



# The News

September 4, 2009

Gilman School

www.GilmanNews.com

Volume CVIII No. 1

## Students' Voices Will Be Heard

BY THE NEWS STAFF

Gilman students all have an opinion. This year, we students will have the opportunity to post these opinions on the new bulletin board in the library. The hope is that this opportunity for open communication will help spur a deep and meaningful dialogue within the school community. Of course, with any new feature at Gilman, there are rules.

To post an opinion: Students or faculty need only to fill out a white index card in the library, sign it, and give it to a librarian. Over the summer, we met to create some simple rules that were not restrictive of content, but simply to ensure the board's success. A group of 3 faculty members (Ms. Fuller, Dr. Kelly, Mr. Perkins) and 3 students (Connor Lounsbury, Ned Whitman, Christian Moscardi) created and reviewed the rules. With both faculty and students in the group, we can assure that everything was done in order to give the community a great place to have lively debate.

### RULES

1) No anonymous postings.

People must attach their name to their opinions. This was done in order to insure that no one will use someone else's name when posting a thought. Also, if people put their names, a real dialogue can ensue among students and the entire community can gain from it. Students will give the card to Ms. Fuller and she will confirm that the student is who he says he is.

2) Posts will remain on the board for one week.

This gives time for responses to the posts to be written and posted under it.

3) No inappropriate language.

This goes without saying. Students are expected to express themselves in a mature and educated manner.

*In the case of a questionable posting, the group of 3 teachers and 3 students will meet immediately to decide whether or not the message should be posted. This will ensure a fair review from both sides of Gilman's community members.*

*Some of the hot topics last year were: Food. Sports. Assemblies. Senior speeches.*

*Hopefully, students will continue to feel passionate and get these issues up on the board. Let's get the conversation started.*

## A New Vishio

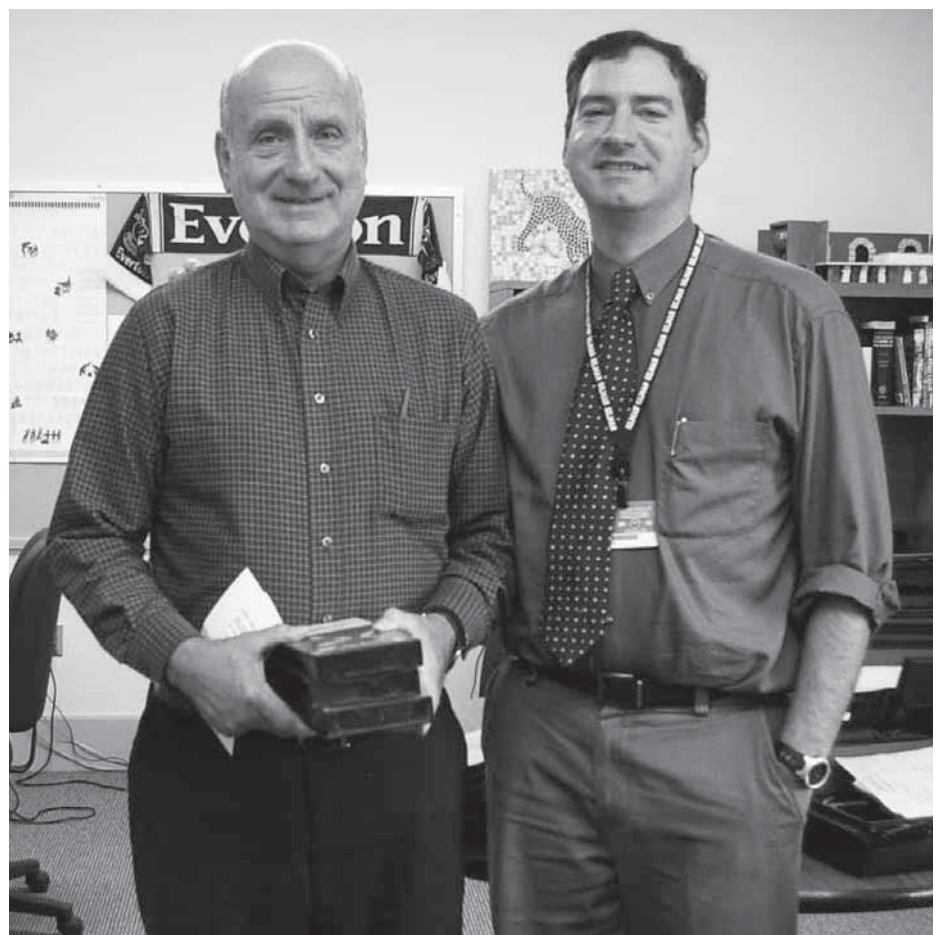
BY AMIT VOHRA

Joining the faculty this year is Mr. Alex Vishio, who graduated from Gilman and taught here seven years ago. Possessing strong language skills along with a background in theology and philosophy, Mr. Vishio will be teaching both introductory Greek and (a couple of) sections of Latin 2 while helping out with the Vergil class. His other assignments include providing assistance to the JV Football and Fresh Soph Basketball teams. He is excited to be back at Gilman and says that he "look[s] forward to working with and interacting with the Upper School students." Unlike his stay at other institutions where, in his words, "focus was primarily upon academic subject matter, the interaction with students at Gilman is more broad based. At Gilman, I will enjoy working with students in a whole range of activities, not merely academic but also social, athletic etc."

