# Ine Ine International Severna Park High School

**SENIOR DESTINATIONS** Where is the class of 2019 heading after graduation?

SENIOR TIMELINE

A look back at significant moments over the past 18 years.

**STAR SENIOR ATHLETES** Features on seniors Shane Carr, Campbell Kline and Rachel Spilker.

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WHO WE ARE The Talon is the principle news publication and public forum of Severna Park High School. ASSOCIATIONS The Talon is a member of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association and Quill & Scroll International Journalism Association. It has won Gold and Silver Medals from CSPA. DISTRIBUTION Staff members typically distribute 400 papers to our student body. Magazines are available to pick up in the hallways, the main office and throughout the English department. Subscribers may pay \$25 to have the publication mailed to their home. **OPINIONS** Views expressed in The Talon do not reflect those of the Severna Park High School administration or the Anne Arundel County Public School Board of Education. Signed columns or reviews represent only the opinion of the author. EDITORIALS The Talon's editorials will reflect a consensus of the members of the student editorial board. The subjects of the editorials will be determined by the editorial board. The editorial board, which consists of the staff's student editors, will determine the content, including all unsigned editorials. Editorial ideas may be submitted to the editorial board by all members of the staff. Editorials should be sent to thesptalon@gmail.com or dropped off in the publication lab, 245, during school hours. No material will be published for which there is evidence that the author is using the paper for inappropriate personal gain. ADVERTISING Any student, parent, staff member or organization will be allowed to purchase ads. Non-students, businesses or any person not currently attending or related to an attending student may purchase ads, but the publication asks that those ads be business-related ads or be used to congratulate student or school successes. No ads will be placed in any publication until payment is made. Any business wishing to advertise in The Talon must meet district guidelines for obscene or offensive material. All copy or art will be judged by these standards. Any ad found to be in violation must be changed or it will not be published. The publication reserves the right to refuse any ad that is libelous, illegal, obscene, irresponsible, inappropriate or in poor taste. The publication also reserves the right to edit any ad before publication to ensure the standards and quality of the product. The publication may limit the number of type styles offered to ad customers and set guidelines for format and style. The publication reserves the right to edit all submitted copy or photographs. BYLINES All articles, graphics, photos, art, columns, pages, reviews, and other material creatively conceived, with the exception of staff editorials, mug shots and cut-outs will be bylined with the producer's name. All bylined writers will be held accountable for their work. When more than one person has contributed creatively to a piece of work, any person who has contributed to the work must be bylined as a producer.

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As their high school careers come to a close, the soon-to-be graduates are looking forward to graduation day. After four years of late nights doing homework, studying for tests and applying to colleges, it is finally time to say farewell. "I'm excited to experience new things and get out of my comfort zone in college," senior Allison Troy said. Photo by CeCe Streaker.

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COVER PHOTO







**LEFT:** The annual Cappies Gala is held every May at the Hippodrome Theatre in Baltimore. Last year, "Oklahoma" received 10 nominations and won three awards. "Cappies is like the Tony Awards for high school students," junior Rachel Hartley said. Photo courtesy of Carey Cameron.

**RIGHT:** The unified bocce team is celebrating its ninth year at SPHS. The team won this year's state championship on April 30. "I like meeting people from all different friend groups and how everyone works together," sophomore Jillian Murphy said. Photo by Campbell Haney.

**BOTTOM:** Our Minds Matter is a student-led movement that seeks to end the stigma surrounding mental health problems. On May I, students participated in a march to raise awareness about the issue. "Our goal is to get more funding for resources in public schools," junior Megan Moulsdale said. Photo by Amanda Vu.

# FEATURES Talon Seniors Say Goodbye

Talon seniors part ways for college. by Melanie Reynolds | Opinions Editor



All of the Talon seniors plan on attending four-year universities or colleges. However, they did not always know where they were going to end up. "Without the seniors, I'm going to cry myself to sleep every night," junior Features Editor Matt Mangano said. Photo by Greer Long.

Newspaper is undoubtedly a special class. With very little adviser intervention, the students put themselves to the test and learn about compromise, responsibility and teamwork. The seniors on the Talon staff have learned these lessons more than anyone. "My favorite thing about newspaper has been making friends," senior Shelby Chasser said.

