



The News

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Gilman School

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Student Reaction to Renovated Carey Hall

BY GABE DONNAY

The results of the latest Gilman News Survey are in, and it seems that both the student body and faculty share the administration's enthusiasm about the renovated Carey Hall. The response from those surveyed was overwhelmingly positive: over 96% are at least satisfied with the building, and out of these respondents, 55% said that the renovation is "great". Students gave many aspects of the renovation rave reviews: one sophomore gushed, "The carpet is nice. The wood is nice. It smells nice." Another remarked that, "The bathrooms are outstanding. I especially love the stainless steel stalls. I will really enjoy my experiences there more." Everyone seems to love the larger classrooms, aesthetically pleasing bathrooms and, of course, the windows.

Unfortunately, over 61% of students also expressed discontent about the stringent rules and regulations that have been put in place since the move. It seems that for many, the administration is putting a damper on the atmosphere in Carey Hall. One ninth grader's response seemed to sum up the feelings of his peers: he said that he likes "almost everything about the building itself", but he is extremely unhappy with the new rules. Much of the discontent

stemmed from the lack of eating space: one sophomore said that "the clampdown on eating restrictions is ridiculous." Students feel that the administration is displaying a lack of trust in them, and that there are some places in the building, such as the common rooms on the second and third floors, that could be used as eating spaces without much hassle. Also, students and faculty alike are unhappy about the "office building" or "hospital" feel of the bare, gray walls, and would really appreciate seeing some kind of art or decorations hanging up again. One junior remarked that, due to the lack of decoration, the new building "has no character" and no longer "feels like home."

Luckily, since most of the students' complaints are related to the new rules, it seems that the administration could establish a universally positive attitude among students with just a few compromises in their stringent new policies. Either way, though, it is clear that everyone is overjoyed to be back in Carey Hall once again. □

Editor's Note: For complete coverage and reaction concerning the return to Carey Hall, see the poll results on page 3.



While the interior of Carey Hall underwent massive renovations, the exterior of the historic building remains nearly entirely unchanged (Photo courtesy of Cynosure).

Fall Productions Draw Excellent Reviews



Members of the cast of *Our Town* rehearse prior to the performance at RPCS (Photo courtesy of Cynosure).

Into the Woods

BY SAHAAN SOZHAMANNAN

Starting with a sell-out crowd on the night of November 16, Roland Park produced their fall musical, the Broadway hit *Into the Woods*. The musical focuses on the different journeys and goals of classic fairy-tale characters, such as Cinderella, Jack, and Little Red Riding Hood. The narrator, played by Jack Mitchell, took the audience through each one of the characters cross paths throughout the show.

The many hours of hard work by the cast and crew paid off as the play progressed so smoothly that it was hard to believe this was a high school production! In particular, the singing performances of Julia Osterman (*Cinderella*)

and Taz George (*Jack*) stood out, while the comedic characters of the Baker and his wife, played by Nick Parlato and Chris Gummerson, kept the audience laughing throughout. Josh and Billy Siems gave strong performances as the hilarious and suave princes. Other Gilman students involved with the cast were Andrew Robinson as the steward, Adam Boukis as the crazy Baker's father, Connor Lounsbury as the drunkard father of Cinderella, and Brian Kim as the sketchy wolf.

The show contained many different twists and turns, including the surprise killing of the narrator and the many tragic deaths of the lovable characters. On the dedicated and excellent production team were Laura Hackman, director, Rhonda Abou-

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Letters to the Editor

Giff Brooks Questions Administration's Policies Regarding New Building

After a fifteen month hiatus, the magnificently renovated Carey Hall recently welcomed us home again. The building is clean and spacious, with classrooms and common areas that put the Hound Pound to shame. I am especially impressed by the 3rd floor skybox and the library's new layout. Although I express my deepest gratitude to the school and all those who helped make the renovated Carey Hall a reality, I must admit that the move back has fallen short of my expectations.