Prior to his return, Mr. Vishio was at the University of Chicago Divinity

School studying for his doctorate in Ethics. He hopes to finish his dissertation, which focuses on philosophical theology and the foundation of ethics, by the end of this year. He kept up his Greek and Latin while in Chicago and also picked up French and German at the school.

Mr. Vishio's excitement in returning to Gilman has been reinforced by the continued growth and reputation in this institution's academic environment. "Since I taught at Gilman, one thing that has not changed is Gilman's commitment to excellence and all around flourishing of the student body," thus says Mr. Vishio. In his view, these factors make Gilman "unique in the world of secondary education and that is something to be proud of and worth appreciating." ahead. Apart from love for the school, there is one more thing that brought Mr. Vishio back to his high school alma mater. "I was called in to make sure the classics department chairman behaves." Looks like Mr. Vishio Sr. better watch his back.



*Like father. Like son. Gilman welcomes another Vishio into the family. Photo by Cooper Jackson.*

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# Gilman Changes...Hopefully

Welcome back. As we all pile back into Gilman's hallways, we have to make note of some important changes going on around the campus. As already mentioned on page one, we have the bulletin board. Many of us remember Chris Maddox's controversial blog last year where students could freely post their opinions anonymously. This year, Chris' legacy continues... sort of.

The bulletin board is a communal forum where we are free to post our opinions. We really should write what we actually think without fear of reprisal. This is a great opportunity for us to have conversations about the things that bother us. Whether it is yesterday's assembly or tomorrow's lunch, we have to take the initiative to put down what we feel. If we want to see change, this may very well be the best way to see it come to pass. The faculty, administration, and our fellow students will all be able to gage the sentiment of the school. Mrs. Turner expects that the board will "capture a lot of interest" and hopes that it "will be very educational, help us to learn something from one another, and to think about something that we

have not thought about before." Mr. Schmick is also supportive of the board, however, he comments, "I do not understand why students didn't find a place to vent. My door is always open." Nevertheless, he hopes that students will feel comfortable in "expressing their opinions and being disagreed with."

The administration credits Dr. Kelly with the idea for the board. Ms. Fuller, who will hopefully be busy all year keeping the bulletin board updated with the latest opinions, stated, "Doctor Kelly brought up the idea of students posting opinions on a public forum. The board will give students and faculty a lot of benefits, specifically, a more immediate way to get voices heard." And for the community's sake, we hope that people recognize this benefit Ms. Fuller speaks of and take full advantage of it. As soon as we find something we're unhappy with, we need to go and write it down and get it up there for people to see and respond to.

Is this for real? Is the administration making a legitimate attempt to hear the students out? We think yes. The ball is in our court now. If nobody posts, the administration

can assume that the community is content with its environment. And we know that's not true. Everyone has to take the time to get to the library and post opinions and ideas. Let's flood the administration with our ideas and not stop until changes are made. And what better topic to start with than the most major change this year...Wi-Fi.

That's right. After years of debate, Gilman has finally decided to go wireless. Why did it take so long? Mrs. Turner clearly states, "I was the impediment to having Wi-Fi because I have dealt with many abuses of internet on campus. I was looking at it through the lens of trouble versus the lens of opportunity." Mr. Schmick credits Mrs. Turner, Mr. Gorski, and Mr. Heubeck with initiating this project, calling it a "joint effort." Although it is not set in stone when this feature will become available, Mr. Schmick affirms, "It's happening in September." However, the administration reminds us that with every new privilege comes responsibility. Mr. Schmick expects students to exercise this privilege responsibly and act in accordance with the AUP and their common sense.

So, we've got Wi-Fi and a place where we can post our opinions and be heard. It seems that life is golden and the communication lines are really opening up. Well, let's not get too far ahead of ourselves. The bulletin board is worthless unless we take full advantage of it. For example, if the Wi-Fi doesn't seem to be working later this month, then we should all witness hundreds of notes on the bulletin board showing our. In terms of using the Wi-Fi, we have to be careful and follow the AUP. The administration will be waiting for the first kid to make a dumb mistake and will have no problem taking it away. You've been warned.

Gilman offers us abundant opportunity and hopefully, we all recognize and appreciate this. But we should always look for ways to improve. Mrs. Turner opines, "We pride ourselves on being a school that prizes debate, different points of view, and learning from one another." Let's live up to this reputation. Good luck with the new year everyone...and may all our thoughts be heard.

-CJL

## Gilman School



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Ms. Fuller is ready to post students' comments. Photo by Cooper Jackson.

# FLIK Flexes Feeding Program

BY DARA BAKAR

With the beginning of another school year come exciting changes to the FLIK dining program. The 2009-2010 school year will feature a return to the "nutritional standards" set forth by FLIK in its initial proposals to Gilman. This year's dining program is going back to the basics by taking suggestions from all three food committees of the lower, middle and upper schools. While the dining program will seek to redress many of the issues brought up last year, it will also stay true to the standards that were initially proposed by FLIK. This means that burgers and fries will be replaced with more healthy entrees. Most excitingly, both the students and the faculty can look forward to quicker lines and a Nibbles Bar.

