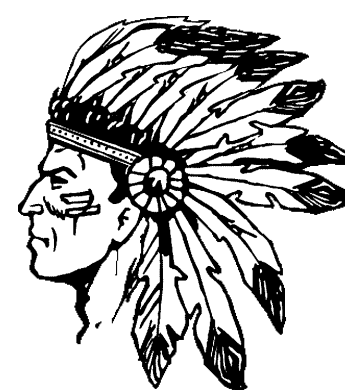


FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

The Gazette



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Issue 3

Franklin Teams Rank High at Maryland Moot Court

By: Sydney Gaskins; Writer

Seniors and Mock Trial members Alex Tamayo and Sydney Gaskins applied to the Maryland Moot Court competition in October. When the girls got accepted, they set a goal: to work hard and to win. The week of the competition, one of the teams from another school dropped out. 11th grader Emily Dioguardo and 12th grader Majenta Thomas stepped in so the other teams would have someone to argue against.

The case had two issues: a first amendment issue and a fourth amendment issue. Tamayo addressed the first certified question on behalf of the petitioner and the respondent in the case. Gaskins addressed the second certified question on behalf of the petitioner and the respondent.

Every weekend up until the competition on December 3rd, you would find the girls either in Mr. Lambert's classroom, PK Law, or each other's houses working tirelessly on



From left to right: Sydney Gaskins, Alex Tamayo, Emily Dioguardo, Majenta Thomas

mastering the material of the case. Each certified question had an immense amount of case law the team was required to master, address, and apply to the case at hand. The girls put an extreme amount of time and effort into preparing for this competition. Emily and Majenta worked with Alex and Sydney the week of the competition in order to get a handle on the argument and prepare as much as they could in one week.

At 8:00am on December 3rd, the team made it down to the University of Baltimore Law School. They were greeted by members of the CLERP association, who gave the fourteen teams participating breakfast.

Alex Tamayo states, "The food was good. But it is hard to eat when the nerves are at an all-time high."

The competition started around 9:00am. Team Tamaskins kicked off the competition as Petitioner. The

girls were nervous but did extremely well. The judges in that round recognized the team's talent. "You girls are really going somewhere. That was extremely impressive and a great argument."

The team won the first round and felt extremely confident going into the second.

In the second competition, Team Tamaskins had to put up the respondent argument, which was the toughest argument to make. The team faced

off against a team who, quite frankly, did not apply case law to their argument; yet, the judges in that case found on their behalf. The girls were shocked and confused; however, it further motivated them to demolish the next team they faced. Mr. Lambert advised the team to "refresh and get ready for your next argument. You're not out of the running."

The stakes were high; it was time for lunch. It was time to recognize the eight teams advancing into the final round. Both Franklin teams were advancing.

For the third round of the tournament, Team Tamaskins put up the side of the petitioner and won with ease. They passed the first single elimination round. Unfortunately, team Thomoguardo was knocked out against a strong Richard Montgomery team.

For the semifinal, Team Tamaskins then went against team Richard Montgomery,

who put up their respondent argument. Mr. Lambert described Alex and Sydney as "The best they've ever been" during this round. The team was now advancing to the finals.

It was John Carroll vs. Franklin in the finals of the Maryland Moot Court Competition. John Carroll argued on behalf of the petitioner and Franklin on behalf of the respondent. Majenta Thomas describes it as "A good match. Alex and Sydney are a great team. John Carroll did well."

The judges in the final round decided based on a 1 point difference...on behalf of the petitioner.

"I just don't understand how we lost," says Alex Tamayo. It was a bittersweet loss for everyone. Everyone was proud that Tamaskins had made it that far. It showed their hard work and preparation paid off. But they came to win, and they didn't.

