

The Fieldston News

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Beloved College Counselor Retires

BY MADDY SCHAFFER

Uttering the word “college” in a room full of Fieldston students has a similar effect to shouting “fire” in a crowded theater; panic is soon to follow. So when someone helps to ease the chaos of the college process, people take note. College advisor Harry Dawe provides a sense of comfort for Juniors and Seniors entering a hectic time in their lives. Mr. Dawe has worked in the College Office at Fieldston since 2001, tirelessly helping to place students in institutions where they belong. After 16 years at Fieldston, Dawe, who is turning 81, is retiring next year. “I decided as I entered my eighth decade, maybe the time has come to not be a college advisor day after day and year after year.” Dawe added, “I will miss my colleagues and being in an environment of students who are deeply concerned about doing good...I guess you can

say I will miss a liberal environment.”

Harry will be sorely missed. Martha Epstein, Fieldston class of 2014, notes that, “Harry was really helpful and comforting. Besides the fact that he is super experienced and knowledgeable, he always had a very calm demeanor.” Epstein added that Harry, “kept things in perspective, something that is usually lost during the college process.”

Current senior Matthew DeBoer also had Dawe as a college advisor, and his experience was similar to Martha’s. “I knew that Harry had been in the college field for a really long time, so I was excited to have someone with a ton of experience,” DeBoer Remembered. “During my first meeting with Harry, he told me that his students were his top priority, which was nice to hear.

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Harry Dawe.

PHOTO BY THEO MATZA

Star-studded Love-a-thon: The Counter-Program to Trump’s Inauguration

BY ANNA McNULTY

On inauguration day, artists, musicians and actors gathered together for Love-a-thon, a counter-program during Trump’s inauguration, which, so far, has raised \$200,000 for Planned Parenthood, Earthjustice, and the American Civil Liberties Union.

Love-a-thon was a three-and-a-half hour Facebook Live event. Celebrities, including Judd Apatow, Jane Fonda, Jamie Lee Curtis, David Duchovny, Joseph Gordon Levitt, Rashida Jones, Jesse Tyler Ferguson, and Tim Robbins, performed and spoke out in pre-recorded videos that played throughout the show. Jesse Tyler Ferguson spoke about LGBTQ+ rights, George Takei shared his experience growing up on a Japanese

internment camp during World War II, and David Duchovny sang with his band, Weather.

“I got involved with Love-a-thon through Sammy Koppelman,” Duchovny said. Koppelman, Fieldston Class of 2014, created Love-a-thon with friends Alex Godin, Dan Schipper, and Kara Silverman.

“I am developing a project with Amy Koppelman,” Duchovny said, “and her son, Sammy, organized Love-a-thon, which was not going to be an anti-programming event, but a counter-programming event to the inauguration, that donated to worthwhile charities. It sounded like a great idea. So I went down to a studio in Brooklyn with a couple of guys from the band that I play in

and recorded a short version of one of my songs for the event.”

“I took the first semester off from Harvard to work on Hillary Clinton’s campaign as the digital content strategist,” Koppelman said. “The campaign ended and we obviously lost, but I woke up the next morning, and as tiring as the campaign was, I knew that the fight was just beginning. I looked for as many ways as I could to get involved. Alex Godin came to me and said, ‘I think we should run an internet telethon.’ We were just four random kids with little expertise in the domain, but we had an idea that touched a lot of people. We wanted to channel people’s anxieties on inauguration day into positive action and give them the chance to make a

difference.”

The team called everyone they knew and blindly reached out to others to help them strategize and finetune their concept. Ultimately, they partnered with Planned Parenthood, Earthjustice and the ACLU with a plan to raise money to help these three organizations defend civil liberties and marginalized communities over the course of the next four years. They secured Crowdrise as their online fundraising partner and Upworthy as their media partner.

“The charities we worked for were incredibly helpful in finding celebrities to participate,” Koppelman said. “They reached out to all of their contacts, and then finally

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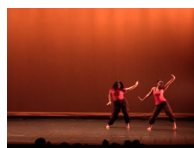
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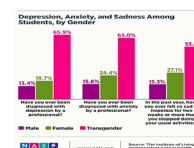
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The Ultimate Question

BY MIA MCCOBERY

Ultimate Frisbee is one of Fieldston's most popular sports. However, this year, an evident strain has been placed upon both ECFS's fun loving and energetic team, and the athletic department.

The players on Fieldston's ultimate team bring spirit to this sport, ensuring that no game has a dull moment. Frisbee's lack of referees also makes this one of the most honest and ethical games, teaching the team not only to be supportive of one another, but also to have integrity, something our school prides itself on. "Both teams are always really supportive and kind and just generally full of good people," Senior Noah Gewirtz said. "It's an intense game, but a fun atmosphere," Gewirtz continues. Last season provided a lot of learning experiences and an awesome record of only 2 losses. Despite the graduation of some key players, they are ready to take on this coming season in stride. Last year, they came in third place in the State Championships, but are now hungry for more, ready to improve and enlist some new players. The team is a family, fun, relaxed and "low-key" Gewirtz said. "The team will be down after a loss, but winning and losing isn't all what the team is about."

