushed. This year's staff included head coach Drew Pearson and Lloyd Hill, Chad Fenley, and Chip Ridewood along with a host of dedicated parent volunteers who helped behind the scenes. The team would like to thank Thom Houghton for being the voice of the Knights this year as well as junior Steve aka "DJ" Hansen.

VARSIY BOYS SOCCER

The varsity boys soccer team were 8-9 on the year and 6-6 in conference play. The team coaches, Rob Atkins, Rob Irias, and Jon Pacitto, help shape a team culture that emphasizes hard work and attention to detail. This team exhibited grit and determination on the field. With many close games, the boys dug deep to pull out some huge wins this season and qualified for district playoffs for the first time in several years.

VARSIY CROSS COUNTRY

Under head coach George McFarland, the boys and girls cross country team had an excellent year competing in league and district races. Senior Ethan Harvey was a lead contributor on the team as well as junior Charlie Schaefer who won the DC5K and finished 121st in the PIAA Class A State Meet. Senior Maggie Linton led the way for the girls and earned first team All-BAL honors. Maggie also qualified for the state meet and placed 39th out of 200 plus runners in Class A competition.

VARSIY GOLF

This year's golf team included four seniors who provided the team with structure and leadership. First year coach Tom Corcimiglia offered players the perfect blend of game knowledge and a gentle, encouraging spirit. Senior Davis O'Leary consistently scored well and earned a spot in the playoff tournament. Look for this group of young golfers to improve consistently over the next few years.

Focus on Athletics

VARSIY GIRLS TENNIS

Girls tennis requires more commitment than most people realize. Because the girls play off site, they have to make the most of their time on the courts. Coaches Olivia Hughes and Dawn Harkins create a great atmosphere for the girls with a healthy mix of fun and competition. Key victories this season included wins over Dock Academy, Plumstead, and Upper Darby. The team also enjoyed a service project at Young Lives, a non-profit that provides assistance to single mothers and their children.

VARSIY FIELD HOCKEY

The varsity field hockey team finished their season 8-10-1 and 6-6-1 in league play. Ava Berzinsky led all scorers with 11 goals on the season. Goalkeeper Ana Yee delivered an impressive 216 saves, directing and leading the defense with great maturity. The girls advanced to the second round of districts where they lost a heartbreaker to Lower Moreland in overtime. Congratulations to the team and coaches Katie Levis, Cynchia Smith, and Lisa Bitterlich on a successful season.

VARSIY CHEERLEADING

The varsity cheerleaders had another great season supporting our fall athletes. This squad, led by ten seniors, worked diligently to perfect their routines. Their dedication was also demonstrated in their willingness to travel to the majority of our away games. Coach Lisa Perry did a great job of fostering team unity. It was evident the girls genuinely enjoyed each other's company throughout their practices and game time performances.

VARSIY GIRLS SOCCER

Led by seniors Alex Thompson, Taylor Mingle, RonnieMarie Falasco, and the varsity girls soccer team advanced through regular season play with some key wins including a 2-0 victory over league leader TCA on their home field. Following a 3-0 win over Dock Academy in the district semi-final, the girls lost their district final game to TCA who scored the winning go-ahead goal with 20 seconds remaining on the clock. Overall, ten different players were goal scorers including freshman starters Lily Tucker and Elizabeth Eudaly.



Pictured: Junior Rachel Philips

Photo credit: Kathryn Azar

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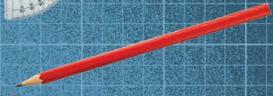


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