Although Gilman students provided FLIK with many suggestions for the dining program last year, many of the comments included unhealthy suggestions such as "more pizza and hot dogs." FLIK, however, has decided to remain true to its original promise to the school in providing the students with a menu that is both nutritious and appetizing.

Ms. Collier and Chef Mikalov stated: "When menus are designed, we try very hard to ensure that we keep in mind all students from K through 12. This would include students with religious requirements, allergies and diabetes." Thus, FLIK has to not only feed the Upper School but also the Lower and Middle Schools, a fact that is often forgotten by hungry Upper School boys.

The primary changes to this year's dining program will include entrees and grille selections at every station to speed up the lines, a new salad bar, a new Nibbles Bar, and different beverages. While most students will readily find the Nibbles Bar where they served leftovers last year, FLIK has decided to change this station. The Nibbles Bar will now feature many international foods ranging from Italian lasagna to Mexican tacos. While the Nibbles Bar will at first feature daily entrees to speed up efficiency, it will slowly incorporate new foods and recipes. Ms. Celeste and Chef Mikalov affirmed the efficiency of the updated program: "We believe that this year students will be able to obtain and eat their lunches much faster than last year." Another exciting initiative this

year is a program called "Project Clean Plate". All food waste in the dining hall from students will be evaluated and turned into compost, a move that FLIK hopes will be friendlier to the environment.

Additionally, an ambitious group of students on the Upper School Food Committee known as the "Chow Hounds", along with the parent members and Mr. Bill Senft, head of the Committee, will seek to develop fifteen new hot dishes for the Upper School. Mr. Senft affirmed: "The mission of the Chow Hounds is to help FLIK develop hot main entree dishes that students will really enjoy - Chow Hound Specials. Dishes from students, their families, and special cookbooks that also meet the Gilman nutrition and health standards." Justin Schuster ('11), a member of the Chow Hounds, agreed: "The goal of the Chow Hounds is to develop entrees that are both healthy and delicious." Mr. Senft added that if anyone - students, parents, etc. - is interested in submitting recipes, he should send them to [chowhounds@googlegroups.com](mailto:chowhounds@googlegroups.com).

Despite the revisions to the dining

menu, many seniors are looking forward to exercising their long awaited senior privileges. Jason Park ('10) declared: "Going off campus for lunch is something you really look forward to as a Gilman student. Especially after seeing last year's efforts to gain such privileges as juniors, I think most of us will be taking full advantage of our senior privileges." Tyler Kolle ('10) agreed: "I'm really looking forward to my senior year and having the ability to go off campus for lunch. I'm also excited about FLIK's efforts to be greener."

It is clear that Ms. Collier and Chef Mikalov are doing the best that they can to provide the Upper School with a healthy, albeit delicious menu. Ms. Collier and Chef Mikalov affirmed: "We're trying to see what works. We only have the best interests of the students at heart." Indeed, this year's dining arrangement looks to be a major improvement over last year's program.

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# THE ARTS

"Lights" by Evan Warnock

## Student Showcase: William O'Brien

BY NED WHITMAN

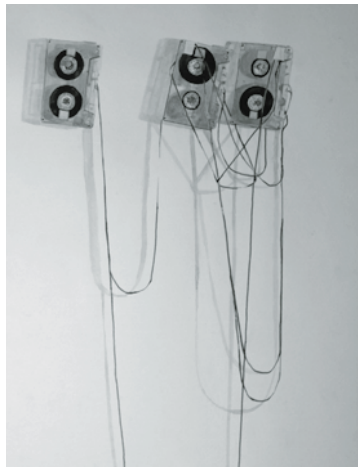
As the school year concluded in June, artist William O'Brien ('10) packed his palette and paintbrushes to study art for 6 weeks at one of the nation's best art schools, Rhode Island School of Design (RISD). William traveled to Providence, Rhode Island to participate in the RISD Pre-College Program, which gives high school students a taste of a college art student's life. The program allows "students [to] live in residence halls, attend social activities and demonstrate high levels of initiative and responsibility for their work" (www.risd.edu).

Each week, William took a wide range of classes in several artistic disciplines, such as art history, basic design, foundation drawing, and a major of his choice. Each student attending pre-college chooses a major ranging from comic book art and industrial design to traditional photography and painting. Having developed a strong background in this discipline at Gilman, William chose to major in painting. He made around ten serious paintings and drawings this summer—the smallest 18 in x 24 in and the largest 24 in x 54 in. The painting course provided William the opportunity to paint figures from life, which "took me one to two seven-hour sittings to complete depending on the serious-

ness of the exercise," he commented.

After a long day of work, pre-college students had the fun and exciting city of Providence at their fingertips. At night and on the weekend, "I had the chance to be a part of Providence's active art and music scene. Living at the bottom of College Hill, I was at the center of the city's art culture," William added.

"All in all, I'm glad I dedicated some hard work to art this summer," remarked William. When asked if he would suggest this program to other Gilman students, William responded, "Definitely. I am sure other artists at Gilman would enjoy spending a summer in Providence to develop their portfolios just as I did."



A drawing William made in foundation drawing. 18 in x 24 in. Inkwash on Paper.



One of the many figure paintings William created during his time at RISD. 18 in x 24 in. Oil on Canvas.