Ultimate has always loved to play in the USA Ultimate State

Championships, enjoying the buzzing energy and competition around them. Unfortunately, this season, a rule is being enforced that prevents the team from competing.

The USA Ultimate State Championships are an unsanctioned event, meaning club teams play one another, as opposed to sanctioned events, where only varsity teams play. Because the state championships allow club teams to play in their games, and since varsity teams can only play sanctioned events, varsity teams are unable to play here.

Additionally, club and varsity teams are not allowed to play against one another. NYSAIS, New York State Association of Independent Schools, hosts a sanctioned event for 194 independent schools to compete against one another, vying for State Champion. This year, NYSAIS announced that all teams that classify themselves as a varsity sport, are not allowed to play at unsanctioned events. For the first time, NYSAIS classified ultimate frisbee as one of their varsity sports, thus creating the problem: the only way for Fieldston's team to play in the USA Ultimate event, is for them to go club.

"The school will support the team in deciding whether or not they want to be a varsity or a club team," Gus Ornstein, head of the



Lewis Arnsten.

athletic department, said. Ornstein made it clear to the players that he wants what is best for the team and he supports the ultimate frisbee culture.

The biggest question now is whether the team decides to go club or stay varsity. One of the players' biggest concerns about staying varsity is that if they were to go to NYSAIS, the Sheagles would have no one to play because no other schools have female teams. "I'm not going to be the one who is going to tell them they can't play," Mr. Drybala, head of the ultimate frisbee team, said. He explained that staying a varsity team would deny the girls' team learning and fun experiences. "There are great lessons that can be learned through sports that should be accessible to every-

one," Drybala said.

Many members of the team are concerned that NYSAIS would decimate the culture of frisbee. The team has been growing and developing, becoming its own unique community, and by continuing on as a varsity sport, it would cause a recess in the team's growth by basically eliminating both the girls', and the B team.

This would be a direct hit to the team, especially since the girls' team have won the state championships two years in a row. The team has made it very obvious that playing in the USA Ultimate State Championship is more important to them than going to NYSAIS. Although if they went club they wouldn't be able to compete against typical Fieldston rivals, Poly Prep, Horace Mann and Riverdale, they would be staying true to their ethical values by saving the Sheagles and the B team.

As of now, the team, unanimously, wants to go club rather than stay varsity. Club is not seen as a notch down from the varsity team and will be treated equally by Fieldston's faculty and the athletic department. The team is committed to taking club just as seriously as varsity. For the players, who are just there to win states, be the best they can be, and enjoy themselves, it doesn't matter if they are a club or varsity team.

This coming Spring, the team hopes to change their label to a club sport and compete in their favorite events, such as the USA Ultimate State Championships. With the support of the athletic department, fellow students, and Drybala, they hope to continue their development as a team and are looking forward to the upcoming season.



Dahlia Gottlieb.

PHOTO BY SIMON CURTIS-GINSBERG

Fieldston's Annual Dance Assembly

BY ANDY HARTMAN

During assembly on Thursday, January 19th, the Fieldston Dance Company performed part of Ronald K. Brown's iconic piece *Why We Follow*. Growing up in Brooklyn, Ronald found inspiration in West African, Cuban, and American culture, and has taken his talents both to Alvin Ailey, a renowned modern dance company in midtown, and to the Tony-Award winning cast of *Porgy and Bess*, which went off Broadway in late 2012. In 1985, Ronald founded Evidence, a dance company that focuses on the importance of community in African American culture and blending African rhythms and choreography with contemporary dance and spoken word.

In his opening speech, dance teacher Rob O'Neill explained that Robert, "a bright light in the world of dance," not only "shared his masterful choreography, [but also] shared his gentle spirit, and his strong commitment that dance speaks to the individual and the community."

Consisting of intense movement, continuous clapping, and upbeat music, this dance was something completely different from what is usually seen in the auditorium. As mentioned in the video preceding the performance, DCO has been accustomed to modern dance pieces,



Fieldston Dance Company performs at the Upper School Assembly.

PHOTO BY SASHA BLACK

making this a great opportunity for them to be challenged and embrace something new. After the assembly, one male form IV student commented that "despite not being a huge fan of dance, the performance was a cool mixture of cultures that worked well together."

In addition to Brown's dance, three student studies were also performed. The members of the company were pushed to create dances in only six class periods, using Brown's work as a starting point in deciphering how the style fits into their lives and creative processes.