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Franklin Falls to Formidable Foe

By: Jayme Gede; Writer

On Thursday, December 8, Franklin travelled to the Naval Marine Corps Stadium in Annapolis, MD to play Damascus in the Maryland 3A Football State Championship game. This is the third time in four years that Franklin has gone to the state champion-

ship, and the second time they have played Damascus there. In 2014, Franklin beat Damascus at M&T Bank Stadium, but unfortunately, this year Franklin fell to Da-

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Music Department Plans a Busy Year

By: Maddie Ballan; Writer

Franklin's music program has a very busy year planned ahead of them. All eight ensembles, Honors Chorale, Chorus, Concert Band, Percussion, Orchestra, Jazz Band, Piano and Guitar will participate in three concerts this school year, along with

additional gigs Mr. Kessell and Mr. Yadush, Franklin's music teachers, have planned for the groups.

Mr. Kessell, who conducts all of the ensembles except

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Music Department Plans a Busy Year

By Maddie Ballan; Writer

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guitar and piano, said, “The numbers in all the performing ensembles have grown significantly from last year to this year. This is a trend I hope continues for years to come.”

Each year the music ensembles at Franklin continue to get larger, and many changes have been made to the program to allow each ensemble to perform and practice for concerts. “The biggest change I made this year was adding a Fall Concert to the performance schedule. This was put in place to build motivation amongst the ensembles as well as an aid in retaining students at pre-registration time,” Mr. Kessell added.

The Fall Con-

cert occurred on October 20th, which was also Franklin’s Open House, where students attending Franklin Middle School could tour the high school and meet some of the teachers and students there. Honors Chorale, Jazz Band, Percussion, Concert Band, and Orchestra performed three songs each, all conducted by Mr. Kessell.

Not only has an additional concert been added to Franklin’s performance schedule, but another day to the concerts has been added. In previous years, the Winter and Spring Concerts were two days each, and the ensembles were split up. But, due to an increase in the amount of people enrolled in the program, a third day had to be



Students hard at work practicing for the upcoming season

added to the schedule.

The large number of students enrolled in the music program has also helped the theatre program become large. Students have been able to get more information through their music teachers about Franklin’s plays and have been able to

continue to show their talent on the stage.

Franklin’s Honors Chorale and GT Guitar students will get to spread their influence and talent on December 7th when they perform classic holiday songs and jingles at a retirement home, preschool, and in front

of the Women of Glyn-don club.

The Winter Concert will start on December 12th, and the second and third nights of the concert will follow right after. This is the first concert that Standard Chorus and Guitar will get to participate in, and ev-

eryone is excited to see these ensembles perform for the first time. Musical pieces such as Sleigh Ride and Someone Like You are favorites among the ensembles and gives audience members a familiar tune to listen to.

“I’m most excited to see the numbers within the programs continue to grow. The more students we have participating, the more successful we will be. I haven’t thought that far into the future about plans for next year, but something I would like to see happen is a return of the Marching Band program,” Mr. Kessell said.

Students are preparing for the Winter Concert, which they hope many other students who aren’t in the ensembles choose to attend.

We’re Off to Be Part of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*

By Megan Schanker; Writer

There’s no place like the home that is created by the Franklin theater program. This year the theater program decided on

pants and the great collaboration between students and director, the amazing world of Oz can come to life. Students came to au-



Students preparing last minute for auditions

The Wizard of Oz as the spring musical. Through the imagination of the partici-

dition to be a part of the exiting adventure known as High School Theater.

The Wizard of Oz is the classic tale of a girl named Dorothy from Kansas who is swept up with her house in a massive tornado. The tornado brings her to a mysterious land called Munchkin Land, where she inadvertently kills one of the wicked witches and meets Glinda the Good Witch who wants to help her get home, and the Wicked Witch of the West, who wants to kill Dorothy for murdering her sister. On the way to the city of Oz to meet the wizard on the yellow brick road, Dorothy befriends the Scarecrow, the Tinman, and the cowardly Lion whom she takes with her on

her journey. Through battling witches and flying monkeys, they embark on the adventure of their lives.

The students have different views on the show. Rosy Henderson said, “I’m most excited about the costumes, but I’m nervous for the props.”

Maya Williams said, “I’m excited for the choreography, and I’m nervous for the singing.”

