

# the TALON

OCTOBER

## **VAPING BAN**

*The end of mint and menthol.*

## **FALL MUSICAL**

*A guide to the auditioning process.*

## **GIRLS SPORTS**

*Mid-season update on soccer, cross country, field hockey and volleyball.*








**EDITORS-IN-CHIEF** Greer Long, Connor Killeen  
**NEWS EDITOR** Carey Cameron  
**OPINION EDITOR** Amanda Vu  
**FEATURES EDITOR** Matt Mangano  
**SPORTS EDITOR** Colin DeFeo  
**ONLINE EDITOR** Nick Carparelli  
**BUSINESS MANAGER** Peter Regala  
**PHOTOGRAPHER** Campbell Haney  
**STAFF WRITERS** Nick Ivey, Sophie Krejci, Henry Wright  
**ADVISER** Valerie Earhart

**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 thespalon@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.

- PAGE 4** - *Vaping Ban*
- PAGE 5** - *Vaping Ban, Cont.*
- PAGE 6** - *Trump Flag*
- PAGE 7** - *Trump Flag, Cont.*
- PAGE 8** - *Affirmative Action*
- PAGE 9** - *Audition Advice*
- PAGE 10** - *Senior Internships*
- PAGE 11** - *New Teacher Profiles*
- PAGE 12** - *Application Advice*
- PAGE 13** - *Application Advice, Cont.*
- PAGE 14** - *Hannah More*
- PAGE 15** - *Coach Wright*
- PAGE 16** - *Girls Sports*
- PAGE 17** - *Girls Sports, Cont.*
- PAGE 18** - *Volleyball Seniors*
- PAGE 19** - *SP Golf*

## TALK TO US

 Severna Park Talon
  Severna Park Talon  
 @thesptalon
  @thesptalon  
 sptalon.com

## COVER PHOTO

The captains of the various girls sports teams at SPHS are proud of their teams' progress throughout the years. The cross country, field hockey, soccer and volleyball teams have gained county and state-wide recognition as strong competition. "We feel a lot more confident this year, but we still have some work to do," senior field hockey captain Anna Marcoon said. Photo by Greer Long.



Seniors Emily Allgair and Julia Hoenscheid participating in the national climate strike in downtown Annapolis. On Sept. 20, people all over the country used this opportunity to speak out against apathy towards climate change. "It was a really good opportunity to bring people together to fight for something they're all passionate about," Hoenscheid said. Photo by Amanda Vu.

## What's Happening this Month?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Oct. 15:</b> Schools Closed<br>Volleyball v. Southern<br>Boys Soccer v. Northern | <b>Oct. 22:</b> XC County Championship<br>Soccer County Championship<br>Volleyball v. Meade |
| <b>Oct. 16:</b> PSAT (Juniors Only)   | <b>Oct. 24:</b> Unified Tennis State Championship   |
| <b>Oct. 17:</b> Boys Soccer v. Chesapeake<br>Girls Soccer v. Chesapeake             | <b>Oct. 25:</b> Improv Night  |
| <b>Oct. 18:</b> Pep Rally<br>Homecoming Football Game v. Glen Burnie                | <b>Oct. 28:</b> Golf State Championship<br>Volleyball v. Meade                              |
| <b>Oct. 19:</b> Homecoming Dance  | <b>Oct. 29:</b> Unified Tennis State Championship   |
| <b>Oct. 21:</b> Field Hockey County Championship                                    | <b>Oct. 30:</b> Golf State Championship   |
|   | <b>Oct. 31:</b> XC Regionals  |



# Ban of Flavored Vaping Products

New hospitalizations are leading to a nationwide ban on flavored e-cigarettes.

by Sophie Krejci | Staff Writer



The Trump Administration and FDA are placing a ban on all flavors of e-cigarettes except tobacco. There have been 20 deaths and hospitalizations linked to vaping in the U.S. recently. "They cause lung diseases and teens think it's safe when there are no long term studies, but it's not," junior Ella Ryan said. Graphic by Natalie Castillo.

On Sept. 11, President Donald Trump announced that his administration would be working on a ban of almost all flavored e-cigarettes, to be enacted within 30 days. Recently, 20 deaths and hospitalizations linked to vapes have occurred across the U.S. prompting the Trump administration and the

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to create a ban on the selling of all vape flavors including mint and menthol, leaving only tobacco-flavored products on the market. The focus of this ban seems to be on Juuls and other e-cigarettes, but it overlooks dab pens and other marijuana-based vapes.

A Juul is a device that looks

like a sleek flash drive and uses small containers called pods, which are filled with a flavored nicotine substance. The intake of nicotine into the body, known as vaping, creates an adrenaline rush that triggers a release of dopamine in the brain, causing a 'buzz'. A dab pen is a vaping device filled with butane hash oil, THC and

other ingredients found in marijuana. Dab pens create a 'high' instead of a buzz. A high can be described as a happy, euphoric feeling resulting from the THC changing the chemical balance in your brain.

This is because marijuana is a schedule one drug, thus, already illegal, which prevents the FDA's ability to regulate marijuana-based vapes.

Last November, at the request of the FDA, Juul Labs stopped selling fruit-flavored pods. These flavors included mango, watermelon and cucumber, but not mint, menthol and tobacco. The current proposal would now ban mint and menthol flavors from being sold. Juul Labs also began to supply their pods solely to vape and tobacco shops, and no longer to gas stations. Additionally, Juul now requires more stringent age verifications for online purchases. Despite these efforts, the youth vaping epidemic continues to grow. According to cncb.com, in the past 30 days, over a quarter of high school students have used an e-cigarette.