## Indie Spotlight: Deer Tick

BY MICHAEL KATZ

Folk-rock fans, fans of southern rock and all of its progeny, and fans of NBC News Anchor Brian Williams, Deer Tick is the band for you. Conceived as the solo project of Providence native John McCauley III, Deer Tick has risen from humble beginnings to become the feature of the first episode of Brian Williams' web-only music show BriTunes. In April 2009, Rolling Stone's David Fricke named Deer Tick the number one "Breaking Band" at South-By-Southwest 2009, an annual Austin festival showcasing the breakout artists in the upcoming year. This success can be attributed to many things including McCauley's almost endearing, grating voice and intelligent use of the guitar and drums of Christopher Dale Ryan, Dennis Ryan, and Andrew Toblissen. McCauley's voice in conjunction with his angst-filled, bluesy lyrics directs the songs while Christopher Ryan provides complementary lead guitar and the occasional solo.

Deer Tick's first studio album, *War Elephant*, was released on Feow! Records in the fall of 2007, only to sell out and to be re-released by Partisan Records in late 2008. The most obvious

hit off of this album is "Dirty Dishes," an upbeat song with contrastingly depressing lyrics about hopeless desires and the miserable, lonely life that many experience. Other gems include "Baltimore Blues No. 1," a tune about betrayal and temptation and "Art Isn't Real (City of Sin)," a song where McCauley is self-deprecating and pessimistic about his future. In June 2009, they released their second studio album, *Born on Flag Day*. On this album, the band seemed more confident in their abilities and explored more combinations of backing music and singing. This maturation led to compositions like "Song About A Man," a seemingly genuine song that sticks to the same simple guitar riff for the entire song while McCauley's rasp takes control. In "Smith Hill" and "Friday XIII," McCauley sings of both lost love and the hopelessness and pain that follow. "Straight Into A Storm," one of my favorites off of the album, is a quintessential blues-rock song containing Toblissen's best guitar solo, reminiscent of the sound of Stevie Ray Vaughan. "Stung," the final song lasting 11 minutes long, also includes a cover of the classic American folk song "Goodnight, Irene." With all of Deer Tick's melancholy songs, it's becomes evident

why they cite "beer" as one of their chief influences on their MySpace page. Deer Tick's great range and familiar lyrics are what create their immediate appeal and although it's a school night, you can

see them live at Sonar on October 21st as part of the Partisan Records tour. If you wish to casually listen, I recommend "Dirty Dishes" and "Smith Hill" from their respective releases.



Deer Tick members (left to right): John McCauley III, Dennis Ryan, Andrew Toblissen, and Christopher Ryan.

## Ms. Harris brings International Experience to Spanish Team

BY EVAN BEHRLE

I suspect that, even as a cultured and worldly Gilman News reader, you have never taught English to a group of Colombian children on the largest sheep farm in Latin America. I further suspect that, having now realized you have never taught English to a group of Colombian children on the largest sheep farm in Latin America, you are desperately seeking the counsel and wisdom of someone who has. In that case, you are walking around with some remarkably good karma, for that's exactly what you'll find in Mrs. Harris, the newest member of the Upper School's Modern Languages department, who will be teaching two sections of both Spanish 11 and Spanish 12 while helping out with the Cross Country and Track and Field squads.

After double-majoring in Political Science / International Studies and Spanish, Mrs. Harris began her lingual career in a more traditional environment than a sheep farm – at an all-boys Catholic high school in her native city of Chicago, where she taught Spanish for one year. From there, she moved on to her lead paragraph-worthy stint in Colombia. Later she started working at a human rights center in Mexico with her husband.

This year, she returns to the classroom with the belief that “teaching is where I can best combine my passions and the service aspect” so important in her life thus far. In addition, Mrs. Harris hopes her travels will enrich her teaching, providing her the opportunity to share with her students cultural experiences from different Spanish-speaking coun-



tries. She is even excited to be back in an all-boys environment, citing the “openness, energy, and sense of humor” male students bring to the classroom. In her experience, to get the most out of students, “the teacher should have fun as well” – a philosophy that should sit favorably with the Upper School's rambunctious Spanish students.

## New Talented Tickner

BY BEN DELWICHE

As always, a new year means a new Tickner Writing Fellow. This year, Gilman is excited to welcome Mr. Josh Weil. Mr. Weil was born in rural Virginia, but, upon turning two, moved to Malawi where his father was studying sustainable agriculture. Two years later, however, he and his family moved back to the States when his father received a teaching job at University of Maryland, College Park. Finally, at the age of nine, he moved to Leverett, Massachusetts with his mother and brother and stayed there for high school. Mr. Weil is excited to share his wealth of travel experience but also wishes to “To open up a new world to my students -- the inner world of their own imagination through creative writing -- and to help them learn to use the tools that will allow them to fully explore that world.”

After graduating high school, Mr. Weil went on to receive a BFA in film from Ohio University and a MFA in creative writing from Columbia University. Since graduating from Columbia, he has received a Fulbright Grant, fellowships and scholarships to Bread Loaf and Sewanee Writers' Conferences, a fellowship to the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, and the Dana Award in Portfolio. In addition, he has taught at College of Mount Saint Vincent, Manhattan College, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, Gotham Writers' Workshop, and the Double Discovery Center at Columbia University. Mr. Weil's short stories have appeared in *Granta*, *New England Review*, *American Short Fiction*, *Narrative*, and others. He has also written non-fiction for *The New York Times*, *Granta*, *Glimmer Train*, and *Poets & Writers*. When asked what he finds most enjoyable and rewarding about writing, he responded, “The thing that excites



me most in writing, and gives me most solace, is the way in which it allows me to enter into worlds other than the one I physically inhabit: I can know characters better than I would ever know my closest friends, feel deeply for them, explore their inner workings, and, in doing so, learn more about the world around me (and myself) than I can in any other way.” His most recent work is the novella collection *The New Valley* (Grove, 2009).