Auditioning is a two-to-three-day process that starts with individual singing auditions consisting of one minute of a song from a musical and anything else Mr. Hughes or Mr. Kessel asks to hear, such as matching

notes. The next day is dance auditions, and the choreographers teach the students part of one of the dances from the show. After learning the dance, an individual group of about eight people perform the dance twice for Mr. Hughes. After dance auditions come call backs, which sometimes continue the next day.

Call backs are when the director wants to see a specific student again or other students do specific things such as read for a character.

Like any try-out or audition it can be nerve racking and stressful, but as long as students are prepared

and don’t stress themselves out more than they should, it will be exciting and at the end of the show it will be worth it.

Auditions concluded on December 5. Students received word the very next day whether they were a part of the cast or the crew; they received parts and jobs. Actors have already been called upon to work on their lines and blocking, while tech will begin work on the set when they return from Winter Break.

Come and see *The Wizard* in March.



Service Learning Hours Made Easy

By Max Mitin; Writer

Have you done your service learning hours? If you haven't, why not get them out of the way as soon as possible? If you have, well there is always room for more.

Service learning hours are something that every student in Baltimore County must reach, at least seventy-five in total. Those hours keep students from graduation and from certain events unless fully completed. The deadline for completing the hours is graduation. That is a lot of time, but why wait? You never know what could happen later. Also, for seniors, if you are planning on attending the prom during

spring, you must have all hours completed; otherwise, you won't be able to attend.

There are two types of service learning hours, infused and independent.

Infused service learning hours come from classes beginning in middle school. Some projects in classes provide service learning hours. Assuming that the student hasn't done any outside activity that would grant them additional hours, by the time that student reaches senior year, most of the hours should be complete.

There is a reason why it's "most" of the hours and not all hours. The goal of the hours is to give back

to the community. If it was all infused hours there wouldn't be a point in doing service outside of school.

That's when independent service learning hours come into play. There are many ways to achieve those. However, there are certain rules and regulations when it comes to how you get them. First of all, you can only volunteer for non-profit organizations. You cannot volunteer for someone you know, even if you don't get paid for it. Second of all, you cannot volunteer for any religious organizations.

Here are some places where you can volunteer outside of

school. You can work at Hannah Moore by packing boxes for the homeless. The Adopt-a-Pet center is another great place to get your hours out of the way. Be careful though; if you have allergies, you might want to look for something else. You can volunteer in the Reisterstown Public Library. If you cannot for whatever reason work outside of school, talk to the school librarian to see if she has any work for you. You can also talk to Mr. Scrivener, the athletic director at the school.

Those are not the only places where you can complete your hours. You can do them almost anywhere as long as it's a



non-profit organization. You can do them outside the state if you wish. However, if you do decide to complete the hours somewhere else, you must fill out the independent service-learning activity pre-approval form. When you do so, you must show it to Mrs. Gilberto, Service Learning Coordinator

at our school.

When you finish your hours, you need to complete another self-evaluation form. You have to answer some questions regarding your experiences and what you've learned while doing whatever you were doing to get your hours done.

FHS Coffeehouse Hosts Performances

By Savannah Bowen; Writer

Friday, December 2, at 7 p.m. was the first of Franklin High School's annual coffee houses.

The FHS Coffeehouse is held in the library and is a time where aspiring poets, singers, or songwriters can share their talents. The SGA, advised by Ms. Jordan, also provided refreshments and snacks.

Kyla Lee, a junior at FHS, is a member of the Student Government Association. She says that the coffeehouse is one of the easiest events to plan. "In June we set dates for our coffeehouse events. As the date gets closer, our Wednesday meetings are focused on set up, clean up, and food crews. We started setting up tonight around 5:00 PM, and with a



A musical performance by by Franklin's own Luis, Luis, and Edward spurred others to get on stage.

great amount of help it takes about an hour or two."

The coffeehouse creates an intimate atmosphere for performances and the audience alike, as there were only about thirty to forty people in attendance. Admission was free for performers and their families.

To partici-

pate in the coffeehouse, students had to put their names on a sign-up sheet prior to the event. At the end of the night, if there were any last minute performers or anyone who hadn't signed up previously, they could also go up and perform their poem, song, or rap. The emcee of the night was senior Femi

Adebogun. He had a very calm demeanor and even cracked a few jokes with the audience.