People all over the world are concerned that vaping is a problem that is causing unknown health effects and impacting users. "We don't know the full effects of it yet," junior Kate Stefancik said. Recently, doctors have linked seven deaths to vaping. There have been over 380 confirmed cases, nationally, of lung diseases linked to vaping. Many of these have been acute respiratory distress syndrome, or the building of fluid in the lungs, preventing the flow of oxygen.

These hospitalizations and

deaths are what prompted the Trump administration and the FDA to ban flavored e-cigarettes. Many states and cities have also followed suit. Michigan has been the first to enact a ban on flavored e-cigarettes. Maryland only bans vaping in indoor public areas like a train or a restaurant. The ban does not target dab pens or marijuana-based vapes. Although it is

unconfirmed, many doctors believe that these hospitalizations were caused by vaping with pods that include THC oil and vitamin E acetate, ingredients frequently found in dab pens. "They cause lung diseases and teens think it's safe when there are no long term studies, but it's not," junior Ella Ryan said.

WINDSOR  
WESTFIELD ANNAPOLIS

LIVE FOR LUXE  
15% OFF  
YOUR PURCHASE  
IN STORE ONLY | USE CODE: HOCO19SPHSMO

#WindsorHoco2019 | WINDSORSTORE.COM

\*SHOW THIS AD AT ANY WINDSOR AND GET 15% OFF BEFORE TAXES AND DISCOUNTS. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER CODE, OFFER, PROMOTION AND DISCOUNT. ONE PER CUSTOMER, PER VISIT. NOT VALID ONLINE. PREVIOUS PURCHASES ARE EXCLUDED. NO CASH VALUE. VALID THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2019.



# Trump Flag Confiscated

America-themed student section sparks controversy at away football game.

by Connor Killeen | Editor-in-Chief



On Sept. 13, under the Friday night lights of Arundel High School's football field, the SPHS student section was awash with red, white and blue thanks to the game's America theme. It was selected before the season by the football team's managers: Lauren Neal, Emma Patenaude and Jillian Caffiero. As the first quarter drew to a close, a handful of SPHS seniors displayed a "Trump 2020" flag which was confiscated by the Arundel administration. These actions led to the opening of an investigation, which is still ongoing at the time of print.

Flag owner, Troy Miller, along with fellow students John Griem and Sam Honecker, thought it would be appropriate to wave a flag with the name of

Sept. 24 concluded the investigation of events that occurred at the SPHS versus Arundel football game on Sept. 13. The principal of Arundel ordered that a Trump flag should be taken from a group of SPHS seniors after it was considered a disruption. "If anyone thinks that a flag with our president's name on it is hurtful then you should probably just stay inside for four more years," senior John Griem said. Photo by Campbell Haney.

the United States' sitting president. "I felt bringing a flag that said our president's name was no big deal considering he is the president," Miller said.

During the football game, Officer Swartz was posted next to the SPHS student section, and watched the situation take place. Approximately 10 minutes after the flag was first raised, a group of Arundel boys approached the SPHS student section but were stopped at the stairs by their assistant principal and told to return to their section. A short time later, the Arundel student section started the first of many "F-ck SP" chants that lasted about 15 sec-

onds each. Swartz then notified Honecker, the student holding one end of the Trump flag, that the Arundel crowd was seeing the flag as something other than a patriotic symbol for the football game's theme.

"It's making my job harder as far as keeping you guys safe... it's not illegal, you guys can [continue to hold the flag], but it is creating a problem that I will have to eventually deal with," Swartz said. Honecker then returned to Miller and Griem, and the group decided to continue to hold up the flag, citing their First Amendment rights. A few minutes later, Arundel's principal, Gina



Davenport, asked her assistant principal to retrieve the flag from the SPHS student section and return it at the end of the game.

"I was told that I could get the flag back at the end of the game, but when I went to go get the flag she said I would get it Monday, which never happened, and I still have not received the flag or any information on when I may get it back," Miller said. Following the flag's confiscation, the Arundel Wildcats went on to win 27-16.

"I had no intention to instigate the opposing team or their fans, I had no idea they would react the way they did," Miller said.

The AACPS Student Handbook encourages students to participate in patriotic exercises, stating that "Maryland Education Law provides that the love of freedom and democracy, shown in the devotion of all true and patriotic Americans to their flag and country, shall be instilled in the hearts and

SPHS students stand in their section for the first game of the season against North County. The Falcons lost to the Knights 13-6. Photo by Carey Cameron.

minds of the youth of America."

Miller said "I believe my First Amendment right was violated because I was just showing support for our president and the United States. My right of expression was taken away fully on Friday night at Arundel."

Senior Hannah Hall said, "I'll be the first to say I don't like Donald Trump, but they can't take that flag away from him."

Miller and Griem were given an ultimatum: either they could take the flag down or they would be asked to leave the game. The boys wanted to keep cheering on their team, so they gave the item to the Arundel athletic director. Miller and Griem feel that the flag was not disruptive and only helped represent the American theme of the student section.

Despite action being tak-

en against the SPHS student section, the chanting continued by Arundel fans.

"I find it a joke that they can chant 'F-ck SP' but get sad when I have a Trump flag. No action was taken to stop the chants either and honestly it's a growing problem at every game. I am completely disappointed," Miller said.

However, Arundel students were addressed for their words and actions at the game. "When the Arundel students displayed inappropriate behavior, which included the chanting, they were reprimanded and administrators, including myself, remained in the student section for the remainder of the game. The Arundel students were also addressed on Monday morning about expectations at sporting events," Arundel Principal Davenport said.

The chants also affected the play of the teams on the field. "I didn't feel comfortable because they started playing dirty after that, the Arundel players...just started holding us more and playing dirty," defensive linemen Kaleb Blackwell said.

