



THE FALCON

The Student Newspaper of St. Joseph High School

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MODHERA, VIGNETTE WIN AMERICAN SCHOLASTIC PRESS ASSOCIATION AWARDS



By: Justin Lee '23

Staff Writer

The 2021 Edition of the Vignette has won first place in the Scholastic Press Association Awards for the fifteenth year in a row.

Under the leadership of Abel Stephen '22, Abhishek Borad '22, Animesh Borad '22, new lead moderator Mr. Paul Caruso, and Dr. Robert Longhi '81, the Vignette staff worked diligently to continue the long legacy of Saint Joseph High School's award-winning literary magazine.

impacted the Vignette the most was the retirement of head moderator, Dr. Martine Gubernat, who played a huge role in the creation of our magazine.

Another big change was the use of electronic copies of work in the judging process. In the past, the Vignette staff gathered in Dr. Gubernat's room to read each piece individually and accept or reject submissions through a voting system. However, in order to practice social distancing, the staff split into groups and judged submissions online.

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Due to factors related to COVID-19, the Vignette underwent a variety of changes during the creation of last year's edition. One change that

BOSH Leadership Visits Saint Joe's

By: Giovanni Oliveti '24

Staff Writer

On Friday, January 28, Saint Joseph High School Students and Partners in Mission had the honor and pleasure to welcome two special guests back to the campus. Brother Mark Hilton, Superior General of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, and Brother Herbert Mangove, General Councilor, stopped at our campus as part of their regular visits to all of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart schools.

Brother Mark and Brother Herbert took guided tours with

several students, frequently stopping in classes and catching up with both students and teachers. Brother Mark and Brother Herbert even stayed to see the dynamic of the students during unstructured period, eating with their tour guides and enjoying personal conversations over a meal in the Catanzaro Dining Hall.

The students had a chance to ask the pair questions about what why they became brothers, their roles in the order, and what they hope to develop in the schools that they oversee. As the lunch period culminated, the Brothers continued to interact with the students of Saint Joe's, and later

shared that they were pleased to have spent so much time with the student population.

Brother Herbert, in fact, added that when he writes his report about St. Joe's, he looks forward to reflecting on the sincere questions and unique conversations they shared with the students that they have never experienced before.



Vignette Wins Award (continued from front page)

After choosing pieces for the magazine, the formatting was done using online tools such as LucidPress.

The changes in the process could have slowed things down; however, thanks to the leadership of the three main editors, Mr. Caruso, and Dr. Longhi, the work was done on time and the staff was more than happy with the results. Plus, they learned valuable skills to help the magazine grow into the future.

One of the standout submissions for the edition was made by Roman Modhera '22 in the form of a

photograph entitled "A Night in Rome" (published to the right along with his description of the scene as it appears in the Vignette). Roman, who will be attending Northwestern University in the fall, won a national award for Outstanding Photograph for his entry.

The entire Saint Joseph Community is proud of the efforts that the staff made under less than ideal circumstances last year. As they work to finalize this year's edition, the lessons learned from last year's success will no doubt help them achieve even greater heights.



A Night in Rome

During a late night walking through streets of Rome with a few friends, we stopped to get ice cream at our new favorite gelato shop. But when I turned around, I was surprised to see the Coliseum right behind us. But, it really made me appreciate how far society has come: all the way from building massive structures that house games meant for entertainment to getting ice cream with some friends for some fun. It was a night to never forget.

Roman Modhera '22

Saint Joe's Community Attends March For Life

**By: Gavin Szilvasi '24 and
Will Kwiatkowski '24**
Contributing Writers

On Friday, January 21, fifty-one Falcons boarded a 7:15 a.m. bus from Saint Joseph High School in single digit weather and headed south to our nation's capital to join fellow citizens in a rally in support of life.

Each year, tens of thousands of pro-life supporters journey from across the county to gather in the heart of Washington, D.C., on the National Mall to peacefully protest the 1973 Supreme Court ruling known as *Roe v. Wade*, which legalized abortion in all 50 states. The purpose of this march is to gather together in solidarity and to celebrate life, from conception to natural death.