Yes, we've returned to a building, but have we returned to a school? I have spoken with several teachers and classmates who liken the

feeling of the place to a hospital. The gray walls, bare corridors, and sterile lighting sap vivacity from the classes. I do not fault the architects and planners for this flaw, but rather the policies of the administration. In the old Carey Hall and the Hound Pound, club announcements, artwork, photocopied news articles, and bulletin boards crowded the hallways. Inside the classrooms, posters of book reports or Renaissance painters hung from the walls, creating a sense of liveliness and learning.

Now, the "Ten Commandments" for Carey Hall sternly restrict us from making any attempts to

inject life and cheerfulness into the naked classrooms and hallways. Next time you arrive at the bottom of the main stairwell, take a second to look around. The dim lighting and odd angles bask the spot in a cold shadow. Hanging some sketches from the art room, posting some club announcements, or even throwing a few couches or chairs there would apparently ruin and disrespect the new building. I understand the thought process, but isn't the line between enlivening Carey Hall and defacing it being drawn a little too conservatively?

On top of that, all faculty members received an email on the first day ordering them to lock the doors of their classrooms upon leaving. The email also mentioned that students can no longer occupy a classroom without faculty supervision.

Again, the intentions are pure: the administration hopes these measures will prevent theft or damage. The message, however, is one of distrust and animosity. If Gilman claims to instill us with integrity and honor, why can't we be trusted to honor the new facilities? Aren't we taught to do the right thing even when no one is watching? Furthermore, the restrictions

provide underclassmen with only two feasible places to eat: Centennial Hall and the old 010. Eating outside on the porches would be ludicrous given Baltimore's freezing winter weather. Even the seniors have to pack into their senior room, often forced to sit on tables and floor during lunch. The administration has made it clear that we are neither trusted nor expected to live up to the morals on which Gilman prides itself.

Let me make myself clear: I am thankful beyond words for the opportunity I have to come not only to Gilman, but also to the new Carey Hall. After moving into the \$50 million building, I would be naïve and arrogant to complain about it. Now that we have inherited it, however, we should also have the right to convert it from a building into a home. So far, however, distrust and undue restrictions have hindered such a process. When we received the renovated Carey Hall, it was not a finished project. Until the students are trusted to recreate the Gilman spirit that pervaded the old Carey Hall- and even the Hound Pound-, it will remain incomplete.

-Giff Brooks



Members of the Class of '08 cram into the senior room for a lunch period. Despite their tight quarters, seniors appear to find less quarrel with the strict lunch-eating rules than underclassmen (See Poll pg. 3) (Photo by Ed Wiese).

Gilman School



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Leslie Guthrie BMS '08 Responds to Criticism of Her Column in the Quill

Editor's Note: The most recent issue of the Quill, Bryn Mawr's school newspaper, included a column by Leslie Guthrie '08 that contained sections that many Gilman students found offensive.

Clarification!

For those of you that read the one paragraph in my recent article about the Little School reaffirming my faith in men, specifically the line that went "I have come to regard the majority of the male species as a waste", I would like to clarify something:

I didn't mean it. Well, I did. I just didn't mean it so broadly.

I have had some pretty bad experiences with Gilman and that sort of clouds my daily judgment of men. And I can't say I'm alone in this sentiment, but I did generalize. And I apologize.

I could list the specifications of this generalization, but that would be far too numerous and would provide little resolution. If you are really interested, ask and I think you might begin to understand.

I apologize for how I made people feel. For the Gilman guys out there who don't ever deserve to be called a waste of space.

It's not fair to the other 95% of Gilman that I've only just gotten to know this year, the 95% who

are funny and intelligent and just really amazing people. So, to that 95%, I'm truly sorry.

I know plenty of people are angry with me. Strangers photocopied my article and put it around Gilman. People have screamed at me in class and threatened me on the bridge. And in that respect, let me just ask: why? If you believe so wholly that I'm wrong, why do some of you insist on proving me right?

But this is high school. We all make mistakes. I'm just grateful mine was this small.

This too shall pass and, when it does, I hope it's not held against me. I hope this can be a learning experience, on both sides. But, when it does, please don't forget to recycle those photocopies!

Peace?

Love,
Leslie

P.S. On matters of gender, especially Tri-School gender, check the Quill for news about a special forum on just that matter and ways to respond what Quill writers (like myself) have to say.

Thanks!