Being in a publication means taking a semester-long introductory journalism class, then remaining with the newspaper staff for the rest of high school. And in a class with less than 20 students, this time together makes the newspaper a family. "I'm going to miss being around my family, we all went to New York together," Business Manager Carson Whitney said.

This coming fall, Editor-in -Chief CeCe Streaker will be attending College of Charleston to study journalism. The other Editor -in-Chief, Shelby Chasser, will be studying Biology at University of Pittsburgh. Graphics Editor Briana DeRosa and Opinions Editor Melanie Reynolds will both be studying at University of Maryland, College Park. DeRosa plans to study business and Reynolds plans to study government and politics. Business Manager Carson Whitney will be studying business at University of Colorado, Boulder. Staff Writer Lily Dougherty will be attending Tulane University with an undecided major. Staff Writer Emma Jeter plans to study public relations at University of Alabama.

# Teachers' Advice to Graduating Seniors

Teachers give advice to seniors as they start to plan their next chapter.

by Campbell Haney | Staff Writer

### Q: What is one piece of advice about college you wish you had when graduating high school?

A: "I wish I knew that I didn't have to have all of the answers upon graduating high school. That someone would have told me to seek mentorship from people who are 5-10 years down the road from where I want to be. I wish someone would have told me to look at how I want to live, and work backwards to achieve it," Grace Dorohovich said.

# Q: What is the best way to make friends in college?

A: "Be honest and kind. When you feel the "click" with your true peeps, you'll know it. And if anyone treats you wrong, just move forward, thankful for the experience, and know you've learned something from them. You're about to meet the best friends you'll ever have, so value the ones who are worthy," Marilyn Magner said.

# Q: What is the best way to look for a job after college?

A: "Go to all of the job fairs possible, and talk to your academic advisers about internship opportunities. Departments tend to not advertise internship opportunities, because there would be an overwhelming number of applicants. If you go out of your way to ask about these opportunities, then you are more likely to find them. Don't wait for an opportunity to present itself to you; you have to go find it," Leala Smith said.

# Q: How has the Class of 2019 impacted you?

A: "From Dobie Grey's [song] 'Drift Away,' thanks for the joy that you've given me I want you to know I believe in your song Rhythm and rhyme and harmony You help me along makin' me strong," Dr. Barbara Segnatelli said.

### Q: What advice would you give those students who are transitioning directly into the workforce or military after high school?

A: "Don't let anyone tell you that is a bad decision. As long as you keep pushing further, higher and surrounding yourself with good people it's never a bad decision.

General to all - don't be the smartest in the room and don't buy the nicest house on the block, you will always be looking down. Be the hardest working, it will always push you higher," Scott Bernstein said.



IEP Facilitator Marilyn Magner pictured in her first dorm room at Towson University in 1989. Magner now works within the Special Education Department, in the ACC hallway at SPHS. "Don't be afraid to take certain classes because they may be too hard. If it's something you're interested in, go for it," Magner said. Photo Courtesy Marilyn Magner.



Social Studies teacher Dr. Barbara Segnatelli pictured in cap and gown with fellow classmate after high school graduation. Segnatelli teaches AP government along with other history courses at SPHS. "Try everything - Soak it all up while you can," Segnatelli said. Photo Courtesy Barbara Segnatelli.

### College is harder than high school.

In certain aspects, this is true. You are more independent, it is fast-paced and the content of your classes is more in-depth. After hearing back from many SPHS graduates over the years, Nancy Jackson, School & Community Liaison who focuses on the Career Center, has found that "the majority of them agree that the academics here at SPHS prepared them quite well for college."

### If you don't go to a prestigious college, you won't get a job.

While people may be impressed by an Ivy League degree, it will not determine your job opportunities. It's more about what you do in college than which one you go to and how you use your resources. "Take advantage of networking and all the resources vou school offers," Jackson said.



As juniors begin to prepare college applications, many questions about college and the process arise. The college application process can be daunting, but to Nancy Jackson or your counselor with any questions. Nancy Jackson is our school's college and career expert, and she explained the truth behind many common myths about the college application process.

### Colleges prefer the ACT or SAT over the other.

Many people hear about colleges preferring one of these tests over the other. In reality, both are accepted at almost every college, and they have no preference as to which test is better. Jackson suggests taking both tests to see which you prefer, and then focus on your preferred test.