Unlike previous years, the chartered bus was filled completely with current Saint Joseph students and was sponsored by the generous donation from the Class of 1976. Several Partners in Mission, including our President, Mr. John Nolan, Mrs. Tracey Coudriet, Mrs. Mary Hutnick, Mr. Luis DeJesus '16 and Mr. Stephen Balog, joined the students on their mission to support life. Their journey was a time for rest and reflection as they together prayed a rosary led by Tim Haklar '23, the President of the Respect Life Club. In unity, the students donned fluorescent yellow skull caps that kept them warm and identified them as a group.

Thousands gathered on the lawn of the National Mall for the March for Life Rally which



featured a variety of pro-life activists including actor Kirk Cameron, Fr. Mike Schmitz, an inspirational Catholic priest from Duluth, Minnesota, who is famous for his YouTube series and podcast about the Bible, and many of our nation's legislators. Most inspiring was Katie Shaw, a young woman with Down's syndrome who passionately defends the rights of the unborn, especially those who are disabled. In 2016, she testified in support of Senate Bill 313, which prohibits abortions in Indiana solely based on a disability or gender. This bill was signed into a law.

The day continued as

they marched down Constitution Avenue towards the Supreme Court.

A sea of supporters filled the street chanting, "Hey Hey, Ho Ho – *Roe v. Wade* has got to go," and carrying colorful signs stating, "Equality Begins in the Womb," "Choose Life, Your Mom Did," and "the First Human Right is the Right to Life." The mood was joy-filled and inspirational, leaving students with a feeling that their voices and prayers are being heard.

Anyone interested in joining the Respect Life Club should contact Tim Haklar '23 (thaklar23@stjoes.org)

Meetings are every other Tuesday during the first half of Unstructured. The classroom code is isxco2a.

Movie Review: *Spider-Man: No Way Home*

By: Jake Stephen '24

Staff Writer

Spider-Man: No Way Home is a perfect cap to a previously disappointing trilogy. After hitting low marks on *Spider-Man: Homecoming* and *Spider-Man: Far From Home*, Marvel Studios delivered with their third installment of the MCU series by bringing back the nostalgia of the past twenty years of Spider-Man movies.

SPOILERS AHEAD

While also closing Peter 1's arc, *No Way Home* brings redemption to the *Amazing Spider-Man's* story. Though it focuses on Tom Holland's Spider-Man, the performances by Willem Dafoe and Andrew

Garfield were spectacular. Garfield left fans demanding for more, including the possible release of *The Amazing Spider-Man 3*. Willem Dafoe continues to deliver as the Green Goblin, re-establishing himself as the best Spider-Man villain. Tobey Maguire also delivered a top-act performance, perfectly depicting the "big brother" Spider-Man.

No Way Home perfected the character development of Peter 1, who went from riches to rags in one movie. Although there were many great scenes, the death of Aunt May felt disrespectful and rushed. The classic "great power comes with great responsibility" felt forced.

Overall, I would rate *No way Home* as an **8.5/10**. Oh, and they did the meme.



Chef Dave's Pork Carnitas

Ingredients:

3-4 lbs pork shoulder
8-10 cloves of garlic, minced
1 tbl cumin
1 tbl oregano (mexican if possible)
2-3 bay leaves
1 can/bottle cola
Juice of 2 oranges
Juice of 3-4 limes
Salt + pepper to taste

Directions:

1. Chop pork into large chunks.
2. Make a spice rub with cumin, oregano, salt and pepper. Feel free to add more spice if desired.
3. Season pork thoroughly.
4. In a large pot or dutch oven, place seasoned pork, garlic, orange juice, lime juice, cola, and bay leaves.
5. Bring to a boil and reduce to a simmer, covered.
6. Cook for 2-3 hours until pork is fork tender and shreds easily.
7. Place some shredded pork in a cast iron pan to crisp either on the stove or in the broiler. Don't forget about the cooking liquid! It's even better than the pork itself.
8. Serve with corn tortillas as tacos or with rice and beans. Top with chopped onions, fresh lime juice, and cilantro leaves.