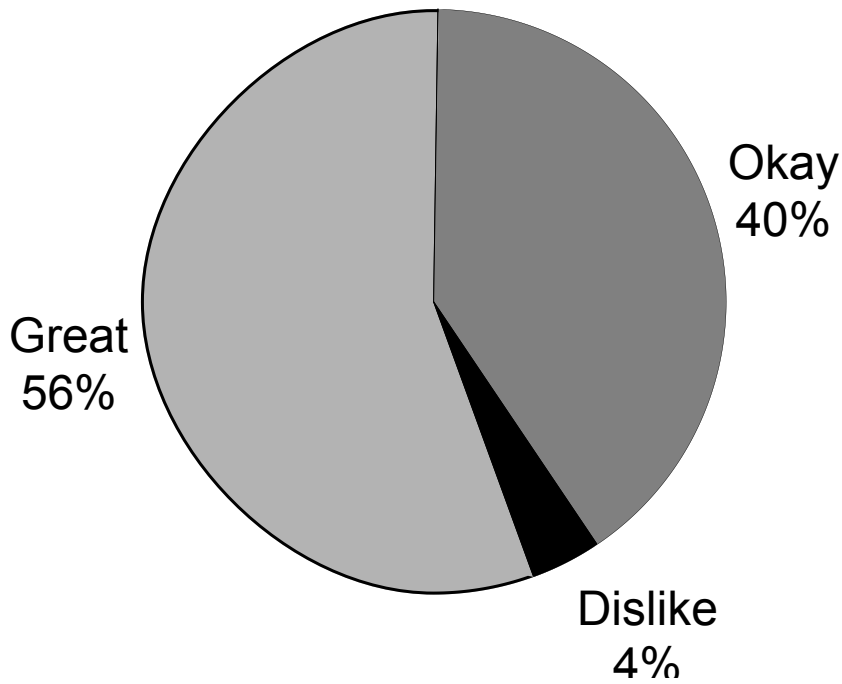
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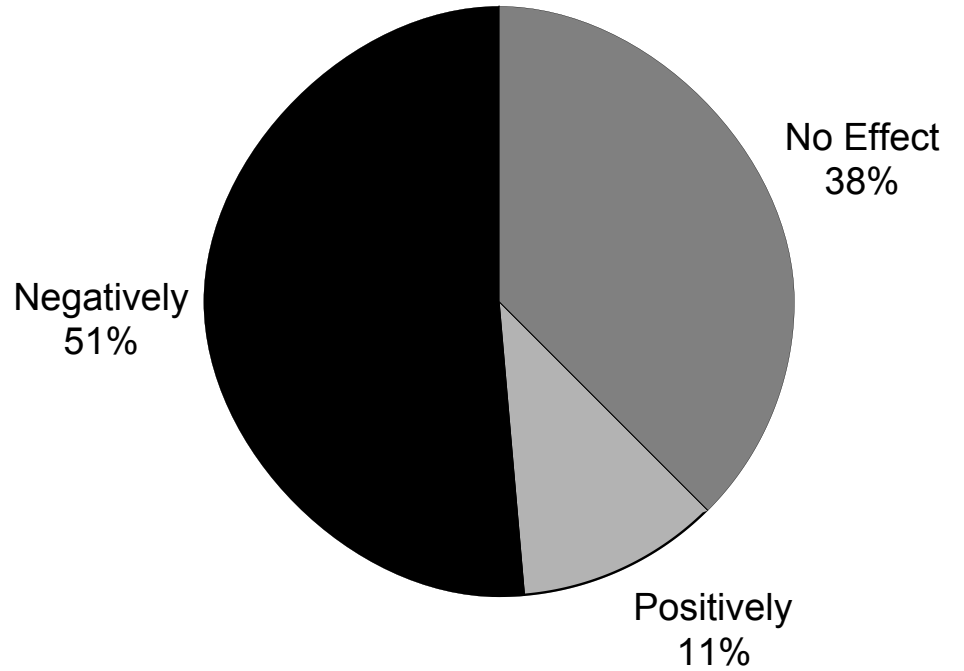
Carey Hall Poll Results

On December 14, the Gilman News administered a survey to 104 members of the Upper School Community about their reactions to the new building. In all, 26 freshmen, 27 sophomores, 21 juniors, 17 seniors, and 13 faculty responded.