### You don't need to fill out FAFSA if you don't think you will receive any aid.

Your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is very important to fill out, even if you don't think you will receive any federal aid. Many colleges require FAFSA to consider you for merit scholarships.

### Your major will determine your future.

Though you can stay with a specific major and profession, it does not have to determine what career you will have after college. Many majors can be applied to various industries and careers. "What you go into college for is not necessarily what you will end up doing as a career," Jackson explained, "College helps you find what you like, and the outcomes are going to be endless."

# Getting a B in a hard class is better than getting an A in an easy class.

This is true. Colleges want to see you take rigorous classes without overwhelming yourself. "Don't take only the easiest classes you can take, but also don't take five AP's if you can't handle them all," Jackson said, "Have a balance of coursework that challenges you, but doesn't leave you failing all your hard classes."

### Doing more clubs and activities will give you a better chance at getting accepted.

Extracurriculars are looked at by college admissions officers so they can see your interests, passions, and what you're doing when you aren't studying. There's no right or wrong extracurriculars to take part in, you should join the clubs and take part in activities that you genuinely enjoy and are interested in. "The colleges want to see what kind of person you are and what you will be involved in when you are on their campus," Jackson explained, "Having a job is very respectable too, because it shows that you are responsible and professional."

Caption: As juniors begin to prepare college applications, many questions about college and the process arise. "Embrace wherever you end up, and learn to be comfortable with being uncomfortable in a time of lots of change like this... There isn't only one place for you," Nancy Jackson said. Photo by Amanda Vu, Graphic by Briana DeRosa.

# You won't get into college if you have a C or lower on your report card.

College admissions look much further than just your grades. "Many students get into hard schools with C's on their transcripts. There is more emphasis on the rigor of your classes," Jackson said. "Showing how you can handle the balance of rigor in your classes is more important than trying to maintain straight A's with only easy classes."



### If you don't make it into your dream school, you won't enjoy your college experience.

"This is a mindset you don't want to be in," said Jackson. Many people don't make it into their dream schools, or can't attend due to financial circumstances. While it is frustrating and disheartening to not be able to go to your dream school, it doesn't mean you won't like the college you do end up going to. Jackson advises, "Embrace wherever you end up, and learn to be comfortable with being uncomfortable in a time of lots of change like this... There isn't only one place for you."

# **Promposals**

Seniors who asked their dates to prom with unique "promposals."

by Lily Dougherty | Staff Writer

As the school year winds down, seniors have many things to look forward to: summer, graduation, prom and for some, coming up with a perfect "promposal." Whether you are asking a boyfriend, girlfriend or just a friend, promposals can be a fun way to express your creativity and get in the spirit of prom.

Seniors Hannah Prugh and Peyton Brack already knew they were going together, but the way Brack asked "still made it a surprise for me," Prugh said. "I proposed by ambushing her at her house the morning we were supposed to go rock climbing," Brack said. "I came dressed as Prince Charming and had my brother dress up as the Fairy Godmother and I had a sign that said, 'Will you be my Belle of the ball?"

Typically boys are expected to ask girls; however, this is not always the case. Juliana Wilson decided to do a surprise promposal for her boyfriend at one of his baseball games. Wilson's boyfriend goes to another school, but she asked for other reasons as well. "I feel like girls should be able to do it too," Wilson said. "It was so fun and exciting planning it and making the sign and I would recommend more girls do it."

Laura Folts also asked fellow senior James Harris during Rock and Roll Revival XXX, in which they were crew and cast members. Folts and Harris had talked about going to prom together, but neither officially asked, so Folts decided to come up with a promposal. "I made letters that spelled out 'PROM?' and had Melanie [Reynolds] pretend to take a picture of me and him while my other friends snuck behind us and held up the letters," Folts said. "Then when Melanie showed James the picture, he saw [what] everyone behind us was spelling and he was very surprised."

When it comes to prom night, there are various things that students are looking forward to. "I'm most excited to dance with Hannah," Brady said, while Folts said that she is most excited "to see everyone all dressed up. I love looking at the registry to see everyone's beautiful dresses and to see the boys dressed nice."