At Gilman, Mr. Weil will teach one section of Creative Writing each semester and will oversee the production of *Paragon*. He is looking forward to “Discovering the writing of my students, hearing their authorial voices for the first time, and watching them grow into their abilities as story tellers and writers.” With his vast experience traveling, writing, and teaching Mr. Weil will surely bring a fresh, exciting outlook to the Gilman community.

# Budget Cuts Eliminate JV/Frosh Playoffs

BY MATT BERGER

In an attempt to trim budgets, athletic directors from each MIAA institution voted to eliminate all junior varsity and freshman/sophomore playoffs throughout all sports. The MIAA was the only remaining league in Maryland to have playoffs below the varsity level, as the MPSSA, representing Maryland's public schools, and the IAAM, a league made up of private girls' schools, had already eliminated playoffs at the junior varsity and fresh/soph level.

Gilman Athletic Director Tim Holley ('77), who heard both sides of the argument, eventually voted to eliminate under squad playoffs. Mr. Holley admitted that the Gilman athletic department has been told to

trim their budget in these difficult economic times. “In an attempt to cut costs, I felt that (eliminating under squad playoffs) was a start in the trimming process,” said Holley.

Moreover, there was a psychological question surrounding playoffs below the varsity level at the MIAA meeting. Some athletic directors wondered if under squad playoffs were sending the right message to younger athletes. However, other athletic directors argued that junior varsity and freshman/sophomore playoffs would help prepare athletes for playoff games at the varsity level.

Despite the lack of playoffs, the MIAA did not eliminate under squad champions. “There are still junior varsity and fresh/soph champions,”

said Holley. “The team with the best record at the end of the regular season will still receive a plaque and still be named champions.”

This change may affect many under squad teams who routinely strive to make the MIAA playoffs. “It was always our goal to make the playoffs,” said frosh soccer assistant coach Will Perkins. “We knew we realistically couldn't beat the top teams in the league many years, but we told our kids if we make it into the league playoffs, we might play well and have a shot at the crown.” On the other hand, Dan Christian, currently the Freshman/Sophomore Basketball head coach, doesn't mind the new change. “Playoffs just add a little bit of fun at the end of the season,” said Christian. “It really doesn't

constitute the highest goal.” Christian, who has coached basketball at the frosh or junior varsity level at Gilman for 28 years, doesn't feel that under squad playoffs better prepare athletes for the varsity level.

“I think there is too much emphasis on preparing for the next level. It's about playing sports now. You end up missing the moment if you only think about the future.”

Christian believes that this rule change should spark an ongoing conversation about the goals for high school sports teams. “When I hear really young players talk about making the playoffs and winning championships, it kind of saddens me because it's really not essential to the experience.”

# Water Polo Looks To Equal 2008 Success Young Cross Country Team Races Ahead

BY DAVID WILLIAMS

After a strong 2008 season under rookie head coach Laura Coffman, the Gilman Varsity Water Polo team hopes to build on last year's success as it enters the 2009 season. Gilman Water Polo has become a prominent team in the MIAA "A" Conference. Although it lost five seniors, including two captains, the team retains a skilled and experienced group of players that has the potential to guide the team to success.

Coach Coffman is expecting the returning players to step up for the Greyhounds. "It always hurts to lose five seniors, and therefore our success this year will depend on increasing the level of expectation for some of our younger players." Gilman has several experienced players who are ready to meet the challenge of helping the team achieve its goals such as senior Liam Gallagher, who is known for his speed, versatility, and leadership ability, and junior Fred Sutter, a very experienced player who also plays for the Navy Aquatics Club. In addition, senior Jon Markowitz, a speedy player

with a strong ability to control the ball along the outside, will add to the team's strength. The Hounds also have a talented goaltender in senior Alex Merkle.

Coach Coffman has been a huge part of Gilman's recent success in the pool. After losing veteran coach, Jody Driscoll, the team is confident that they are in good hands as Coffman enters her second season at Gilman. Liam Gallagher spoke highly of his coach, noting that, "She has brought to the team her excellent knowledge of the game, which she has acquired while playing and coaching water polo at



Junior Fred Sutter reaches for a pass (Photo by Michael Katz).

the national level."

The Greyhounds will face tough competition this year both in the MIAA against powerhouses Mt. St. Joseph and Calvert Hall and against non-conference teams such as Landon and Gonzaga. According to Jon Markowitz, "We have a chance to beat some teams that don't expect us to be able to play with them. Because our ball handling skills have gotten better and our speed has improved, we should be able to surprise some people."