What do you think about the new Carey Hall?

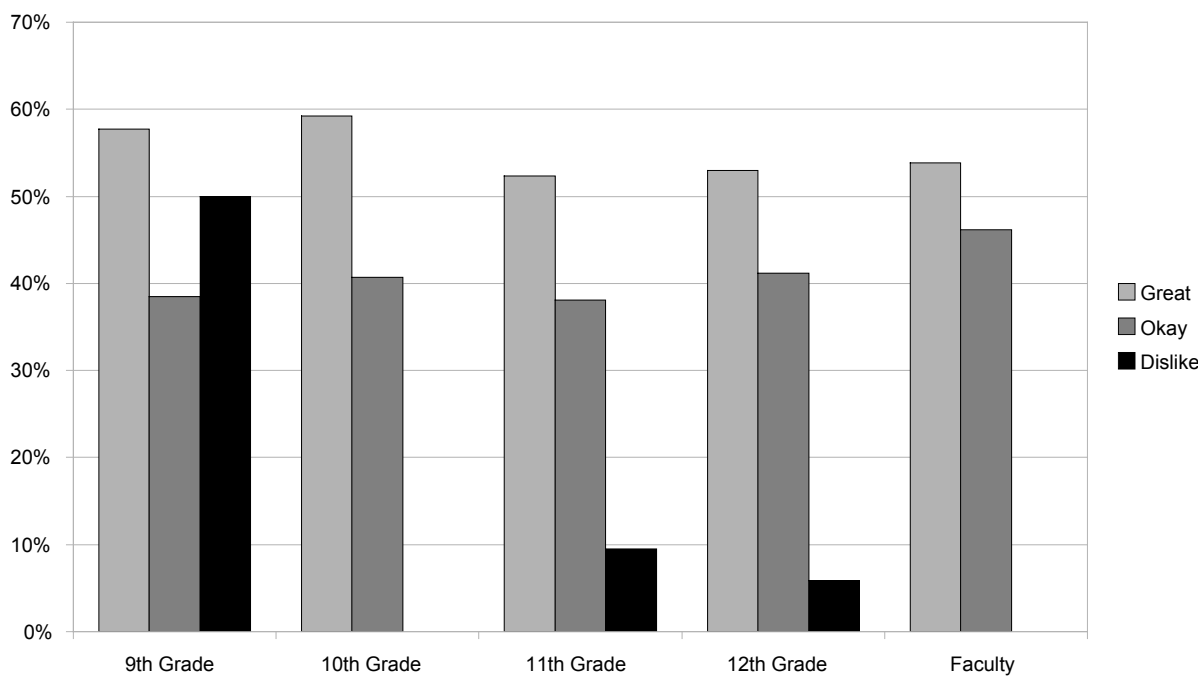


How have the rules and regulations regarding the new building affected your academic/school experience?