**LEFT:** Seniors Laura Folts and James Harris posed for a photo in front of friends spelling out 'PROM?' "I'm most excited to see everyone all dressed up," Folts said. Photo by Melanie Reynolds. **RIGHT:** Senior Juliana Wilson gave her boyfriend a surprise promposal at one of his baseball games. "It was so fun and exciting plan-

**RIGHT:** Senior Juliana Wilson gave her boyfriend a surprise promposal at one of his baseball games. "It was so fun and exciting planning and making the sign," Wilson said. Photo courtesy of Juliana Wilson.

**Embarrassing Stories** 

Seniors share their most embarrassing moments from high school. by Melanie Reynolds / Opinions Editor Graphic by Briana DeRosa ROCK THE SCHOOLHOUSE VOTE FOR NEWHOUSE!

### Kaylee Reyes

During my sophomore year, Coach McPhail really wanted me to try racing hurdles. My sister used to be really good at it so I figured I may as well give it a try, cause like why not? And so one day he had me go to the line and try just a few hurdles. So I got all ready and I started to run and I tripped really hard on the very first hurdle. Of course, Coach McPhail thought this was really funny, but he was just like, "Okay you're never doing that again." So instead. Coach McPhail decided to try putting me in the 300 meter and the 500 meter, which was during indoor track. And then we ran, and I literally got dead last in the 500 by a lot and then he decided as a last Hail Mary to put me in the 4 by 800 meters, and my team ended up getting dead last by about 2 laps. Yeah so, then coach decided that "maybe you should just try shot put."

### Vivian Flanagan

One time during a trial, we had these names that were characters for our witnesses and they were based off of pop culture characters, and I was doing my closing argument. Which is arguably one of the most important speeches in the whole trial, where the judge is like, "Okay here is your argument, blah blah blah." Everything is all wrapped up. And one of our witnesses was named Marty McFly, and in this really serious moment, I called him Barty McFly. And then in the same important speech, I also messed up another part of it. So another witness said some really harsh words to Marty McFly, they said, "Oh, kill yourself" and instead of that, when I was trying to quote him, I said, "Quill yourself" and I had to really keep myself from laughing in front of the circuit court judge because it was supposed to be serious, so that was really embarrassing.

### **Tyler Newhouse**

In middle school, I ran for a class office, and had the wackiest slogan: "Rock the Schoolhouse Vote for Newhouse" and it was catchy, sure, but I never won. And throughout high school the people that were with me in middle school or remember me from middle school and came to Severna Park High School with us chased me around with it. So, even still, randomly in classes, people will yell out "ROCK THE SCHOOLHOUSE VOTE FOR NEWHOUSE." Especially at the beginning of the year, because of new classes and new people, they'll bring it up or say it to me. And then I'll have to explain it to everyone else in the room and it's just the worst thing. Even earlier this year, senior year, literally so long after, someone in my AP Stat class yelled my slogan across the room.

# |AKE SENIORS OF 2019?

by CeCe Streaker | Editor-in-Chief



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# OUT-OF-STATE





# DESTINATIONS

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# What has happened

A timeline of the wordly and close to home

2001-2019



# in a 2019 Senior's Life?

events that occured throughout the seniors' lives.

by CeCe Streaker | Editor-in-Chief



\*Information gathered through website Pop Things and Google

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# **Patriotic Seniors**

A handful of SPHS students will attend highly-revered military academies in the fall. by Matt Mangano | Features Editor

For most graduating seniors, the next four years of their life will be reminiscent of the classic college experience: dorms, classes and, of course, partying. But for Garrison Clark, Jackson Schultz and Feiyu Xue, life will consist of incessant training and a rigorous education both in and out of the classroom. In the fall, they will be attending military academies. Clark and Schultz are attending the United States Naval Academy, while Xue is going to the United States Air Force Academy.

### Garrison Clark

A successful SPHS cross country and track runner, Clark plans to continue his athletic career at the Naval Academy. Although his major is undecided, Clark is leaning towards a degree in mechanical engineering and plans to be a Marine Corps Officer after he graduates. "I want to serve my country," Clark said. Honor is crucial to Clark, and it is what drew him to attending a military academy in the first place.

### Jackson Schultz

Schultz was looking for a non-traditional college and work experience, so he decided on the Naval Academy. "I didn't think a desk job really suited me," Schultz said. He underwent a tedious process and described the long journey he took to become a midshipman. "The application took me well over a month. I had to do a fitness test, a medical exam, several essays and get a nomination from a congressman." The extra work, however, is all part of the experience of getting to give back and pursue his passions of swimming and diving at a collegiate level.



