

## JOE BIDEN SWORN IN AS 46TH PRESIDENT



## OVER 26 MILLION NOW VACCINATED



## COVID-19 Vaccine Release

by Sean Fialcowitz

On December 11, 2020, a pharmaceutical company named Pfizer made headlines, when they announced that they had created a vaccine for Covid-19. Covid-19 originated from China in late 2019 and spread across the world very quickly. Within a month, the virus reached America and shut down most activity around the nation. When this threat arrived, scientists from different companies started doing research about this strange virus in order to find a vaccine. Now, almost a year later, scientists succeeded in finding a vaccine.

On December 18, a rival

company named Moderna came out with its vaccine for Covid. While one year may seem like a long time to make a vaccine, it is actually ridiculously short. For example, the Influenza virus, better known as the Flu started infecting people in 1918, but it took scientists over 20 years to create the vaccine! The creation of the Coronavirus vaccines has turned the tide against Covid-19 because people will soon not be able to catch Covid.

So how do these vaccines work? These vaccines work by helping our bodies develop immunity to the virus. When you take the shot,

you are injected with a supply of “memory,” T-lymphocytes as well as B-lymphocytes that remember how to fight Covid in the future. T-cells and B-cells are white blood cells that fight viruses. It takes a few weeks for the B and T cells to reproduce to a number at which they can be effective.\* Experts say that several weeks after vaccination you have a 95% chance of being immune to Covid.

The vaccines have to be shipped and senior citizens and health care workers rightfully get the vaccines first. This means that it could be summer before middle schoolers receive the vaccines. The process of immunization will be a long one,

but I am positive that the release of the Covid-19 vaccines will end the Coronavirus.

Helpful Facts About the Covid Vaccine

The effects of the vaccines will not help you until the T and B cells grow in number so if you catch Covid less than two weeks after receiving the vaccine, the vaccine will not help you.

Sometimes after vaccination, the process of building immunity can cause symptoms such as a fever. These symptoms are normal so don't worry.

\*Thanks to Mrs. Luludis and Mr. O'Connell for teaching me about cells.

## *Current Events: Biden's Inauguration and Capitol Riots*

*by Nathan Khichi*

While Joe Biden's victory was being confirmed in one of the most sacred processes in our democracy, an angry mob of Trump supporters breached security at the capitol in an attempted coup on the U.S. government. Now Democrats, along with 10 Republicans in the House of Representatives, have impeached Donald Trump for "inciting insurrection." Making Donald Trump the only president ever to be impeached twice.

The event started at the Save America march outside the White House. The plan was after the rally to march to the capitol and protest the election results. Even after judges that Trump appointed have proven his election fraud claims to be inaccurate he still continues to fight with no regard for what the American people want and our democracy. After Trump got the crowd riled up with quotes like "stop the steal," and "fight like hell," they proceeded to march to the capitol building. Then the outnumbered Capitol Police officers gave in to the mob leaving almost no security until the National Guard arrived.

This was a sad day for our democracy and shows how fragile our system really is. Ever since



*Pro-Trump Rioters Briefly before Breaching the Capitol on Jan. 6th*



*Newly Inaugurated President Biden Addresses the Nation on January 20*

Trump has been elected he has spread misinformation and demanded his political opponents be "locked up" just for disagreeing with him. These strategies are ones used by dictators to rise to power not the President of the United States. This was an attack on the legislative branch, our democracy, and the American People. Donald Trump failed to uphold his oath, "I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

The President of the United States incited an attempted coup on the U.S. government. The system always works though and even if it is compromised it will still continue to work as was seen after the riot when the Senate came back and certified Joe Biden's victory despite the events earlier in the day. Now the country must heal and restore unity once again. That healing process began on January 20th.

In the first few days of the Biden presidency, he has signed over 30 executive orders. This includes a federal mask mandate, stopping the construction of the border wall, rejoining the Paris Climate Accord and the World Health Organization, to name a few. Biden is focusing on unifying the nation as he promised in his campaign. Currently, America is in a turbulent time, but we will recover and emerge stronger than ever.

# Half-Year in Review

## *Masks in School?! No MS Sports?! --> COVID Chronicles*

By Sam Marshah

The wait is finally over! We are in 2021, and with that, we are halfway through the school year. The first half of the year was a rough one, with the coronavirus making sports delayed and much less exciting. One example is the middle school soccer team. Normally, they would have a tournament against other schools on the last weekend of the season, but that was canceled due to Covid-19.

The virus has also made learning different, with whiteboards being put in between students and masks being worn at all times. But luckily, Delbarton has been able to have students

in school during these times (mostly). So, let's see what has happened over these few months.

The Delbarton varsity football team went undefeated, but their season was cut short due to a last minute positive Covid case a few minutes before kick-off. The varsity soccer team also did very well, only losing one game during the season. Same goes for the middle school track team, losing only one game throughout the season. Unfortunately, because of a lack in schools willing to participate, middle school football was canceled. 7th grade students have also begun to work on their science fair projects, with a wide range of different projects being chosen. And there is some bett



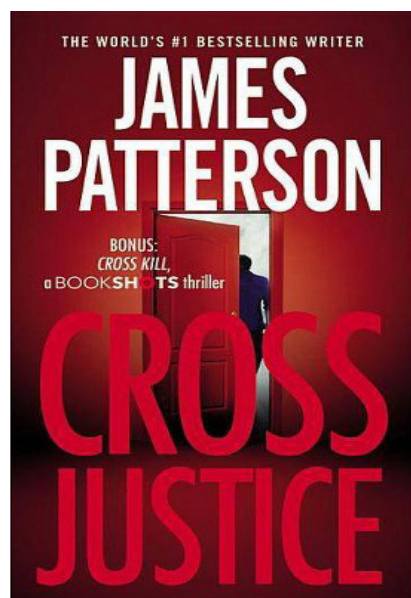
*Delbarton Students now Accustomed to the "New Normal" of Masks in the Classroom*

er news for this second half of the school year, middle school basketball has been given the green light to begin tryouts and start practicing. They will also have games as expected.

I hope that everyone had a good new year, and let's get the new year started strong!

## Book Review: Cross Justice

By Gavin Guo



*Cross Justice* is a mystery fiction by James Patterson. This book is the 23rd book in the Alex Cross series. Although this book is one of the last books in the series, you are still able to understand this book without having to go to any previous books.

Alex Cross is a retired FBI agent and is now a homicide detective, he is married to Brianna Stone (also known as Bree) and has 3 children. Alex and his family are going back Alex's hometown in North Carolina because his cousin Stefan has been accused of murder.

His hometown has reminded him of many memories, good ones and bad ones. Throughout this story, Alex Cross refers to the saying that Nana Mama, his grandmother, told him, "Only trust your Family." Throughout this book, Alex Cross has to figure out who to trust because he gets betrayed many times.

I liked this book because you never know what is going to happen next. Another reason this book is so great is that James Patterson uses very descriptive language and it paints a very good picture in my mind. I rate this book a 10/10 because the book uses many descriptive words and it paints a very clear picture in your mind.

# MRS. LULUDIS BECOMES A MOM!!

Congratulations to our very own Mrs. Luludis on the birth of her beautiful baby Millie!



Faculty Editors: Mrs. Luludis & Mr. LaLiberte