BY JOON LEE

After a restful summer, the Junior Varsity and Varsity Cross Country teams were excited about starting another season. Last fall, the Varsity Cross Country team finished its season with an impressive record of 6-2 in dual-meet competition with their only losses to Archbishop Spalding and Calvert Hall, while the JV Cross Country team followed Varsity's fine example by completing their season with an extraordinary record of 7-1 with only one loss to powerhouse Calvert Hall. In addition, both teams excelled in larger, invitational meets as the varsity squad earned a very strong 2nd place finish in the Spiked Shoe Invitational at Hopkins and the junior varsity team won both the St. Paul's Invitational and the AA Invitational.

After the remarkable seasons last year, the teams know that they have their work cut out for them. Both cross country teams are confident that they can have another great season this year.

The runners have already begun their fierce training to prepare for the upcoming season in order to keep up with their tough competition. Said Head Coach Joe Duncan, "We have one of the strongest teams in terms of overall fitness. Having 20 out of 25 of the runners run a 6-mile time trial as opposed to the 4-mile is proof of this." And this year, not only is the team one of the fittest, it is also one of the youngest. Although four seniors graduated from last year's varsity team, the Hounds are still left with some amazing talent in the lower classes. Both of the returning varsity runners, Will Meadows ('12) and Chris Watson ('11), are underclassmen.

"We have one of the best runners in the MIAA "A" Conference in Will Meadows and he is supported by a group of strong runners like Ben Zunkeler ('10), Chris Watson, Dean Liao ('10), Sam Zunkeler ('13), and Kevin Broh-Kahn ('10)," said senior runner Nick Wolf ('10).

Although the young team is poised to contend for the championship, the MIAA "A" Conference is filled with many strong teams that are also stacked with many talented runners. "There is a lot of parity in the league, and there are plenty of teams that are equal to Gilman's fitness," said Coach Duncan. Added senior Kevin Broh-Kahn, "One of the hardest races for us will be powerhouse Calvert Hall." Besides the Cardinals, Gilman will be challenged by perennial powerhouses Loyola, Spalding, and Curley.

Another challenge for Gilman will be getting the new members of the team accustomed to cross country at the varsity level. Finally, the greatest challenge for any sport, is overcoming any injuries and making sure that during the season, the team will have the best candidates available. Broh-Kahn and Wolf have already suffered preseason injuries.

As the season begins, the team is still without a captain. However, Meadows believes that this lack of one single leader may be a good thing for the team. "We are more of a collective group," said the star sophomore, "Everyone is helping everyone, rather than one or two guys leading everything, which is not necessarily a bad thing." The captains will be selected soon, but for now the team is held together with teamwork and a strong group of seniors such as Zunkeler, Liao, Broh-Kahn, and Wolf.

"This year's cross country teams have lots of potential, but only hard work will contribute to the season," explains Coach Duncan. This season has been nicknamed "the season of the young pups" by Coach Duncan. Will Meadows explains that, "Most of our talented runners are underclassmen and some upperclassmen are starting the sport for the first time." This year's team definitely has the potential to be very successful, so let's see what the "young pup" runners can do during their 2009 campaign.

## Gilman Sports Writers Predict the 2009 NFL Season

	Brodsky	Edgar	Schwab	Sutton
Ravens' 2009 Record	9-7	11-5	12-4	11-5
AFC North Champion	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	Baltimore	Pittsburgh
Super Bowl Prediction	Colts over Panthers 31-10	Packers over Ravens 24-13	Ravens over Giants 17-10	Ravens over Falcons 24-14

# Soccer Seniors Hungry for Title

BY SHANE EDGAR

Following a very successful 2008 campaign which included 13 wins and an appearance in the MIAA "A" Conference semi-finals, the Gilman Varsity Soccer team believes that it can advance even farther in 2009 and possibly bring home a league championship.

Seniors Reid Barger, Jack Matthews, Tom McCormick, Diego McQuestion, Ben Shriver, and Jack Volk are all entering their fourth season as varsity players and have had no trouble embracing the leadership roles that have been presented to them. Led by these seniors, the team is facing its highest expectations in many years.

"I'm excited about the hype that Gilman soccer is finally attracting," said McQuestion. "It is something that the program has really never experienced, and we are looking forward to enjoying it." Midfielder Jack Volk agrees, "We are excited at the opportunity to keep up our reputation from last year as one of the top teams in the conference and in the area."

Repeating on the success of 2008 is made easier by the return of eight of eleven starters from last season. However, the team must still account for a few key departures from last year's squad. "I will miss my wing man Greg McBride ('09) up top," admits McQuestion. "We played well together. Cooper Brown's ('09) raw speed and precise ball control will be sorely missed as well."

Despite losing two of the best senior athletes at Gilman last year, the 2009 squad has more depth than it has had

in the past with juniors Joey Cahalan and Garrett Peters and sophomores Andrew Harris, Cotter Brown, Christian Wulff, and Chuck Gruner all playing larger roles in 2009. In fact, the midfield combination of Reid Barger and Joey Cahalan has been so dominant that the two have been nicknamed "fire and lightning" by fellow teammates.

With the graduation of goalkeeper Christian Hall ('09), sophomore Andrew Harris, considered one of the best goalkeepers in the nation for his age, will step in between the pipes for the Hounds. Incoming freshmen Riley DeSmit, Tanner Vosvich, and Anthony Kim will also fill key roles as impact players for the team. All three have sufficient experience playing on their respective club teams.