Garrison Clark and Feiyu Xue both attend a ceremony for seniors who plan to attend military academies. Every year, Congressman Anthony G. Brown hosts the event to congratulate the students. "I cannot wait to see where life takes me from here," Xue said. Photo courtesy of Feiyu Xue. Graphic by Matt Mangano

### Feiyu Xue

For Xue, applying to the U.S. Air Force Academy was all about tradition. "My father is an active duty U.S. Army soldier and my mom is in the U.S. Army Reserves. I want to support my country in a similar, but different way than my parents," Xue said. She is very excited about the opportunities to come from attending a military academy, as there are unique and challenging courses and clubs to enroll in that may not be available in a standard university. While she may not be the stereotypical soldier, Xue's optimistic outlook will help her in the future. "Five foot two with a good attitude can get you anywhere if you can dream it," Xue said.

# Go Terps!

Three seniors have full scholarships to attend the The University of Maryland.

by Emma Jeter | Staff Writer

Some seniors earned high grades in Honors and AP classes while balancing many extracurriculars, setting them apart from other applicants in the college admissions process.

The reason that colleges are able to grant money to students is because they receive large donations, called endowments, from people and businesses.

University of Maryland, College Park offered senior Reese Barrett a full ride. Their 2017 endowment was about \$548.7 million, according to the U.S. News & World Report.

"I got the e-mail and my jaw hit the floor. I was like... this is unreal," Barrett said.

Barrett has committed to UMD and plans to major in electrical engineering with a minor in sustainability.

"I'm most excited to experience living independently and just growing and learning as my own person," Barrett said.



Senior Ethan Green's aunt and Green touring UMD. "I checked [my application]... and I called my parents and then they told everybody," Green said. Photo courtesy of Ethan Green.

UMD offers full merit scholarships to students that show their well-rounded skills and interests in their applications along with a high GPA and test scores.

"I just did everything I could to make myself as diversified as possible," senior Ethan Green said.

Green received a full ride to UMD and plans to major in mechanical engineering.

"[I'm excited for] autonomy;



being able to be myself and not having to worry about my parents or anything like that," Green said.

Senior Jack Benedict also received a full merit scholarship to UMD.

"I hugged my mom and I was like, 'Hey, you don't have to pay for college," Benedict said.

Throughout high school, Benedict joined after-school activities such as RnR and band.

"I've done as many extracurricular activities as I've been able to," Benedict said.

Benedict has committed to UMD and plans on majoring in applied mathematics with a minor in piano.

# Senior Week Sneak Peek

Students who are taking the road less traveled during Senior Week.

by Greer Long | News Editor

As the school year comes to an end and graduation approaches, so does the annual tradition of 'Senior Week.' The majority of seniors spend this time in Ocean City or another nearby beach, such as Bethany or Rehoboth. However, a select few students have decided to take the road less traveled, ranging from Jeju Island, South Korea to Barcelona, Spain.

Tyler Newhouse will be traveling to the French Riviera in southeastern France for senior week. "I speak French fluently and thought it'd be a great way to practice the language in allegedly one of the most beautiful places in the world," he said. Newhouse and his family plan on doing plenty of hiking and exploring while in France. Although he speaks four languages, none of Newhouse's family members speak a language other than English. "I'll have to translate and speak for them the whole time... a true stress test of my speaking ability," he said. Newhouse's family also plans on renting a car and making a journey across the southern coast to experience as much of the area as possible. "I'm most excited to try French seafood and be immersed in the language," Newhouse said.

Instead of going to the beach, Anna Direnzo and Gen Sampson are headed to a variety of places in South Korea, including Busan, Gyeongju, Jeju Island and Seoul.



'Senior Week' takes place at the end of the school year, usually in Ocean City. Last year, many seniors made their way to the beach or another place, such as a foreign country. "I'm going to the Côte d'Azur region of France for Senior Week," senior Tyler Newhouse said. Graphic by Briana DeRosa.