No derogatory chants were started by the SPHS student section in response to Arundel's actions.

On Thursday, Sept. 19, several Broadneck students were removed by referees from the SPHS visitor section during the boy's varsity soccer game after chanting "F-ck SP" at Severna Park soccer players. Both home and away student sections were upset at the other's behavior during the game.



SPHS is predominantly white. Upper class white. Look around your AP classes: can you count the number of minorities--not including females--using more than your two hands, maybe even one hand? In my AP Literature class, I only need three fingers. John F. Kennedy's Executive Order 10925 instructed federal contractors to take "affirmative action to ensure that applicants are treated equally without regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin." Affirmative action takes African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native American and women into consideration when deciding things like employment or university acceptance. Some argue that this perpetuates reverse discrimination, and an

undeserved education with a chance to flunk out. These arguments don't take into account the historical or contemporary disparities that keep minorities pinned to the disadvantaged wall. Yet, the main point behind most pro-affirmative action arguments is that minorities are generally poor and don't have the opportunities that the majority have. This inadvertently creates a culture that pities minorities and abhors the majority. Due to historical and contemporary disparities, many minorities cannot live here. In Severna Park, the percentage of African Americans is 2.6 percent, Hispanic Americans 2.9 percent, Asian Americans 2.8 percent and white 89.2 percent. The median income of African American households is \$47k

less than that of Caucasian Americans and Hispanic Americans \$29k less, according to statisticalatlas.com. Yet, our facilities are the best, our teachers are the best and we score the best. So, obviously, we go to the best universities. Students do not have to worry about their next meal or whether they have a place to sleep tomorrow, as my father did when he was in high school. The purpose of incorporating diversity is not to pity a minority or disadvantage a majority, but to bring people who think differently together. When people from diverse backgrounds bring their opinions to the classroom, everyone benefits. When people from diverse backgrounds bring their opinions to the nation, society benefits.

PRO

by Sabina Khan | Guest Writer

# AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

by Connor Garmey | Guest Writer

CON

The main goal of attaining a higher education is to qualify for a well paying profession at the possible cost of massive student loans. Underrepresented minorities are paying the costs and not reaping the benefits due to affirmative action. In a study conducted by University of Chicago sociologist James Davis, he found that college GPA correlated more strongly to career choice than did the academic rank of the school attended. When admission standards are lowered to accommodate students of specific races, those students are immediately put at a disadvantage. A gap is created between the affirmative action students and the higher-performing

regularly admitted students which in turn translates to racial divides amongst college grades. For example, in virtually all selective schools where racial preferences in admission is practiced, the majority of African American students end up in the lower quarter of their class. Consequently, affirmative-action beneficiaries pursue subjects like science and engineering at much lower rates since they are graded on a tougher curve than other subjects. These factors translate directly into lower hire rates and incomes for these beneficiaries, creating a gap that cannot be fixed with a magic marker and some quotas. Additionally, these race-based programs

don't even address the real problem: socioeconomic status, which occurs across all races. Why should a minority from a rich family get a leg up on others after hours of tutoring and private school? By addressing family wealth rather than race, minorities would have the most benefit but low-income white and Asian families would be helped as well. Efforts should be focused on fixing the root of this problem rather than try to force success for students who have been left behind by the system. Investing in public education in low-income areas would give the students who need it most a real chance at attending and excelling at top universities.

# Nick's Declassified School Audition Guide

Before the scripts, performers must endure a rigorous auditioning process.

by Nick Ivey | Staff Writer

Leaves are beginning to turn from green to orange in Severna Park, and with this change of season comes the annual fall musical. Every year, the musical or play brings hidden talents out on the stage to perform. It is put on over two short months, with rehearsals beginning in September and the opening in mid-November. With such a strained time limit, the cast works hard to get every move, every note and every line down perfectly. But before they can get their hands on the scripts, they must go through a five-day process of auditions and two days of torturous waiting to hear if they were cast.

**DAY 1: SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DANCE?** The dance audition takes place on the first day in the auditorium. "The dance was simple and basically set the expectations for the dancing in the show," junior Anthony Dicks said. After being taught a dance from the show and having just minutes to practice, students are put into groups of five to perform in front of the directors, dance choreographers and their peers.

**DAY 2: SING YOUR HEART OUT.** Again in groups of five, students enter the black-box theater. For the audition, students prepare one minute and 30 seconds of a song from a musical that is similar to one in the show they're auditioning

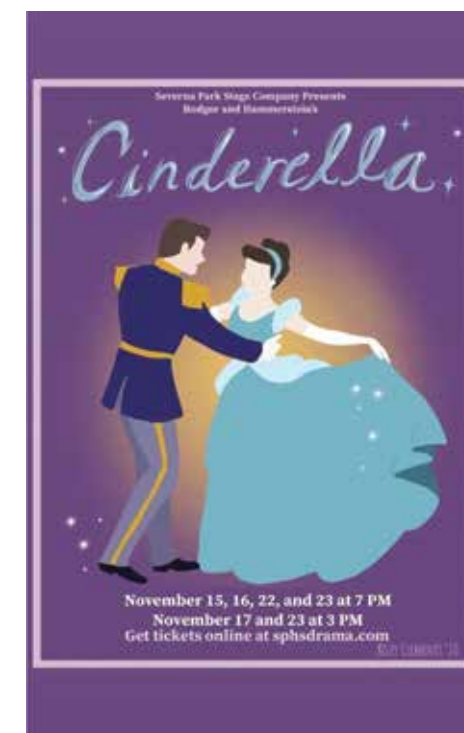
for. The better the directors get to know a singer's voice, the better chance the singer has of getting cast. "It's a really fun and chill experience. The creative team is super nice too, so it's not intimidating or nerve racking," senior Emily Allgair said. Next, a list of "callbacks," which are students who are being considered for leading roles, is posted.