After weeks of summer practices that blended seriousness and fun, the team blanked Severn 5-0 in a preseason scrimmage and beat Park 4-0 in its first regular season game. Although the expectations for Gilman Varsity Soccer are higher than ever before, the team believes that it has taken all the right steps to exceed these expectations and perform better than any other team in the conference. Said a confident Volk, "Two years ago we made it to the quarterfinals. Last year we made it to the semifinals. So that means that this year we will win a championship." Based on the constant improvement of the team under head coach Jon Seal, such championship aspirations seem to be within reach.



Reid Barger ('10) controls the ball at midfield as Cooper Joy ('11) and Garrett Peters ('11) play defense. (Photo by Michael Katz).

# Gilman Volleyball Hopes for Another Strong Season



Junior John Durham puts the ball in play (Photo by Michael Katz).

BY ANDREW SCHWAB

On Saturday, November 1, 2008, the Boys' Latin gymnasium became a sea of blue and gray as the Gilman Varsity Volleyball team finished off its rival, the Loyola Dons, in the 2008 MIAA "A" Conference Championship game. The fans went crazy as the Greyhounds won the fourth and final game of the championship match, 25-20, to finish the season an overall 17-1. Fans, players, and coaches rushed onto the court to claim the championship trophy that had narrowly eluded the Greyhounds the past three years.

This year's team, however, has no time to dwell on their great 2008 season, as the team graduated eleven seniors, four of whom were All-MIAA "A" Conference selections. Since the team only returns one starter, captain Shane Edgar, this year's other senior captains, Jay Brooks, Matt Berger, and Max Brodsky, have stepped in to fill the void of 2008's talented senior class. Senior Adam Belzberg and stand-out junior Matt Kantz have also "made smooth transitions to starting on varsity" said an impressed captain Edgar. Although the squad recognizes the talent that graduated from last year's team, the senior captains are confident that with these new starters, the team will be just as successful as the previous season. "We gained so much last year from competing against the best players in the league every day in practice," said Berger.

The team is again running its "5-1" offense, which was a new

addition last year, and considered a main factor in the team's championship run. This offense is composed of five hitters, Brooks, Kantz, Belzberg, Berger, and Edgar, and setter, Brodsky. Under this offensive strategy, the setter moves around the entirety of the court, which allows for many more offensive options, especially from the back row hitters. This offense also allows for more complex plays, such as "Superman", "Red Bull", and "Captain Falcon", which Edgar refused to describe, only saying that, "You will have to come out and see to understand." Added Berger, "We're like the Ravens' organized chaos. You never know where the ball is going, everyone on the court can hit on any given point."

Although this new formation allows for many more offensive opportunities, the majority of practice time still remains on improving the team's defense. "The focus, as it has been since we were freshmen, is on defense first," said Berger, a starting middle blocker. "We might not hit as hard as some of the other teams in the league, but we're always going to be scrappier and get more balls up."

This season, the Greyhounds' toughest matches will probably not be against the Dons but instead against Calvert Hall. Edgar explains, "Hall is returning the most varsity players and had a very good JV team last year, which means some of those guys will play on varsity." Of course, Loyola and Mt. Saint Joseph are always formidable opponents. Moreover, after winning the championship, the Greyhounds will have a target on their back, and Loyola, in particular, will be looking for revenge for last year's rout in the championship. The Hounds are prepared to face these challenges head on. Said a confident Edgar, "The skill and effort are there. It's all about the confidence with us."

Gilman opens up the season on September 2 against Curley in the "Deaf-Dome" (Old Gym), where they have not lost a league game since 2005. They begin their "A" Conference season against Mt. Saint Joseph on September 9. If the captains' predictions are correct, the 2009 season will be another great one for Gilman Volleyball.

Coach Gabbey described his expectations for the 2009 season in his annual team handbook, "Teams that play for a championship must be littered with players and coaches who can't sleep at night. We play to become a team, to become great volleyball players, to make it all look beautiful on the court, to enjoy the moments in the present."

# Football Tackles Toughest Schedule in MD

BY COOPER SUTTON

After an uneven 2008 season that included a big win against rival DeMatha and tough conference losses to Loyola and McDonogh, the Gilman Varsity Football team looks to have a more successful, consistent 2009 campaign. In the eyes of the team's players and coaches, a successful season entails ten strong efforts against some of the best football teams in the state. More importantly, the Hounds hope to grow closer and become a more unified team.

"The team's mindset is team over talent," said lineman Tripp Trainor ('10). "A close team beats a talented team every time."

Like most years, the Hounds will be greatly impacted by the graduation of several key senior contributors. Perhaps the most important change on offense is at the quarterback position with the departure of Davy Emala ('09). This season, the team will turn to junior Darius Jennings to carry the load under center. Another significant loss on offense is that of lineman Brandon Copeland ('09) who is lining up this fall for the University of Pennsylvania. Like last season, the team's 'spread offense' will focus on establishing the run early and often. "Even though we are running the spread, we still feel that we're a run-first power offense," said senior captain Jim Poggi.

