



The News

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Gilman School

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Happy 100th Birthday Carey Hall!



The centerpiece of Gilman School, home to most of our classrooms, and a representation of the men we aspire to be, Carey Hall's one hundredth birthday is a milestone in the 113 year history of the school. Celebrating in style on the building's anniversary, the Gilman community enjoyed a school-wide convocation, featuring remarks from several of its leaders and performances by the Traveling Men. The Upper School additionally heard a guest speaker, Baltimore historian and architect Charlie Duff ('71) speak about the history of the school and the building to be honored. Carey Hall, only thirteen years younger than the institution it serves, is truly the gateway to our Gilman community - Happy Birthday!

Left: Joe Cahalan ('11), assists Frank Carey (left) and Bill Carey with the ceremonial cake-cutting. (Photos by Daniel Yue) Below: Austin Dase, School President, addresses the crowd. (Photo by John Chirikjian)



Carey Hall Cake, courtesy of Charm City Cakes (Photo by Daniel Yue)



Kevin Peters ('15) enjoys a birthday cupcake (Photo by Daniel Yue)



Club Fair Returns: "Delightful" with Wide Selection

By SETH GRAY

After a yearlong absence, clubs have reemerged in the Gilman community. As a result of the club fair, thirty-five clubs have begun organizing meetings, recruiting members, and generating excitement and curiosity.

"The club fair was delightful this year. I saw many names on the club sheet, and everything ran smoothly and well. I look forward to having clubs be a part of the community again," says Ms. Turner.

"The club fair did a good job of pumping everyone up this year," comments

Yanbo Li, "There's definitely more interest and spirit this year than last year."

Li's Philosophy Club is one of fifteen new groups this year. With the amount of clubs more than doubling that of previous years, it is clear that the student body wants involvement in the community. Through diversity, outreach, and common interests, clubs are not only uniting the student body, but helping others outside of it as well.

While long standing outreach efforts such as Habitat for Humanity and

Lunches for the Homeless are continuing to build houses on weekends and make sandwiches every Wednesday 5th period, respectively, clubs like Social Justice club have been reinstated by Charlie Kerr and Johnny Snouffer where "students and teachers can work together to raise awareness and attempt to address the social issues that matter to them."

By extending its bonds throughout the greater Baltimore area, the community is becoming internally stronger and more tolerant. Diversity programs, such as

Black Awareness, Gay-Straight Alliance, Gender Committee, and Asian Awareness, hope to improve the tri-school by erasing racial, sexual, and cultural divisions. As president of Indian Awareness Joseph Puthumana says, "Through discussion and movies, we want to expose Gilman to the Indian culture."

As the students are sharing their own cultures with each other, clubs

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Editorial: Political Correctness & Gender at Gilman

In an increasingly tolerant world, we must constantly proceed with caution in speech and exercise political correctness. When language gets more gender-specific, we often begin to lose consciousness of offensiveness and intolerance. The modernizing workplace brings about the questions: how conscious do we need to be about what we say? And when does one cross the line of gender insensitivity? Must we be held accountable for slips of the tongue like "waitress" and "actress?" I don't mean to launch into a tirade against gender correctness. Rather, I want to elucidate the difficulty in maintaining gender correctness at an all-boys school.

"At Gilman, your son will flourish in a close-knit community that celebrates the energy of boys." This aspect of the admissions appeal, which can be found on Gilman's website, is slowly losing its luster. During advisory meetings last year, we discussed both how to be a gentleman in the modern age and how to stay aware of the issue of gender-neutrality. Opinions among students began to differ, however, when the topic of holding doors for women arose. This example symbolizes the obsolescence of chivalry and the start of the movement towards gender equality.