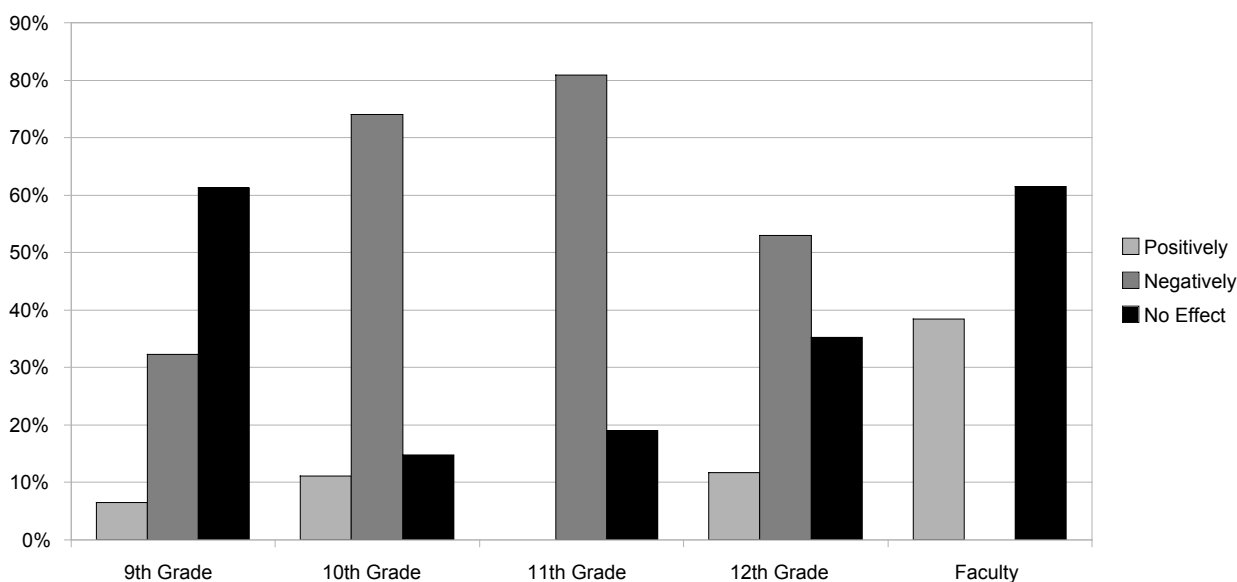


Grade-by-Grade Breakdown: What Students and Faculty Think

What do you think of the new Carey Hall and the new facilities?



How have the rules and regulations regarding the new building affected your academic/school experience?



STUDENTS AND FACULTY SPEAK THEIR MINDS

Favorite features of Carey Hall

- New classrooms and spaces (74%)*
- Windows (23%)
- The new library (16%)

Disliked features (and policies)

- No eating except in 010 and Centennial Hall (53%)
- Strange lack of water fountains (38%)
- Rooms locked before class (23%)
- Blandness of walls (22%)
- Locked north stairway/barriers (12%)

Faculty:

“It looks like a storeroom or warehouse.”

“There is a hospital-like feel.”

“The faculty offices and meeting rooms give more opportunities to meet with students.”

12th grade:

“I like how there are open spaces on each floor.”

“Teachers show no trust of students by locking them out of rooms.”

“Stringent, Military-esque rules.”

11th Grade:

“This new building has no character. The old Carey Hall felt like home.”

“The eating rule is stupid!”

“I really enjoy the bigger classrooms compared to the old Carey hall.”

10th Grade:

“The bathrooms are outstanding. I will really enjoy my experiences there more.”

“I think we should be able to eat in the common rooms on the 2nd and 3rd floor. This would be a big part of Gilman learning to trust us.”

9th grade:

“It is clean and inviting, the classrooms are great.”

“I love the third floor- the view is great.”

“There is no quiet place to study.”

* Denotes percentage of respondents who listed feature as one of their most/least liked aspects of Carey Hall

Swimming: Solid Start Suggests Bright Season to Come

BY JAKE TUNNEY

As I enter Coach Brooks' classroom prior to his first period Advanced Placement Calculus class, I notice something eerily different about the man. He still has his trademark glasses in place, and his charm is present as always as he exclaims, "Hey, Jake." Even though he is deeply entranced in his class preparations, I can sense something new about him. He seems filled with hope and is teeming with anticipation, and I know that these feelings are derived from the dawn of the winter sports season.

After having a rough go in the last few years in the extremely tough "A" Conference, the swimming team has moved down to the very competitive "B" Conference. Coach Brooks looks to lead this year's Varsity Swimming Team against its new opponents to a great season. Gilman will definitely be in the mix for the conference title this year, while playing

against tough competition such as St. Mary's, Severn, and St. Paul's. "St. Paul's will be our toughest team to play this year," says Brooks. They have probably the best swimmer in the league, but Brooks knows in his heart that they can still beat their team. Coach Brooks depends on assistant coach, Mr. Jay Silverman, to spearhead the strategic aspects of swimming. The swimming team has a very positive outlook on this season, and with great young talent, with year-round sophomore swimmers Leam Gallagher and John Markowitz, they will definitely be very competitive as they enter the MIAA "B" Conference.