COLLEGE DESTINATIONS

For the rest of the year, we will highlight the college decisions made by our departing senior class. They will describe in their own words why they chose to continue their education at each destination.

ZACHARY ALEXIS

Rochester Institute of Technology



RIT offers a very important co-op program that will give me a year, tuition free, to gain working experience before I graduate. It is also one of the few schools that offers Cyber Security as an undergraduate major. I was awarded their presidential scholarship, which is \$60,000 dollars, along with an opportunity to pursue and accelerated master's program.

ZHENGYANG WU

City University of Hong Kong



Next fall, I'm excited to take advantage of the courses offered by CityU's School of Creative Media to expand my understanding of game design and development processes. I hope to focus my studies and research on how the human mind interfaces with game environments and mechanics, enabling me to make my own games more fun and engaging for all.

RYAN VAN DER VEER

The College of New Jersey



I chose to attend The College of New Jersey because it provides substantial opportunities in the business field. The student to faculty ratio is also on a smaller scale, which I feel will enable me to build a relationship with my professors. The campus is close to home and allows me the opportunity to be on my own while still being able to return home easily when I want to.

JAYLEN ROBINSON

Marywood University



I am going to Marywood next year because it reminds me a lot of Saint Joe's. I personally fell in love with the school the first time I stepped on campus, and Marywood is going to allow me to further my academics with a 5 year master's program in criminal justice. I was also provided a great opportunity to continue my baseball career. I'm excited to start my next chapter.

JAMES PARMALEE

Saint Francis University



I chose this school because it was very welcoming and felt as if it could be a second home. The university has a very calming atmosphere and the class sizes are smaller so the professors get to know the students. I will be majoring in Computer Science and running Track and Field. I have received an \$18,000 academic scholarship and a \$4,500 athletic scholarship.

ANDREW GOLDAN

Rutgers University



I am attending Rutgers University next year and will be playing for their up and coming baseball team. I have enrolled in their School of Arts and Sciences, which has a wide range of courses that I am interested in taking before deciding on a major. Because the area is close to home, I will also get the chance to play my sport in front of my friends and family.

Astronomy Club Enters NASA Student Challenge

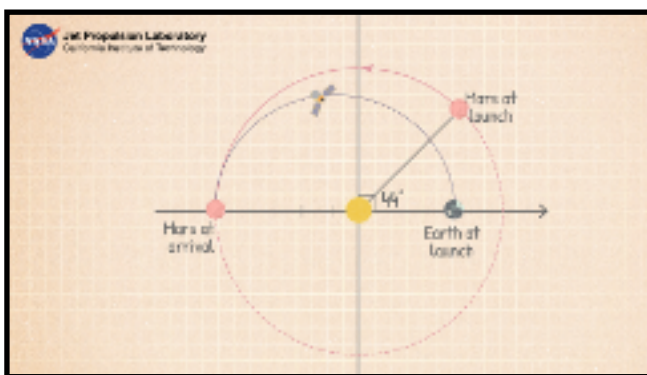
By: Aarav Zutshi '23

Staff Writer

Curiosity is the single most important thing a person can have, yet people aren't often curious or passionate enough about something to explore it past the surface level. One way we can unlock this trait is by exercising our brain and finding intriguing topics that would have never before crossed our minds.

The "NASA Mission to Mars Student Challenge" is something I discovered that could be the perfect way to do just that. It's a nationally distributed education program that classes can participate in to learn more about space travel and exploration, specifically in launching and landing a rover on Mars.

I stumbled upon this pile of gold while sifting through different competitions on the NASA website. I had an idea: what if I could bring this challenge to St. Joe's and have our astronomy club take part in it? So I did exactly that - we are now going to be exploring the real-life applications of concepts we already know into space travel.