At Gilman, we students face a challenge unique to those who attend an all-boys school: After spending the majority of our days either alone or with other men, we are expected to successfully navigate the difficult path of gender correctness. Unless a Gilman underclassman takes a few select classes, he sits in class every day interacting with solely other boys, often engaging in crude and politically incorrect humor. When the student enters a class with girls during junior year, it might prove too late to alter his

already ingrained habits. So is an occasional, accidentally insensitive comment in a gender-mixed class reprehensible? According to Mrs. Turner, the gender-integrated class comes at a perfect time in the Gilman student's scholastic career. "People need to reset their settings every once in a while," said Mrs. Turner. "We don't want to fall back into bad habits. So I think this change in the middle of high school is a positive experience."

Another more ubiquitous aspect, especially to native English speakers, is the role of language in our gender prejudices. English grammatical rules exhibit a bias to use to male pronoun if unsure about gender. However, it has become the usage *de rigueur* to say "his or her" in reference to a singular, non-specific antecedent. Out of laziness, most people stick to "their," a symbol of recalcitrance to truly acknowledge the gender neutrality in their (ironic) paper or speech. Although teachers and administrators cannot condone this practice, they can still celebrate the masculine atmosphere. At College Night during my junior year, the college representatives expressed their relief at having to refer to the Gilman students as "your son." So even though we can neither support nor complete end linguistic apathy, we can allow students to take a deep breath and embrace their all-male environment as long as they are aware of the alternative.

Overall, we, as Gilman students, need to open our eyes to gender neutrality.

The comfort we feel around other men cannot carry over towards our interactions with women, especially formal addresses in a mixed crowd. At the current moment, it appears difficult to reconcile a gender-mixed (or even predominantly female,) adult work environment. One must ask the question: Who or what can be held accountable for the occasional insensitive comment of a young man? Parents? School? Society's deep-seated prejudices? The answer that we must ac-

cept for now is that we hold the key to our actions and that while ignorance is bliss, we must carefully consider women in all of our actions. We cannot shroud ourselves in the perpetual excuse of "boys will be boys." So while for now we appear isolated in a masculine world of "locker room talk" and a homogeneous composition of male students, we must prepare ourselves for the lives that Gilman can provide and for future interactions.

-MNK



The volleyball article in the September, 2010 issue of the *News* misspelled the names of Duncan Morgen-Westrick ('11) and coach Aldo Pantoja. The captains are Duncan Morgen-Westrick, John Durham, Matt Kantz, and Will Dorman. The *News* regrets the inaccuracies.

Gilman School

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Writing Center Welcomes New Tickner Fellow