**DAY 3: CALL ME MAYBE.** If students didn't receive a callback, no worries. They may still be cast in the show. "A call-

back means there's something about your vocals, or sometimes it's dance that makes us want to see more that makes it specific to the role we need," director Angela Germanos said. The directors give students a short scene for a specific character, which the students then practice and read with different people in different scenes. When they finish, they'll get a sheet of music with a song that they must perform on the final day.

**DAY 4: PRACTICE DAY.** Here is where the performers will take their assigned song and learn it. Whether it's playing it on Spotify or plucking out the notes on a piano, the auditionees who are called back must find a way to learn the song. They only have one day to learn the music and familiarize themselves with the character they're performing. "Always prepare. Ask friends; honestly watch Youtube videos, come to Ms. G or myself and ask for advice," director Atticus Boidy said.

**DAY 5: JUDGEMENT DAY.** Directly after school, all the callbacks will be in the chorus room, ready to perform their songs in front of the directors. Once everyone has finished their songs, they'll be sent home to wait for two grueling days until the cast list is posted online.



Graphic by Kiley Clements



## The Real World

Seniors are preparing for the future with internships in unique fields.

by Peter Regala | Business Manager

### WESLEY WINKLER

Senior Wesley Winkler has always known that he wants to work in the world of finance in the future, so when his brother accepted a job at Morgan Stanley, he became inspired to follow in his footsteps. To accomplish this, Winkler applied for and received a position at Charter Financial, an internship that his brother started when he was a senior at SPHS.

"So far the internship has been exciting and keeping me busy... I've been doing a lot of filing and scanning as they try to go paperless," Winkler said. Another bonus to the job has been the lunches, as the company often provides meals from various vendors. Alongside the professional lunches, Winkler has been able to witness how the company runs and handles clients.

"I think this will give me great experience and prepare me for what I seek to do in the future," Winkler said. The fu-

ture is bright for Winkler, and his internship at Charter Financial will undoubtedly be an important stepping stone.

### JOEY KILLPATRICK

When looking for an internship, senior Joey Killpatrick knew that he wanted to do something in the medical field. With the help of internship coordinator Jill McKay, he was able to secure an internship position at the MedStar Memorial Hospital in Baltimore.

MedStar is an influential healthcare company that employs many people throughout the Delmarva region. This position provides the opportunity to witness the medical business in action at a local hospital.

"I will be helping my adviser in different projects and sitting in on meetings," Killpatrick said. Killpatrick believes this internship will offer great future benefits in a field that is rapidly growing.

### ANDREW DELAERE

Senior Andrew DeLaere, a member of the SPHS varsity golf team, is working this semester as an intern at Arundel Golf Park. Located in Glen Burnie, Arundel Golf Park is a very popular and often crowded driving range, which brings various demands as an intern.

In the golf business there are many things a teaching professional at a driving range must be aware of, and DeLaere gets to witness how these elements are managed.

"My job includes answering the phones and managing timing and lesson availability," DeLaere said. This forces DeLaere to be constantly organized to make sure Arundel Golf Park runs as smoothly as possible. Along with managing the calendar, DeLaere also checks inventory and confirms that the necessary clubs are stocked in the office. These various roles have been demanding but very influential for DeLaere so far, and he believes this experience will prepare him for the real world, whether it is in the golf business or a different avenue.



Senior Wesley Winkler interns at Charter Financial. Photo by Campbell Haney.



Senior Joey Killpatrick interns at MedStar Health. Photo by Campbell Haney.



Senior Andrew DeLaere interns at Arundel Golf Park. Photo by Campbell Haney.

## Get To Know Some of the New Teachers at SPHS

A Q&A with some of the faculty's newest faces.

by Henry Wright | Staff Writer



Mrs. Downey describes a map during one of her English classes. Downey taught at South River High School for 10 years before making the switch to SPHS. Photo by Campbell Haney.



Mr. Yi works diligently at his desk, fixing and rearranging schedules to best fit students' requests. Yi has worked in many other locations, including teaching abroad. Photo by Campbell Haney.



Ms. Fernandez-Sanchez explains the lesson plan to her class. Teaching has always been a dream for her, and being able to teach Spanish and spread her culture makes it even better. Photo by Campbell Haney.

### MS. DOWNEY (ENGLISH)

**Q:** What made you decide to come SPHS?

**A:** I wanted to work with students who live in my community. It was difficult for me to go to my South River students' plays and events because the school is farther away. I'm looking forward to being able to attend student shows and games here.

**Q:** Have you always wanted to be a teacher?

**A:** I thought I wanted to go to law school, so I worked as a paralegal in the DOJ's Aviation and Admiralty Torts Litigation Office. While I was there, I found myself hanging out in the "war room" where we kept boxes of exhibits, reading NTSB crash reports and depositions. That might sound morbid, but what I realized was that I was craving stories. I needed to get back to literature. So, I changed jobs and got my masters in writing instead of going to law school. I love teaching.

### MR. YI (COUNSELING)

**Q:** What made you decide to come SPHS?

**A:** I came to SPHS because I wanted to continue to make a difference for AACPS. I have interned as a school counselor at Meade Middle, MacArthur Middle and Meade High. Prior to this, I tried to intern anywhere I could in Maryland but nobody offered me the opportunity. AACPS gave me a chance and now I am giving back for everything they have done for me.

**Q:** Have you always wanted to be a counselor?

**A:** I always thought I wanted to be a teacher until I actually tried it. Although I enjoy helping children, after teaching for two years, I decided I wanted to be a school counselor instead. Rather than working with a classroom full of students, I prefer to help students more individually and on a personal level.