"We're both Korean and want to explore and learn more about the culture," Direnzo said. The girls hope to practice speaking Korean during their trip since they have been taking classes at Anne Arundel Community College. "My dad is Korean but moved to the United States when he was little so I am just now learning the language," Sampson said. The girls will be staving overnight in a Buddhist temple called "Baekyangsa" to learn more about Buddhist beliefs and practices. Direnzo and Sampson also plan on renting hanboks, or tradition Korean dresses, and visiting palaces, cafes and small concert venues. "I'm really excited to take a class at 1MIL-LION Dance Studio in Gangnam.

I've been watching their videos on Youtube for so long," Direnzo said.

Brooke Atcheson and Lily Echeverria have plans to go to Barcelona, Spain. Atcheson's aunt has a timeshare at an international hotel, so she offered the girls a week to travel to any of its locations. "I took Spanish in school and thought it would be cool to go somewhere I could use the skills I learned in class," Atcheson said. The girls have not yet decided on specific activities they plan on doing, but they hope to visit the Sagrada Familia and Park Güell. "The food, beaches and cathedrals are really what drew me in," Echeverria said.



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# SPORTS

# **Campbell Kline**

A superstar on the diamond is now Maryland's all-time softball hits leader. by Nick Carparelli | Sports Media Manager



n Severna Park, it is common to start playing field hockey, lacrosse or soccer, but senior Campbell Kline has excelled at softball. "I was introduced to softball at around age three starting with tee ball then started playing travel ball at around age eight," Kline said. Kline tried out for the SPHS softball team as a freshman and made varsity. She has been a starter on the team each of her four years.

SPHS athletics is a long standing tradition, significant to students, staff and the community. Being an SPHS athlete takes leadership. "My first three years I was taught how to lead by the captains and upperclassmen and how to push other players and make each other better," Kline said.

Due to great coaching, talent and teamwork, the softball team has been very successful recently winning last season's state title. "What makes Severna Park stand out is the environment that we live in because we're all into sports and academics and also everyone is doing something whether it's sports, music, dance etc." Kline said.

During her junior season, Kline broke the state record for hits in a season with 59 and also has broken the state record for hits in a career with 157 and counting. "Breaking the state record will always be a highlight of my career," Kline said. She will be missed by her peers and throughout the SP softball community. "I will certainly miss watching her play and the passion she has for softball. More importantly, I will miss her as a person. She always makes me smile and I appreciate everything she has done for me, our athletic department and school," Dave Lanham, the school's athletic director said.

With countless memories, leaving after four years will be tough, especially because of the lifelong bonds that have been created through softball. "What makes



Campbell Kline swings at a high pitch for a base hit. Kline has been on the varsity softball team since her freshman year. "Campbell plays every pitch, inning and game like it's her last," SPHS athletic director Dave Lanham said. Photo Courtesy Campbell Kline.

Severna Park special is the people in it and how they make this community more enjoyable to be in," Kline said. "What I'll always remember as a Falcon was winning States last year." After her junior season, Kline was named Gatorade Player of the Year, becoming the first SPHS softball player to win such a prestigious award.

She has committed to the University of Maryland to play softball. "I chose Maryland because it was close to home and I liked the campus," Kline said. "When I went for my visit I loved everything about it: the campus, the players, the coaches." Other people in the community have recognized her success on the field. "She is definitely in the top 5 softball players I've ever seen play, and quite possibly the best," Lanham said. "She's an ambassador of the sport."

# SPORTS

# **Rachel Spilker**

The three-sport varsity athlete plans to continue her athletic career at Pennsylvania State University. by Shelby Chasser | Editor-in-Chief



Spilker is celebrating her teammates accomplishments. She committed to play lacrosse in college her sophomore year of high school. "I haven't necessarily lived to commit for lacrosse, but it does provide really good opportunities," Spilker said. Photo courtesy of Rachel Spilker.

Ever since Rachel Spilker was a little kid, she has played on competitive sports teams for lacrosse and soccer. Now as a senior in high school, she is a three-sport varsity athlete who plays basketball, lacrosse and soccer. During her senior year, she was a captain of the girls basketball team, and is currently a captain of the girls lacrosse team.

"I started playing [sports] because a lot of my family and extended family does so it was sort of a natural thing," Spilker said. Much like her two older siblings who committed to playing lacrosse in college, she is committed to the girls lacrosse team at Pennsylvania State University. Although she never thought of committing to a university for a sport as a top priority, she knew that she loved to play and if the opportunity arose, she would play in a heartbeat.