Some of the first performers of the night were Noah Hobby and Carolyn Quintrell. Noah is a well-known pianist and played a beautiful song he created on the spot. Before

he started playing his song, Noah told the audience "I procrastinated until the very last minute to come up with something, so I'm just going to play whatever I want." Carolyn brought her awesome electric guitar to perform the intro to one of her favorite T.V. shows.

Although both students did an amazing job, no show is complete without some minor technical difficulties. Before attending to the first one of the night, Femi said "You should know that at every coffeehouse we have at least five technical difficulties." This year, to everyone's surprise, there were only four.

Other favorite acts were Jerri Bridgford's powerful poem called "The Truth", and

L.L.E., a band, otherwise known as Luis, Luis, and Edward. Jerri recited her poem about anxiety with such passion there was hardly a dry eye in the room. L.L.E. was a huge hit, getting a standing ovation at the end of their performance.

Many people would believe the coffeehouse would be a boring event. Who would want to sit and listen to poems for two hours? The naysayers are wrong. The coffeehouse is an extremely underrated event, a perfect get together for Franklin students looking for a relaxing Friday night. Even though performing can be intimidating, students will always be welcomed by the SGA and their fellow classmates to give it their all.



Franklin Student Becomes MDA Teen Ambassador

By Mannat Khattak; Writer

Franklin High School student Savannah Bowen was diagnosed with a form of Muscular Dystrophy known as Dermatomyositis at the age of six. Dermatomyositis is an inflammatory disease that can affect both adults and children. Bowen began to get involved in the MDA (Muscular Dystrophy Association) soon after she was diagnosed. The MDA helps individuals that have different forms of Muscular Dystrophy as well as other diseases or disabilities by working with them to help them live longer and be stronger. The diseases or disabilities can take away physical strength and even the



A picture of Savannah posing with MDA director Jennifer Bolling.

independence of those they affect. The MDA helps those individuals get their strength and independence back. The MDA became a big part of Savannah's life, and everyone in the MDA feels like family to her. Bowen said, "Everyone is so supportive and very easy to talk to. You just cre-

ate bonds that can't be broken." Since getting involved in the MDA, Savannah has made strong bonds with others involved. Since the MDA has helped the sophomore so much, she feels as though it is time to give back, so she applied to be an ambassador.

Originally, Sa-

vannah had applied to be a state ambassador for the MDA, which is a long process with a lot of paperwork and interviews. After applying, Bowen was approved and was interviewed by a panel of sponsors that asked her various questions. Other kids also applied, so she had a tough competition. In the end, Bowen was not given the position of state ambassador. Though it is a very important role, her position as teen ambassador is just as important. According to Savannah, being a teenager is an awkward and maybe even a challenging time. Having someone who can relate to you and what you're going

through can be helpful. Even before her recently earned position as an ambassador, Bowen was constantly involved in the MDA. She visits sponsors such as Burger King, Lowe's, and Jiffy Lube to thank them for supporting the MDA and makes sure that they know where their donations will be going. Savannah also has plans to make a Muscle Walk team for the upcoming Muscle Walk in April. Her goal will be to raise \$800 so that she can send at least one kid to the MDA summer camp.

Bowen's disability has caused her muscles to be significantly weaker than the average teenager's.

Long distance trips are a minor hassle due to the fact that her body becomes tired quickly. Savannah has had this disability for about ten years, so she cannot imagine having a life without it. People that do not understand disabilities such as Muscular Dystrophy feel pity or overwhelming sympathy towards those it affects. Bowen said, "The MDA has instilled the mindset that you can still do what you want to do even if you have to do it differently." Though Savannah's disability has changed the way she lives, she still perseveres and flourishes in life.

Mock Trial Travels to Calvert Hall College

By Maddie Ballan; Writer

On Saturday, November 10th, six Mock Trial team members travelled to Calvert Hall College for scrimmage matches. All of the members who went are new to the Mock Trial team and were given a chance to see what it was like to challenge another school, although there was no verdict given at the end.