### MS. FERNANDEZ-SANCHEZ (WORLD & CLASSICAL LANGUAGE)

**Q:** Have you always wanted to be a teacher?

**A:** I always wanted to be a teacher, I would play with my toys or with my cousins and I would be the teacher, have my classlist, my gradebook. It still feels like I am living that dream, having my real gradebooks, making my real lessons, my real photocopies. Originally I wanted to teach English in Spain where I am from; I loved English class and I was good at it, but when I studied abroad in Ireland and I started helping around the Spanish department I realized teaching my own language was an option. I just fell in love with sharing my culture and my mother language. I liked the idea that it could take me around the world doing what I love.

CONTINUED ONLINE AT:  
[WWW.SPTALON.COM](http://WWW.SPTALON.COM)

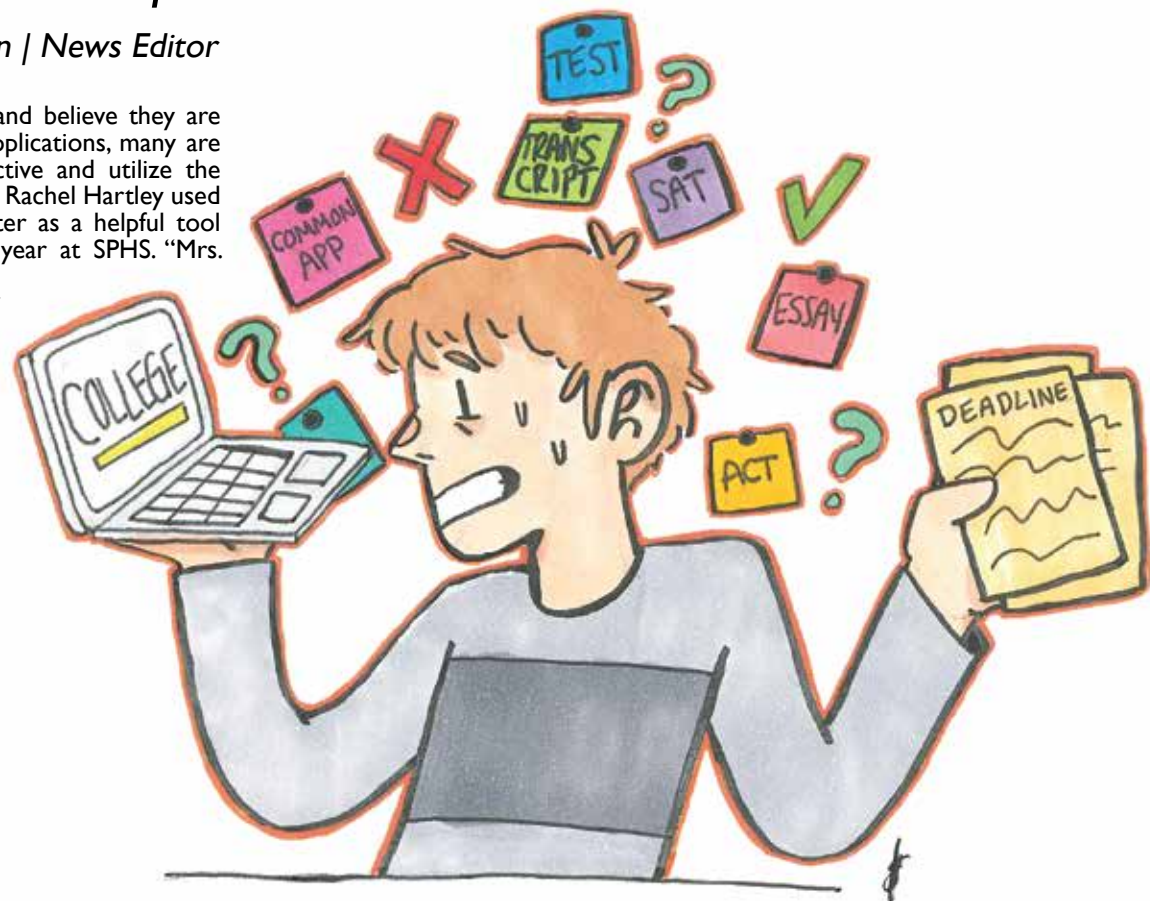


## Application Advice

Nancy Jackson answers frequently asked questions about the college application process.

by Carey Cameron | News Editor

Students tend to stress and believe they are not prepared for their applications, many are taking steps to be proactive and utilize the school's resources. Senior Rachel Hartley used the College Career Center as a helpful tool throughout their senior year at SPSH. "Mrs. Jackson helps me through Naviance... she looks over my applications, my supplemental and personal essays, to make sure I'm on track." Graphic by Ellie Cameron.



Freshmen ignore it, sophomores question it, juniors dread it and seniors endure it. What is it, exactly? The college application process. Rising expectations combined with increasingly stringent admissions has culminated in stress and anxiety among students in all grades. But do not get worked up quite yet. SPSH is fortunate enough to have the College and Career Center, located on the first floor adjacent to the guidance

office. The center holds college interest meetings, houses computers students may use for researching schools or completing applications, and gives out pamphlets on many colleges and universities. However, its most valuable resource is Nancy Jackson, the School and Community Liaison who runs the College and Career Center.

**HOW CAN STUDENTS STAY ORGANIZED DURING THE COLLEGE APPLICATION**

### PROCESS?

"This is so key to helping ease the angst in the process. Keeping an organizer (you can find them on Naviance under document resources) that keeps track of each school is so important. Remembering to write down your username and passwords. You often have several different ones during the process for each school. The organizer should have all the pertinent deadlines and requirements for each school.