"Dance, and our community within Dance Company is about compromise," said Olivia Gonzalez-Scott (VI) on the challenges of collaborative choreography. "It is about creating a space where different voices can be heard and different people can shine."

One particular dance, performed by Zoe Antell (V), Taiya Sharif (VI), and Sonja Rab (VI), had a very direct relation to today's world, especially as we experience the first days of Trump's presidency. The piece was inspired by the way their rehearsal director, An-

nique Roberts, transferred the uneasy feelings of post-election night into motivational dance. "We saw how successful it was to combine the political aspect of the election with the emotional aspect," Zoe Antell (V) said. "So we decided to express those two things through movement."

Overall, the Dance Company's performance was outstanding. It allowed the dancers not only to express themselves, but also to educate both students and faculty on cultures that are not usually displayed at Fieldston.

Love-a-thon *cont.*

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I convinced Judah Friedlander to host. I went to the Comedy Cellar late at night and I spent four hours there trying to convince a comedian to join our event. Judah took a chance and basically put his faith in a kid, and he ended up making the show work. He is an incredible comedian and an amazing activist. He walks the walk every day."

Love-a-thon was a big hit. One-and-a-half million people tuned in, raising more than \$200,000 for the three charities in just the first three days. They will continue to accept donations through January 27.

"More importantly," Koppelman said, "we gave people a means of turning their anger into positive action on one of the darkest days in recent American history. We hope to give people the message that going forward they can act and support these organizations rather than

just sit back."

"During history class on Friday, I watched Trump's inauguration," Krista Delany (IV) said. "Next period during my free, I watched the livestream of Love-a-thon on Facebook. All of the aggravation that had slowly built up inside of me was finally set free. Love-a-thon made me realize that I was not alone and that together we had a voice that deserved to be heard."










Love-a-thon would not have happened without the persistence and drive of Koppelman, Godin, Schipper and Silverman. For Koppelman, this desire to be an agent of change started at Fieldston.

"One thing Fieldston teaches you is that, if there is something you don't like, you have the power to go make a difference," Koppelman said. "The day after the election a lot of people felt paralyzed and didn't know what to do. But

Fieldston taught me that the fight goes on, and even if you lose, you have to bounce back. Fieldston definitely shaped the way that I tackle

challenges and taught me that feelings of discomfort and anxiety can turn into positive action."

WHO'S SUPPORTING THE LOVE-A-THON?

 CHELSEA HANDLER	 JOSEPH GORDON-LEVITT	 JANE FONDA
 RASHIDA JONES	 MARTIN SHEEN	 JILLIAN MICHAELS
 JESSE TYLER FERGUSON	 WEIRD AL YANKOVIC	 ADRIAN GRENIER

COURTESY OF THE LOVE-A-THON

Fieldston Talks About Mental Health

By KEERTI GOPAL

On November 17th, 2016, Fieldston held its first ever assembly on Mental Health. Planned and led by students, the assembly focused particularly on stress, anxiety, and depression, and featured guest speaker Dr. Anne Marie Albano, Professor of Psychology at the Columbia University Medical Center.

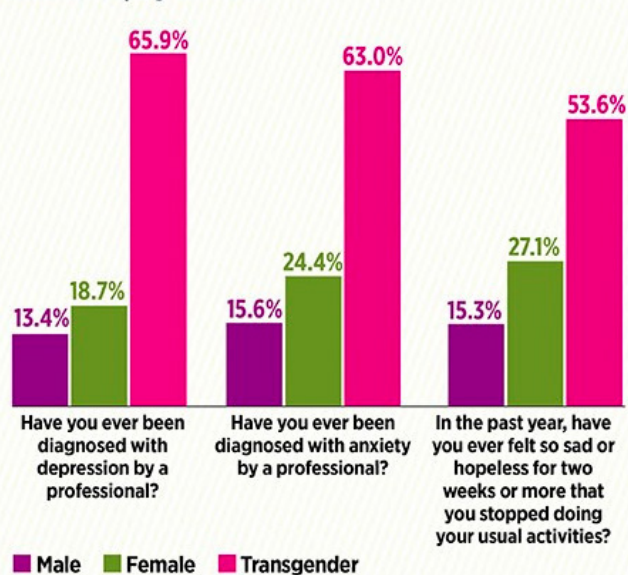
The assembly featured a video collection of interviews with Fieldston students, created by Maya Friedson (IV), to shine light on the lack of mental health conversation at our school. "I think the video Maya made was terrific in highlighting the need for the assembly," Nancy Banks, Dean of Students, said. It showed that many kids feel they don't have the knowledge or vocabulary to discuss mental health in an educated manner.