The six members, Maddie Ballan, Lexi Taylor, Jenifer Fridman, Sacharia Peters, Daisy Oberfeld, and Max Holzman first represented the defense in a match against Park School's Mock Trial team. Maddie, Jenifer, and Sacharia were the three attorneys with Lexi, Daisy, and Max as their witnesses. Each team was

given the opportunity to present an opening at the beginning of the case, where Maddie from Franklin's team spoke in front of the court, while Park opted out. Both teams had very well prepared witnesses and attorneys. It was a tough match, and at the end, Park and Franklin were allowed to give closings, where Franklin's Jenifer Fridman told the court why the prosecution had not met their burden. After the match, Franklin's coach, Mr. Lambert, gave feedback to Park's team while Park's coach, Mr. Guido Porcarelli gave Franklin feedback.

Teams reunited for a brief lunch where pizza and drinks were provided. Most teams took the opportunity to

prepare for their second match, where they would represent the opposite side as they did before.

Franklin matched up against Calvert Hall College as the prosecution. This time around, Maddie, Daisy, and Max were attorneys and Jen, Lexi, and Sacharia were witnesses. Again, both teams were allowed the chance to present an opening. Maddie told the court about why the prosecution was there, and Calvert Hall opted out of presenting an opening. After receiving feedback from Mr. Porcarelli and gaining confidence during the small lunch break, Franklin was much stronger. With strong witnesses and many objections being



Franklin's Mock Trial members preparing during their lunch break.

called, everyone was on their toes. At the end, Daisy presented a closing for the prosecution, and Calvert Hall declined to do one of their own. Each

team was given feedback from the other's coach.

"I liked getting to see how other schools approached the case and being able

to work with them. I think as attorneys we should work on our fluency. As witnesses we should just make sure we are prepared, strong, and don't give in during our cross," said Lexi Taylor, who was a witness in both matches.

"I loved just doing it. I enjoy being a witness and attorney and seeing both sides. I think we could also work on being a bit more prepared," Daisy Oberfeld said, who was an attorney in one match and a witness in another.

Overall, they were very successful scrimmages, and the Mock Trial team enjoyed being able to participate in matches against other schools.



BCPS Promotes Blueprint 2.0 Photo Contest

By Anna Coleman; Writer

Baltimore County announced a Blueprint 2.0 student photo contest asking students to capture the essential elements of BCPS: communication, organizational effectiveness, academics, and safety. Blueprint 2.0 is the school systems strategic plan, which will help emphasize their goals in the four areas that the photos should focus on. It is meant to set higher standards for the school system and to take a step forward in order to improve it. The students are asked to submit one photo for each category or just one category, which clearly expresses BCPS's goals. They should be creative and well captured.

The first category that students can capture photos of is communication. Baltimore County would like this photo to show diversity and really capture how the teachers communicate with each other

and students, as well as how students communicate with each other and their superiors. It also could show

academics. These photos should include curriculum development, classroom instruction, and learner-centered

want it to be emphasized in their new and improved school system plan. These photos could include things

effectiveness. This should include recruiting, hiring, supporting, and evaluating staff, technological infra-

dents submitted their photos electronically by emailing BCPS and telling them which category the photo belongs to. The deadline was December 9, at 4:45pm. There will be four winners, one from each category. All the winning photos will be displayed on posters that will be distributed to every school in Baltimore County and put up in teachers' classrooms. Even if the photo submitted does not win, all the ones that were submitted will be displayed on the BCPS Flickr page. The photos will be judged based on technical quality, creativity, and the ability to fit the category in order to demonstrate all of the categories. This contest is a great way to develop a better school system and to promote new ideas and concepts.



Some student photos that will be submitted for the BCPS contest representing academics and safety
Credit: Badar Syed, Jayme Gede, Clara Wells

parent involvement in their child's education and how BCPS partners with other schools and organizations. It is meant to show people how effectively BCPS communicates with other schools, parents, teachers and students.