That way you aren't having to revisit each school's website over and over again."

### WHAT IS THE BEST ADVICE FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS WHO ARE BEGINNING THIS DAUNTING PROCESS?

"RELAX. It will all be OK. I know it is daunting and seems to be overwhelming. Take a deep breath. Do one or two things at a time--don't try to tackle too much at a time. Ask for help and advice. Don't peek at someone else's paper, meaning don't get caught up in the comparison game that stresses you out about where others are applying or what scores they have or how many colleges they are applying to. YOU DO YOU."

### HOW SHOULD UNDER-CLASSMEN START PREPARING FOR THIS PROCESS?

"Relax and enjoy being a young person in high school. Work hard, find classes you enjoy, explore new classes, meet new people, try some new things after school but DO NOT spend time worrying about what others are doing academically. You will do the best when you feel the best. So balance things for you. And communicate with your teachers, parents and counselor about all the good stuff and the challenges. Make them be part of the journey. Find joy in it rather than making it such a stressful thing."

### WHEN APPLYING TO A DIFFICULT OR MORE SELECTIVE SCHOOL, IS THERE A WAY STUDENTS CAN MAKE THEIR APPLICATION STAND OUT?

"One of the hardest things I see young people having to do is talk about their accomplishments. Often they think something is insignificant or irrelevant when in reality it isn't. Colleges want to get a good picture of you to see if you will be a good and successful fit at their school. Your job is to share as much of YOU in the application process for them to get an idea of your personality, passions and interests. A visiting admissions rep today said, 'Be genuine--it shows.' I think that is so true."

### HOW CAN A STUDENT GET HELP WITH THEIR COLLEGE APPLICATIONS?

"Come to the College and Career Center and work on stuff. There are so many folks doing the same thing. It is a beautiful thing watching you all support each other. I am there to help too. Talk to your counselor they can help. If you have specific questions or need help, don't be afraid to reach out to specific college admission reps. They are there to help with the navigation process."

Naviance under document

resources) that keeps track of each school is so important. Especially remembering to write down your username and passwords. You often have several different ones during the process for each school. The organizer should have all the pertinent deadlines and requirements for each school. That way you aren't having to revisit each school's website over and over again."



# JAY YEARBOOK

BUY TODAY ▶ [jostensyearbooks.com](http://jostensyearbooks.com)





## A New Era

SPHS football is ready to take the next step with new head coach Mike Wright.

by Nick Carparelli | Online Editor

From 2015 to 2018, the SPHS football team's record improved under former head coach Will Bell. Going from a winless 2015 to a .500 record for the 2018 season, things looked promising for SPHS football. Bell then left the program for Hammond High School. New head coach Mike Wright is looking to take on a new challenge with higher expectations. "It's definitely a higher level of expectations and with that comes additional pressure knowing so many people really want to see our program do well," Wright said.

Along with a new varsity coach comes a new JV coach, Sam Hudson, an SPHS math teacher. "I believe Coach Wright has handled the transi-



Mike Wright thinks of the next play during the first game of the year against North County. The Falcons had chances to take the lead but failed to execute in the game. "Knowing so many people really want to see our program do well and are invested, just fuels my determination to work that much harder to make that happen," Wright said. Photo by Colin Murphy.



Coach Mike Wright shakes hands with junior Brett Butz after practice. This is Wright's first year as varsity football head coach. "I know our boys will continue to improve and grow as a team," Wright said. Photo courtesy of Mike Wright.

tion very well since he coached most of the varsity players. They know what to expect and what is expected from them," Hudson said.

Naturally, there are differences transitioning to a higher level of play, but how the situation is handled makes the changes less stressful. "As a JV coach or assistant, most of my focus was on the players. As the varsity coach, I am ultimately responsible for both teams... over 100 student athletes, and 12 coaches," Wright said.

Wright sees every game as a new challenge to him, his staff, and the team. Many people

say that the big game against Broadneck, SPHS's rival, being taken off the schedule makes games less meaningful, but Wright disagrees. "That's not as concerning to me as the loss of a regular season game in general. If anything, I'd like more games in a regular season for both JV and varsity versus adding a new tier of playoffs," Wright said.

Being the new head coach does not change the standard for winning games and making the playoffs. "Our team and I both have set high standards but we realize to get anywhere we have to take things step by step. For us that first step is to represent SPHS as student athletes on the field, in the classroom and in our community," Wright said. The continued support of students and fans makes Wright feel right at home. "We want the SPHS students, staff and community that supports us to be proud of this team and excited to see us play on Friday nights," Wright said.

**SPORTS COVERAGED CONTINUED  
ONLINE AT: WWW.SPTALON.COM**

**SEVERNA PARK FLORIST, INC.**  
T/A SEVERNA FLOWERS & GIFTS

40 B. West McKinsey Rd.  
Severna Park, MD 21146  
410-647-6501 • 800-582-6955  
www.severnaflowersandgifts.com  
Visit us on Facebook.

William & Susan Dyott teleflora

## Helping Students Succeed

An inside look at the Hannah More program.

by Amanda Vu | Opinions Editor

Backpacks shuffle at the ring of the school bell. Students walk into the Tech Ed hallway and glimpse the sign that says "Hannah More," and continue on with their day. It may not be a frequent destination for students at SPHS, but for some, it's an integral place for classes, activities and counseling.

Hannah More helps students with autism spectrum disorder, emotional disabilities and other disabilities navigate school by providing small classes and counseling support along with access to all of the school's resources.

Inspired by the abolitionist and social reformer, Hannah More, the first Hannah More School was established in Reisterstown, MD in 1970. Many found that students had to be bussed from Anne Arundel County to Reisterstown every day in order to receive adequate academic and therapeutic support. Other students didn't need as high a level of care as the school offered.