That's concerning, since mental health is a huge issue for adolescents. According to Rachel Florman (VI), who gave an informative presentation at the assembly, 13% of male students, 19% of female students, and 66% of transgender students at U.S. independent schools have been diagnosed with depression, and 16% of male students, 25% of female students, and 63% of transgender students have been diagnosed with anxiety.

Dr. Albano's presentation was educational and informative, attempting to give the audience a better foundation of knowledge on adolescent mental health. She stressed the difference between everyday anxiousness and diagnosable anxiety. Anxiety becomes a problem, she said, when it prevents us from participating in our own lives. The overall thesis of the assembly was that, above all, it is incredibly important to talk to a professional if you think you might be experiencing a mental illness or disorder. At Fieldston, psychologists Carly Miller and Jessica Lassman are here as resources for any student feeling stressed, anxious, depressed, overwhelmed, or just in need of some listening ears.

For Fieldston to gather and talk about mental health was unprecedented, and this assembly was a huge step in starting an incredibly important conversation. Yet, several students on the assembly committee were frustrated. They had wanted personal student testimonials to be part of the assembly, a concept that, ultimately, Fieldston

Depression, Anxiety, and Sadness Among Students, by Gender



Mental Health Survey. COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS did not allow.

One of the sixth form organizers of the assembly posted in the Fieldston Class of 2017 Facebook group, "we were not allowed to share speeches about our experiences with mental health at the mental health assembly. Many people I've spoken with find this as outrageous as I do and want to do something about it too."

The idea of student testimonials was first brought to the school's attention in September, when the student assembly planners met with the school psychologists to brainstorm.

"I think that student speakers who have personal experience with mental illness are crucial for people who do not know as much about the topic to understand it," Samantha Ratner (V) said. "Personal experiences can allow people who do not have direct experiences with it to understand the reality of living with mental illness." Dassa Philipson (VI) added, "as a freshman, I didn't really know what mental illness looked like. And I think that if people were able to get up on stage and share that, I think it would be a really great experience and I think it would be a really big step forward for Fieldston in terms of starting a conversation on mental health."

Yet, when the planning committee brought the idea of student testimonials Dean of Students Nancy Banks, she was concerned enough to ask Robert Cairo, Upper School Principal, for advice. "We wanted to work with the students to come up with an assembly that would honor their original vision but also keep the safety of the student body

in mind," said Dr. Banks. "We also felt it was our responsibility as adults to honor issues of confidentiality."

"Dr. Banks oversees the assembly program, and she makes the decision as to what content is appropriate in assemblies," said Mr. Cairo. "I have full confidence in her to do that, and she will seldom bring an issue to me. Occasionally she will, for advice, if she's not certain about the appropriateness of something, and that's what happened in this case. And in this case I was uncertain."

Mr. Cairo consulted with a few out of school psychologists, and brought the matter to the Student Support Group, comprised of all four deans, Grace Yun, Randy Slaughter, the two counselors, the Learning Center Chair Jessica Romano, and Nurse Eileen Coogan. "That whole group was very concerned about students making testimonials about their mental illness. It was unanimous. There was a real consensus that this would not be a good idea."

"We wanted to work with them to come up with an assembly that would honor their original vision but also keep the safety of the student body in mind," said Dr. Banks. "We wanted to honor issues of confidentiality, because that's also our responsibility as adults."

Reactions to this decision were mixed. Some students agreed with the school's decision, expressing their feelings that the assembly wasn't the right format for students to share personal stories. Other students felt the decision wasn't transparent enough, or was too abrupt.

In his interview with the Fieldston News, Mr. Cairo brought up another concern: that the Fieldston community might not be ready for this. "This was new ground for us, we'd never had assemblies on this topic, and we certainly wanted to err on the side of caution," Cairo said. Dr. Banks felt the same way. "I think we have a lot of work to do in this community around educating ourselves, students, and parents about mental health," she said. "I think there's a huge stigma. It's a really important issue, but we have to do some conversations in smaller settings before we bring that to the whole community. Right now, I don't think we're ready."

Ciara Cury (VI), found a different way to get Fieldston's mental health conversation started. "Because of the way the assembly turned out," said Ciara, "I wanted to find a way to still allow students that platform to be able to share their experiences in as safe a way as possible, and allow for others to see the experience of their peers to normalize it, and put a real life story behind the acronyms and conditions." Ciara's senior project is a password-protected blog where Fieldston students will be able to anonymously share their stories and experiences involving mental health. "Mental illness can be so isolating and lonely because it's stigmatized to even admit you are dealing with it," said Ciara on the importance of sharing personal stories. "So many students don't have any idea what to do and are suffering silently." Ciara said the school was very supportive of her senior project. "There were only slight things we had to work out about safety and accessibility," she said. "Besides that, there were virtually no obstacles."