The second category that students can capture photos of is

environments. These should focus on academic development and progress in the classroom in order to accurately show how students are taught and how or what they learn in BCPS.

Another category is safety. Safety is very important to Baltimore County, so they

such as safe buildings and areas, student support services, and examples of positive student behavior. These photos are very important because safety is a huge component in school.

The last category that students can submit their photos is on organizational

structure, and facility modernization. These things show BCPS organization and skills.

Blueprint 2.0, the five-year plan, is meant to increase BCPS effectiveness and to set higher standards for themselves, which students are demonstrating through their submitted photos. Stu-

The SGA Makes the School a Better Place

By Megan Schanker; Writer

On Thursday, December 7, the Student Government Association held a meeting that began at 2:20 and ended at 3:00. In the meeting, they discussed the town hall meeting that would be the next day and the Color Run they are planning. The Color Run is set for some time in the spring to raise money for the school. The members discussed the town hall meeting by deciding which questions to ask Dr. Dance, the superintendent, about the school itself and the

whole school system. By asking these questions the students can help take the first step towards bettering the school and the community.

Some of the questions that were asked were "What are the benefits of having eight forty minute classes instead of ninety or even fifty minute classes?" and "What classes is the school system planning on adding?" The questions asked in the town hall meeting were chosen by the entire SGA club but were

mainly influenced by the board, such as the president and the other members who were at the meeting.

The meeting was only for the executive board from all the grades and the board of the school-wide SGA. The intention of the members was to organize a fundraiser that would support the school, as well as create a fun environment for students to be themselves and have a great time with their friends, while having an experience they will never forget. The Color Run

is a short run that helps give kids the physical activity they might not get elsewhere, while still having an exciting time raising money in support of their school. No matter how old or young, if they want an exciting time, anyone can participate.

The meeting also discussed ways to improve the school. Dallas Dance has a large impact on the school system, so by going straight to him with the school's issues and concerns, there is a better chance of getting the problem fixed

in a more productive way than by just talking to the principal. Compared to the superintendent the principals of individual schools are small fish in a big pond. Holding a meeting for SGA representatives to express their ideas is a great way to let them become a bigger part of the community and give them experience for the future.

SGA is an important part of Franklin High. It creates a way to support the school by raising money for anything

that the students want to do. The SGA also helps raise support and awareness for events that the school puts on. The SGA raises support for other clubs, such as the individual grade SGAs and the different honor societies. The Student Government Association is a big part of making the school what it is today, from making a school-wide constitution and making rules that help keep order in the student government.



Franklin Falls to Formidable Foe

By Jayme Gede; Editor

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Front Page

mascus 14-12. It was an upsetting loss but an exciting game for all attending.

The game started out exciting with Franklin kicking off and Damascus scoring within the first 10 minutes of the quarter. Franklin had multiple opportunities to score within the 25-yard line but failed to do so. Franklin finally put points on the board in the second quarter, bringing the score to 14-6.

During half-time fans were cheerful, despite the 30°F temperatures. Fans

kept warm by using blankets and lots of layers. Many students drank hot chocolate and brought their own hand warmers to keep warm. Junior Zoe Yarsky said that cheering and staying pumped throughout the game kept her and her friends warm. During half time the Franklin High cheerleaders performed a dance that got the Franklin side hyped up and excited. Damascus's marching band performed as well which was an entertaining way to spend the half an hour allotted for half time.

Many fans watched from home on WBAL, a local news channel. This al-



Franklin plays returning rival Damascus High School.

lowed for many fans to support their team while avoiding the cold weather and the long drive to Annapolis. Matthew Herskovitz, a Franklin student, watched the game at home but went to M&T Bank Stadium back in 2014. He said that it was nice not having to wait in line

for food or the bathroom but missed experiencing it with his friends. The broadcast of the game gave the viewers a different perspective of the game, giving a closer look of the plays and calls. But nothing beats standing in 30°F weather with over 100 other classmates cheering on

your football team.