As a result, Hannah More partnered with AACPS to create an easily accessible school for students that lived in Anne Arundel County. "They really just needed additional support in English classes or with organizational support and social skills," Andrea Weathington, the Hannah More clinician said.

Small class sizes allow students to practice social skills before being transitioned into the public school system. "It would be the same curriculum



Cote works on an algebra problem with Mr. Jamal. Jamal has only been teaching for four weeks now but has formed strong bonds with many of his students. "I love spending time with kids who make my job really cool," Jamal said. Photo by Amanda Vu.

and the same assignments, but we just have smaller class sizes," Weathington said.

The program currently has two teachers, four aids, a clinician, a coordinator and an educational director that travels between Millersville Elementary and Severn River Middle, which both also house Hannah More students.

The Hannah More Program may include teaching in Algebra, Environmental Science, History and English. Tariq Jamal, Hannah More's newest teacher, is enthusiastic about teaching Algebra and Environmental Science. "Since the class sizes are small, I get to really work with the kids and give them one-on-one time," Jamal said.

Students who are enrolled spend as little time as possible in the program and will graduate with a high school diploma. Senior Cassidy Cote feels

welcome at SPHS and in the program. Being surrounded by others in similar situations has given her a chance to expand her social skills in a safe space. The desire to feel "normal," runs through Cote's mind occasionally, but mostly, she accepts that there's no such thing. "People are scared of change. There's people out there that will accept you, but also a small minority that doesn't seek to understand because we're different than what they're used to," Cote said.

Dr. Kee, the program's education director, advocates that autism is simply a form of diversity, like social dynamics or personality types. "When you're looking among your peers, there's so many differences among them. This is just another difference. We are all normal in our own right. We all have our own differences," Kee said.



# Girls Fall Sports

Varsity captains give an exclusive preview of their teams.

by Matt Mangano | Features Editor

## Soccer

The soccer team is dominating the competition this year and is undefeated so far this season. The team made play-off runs the past two years and are hoping they will see more success in the later games of their state tournament. "We lost some key seniors and we miss them, but I think the team has more depth this year," senior captain Chase Campbell said.

**CAPTAINS:** Chase Campbell, Lauren Campbell, Toni Fiocco-Mizer, Katie Byrd

**LAST SEASON RECAP:** The team had a great season until the state semifinals, when they lost 1-2 to Walt Whitman.

**PLAYERS TO WATCH:** Freshmen Ava Schultz, Hanna Ver-

reault, and Sydney Holmes. These freshmen have seen ample playing time and have a few goals to show for it. "The underclassmen will make the team really strong next year," Campbell said.

## Volleyball

The volleyball team has struggled with consistency in past seasons. However, their outlook is still positive and it is paying off this year. "We would get in our heads a lot, but this year is different because we have so much more motivation and our chemistry is so much better," senior captain Yasmeen Mahmud said. The young team has just two seniors, but despite this they remain confident in their abilities.

**CAPTAINS:** Yasmeen Mahmud, Skyler Sale

**LAST SEASON RECAP:** The team ended the season with as many wins as losses.

**PLAYERS TO WATCH:** Freshman Sydney Watts, sophomore Maggie Sale, juniors Siena DeCicco and Ally Fletcher. "The young players are so talented, and it makes Skyler and my roles as captains very easy," Mahmud said.

## Field Hockey

Team spirit is at an all time high for the field hockey team. After a disappointing loss to Arundel in last year's state semifinal, the team is ready to compete and hopefully take home another state title. "We feel a lot more confident this year, but

we still have some work to do," senior captain Anna Marcoon said. "I think the team has the best chemistry I've seen in my four years."

**CAPTAINS:** Sarah Adams, Anna Marcoon, Lila Slattery

**LAST SEASON RECAP:** After a successful regular season, they lost in the state semifinals to Arundel, who had beaten them for the first time in team history earlier that year.

**PLAYERS TO WATCH:** Freshmen Charlie Kramer, Meredith Schepens, and Ava Drexler, juniors Katherine Esposito and Carson Smith.

## Cross Country

The girls cross country team is still riding high after last season's historic state championship. It was the first time in state history that the same school's girls and boys team won the title in the same year. The achievement motivated the team into this season and they

continue to win big races like White Clay Creek and were runners up to Howard at the Bull Run Invitational in the Elite Race. "The Howard girls are our biggest competition for the state title in November, so we are just trying to work as hard as possible during practice so we're prepared to take them on come states," senior captain Brenna Mullaney said.

**CAPTAINS:** Stephanie Brenneman, Bella Dowdell, Brenna Mullaney, Sophie Zell

**LAST SEASON RECAP:** Maryland 4A State Champions

**LEADING RUNNERS:** Sophie Zell, Allysa Combs, Caroline Gage. Zell, Combs, and Mullaney were apart of the team that went to nationals last year, but Mullaney has been out due to a stress fracture.

**RUNNERS TO WATCH:** Freshman Cami Gleboki and sophomore Needa Baker, a scoring runner on varsity.

Photos left to right: Senior Chase Campbell dribbles between two defenders. The soccer team made two long runs in the state tournament but fell short of the championship. "We are a really strong team this year, so I think we have a chance," Campbell said. Photo courtesy of Rachel Reed.

Senior Yasmeen Mahmud high fives her teammates during a warm up against Mount Hebron. The team won the game and is having a successful season. "There is a different energy with the team this season," Mahmud said. Photo by Katrina Schultz

The field hockey team huddles up before a corner against McDonough. They lost the game in triple overtime. "We have come a long way since last season," Marcoon said. Photo by Dierdre King.