For Spilker, lacrosse is her favorite sport to play. "I love the team atmosphere of lacrosse," Spilker said. "The sport is a lot of fun but getting to grow together and pump each other up is probably the best part."

For both her high school and Maryland United club team she plays defense, being a major impact on and off the field. "It's a lot about working as a unit, and it's also just really fun when you shut someone

down," Spilker said. "You build a lot of trust in your teammates this way."

Although lacrosse has been and is a huge part of her life, it does not take away from the other sports she loves. "I have played basketball and soccer my whole life," Spilker said. "The goal for this year in all sports is just to take every game as it comes and continue to grow as a team and individual."

For the rest of the season, she will be giving it her all on and off the field, and for upcoming years, she is excited to continue her athletic career at a four year university.

# SPORTS

# Shane Carr

Senior Shane Carr is an elite three-time state championship athlete.

Senior Shane Carr grew up in a town where lacrosse is a priority in many families including his. "I started to play in kindergarten. They didn't have a league for my age so I played in a third grade league," Carr said.

As a freshman, Carr attended Saint Mary's High School, but transferred and immediately became a Falcon fanatic for the spring semester. "The athletic community at SPHS is the best part about being an athlete here. There are so many other athletes you can hang around and every team supports each other making the community even closer," Carr said.

Carr has many great memories playing as a Falcon. "My favorite of my memories is my first

### by Colin DeFeo | Sports Editor

time playing in a varsity game, it was against Spalding and I came in at halftime after we were losing by a decent amount and I held Spalding to one goal, and we ended up winning," Carr said.

Carr is a three time state champion and plays competitive lacrosse every summer. "I committed to play lacrosse in my senior year. It's a relatively late time to commit for the recruiting process," Carr said. Carr decided on the University Michigan due to several factors. "It's hard to beat Michigan because they have everything great football, sports facilities, academics and a good social life. Also they gave me the better offer out of the offers I got," Carr said.

As Carr prepares for his next

step in his lacrosse career, he plans to finish this season as a leader on and off the field. "It's definitely a challenge having to step up and be a leader. There is so much pressure in being a leader, you feel like you have a big part in the teams success but and even bigger part in their failures. In the end though, being a leader makes the whole experience in general a better one," Carr said.

With Carr finishing his last season as a Falcon, he is taking time to think back on his three years of success and his impact as a Falcons, "Being apart of three state championship team's has been a special experience. Just being able to play with so many great athletes has made me be able to elevate my own game," Carr said.



Senior Shane Carr getting in position to prepare for a shot. Carr had a fantastic season last year and is already having a great season. "Being an athlete at SPHS is the best part of high school," Carr said. Photo Courtesy of Shane Carr.

### Dear Seniors,

As the final days are approaching and our time in high school is coming to an end, we want to reflect on our time as Editors in Chief of your school newspaper, The Talon. There are simply not enough words we could write to show our love for the paper and our staff. Both of us have spent countless hours designing, writing and trying our best to give you all the best newspaper we possibly can.

When you pick up an issue of the Talon, you are not just holding a school newspaper. You are holding much more. You are holding hours of work, ideas and determination to give you the best stories we possibly can. The Talon is something we both hold close to our hearts and is the place where we share our words to all of you.

Not only do we love our paper but we love our staff as well. The Talon is a family. It is a place where kids from all different groups, grades, activities and backgrounds are able to come together and work on the same goal. Whether it is the countless Friday night hangouts, going to New York City to present our paper at Columbia University, or the casual conversations in the publication lab while eating Mission Barbecue, doughuts and bagels. It is truly no secret that we love what we do and that we hold each other as close to our hearts as we hold the paper.

It is very unique to have a class that truly allows you to feel you are as important and valued as everyone else. We are the only school in the county who prints six times a year and has an award-winning online website and print edition. For our success to come, everyone is given a role and is just as valued as the next. Knowing your hard work is being read by the student body is truly an amazing feeling. But what we value even more are the bonds we have formed with our staff and with our adviser, Mrs. Earhart.

As we head onto our own paths, we cannot wait to watch as the Talon staff continues to produce an amazing newspaper. The senior issue will be our last time writing for you all, but we truly wish the best of luck to the entire senior class on all your amazing adventures.

Shelby Chasser

With love,

Cicilia Straker

Cecilia Streaker