The desire for Fieldston to engage in deeper conversation around mental health was shared by all of the adults involved in the decision. "I would love people to know that we're here," said Jessica Lassman, speaking for herself and Carly Miller, the other school psychologist. "I think students should know that we are available, and that we are a safe place for them to come. I think the idea that the school hired two people means that the school knows that there's a need. They recognized it enough to make it a bigger position. That's the big thing I want students to know."

Fake News: When Lies Become “Alternative Facts”

BY ELIZABETH GELLERT AND SOPHIE BURNS

“Pope Francis shocks world, endorses Donald Trump for president, releases statement.” “FBI Agent Suspected in Hillary Email Leaks Found Dead in Apparent Murder-Suicide.” “Obama Signs Executive Order Banning The Pledge Of Allegiance In Schools Nationwide.”

These headlines were read by hundreds of thousands of people. In total they were shared, liked and commented on over 3.5 millions times on Facebook. However, these headlines were completely false and the stories that accompanied them were filled with fake “facts”. So, why then, were they created, read and shared? Welcome to the golden age of fake news.

The recent election engaged millions of Americans in a 24 hour media cycle, with never ending access to a constant stream of information. Articles flooded social media sites, and news stories covering Clinton and Trump, both positive and negative, found a place in the Facebook feeds of many Americans. However, much of the information and articles that circulated were laced with falsehoods. Occasionally, they were based on current events, such as the investigation into Clinton’s private email server, but the actual

content of those articles were nowhere near the truth and in many cases, were unsubstantiated conspiracy theories.

While people may look at fake news stories and doubt that anyone would actually believe their content, there are those who accept the falsehoods that they read without questioning their credibility. By failing to do so, there can be dangerous consequences.

One of the most extreme examples of the dangers of fake news is what is now known as ‘pizzagate’. What started as a conspiracy theory alleging that a pizza place in Washington D.C. was a front for a child sex ring run by Hillary Clinton, ended with gunshots fired and a D.C. neighborhood on lockdown for hours. Thankfully, no one was hurt, but the incident highlighted the potential implications of the spread of fake news.

Following the incident, and evidence that fake news was spread widely during the campaign, many people, particularly Democrats, declared that something needed to be done. Facebook is taking steps to reduce the amount of fake news that accumulates on people’s feeds, but the phenomenon is so widespread

that they alone will not be capable of singlehandedly eradicating it.

Biased news sources have further complicated the fight against fake news. While many news sources, such as MSNBC and The Wall Street Journal, try to remain nonpartisan in their reporting, other news outlets like Huffington Post and Fox News are known to sway farther to the left or right of mainstream media. By taking news from a particularly partisan outlet, facts are swirled in with personal opinions, making it harder to distinguish truth from judgement.

Therefore, it is important to understand the political leanings and factual accuracy of a news outlet prior to consuming it. The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, and The New York Times are all reputable newspapers, and while their editorial boards are partisan, their reporting is factual and unbiased. However, Breitbart and Daily Kos, which are somewhat conservative and liberal equivalents, are far more likely to publish opinions disguised as factual reporting.

“The influence of fake news in the election needs to be dealt with,” said Sam Caplan (IV). “It brings up the question of how can we better educate the Fieldston community

about fake news so we can speak knowledgeably about ways to combat it?”

So, what can be done to fight the growing presence of fake news? Unfortunately, there is no easy answer. Social media platforms have started cracking down on fake news, but ultimately, the responsibility lies with individual readers. As much as the mainstream media has come under fire in recent months, it is still the best place for reliable and legitimate news. This does not mean that branching out to other news sources is a terrible thing to do, it just means that readers need to be cautious.

“In the ‘post-truth’ age of alternative facts and avoiding questions, we have to try to maintain some semblance of accountability,” said Olivia Schaffer (IV).

Take the time to find out if stores are factual by cross referencing them with articles from other news outlets. Know which sources are particularly biased, and take that into account whenever you are reading them. And however you decide to go about consuming the news, just keep in mind that ‘alternative facts’, otherwise known as falsehoods, are not an alternative to facts.

The Mindset of an Athlete

BY ISHAAN RAI

It’s no secret that being an athlete is difficult. It is certainly physically taxing, with players pushing their bodies to the limits to get to the top of the leaderboards. But what is often overlooked is the psychological component of sports: the mindset of an athlete, knowing how and what to think before and after wins and losses. Two Fieldston athletes from two very different sports had a few things to say about the sports mentality: Dylan Porges (IV) in swimming, and Emma Holub (IV) in lacrosse.

While Emma does do a bit of swimming herself, and is certainly dedicated to Fieldston’s swim team, she admits that her true passion is in lacrosse, having played it since 5th grade.

“One problem with swimming

is that it’s individual,” Emma says, explaining why she prefers one sport over the other. “The pressure, it’s all on you, and you usually feel as though there’s no reward. Sometimes you drop a second from your old time, and sometimes you don’t, and you just feel sad,” she says with a laugh.