Every week we will complete a hands-on experiment, designed for students by NASA. After six weeks, we will have completed experiments relating to every process in launching a rover on Mars. These experiments will test our ability to convert our mathematical and scientific knowledge into tangible results and accurate predictions.

Week one will feature an experiment relating to the overall plan of the mission and requires calculating launch windows using heliocentric coordinates and orbital dynamics. From there, week two will be about the design of the rover, week three will simulate the launch, and so on.

Experiments like these are exactly what high school students need to keep their minds fresh and ready to think outside the box, while understanding real world applications of classroom lessons. This opportunity will allow passionate students to participate in something that might scratch the mental itch that is their curious brain.

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Coach Carter Reaches 200 Wins in SJ Hockey Program's 800th Game

By: Kyle Moyer '22

Contributing Writer

There are few people more synonymous with hockey in Middlesex County than Saint Joe's Coach and Alum Ryan Carter '91. The Falcon legend helped get the program off the ground as a player three decades ago and has been a coach for some of its greatest moments along his ride to his 200th career win behind the bench.

Carter still stands as the Falcons 4th all time leading scorer, and has coached six of the remaining nine players on that top ten list, along with his son Ty (a 2019 grad).



CALELLO WRESTLING

(continued from back page)

"The team did a great job sticking together and having each other's backs, like they have all year," Carbone said. "To see people picking each other up and trying to get extra points for the team was great to see as a coach."

Nico and Gio were joined by John Whitacre '24, Evan Mendez '23, and Anthony Bistany '22 as county finalists. Altogether, Falcons wrestlers finished in the top three of eight different weight classes, and top 5 in all ten weight classes.



State Tournament is Here for Saint Joe's Basketball

By: Phil Frangie '24

Contributing Writer

Finally, the high school basketball season has reached its pinnacle with the long awaited state playoffs upon us. Saint Joe's has positioned itself as one of the top teams in the area, and are approaching match-ups in the postseason that many people are eager to see.

Saint Joseph is led by guard Ethan Simmon '22, who is averaging 19.5 points per game, alongside Josh Ingram '23, Darren Tuck '22, and Amari Campbell '22.

Saint Joe's has earned the fourth seed in the South Jersey Non Public A bracket. They will open their slate of games against #13 Pingry at home on Wednesday night. That would likely be the second to last home game of the season, with the following round being the last game in the Maglio Gymnasium before the tournament turns to neutral sites for hosting the remaining games.

If the Falcons knock off Pingry, they will play the winner of #12 Notre Dame and #5 St. Augustine. The Hermits have proved to be a major challenge for the Falcons in recent years across a variety of sports in the state tournament.

If they get by that round, they'll likely face top ranked Red Bank Catholic, who is 22-4 but lost in their county semifinals. That semi-final game would be played March 7, with the Sectional Finals (and a possible rematch with St. Thomas Aquinas) taking place two days later on March 9.

Calello Wins 100th Match, Team Excels at GMC Tournament

By: Ben Chadwick '23

Staff Writer

In the two combined runs of Saint Joseph wrestling, there have been many firsts, but before Nico Calello '22, there was never a Falcon wrestler to amass 100 wins in his career. That changed when the 120 lb wrestling savant crossed the century mark in a win against the JFK Mustangs.

Nico, who will take his talents to Kent State University as Saint Joe's first ever Division 1 scholarship wrestler, has been a stalwart on Coach Mike Carbone's squad this year.

"Nico is one of the hardest working kids we've ever had," Carbone said. "His hard work and dedication have paid off over the years in championships and reaching elite company in the 100 win club."



Nico capped his GMC career with a GMC Championship, one of two wrestlers to achieve that status this year for the Falcons. He defeated Jacob DelVecchio of South Plainfield to earn the honor of being the best in the county.

Gio Alejandro '23 (pictured below) also achieved championship glory at the GMC Tournament, defeating Aeden Boyle of Monroe in the 126 lb final. Overall, the team achieved great success at the event, finishing second only to

traditional county power South Plainfield.

**(CONTINUED ON
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