The second quarter was looking up for Franklin after a touchdown in the third quarter, putting the score to 14-12. After multiple failed attempts on both sides to score in the second half, the game ended in a win for Damascus. After the long road to states it was a discouraging loss for Franklin. The team defeated great odds to make it to the championship game and should be proud of their accomplishments. Damascus was a difficult rival and their ability to stop Damascus after the first quarter was impressive. Franklin's own Coach Burgos

said, "This senior class has done a tremendous job in believing in one another; a lot of people doubted them, and this class really proved that if you work hard and stay together, you can try to accomplish things. And out of all of the classes that has come through here, this senior class has probably had the most impact in one year." Coach Burgos is really proud of this team and is excited for the program's future.

Ultimately, Franklin High has an impeccable football team with a proud school rallying behind them, and they should be proud of their 2016 season.

Boy's Basketball Prepares for Season

By Ciara Oquendo; Writer

Franklin High's elite basketball team has just started another season, and they are pumped. They began try outs on November 15th along with the other winter sports. Franklin High students express their Franklin Indian pride and enjoy the enthusiastic games in Franklin Fieldhouse.

Coach Iampieri (Coach I) spoke about the beginning of their season and how it has been difficult without the football players. Missing these players puts Franklin at a dis-

advantage until they return from their run at their third state title. They have played two games already this season, defeating Owings Mills but falling to Century. Even though they have already lost, the coaches are still grateful for their top returners. Some players that have returned from last year are Mike Gibson, Nick Smith, Josh Turner, and Jaylen Jacobs. In their clash with Owings Mills, Franklin won by five points and the score ending at 65-

60. Coach I states that this is the second time they've beaten Owings Mills in the past fifteen years. Their second game in their 2016-2017 season resulted in a loss to Century High School with the ending score as 52-46. In the beginning of the game, Franklin gained the lead against Century, which is a big step up for the Indians because Century is one of the top 25, and to top it off, Franklin doesn't have any football players playing with them, taking their

team strength down a notch or two. So although their loss was a disappointment, their ability to compete with a school of such a high caliber was impressive.

The varsity coaches include Coach Agent and Coach I, and the junior varsity coaches include Coach Carry and Coach Swanston. One of the players from junior varsity, Eric, says that coach Swanston is strict, meaning that the coach doesn't let him slack off at all or

won't let him do anything less than his full potential, thus increasing his strength and contribution to the team. These coaches push their players to the limit in order to create the best players they could be and develop the best team representing Franklin High.

This high school is ready for this year's basketball season. They have already won against Owings Mills and are hopeful for the upcoming season. The coaches are

training the players to their best abilities every day after school, and these student athletes are taking this year's season more serious than ever. Again, we can't wait to see how this year's team is going to play, and who knows, we could go on a streak from here and win every game this season.

GAZETTE STAFF

Jayquan Douglas
Sydney Gaskins
Megan Lipo
Maxim Mitin
Julia Weinik

Katheryne Arriaza
Madison Ballan
Svannah Bowen
Anna Coleman
Jalen Dixon

Jayme Gede
Hailey Gendason
Andrew Gersh
Jurnee Gomez
Sean Harris

Mannat Khattak
Stefon Merceron
Andrew Nelson
Ciara Oquendo
Noah Parker

Chasity Pate
Megan Schanker
Matthew Stine
Myles Jay Wortman
Zoe Yarsky



Boy's Lacrosse Team Gets Jump on Season

By Andrew Gersh; Writer

The boys lacrosse program is one of the most successful sports programs that Franklin High School has to offer. In previous years, the teams have gone very far in the playoffs and have beaten other highly rated teams.

Last year, the Varsity team did not play well in the beginning. It took them a long time to get in rhythm and start winning. Their record was 5-7, which is not very good at all. However, they did win the Regional Championship, and they made it to the state semi-finals. However, they did lose to Bel Air High School.