The tighter team spirit is a very attractive part of lacrosse, and Emma has definitely shown her stripes in the sport. Emma was one of the few freshmen to make the Varsity team last year, and she set the record for most goals scored by an underclassman in a single season (50!).

It was around this time in the interview that Dylan came into the conversation, wanting to expand on Emma’s “dropping seconds” comment.

“When you get to a certain ‘elite’ level in really any sport,” he states, “it becomes very hard to improve. All of a sudden, you’re focusing on minute.”

And Dylan is very qualified to talk out being at an elite level, as he is considered by many to be one of the best swimmers on Fieldston’s team. Having swum since he was 7 years old, Dylan has broken eight school records in all four strokes, and consistently reaches first to second place in meets. To Dylan, you’re either fully in a sport, or you’re not in it at all.

For example, when talking about the enormous effort required for swim meets, Emma admitted, “I could never get tired at school swim meets because of my mindset that school was a ‘relaxed’ space.”

“It’s difficult for me not to try,”

responded Dylan. “I’m either 100% or 0%. There’s no in-between.”

“I also have real trouble with psyching myself out, especially in lacrosse,” added Emma. She realizes that worrying too much about what one does in the game has the same effect as not caring about it at all: drastically decreasing performance.

By the end of our discussion, both Dylan and Emma’s final words had the same general message:

“No matter what sport you’re playing, you have to balance not caring and not psyching yourself out,” Emma ends.

And once you’re caring the right amount, “you have to treat every game, every meet as a competition,” Dylan states. “That’s the only way to be the best.”

Alumni Updates

Serena Kerrigan: “Do What You Love and Get Really, Really Good at It”

BY HANNAH PLATT

Serena Kerrigan is apart of the Refinery29 Facebook Live Team and a 2012 Fieldston alumnae. At Fieldston, Kerrigan was a powerful force on campus as she directed, produced, and wrote many short films. She found her passion for entertainment through film classes at Fieldston and describes ECFS as “the start of her career.”

After graduating from Fieldston, Kerrigan attended Duke University, where she studied film and English. During her summers, she continued to pursue her passion by interning at the major film studio, the Weinstein Company, and MTV Networks. After graduating from Duke, Kerrigan got an internship at the online publication Refinery29, which soon became a job as a Facebook Live producer and host.

I had the opportunity to visit Kerrigan at Refinery29 and was able to get a behind the scenes look. I watched as Kerrigan, along with a team of several other female colleagues, organized a holiday themed video shoot. Kerrigan alternated from host to producer to director and as the shoots went on, she made adjustments ranging from fixing the lighting to choosing the sound.

After seeing Kerrigan in motion, I interviewed her to learn more about what it took to get to the actual video shoot. She broke down the process into four simple steps: 1. Conceptualize: start with a plan and vision; 2. Schedule: after making a plan, work to create an organized schedule to ensure that you are able to execute your concept; 3. Context: Kerrigan stressed the importance of context in the creative process. “How does this appeal?” she always asks. “How can we put out content? How can we make this accessible?” Through these questions, Kerrigan refines her message. The fourth and final step is filming and creating the content.

After learning more about the “behind the scenes,” Kerrigan told me about her own video series with Refinery29, *Celebrando with Serena*, a Facebook Live series centered around Latinx culture. Serena is Latina and is passionate about representing her culture and reaching out to other Latina women. Kerrigan noticed that many of her Facebook Live viewers were from Mexico and wanted to use her own identity to reach out and connect with other Latina women. *Celebrando with Serena* is an in-

tersectional project that celebrates Kerrigan’s identity as Latinx and as a woman. “It is intersectionality as a way to connect,” Kerrigan said.

To wrap up our interview, Kerrigan spilled her biggest piece of advice. “Find what you love and get really, really good at it,” she said.

If you look for places “that are fun and you respect, you will always be happy.” Kerrigan encouraged every Fieldston student to sample everything that Fieldston has to offer and to “try something that scares you.” Kerrigan is a Fieldston alumnae who encompasses the ideal alumni; wise, kind, and creative.



Serena Kerrigan.

COURTESY OF OF TWITTER

Nick Martell: Creating Entertainment Through Economics

BY JANE FORMAN

Nick Martell went from Fieldston to finance, inventing a website to simplify one of the most complicated news topics: the stock market.

Martell wanted to create a medium people could use to read a daily recap of how stocks rose and fell throughout the previous day. He built the website MarketSnacks, aimed at both investors and college students, to be used for scenarios ranging from preparing for an interview, to understanding how bad guacamole would lower Chipotle’s stock.