The team is already off to an excellent start so far. After falling to St. Paul's 88-81 in an exhilarating and closely contested opening meet, the team moved on to blow-out perennial powerhouse John Carroll 92-69. Coach Brooks hopes to uphold this precedence of success as the season progresses. □



Head Coach Ian Brooks speaks to the varsity swimming team during practice. (Photo by Kevin Niparko).

Wrestling Looks to Compete in Tough MIAA

BY DERRICK BURNETT

The Gilman Wrestling team looks to rebuild from last year's 8-11 season. After losing veterans Adam Janet, Alex Bullen, Marty Welch, and Ned Lundvall to graduation, the remaining members look to improve from where ended last season: an 11th place finish in the MIAA Tournament. Returning from the 2006-2007 group are seniors Gabe Donnay, Charlie Dunn, Patrick Fiske, Alex Hormozi, Ben Jarso, and Cary Nelson, along with junior Giancarlo Simmons, sophomores Anthony Ferguson, James Hunter, Tommy Faust and Whit Kelly.

The Gilman Wrestlers started

off the season with a deciding victory over St. Vincent Palotti and participated in McDonogh's Ray Oliver Tournament. They then faced conference powerhouse Mount Saint Joseph's at Gilman. The Gaels went on to defeat Gilman by a score of 68-9, but some success came from the underclassmen as sophomores Whit Kelly (171 lb class) and James Hunter (225 lb class) recorded victories. The next day, the Greyhounds faced City College and broke out early en route to a 54-24 win.

Coming up in the near future for the wrestlers are a home meet against Spalding & Friends (12/18) and then a match against Boy's Latin (12/21) as the Greyhounds hope to

avenge their loss to the Lakers (24-44) last year. The wrestlers then end 2007 with a weekend tournament at St. Stephen's. Going into 2008, Gilman will face conference opponents Calvert Hall, John Carroll, Curley, and Georgetown Prep in 4 consecutive meets with 3 of those meets (Calvert Hall, John Carroll, and Georgetown Prep) at home. They will try to gain some revenge after last year losses to Calvert Hall and Curley.

Afterwards, the annual Gilman Duals come up at the end of January.

The other participating schools this season will be Boy's Latin, Kiski, Loomis Chaffee, St. Benedict's, St. Stephen's, Woodberry Forest, and Wyoming Seminary. Three more meets against Loyola, St. Mary's, and defending champion McDonogh, and then the MIAA Tournament follows.

It will be a very challenging season for the Greyhound wrestlers, but they will look towards the leadership of the senior class and helpful contributions from the underclassmen for success. □

Fall Play Reviews

Continued from page 1

Hana, music director, Annie Ferebee, choreographer, Janine Vreath, technical director, Kenny Gruen, student director, and Hope Troup, production stage manager.

The production team as well as all members of the running crew worked extremely hard on this show. With fantastic performances and excellent effort by the crew, Into the Woods was a fantastic success.

Our Town

BY MARK IRWIN

The BMS-Gilman joint production of Thornton Wilder's 1938 play Our Town was a gem whose success was partially obscured by the shadow of the more publicized RPCS-Gilman production of Into the Woods.

Our Town is notorious for being the one play that high schools across the country always perform, but this rendition brought new life to Thornton Wilder's masterpiece. As I sat in my seat watching the play, I found myself greatly enjoying it. The acting was excellent, and our Gilman

actors were especially convincing in their performances. James Miller's poignant narration captivated the audience as he accurately portrayed what it was like to live in small town America at the dawn of the twentieth century, while John Sanders sported a near perfect Boston accent that had me laughing out loud. Ben Jenkins displayed his own comedic genius as the befuddled father-in-law Mr. Webb. Although not as many people knew about Our Town, it was certainly as good as, if not better than, Into the Woods. The underlying themes of the play were deep and thought provoking, while Into The Woods relied on its theatrics and Broadway grandeur to awe the audience. Our Town engaged the audience and asked them to examine themselves in a small and intimate environment: the BMS theatre.

At the end of the production, as the house lights shot up and people began to filter out, I turned in my seat to see a young woman in the row behind me sobbing helplessly. "Dear God..." I muttered, and it dawned upon me what an outstanding job the Gilman and Bryn Mawr actors and actresses had done on this play. □

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