Eli Allentoff trying to clear against a strong Towson attack.
Credit: Varsity Views

The team took some bad losses in the regular season. They lost 12-1 to Hereford High School and 10-1 to John Carroll High School. These losses were hard on the team because they are typically able to compete with the top tier teams and be successful. They did have some

good wins though. They beat Towson 13-12, and that game came down to the last seconds. That win helped them to gain confidence for the remainder of the season. The Junior Varsity team was also successful last season. The team went 7-4, and they beat some

great teams. They lost to John Carroll High School, but that was expected since they were one of the elite teams in the state. They also lost to Hereford and Towson, but they were hard fought games against two very good teams. The only really devastating loss of the season was against Century because they were a very beatable team. The Franklin guys didn't have their full roster due to injuries and emergency absences.

The coaches, Joe Madigan, Chad Marshall, Nick Funk, and Scott Lauderman wanted to start the season off early by hosting a meeting regard-

ing the upcoming dates and events. Captains' practices and team workouts will start immediately after winter break, and real practice will start March 1st. In order to compete as one of the top programs in the state, teams must practice almost year round.

Technically, according to county rules, practices are not allowed to be held until March 1st. However, that is the point of captains' practices because the captains are leading them, and there are no coaches. The team workouts are as important as the captains' practices, and the coaches are allowed to be there for

them. Typically, one of the coaches will create a list of exercises, and the players will form groups to complete the cycle of assigned exercises. The coaches will designate certain days for different areas of the body, so this way, every muscle is worked out. Workouts will take place Wednesday and Friday of every week until lacrosse starts.

The hope is that between the captains' practices and workouts, the players will not be rusty with their stick-work and will be in shape by the start of the season.

Army and Navy Play for Our Country

By Andrew Gersh; Writer

The Army-Navy game has been a tradition since 1899. The game has been skipped only a few years for sudden reasons that were out of either academy's control. These two teams have had a heated rivalry all these years, but they never fail to succeed in bringing the military and the country together. They do this in a competitive, fun way, but ultimately, they all know and understand the goal.

Historically, Navy has been the dominant team. They have won every year since 2002 and have won sixty games while Army has won forty-nine. They had their first game in 1890 but they didn't start the annual tradition until 1899. They have also tied seven times in their one hundred and sixteen games played.

There is a long history of the game and many traditions that go with it. One of the biggest ones is that the President always attends the game. Theodore Roosevelt started this in 1901. He also started the tradition of the president switching sides at the half. They do this to show that they aren't bias, and they are truly rooting for a good fair game. Also, the fact that they attend and switch sides indicates the true meaning of the game, which is to unite the armed forces in a fun, happy way.

The game is typically held in Philadelphia because of the convenience of the locations of the two academies; although, this year it is in Baltimore at M&T Bank Stadium, home of the Baltimore Ravens. The game has

been played at other locations such as New York and other parts of Maryland, but it is usually in Philadelphia.

The game has been so popular over the years, and it attracts many fans from all over the country. Whether they are Army fans, Navy fans, sports fans, or just people that love America, the game is truly special to everyone. However, to the players, this usually marks the end of their competitive football careers because they have to serve in the Army or Navy after they graduate. Typically players are too old to go into the NFL after they serve. Although, there are definitely players who have been successful after they are finished serving, the most popular probably being Roger Staubach. Staubach lead the Dallas Cowboys to



Members of the US Naval Academy celebrate after the game.

the Super Bowl, won MVP of the Super Bowl, and then eventually was inducted into the National Football League Hall of Fame.

The fact that the vast majority of players that participate in this game don't make it to the NFL just goes to show people how much love these men have for the game. Everyone is playing to win, but most of all

they are playing for their love of football and America.

This year, the Navy Midshipmen are the favorites over the Army Black Knights considering Navy's record is 9-3 while Army's is 6-5; although, history has proven not to care about records and anything can happen.

This year President-elect Donald Trump will be at-

tending and switching sides at half. This has obviously caused a lot of chaos because people are talking about protesting. The idea of protesting at an event like this is truly sad to many fans and people that just want America to succeed. People that love this tradition and love watching this game just want to see the armed forces come together in friendly competition and celebrate the accomplishments and sacrifices of all the military branches. That is why the score of the game truly doesn't matter.

However, for those who are keeping score, the game this year was a huge upset. Army beat Navy for the first time since 2002.