“I realized there was no financial news out there that people enjoyed reading,” Martell said. While newspapers such as the Wall Street Journal write numerous complicated articles each day, Martell argued that financial news needed to become not only digestible, but also entertaining. “When lulu lemon printed sheer yoga

pants that you could see through, it caused their stock to drop,” Martell said. “While that was buried in the Wall Street Journal, we saw it as a hilarious millennial story to curate and make accessible to viewers.”

The creation of MarketSnacks was more than a creative twist on financial news. “I wanted to do something more directly related to giving back, an idea that was instilled in me at Fieldston,” he said, crediting his decision to the moral values imparted upon him at Fieldston. ECFS not only encouraged Martell to make sure his career gave back, but also got him interested in finance.

“I took a Wall Street ALP course that fascinated me, especially because it wasn’t a course available at Fieldston,” he said. Martell believes that the way Fieldston shapes their curriculum allows for an entrepreneurial mindset. At such a young

age, through electives coupled with a core curriculum, students are able to explore what they are interested in, fostering an opportunistic mindset.

After college, Martell decided, with the help of his roommate, to start writing daily summaries of the changes in the stock market. Aiming to give quick, accessible updates on the financial world, it was a creative extension of Martell’s career in finance. Martell grew MarketSnacks as a side hub entrepreneur, building the business in addition to his full time job. “I love what I do, so I don’t feel the need to quit my job and commit to MarketSnacks full time,” he said. “We don’t have a five year plan so this is really about growing the business while upholding the quality of our day jobs, a very fulfilling experience.” He became a voice for the millennial generation, while fighting against the initial backlash from his

employer to become a valuable asset to financial corporations.

Martell possesses a priceless trait: the ability to connect with younger generations, something some of his older colleagues lack. He turned a list of numbers into comedic news. Although Wall Street seems like an unlikely path for an alumni of both Fieldston and Brown University, the motivation for all of Martell’s work comes from what he had learned at both institutions. Fieldston encouraged him to use his talents to give back to his community, and the different opportunities he was exposed to allowed him to build MarketSnacks at such a young age. His work reflects the nature of his generation, washing big corporations out with fresh new ideas, an idea that we should strive to follow as our paths take us past the walls of Fieldston.

Past FN Editors: Where are they now?

BY ELIZA ROSS AND ALEXANDRA FERTIGDRA FERTIG

The Fieldston News Club doesn't just write and publish the Fieldston News, it is also a learning experience that teaches its members about journalism and hopefully, prepares its writers for any future endeavors they may have in journalism. Two recent editors of the Fieldston news are now fully involved in the newspapers at their respective colleges/universities, and have utilized their writing and editorial experiences at The Fieldston News to become prominent journalists.

Eleanor Paasche, a previous Editor for the Fieldston News, graduated from Fieldston in 2016, and currently attends Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine. Eleanor immediately knew she wanted

to write for the Bowdoin Orient because it is the "nation's longest running weekly collegiate newspaper." Eleanor was hired as both a news reporter and a section editor. "I am responsible for coming up with and producing creative content as well as reaching out to community members and assigning articles" she said. Although Eleanor described the workload to be immense, she also said, "it is actually a really fun, intense environment." For her, the Fieldston News served as a gateway to college journalism, as she learned how to conduct interviews and take notes. "The Fieldston News, but mainly Bob Montera, taught me that journalists should never apologize for exposing the truth and using journalistic

integrity," Eleanor said. "If you are writing an important or controversial story, someone is always going to be offended, that's just the nature of the trade."

David Fishman, class of 2015, was another Editor of the Fieldston News. He is now a student at Northwestern University and is the assistant city editor for The Daily Northwestern. As assistant city editor, he is responsible for covering everything that happens in Chicago and Evanston. When asked about the difference between The Fieldston News and a college newspaper such as The Daily Northwestern, he specified the main differences to be how often the papers are published as well as their size. "The Fieldston

News is published biweekly, while we put out a newspaper every single weekday. Our operation is also significantly larger, with about 80 active members and two full-time paid employees who help put out a paper," he said. The Fieldston News was extremely influential in David's choice to pursue journalism in college. When writing under the guidance of Mr. Montera, he "learned how to write objectively, question everything and capture all perspectives." These are skills that David now uses not only when writing for The Daily Northwestern, but also when doing freelance work for outlets like USA Today, U.S. News & World Report and the New York Daily News.

Harry Dawe *con't*

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

He's been fully invested since day one, which was greatly appreciated." DeBoer also valued Dawe's unorthodox approach to the college process. "I had to take the initiative sometimes, which was good. I had to approach him and take charge of my own process. That kind of approach helps in life. I had a great experience with him. He sometimes jokes about being out-of-it, but he is so aware of everything going on."