The girls cross country team poses after getting second at the Seahawk Invitational at South River. The reigning state champions have no time to rest on their laurels. "We have serious competition for the title this year, especially the Howard girls," senior Brenna Mullaney said. Photo courtesy of Brenna Mullaney.





# Volleyball Seniors

Girls volleyball-- do they have a shot?



This year, there are only two seniors on the SPHS varsity volleyball team. Seniors Yasmeen Mahmud and Skyler Sale have been demonstrating their newfound responsibility both on and off the court. "Beyond the skills each player brings, they all are selfless competitors who help make the team better," coach Timothy Dunbar said. Photo by Katrina Schultz.

and Skyler Sale. "Skyler and Yasmeen lead by example. They work hard during practice and encourage the other players in both practice and the matches," coach Timothy Dunbar said.

After playing basketball her entire life, Mahmud began playing volleyball when she was 13 years old after to a great deal of convincing by her mom. "Once I started playing, I quit basketball because I loved volleyball so much," she said. As a defensive specialist, Mahmud focuses on passing the ball to the hitter in the front row. "Being a [defensive specialist] is perfect for me because it allows me to move and dive all over the floor to dig the really hard hits," she said. Mahmud's favorite part of volleyball is its mental aspect, which requires her to stay focused to predict her opponent's next move.

"There are so many components to playing good volleyball, and it really is all about teamwork," Mahmud said. Like all sports, volleyball requires players to learn from failure and grow from mistakes. "There's no such thing as a per-

fect game, so when I mess up, I've learned to shake it off and do better," Mahmud said. Mahmud does not plan on committing to a college for volleyball, however she hopes to continue playing the sport in her free time. Mahmud is confident about this season and believes that the team has a good shot at winning States. "We have such a great group of girls that has an amazing chemistry on and off the court," she said.

Sale has been playing volleyball since she was in seventh grade, following in the footsteps of her mom, who played in college. "I get my competitive edge from her. She coached me in my early years and has taught me so much," Sale said.

As an outside hitter, Sale enjoys playing on the net and attacking the ball while also serving for her team. "I love always being on the court, I love playing all the positions," she said. Sale's favorite aspect of volleyball is the competitive nature of the sport. "Every mistake you make is a point for the other team so you have to stay mentally tough and mechanically sound," Sale said. Playing volleyball has taught Sale she must trust her teammates, as there are only six players on the court at a time. When she is not playing for SPHS, Sale plays volleyball for the South River Volleyball Club. Sale is keeping her options open, but plans on continuing her volleyball career in college.

"This season I want to win, I want to come together as a team," Sale said.

states this year. "We haven't had our best season ever but I feel like we will still do well in the county championship and hopefully win states as a team," Garmey said. Even if the team doesn't win the county championship, states isn't out of the question.

"If counties does not work well for us, I feel confident that we will still win states," Schultz said.

# SP Golf

After winning counties last year, the SPHS golf team is looking at a successful season.

by Colin DeFeo | Sports Editor

After winning counties for the past three seasons, the SPHS golf team is eager to accomplish something more. The Falcons have not been to states as a team since 2016, when the current seniors were freshmen. Despite losing graduates Jake Hilliard and all-county golfer Addison Wells, the team has had great success so far, winning two matches and finishing in second place for the whole county. Head coach Pete Buck has been coaching at SPHS for four seasons and is pleasantly shocked by the talent this year. "So far we've been playing well, we got 10 players with a lot of talent competing for six spots to start, and everyone is working as hard as they can," Buck said.

The team's future looks promising with the talented freshmen players. "Although we lost some great players last year, we have some great new freshmen that have been contributing on and off the field," senior Connor Garmey said. Not only are the freshmen good, but other returning players have significantly improved since last season. "There are seven of us seniors and I feel like people like sophomore Ingrid Wells will fill our spots and take our program to success while we are gone," senior Katrina Schultz said.

Freshmen typically come into sports anxious about their first season, however that mindset changed quickly for David



Senior Connor Garmey finishes his swing as he watches the ball soar through the air. Since the beginning of the season, the seniors have played very well and contributed to the team's success. "Although there is seven of us leaving I have faith in the underclassmen to step up like we did," Garmey said. Photo by Sam Sullivan.

Regala. "Varsity golf is more than I expected, but everything panned out very well," he said. There will always be ups and downs with sports, especially in high school. "Golf is a lot of hard work, but I like how I get to play and hangout with my teammates all the time," Regala said.

As they move forward and approach the end of the season, the team is hoping to win

states this year. "We haven't had our best season ever but I feel like we will still do well in the county championship and hopefully win states as a team," Garmey said. Even if the team doesn't win the county championship, states isn't out of the question.

"If counties does not work well for us, I feel confident that we will still win states," Schultz said.



# SMART

Baltimore native, Mike Rowe, of "Dirty Jobs" said it best when he said, "I can say the willingness to get dirty has always defined us as a nation, and it's a hallmark of hard work and a hallmark of fun, and dirt is not the enemy."

The Sheet Metal Worker's Apprenticeship has the right opportunity for you -- to help define our nation of hard work. It can provide the needed **SKILLS** and **WORK EXPERIENCE** for a well paying **JOB** here in Maryland.



The Sheet Metal Worker's Apprenticeship is a combination of classroom work and on-the-job training. The five-year program consists of 40-hour on-the-job work weeks with 8 hours of technical classroom instruction every other week. Earn while you learn. The pay scale is standard for everyone with set increases every 6 months. In addition to GREAT pay, you will also have Health and Pension benefits. This training costs you nothing out of pocket.

If you are over 18, don't mind physical labor and can pass a drug test then Union Sheet Metal Work will be your future.