The departure of Emala and Copeland, as well as other seniors, has left a void on the team in terms of leadership. The most vocal members of the team are seniors Anthony Ferguson, Jim Poggi and Kostas Skordalos, who have been named team captains. However, there are only twelve seniors on Gilman's roster, so many juniors and even some sophomores are expected to play larger roles on the team. Unable to identify only one or two key underclassmen, Poggi said simply, "A lot of younger guys have to step up for

us this season." In fact, in the first game of the season, junior quarterback Darius Jennings led the Greyhounds in the air and on the ground to an easy 63-16 over the host St. John's Catholic Vikings. One of the most exciting plays of the game was Jennings' 40-yard connection with back Cyrus Jones ('11) for a touchdown.

One of the most anticipated games of the season is September 4 against Bear Creek High School, a team from Colorado. In fact, it is anticipated to draw such a great crowd that the venue has been moved to Johnny Unitas Stadium at Towson University. Bear Creek is a very highly ranked team and is known for its high-octane passing attack. Said Skordalos, "It'll be fun to (use) our run offense against their pass offense. We worked all summer on our pass defense. I think it will be a great game."

Gilman has even more top competition on their schedule, such as out of conference foes Good Council and DeMatha and in-conference rival Loyola, all ranked among the top ten in Maryland. Gilman's homecoming game will be against Calvert Hall, whom they beat last season in a thrilling overtime victory that resulted in an even more thrilling celebration from kicker Mimmo Cricchio ('10).

However, all of these games pale in comparison to the big one on November 7, when the team will take a bus ride down I-695 to face off against archrival McDonogh. This meeting will mark the 94th game between the Greyhounds and Eagles. Gilman suffered a heartbreaking loss to McDonogh last year, and the team will look for revenge this year. Said Skordalos, "Our goals are very simply to win the league and beat McDonogh, and I think we have a good chance of doing that." By playing arguably the toughest out of conference schedule of any team in Maryland, the Hounds will certainly be prepared for its league opponents.



(from left) Darius Jennings, Dexter Davis, and Cyrus Jones run the option in practice (Photo by Michael Katz).

## NFL > NCAA Football

BY MAX BRODSKY

*For the past few years I strongly asserted that college football was much better than the NFL. I'm writing this column to say I was wrong. Very wrong. So, in order to compensate for my error, I've outlined five reasons why you should do your homework on Saturdays this year, so you can spend your Sunday afternoons enjoying the much better NFL.*

1) *I'm locked in to the NFL* – I didn't realize until last year that I was much more locked in to a Ravens NFL game, than a Penn State college football game. I'm not sure why, all I know is that with the Ravens defense on the field I'm inches away from my TV furiously cheering DEFENSE! And after an Ed Reed interception or after a bone-crunching hit from Ray Lewis, I'm doing victory laps around the neighborhood. Flashback to the day before, and I'm casually watching the Nittany Lions' second team run up the

score on Temple. College football games are too long and drawn out. On the other hand, I am always locked in for three hours of exciting NFL football action. 2) *NCAA Football is too hard to understand* – December 6, 2003: Kansas State 35, Oklahoma 7. In the 2007 Fiesta Bowl: Boise State 43 Oklahoma 42. In the 2009 Sugar Bowl: Utah 31 Alabama 17. I could go on all day. Yes all these games were fantastic upsets, but how do we make sense of this? How does a team from Boise, Idaho and the Western Athletic Conference defeat the #8 Oklahoma Sooners from the Big 12? Should the Utah Utes of 2009 have been ranked No. 1 in the nation for finishing with the only perfect record in Division I FBS? Trying to make sense of college football nowadays is like trying to decide what new Speedo swimsuit is legal. It's just too confusing. 3) *NCAA Lacks a Playoff System* – There was a time when I loved the bowl games.

I loved knowing the different sponsors to every bowl (my new favorite is the San Diego County Credit Union Poinsettia Bowl). I loved the catchy ESPN commercials advertising bowl games to the tune of "It's the most wonderful time of the year." And I loved watching college football bowl games from noon until midnight on New Years Day. But now, I see a desperate need in college football for a playoff system. After last year's slew of horrible blowout bowl games and utter confusion at the end of the season of who should be proclaimed national champion, I decided it wasn't "the most wonderful time of the year" anymore. A playoff system might make college football as relevant as the NFL again, but bowl games will never match the excitement of playoff football in the NFL.

4) *Fantasy Football* – No sport is more perfect for fantasy sports than football, but fantasy college football just doesn't measure up to NFL fantasy football. This goes back to the fact that college football is too hard to follow. Who would you expect to be the #1 ranked fantasy college football player this year? Tim Tebow? Sam Bradford? Colt McCoy? If you

guessed any of the above you would have been wrong. Good guesses, but wrong. The #1 ranked fantasy college football player this year is QB Case Keenum from Houston. So there you go. College fantasy football just doesn't work.

5) *The Ravens* – We are so lucky that we live in a city where we have one of the best fan experiences, a fantastic stadium in M&T Bank, and an almost always competitive team. That's why Sports Illustrated ranked M&T Bank Stadium #5 on the list of best NFL fan experiences. And I can give you a few more reasons why we are all so lucky to be Ravens' fans: Ed Reed, Ray Lewis, Haloti Ngata, Joe Flacco, Terrell Suggs... the list goes on. Some of the best players in the league don the purple and black for the Baltimore Ravens every Sunday. Why would I even be tempted to say college football is better than the NFL when I am a fan of the Baltimore Ravens? I must have been delusional. But now I can see through the purple haze and know that the NFL is simply, better than the college game, especially here in our home town of Baltimore.