Although at Fieldston he is known for being a college advisor, Dawe has held many different positions over the course of his career. After graduating from Oberlin college in 1958, Harry Dawe planned on becoming an Episcopal minister. "I got rid of that idea pretty soon," Dawe said. "I had a Sunday afternoon martini with a minister, Episcopalians are not opposed to having a strong drink, and I realized that I really didn't have the kind of firm belief that was needed to become a minister." So, Dawe became the head of school at a private school, a job which he said was, "kind of a secular version of becoming a minister." After teaching and administrating at various schools, and even working at a high school in Istanbul, Dawe ended up back at Oberlin college working in the admissions department, before coming to work at Fieldston. "What I have to deal with in my job," Harry Dawe reflects, "is to take credit for something that I really didn't do and put up with the blame for some-

thing you didn't do either."

Harry Dawe is beloved by students and faculty alike. "I will miss Harry's kindness and dedication to his job and his ability to work with all types of students. Harry was really a team player and I'm going to miss him," says Zoraida Montanez, an Administrative Assistant in the College Office. "I love Harry very much."

Director of College Counseling Laura Clark has worked with Harry Dawe in the college office for 16 years. "When you've worked with someone for that long, there are no cracks or seams. You can anticipate each other's thoughts. I will miss our working relationship." Ms. Clark also noted something that many others also loved about Harry, his seemingly-infinite knowledge base. "Harry is a vastly educated human being. He has read a ton, he is musically super-literate and he is a very philosophical person. The most unusual part, though, is that Harry applies all of his academic knowledge to his love of kids. You don't meet many people like that anymore. I'm really going to miss him."

After about sixty years working in education, Dawe says, "something different might be nice, although I'm not sure what that may be." Whatever he decides to do, there is no doubt that Harry will continue to be a source of inspiration for everyone around him.

"It's a testament to who he is that he has worked almost 20 years past the normal time when someone re-

tires. I hired him when he was 64 years old and he's basically had an entire other career. It's hard to do that. You have to be a very special type of person to have the energy, the stamina and the will to do that," said Ms. Clark. "Most people at 60 years old think, oh, I'm tired of working, I'm going to sit on a beach in Florida. Not Harry, he was ready for a new profession in a new city. That's just one example of his dedication. He's been truly amazing."

During his well-deserved retirement, Harry Dawe plans to write a history book inspired by his time in Turkey. He also wants to spend time with his children, two of which are currently homeschooled, and catch up on his reading. Harry's contributions to the Fieldston community have been infinite, and he has made a lasting impact on everyone he worked with. His dedication, knowledge and kindness will never be forgotten at Fieldston

The Fieldston News

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Sports

The Fieldston News

Winterfest Update

By TYLER FRIEDMAN

Squash

The squash team traveled to Westchester to compete in one of the toughest matches of the season against Hackley, their biggest competitor. Co-Captain Noah Gewirtz (VI) said, “we play in a very competitive league with some of the best players in the country, but we still love to compete. Yesterday we played our hardest opponent, Hackley, who is undefeated in the league and will likely go on to place high at nationals this year.” The team fought hard, but Hackley persevered. On a positive note, Gewirtz said, “we are also going to nationals and are very excited to compete with teams from around the country.” They look forward to working hard in preparation for that competition.

Girls Varsity Basketball

Loud drumming and cheering echoed across the varsity gym as GVB set foot on the court. Although they have had a tough season, they were excited and motivated by a recent win against Leman. They were determined to keep their winning streak alive. The team played their hearts out in a grueling battle against Hackley, but sadly, they did not achieve their goal. Despite having a rocky start, Co-Captain Jamie Winslett (VI) said, “our second half was some of the best basketball we have played. We were working as a team, landing our shots, and communicating very well.”

Swim Team

Despite their loss against Horace

Mann, the swim team remained upbeat when they climbed out of the pool. Co-Captain Parker Heuer (VI) said, “everyone swam really well. A few swimmers broke their personal best times and four of the boys broke the varsity and pool record for the 200 medley relay as well as the varsity record for the 200 free relay.” The team’s spirit from the pool deck helped to energize the atmosphere. Heuer said “we’ve faced some challenges recently as a team. We have had limited practice time due to the pool being out of service for repairs for a week, but we’ve done a great job of trying to work through the setbacks.” The team is looking forward to working towards a win in their next meet against Poly Prep.

Boys Varsity Basketball

With packed stands and booming fans, BVB had an amazing victory over Hackley, beating them in an exciting game, 69-57. Entering this game with a 13-1 record, BVB was hoping to hold onto their recent winning streak. Although, according to Co-Captain Bryce Kassalow (VI) their “outside shots weren’t falling,” they put up a strong fight and played a great game. “We forced the ball in the paint and pushed Hackley to their limits. There was some tension between teams, but we took the high road and got the victory” Kassalow continued. The team hopes to maintain their winning streak in their next game against Dalton.



Girls Varsity Basketball.

PHOTO BY DANIEL SORKIN