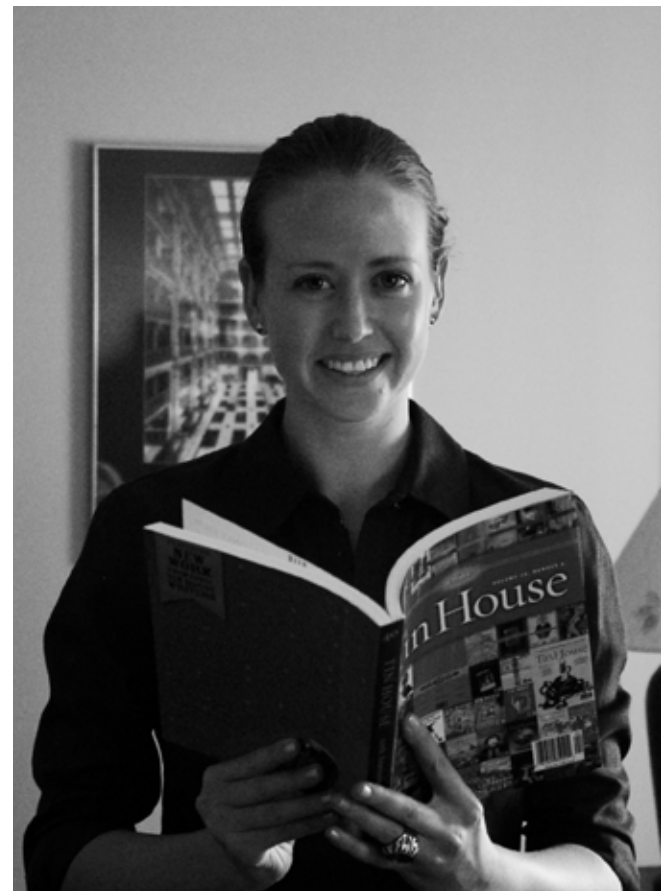
By NICK CORTEZI

Truly a master of her craft, Gilman students can look forward to a year under the tutelage of one of the brightest minds in modern fiction, Ms. Laura Van Den Berg. Hailing from Florida, Ms. Van Den Berg received her MFA from Emerson College. While studying in college, she discovered her passion for writing, and she told the News, "When I was a teenager, I had no idea what I wanted to do. In fact, it wasn't until I took a fiction workshop in college that being a writer seemed like a possibility." After graduating, Ms. Van Den Berg went on to serve as assistant editor for the fiction newspaper *Ploughshares*, *Memorious*, and currently sits as a fiction editor for West Branch. Her first collection of stories, entitled *What the World Will Look Like When All The Water Leaves Us*, hit the market in October of 2009. Heralded as "Stunning, desolate, and unforgettable" by a starred Booklist review, *What the World Will Look Like When All the Water Leaves Us* showcases the rich, layered beauty of Ms. Van Den Berg's work. The collection holds the short story "Where We Must Be," which Ms. Van Den Berg recommends for those students who wish to explore her literary works. The darkly comical story

follows Jean, a failed actress now working as a Bigfoot impersonator. The story displays Ms. Van Den Berg's first "tonal experimentation" in that she tries to "walk a fine line in terms of tone, a mix of pain and humor, of the zany and the mundane." This blurring of the inevitable boredom of reality with a more whimsical sense of magic can also be seen in Ms. Van Den Berg's influences, specifically the films of Woody Allen and Wes Anderson along with the music of The Pixies, Radiohead, and Lou Reed. In a more concrete sense, Ms. Van Den Berg says her influences stem from "family, travel, museums, and looking out the window."

In the continued tradition of being the Tickner Writing Fellow, Ms. Van Den Berg will help to oversee the Writing Center, as well as teaching her own Creative Writing course. A word of advice for those students lucky enough to take her class, as Ms. Van Den Berg puts it, "Run-on sentences have a way of testing my patience." But on a lighter note, Ms. Van Den Berg "encourages students to seek me out for discussion about the writers' life—books, the writing process, and so on." With knowledge of modern fiction and contemporary authors, Gilman students now have a wonderful resource to broaden

their literary horizons. It would be unfair to limit her role in the Gilman community to that of a Writer in Resident, and Ms. Van Den Berg will be there for any student seeking to test their creative limit, or as a past teacher of hers explained, their "ceiling". "Most people never work hard enough to reach their individual 'ceiling,' that we often spend our time worrying about the limits of our talent rather than testing those limits. With that in mind, I would encourage students to keep challenging themselves. Your own ceiling is probably higher than you think." Gilman's students will no doubt put that challenge to the test, and the welcome addition of Ms. Van Den Berg's wisdom and teaching will support and guide that creative spirit to new heights.



Ms. Van Den Berg poses for the camera, reading a *Tin House* literary magazine (Photo by Seth Gray).

Mr. Herman Joins College Counseling Team

By DANIEL RADOV

Talk of religion and college counseling has begun to creep into the second floor of Carey Hall as Mr. Matthew Herman enters the Gilman community. A native of Montgomery County and a graduate of James Madison University, Mr. Herman has spent the past five years at West Nottingham Academy in northeastern Maryland. He had been the Director of College Counseling, Varsity soccer coach, and a History teacher. "After being a dormitory parent, I wanted a day school where I could start my own family," says Mr. Herman, regarding his move to Gilman. "Plus, Gilman, as a school, is a bit more motivated."

This year, Mr. Herman will be teaching World Cultures to the freshman class, and for him, the course is quite an adjustment after years of only teaching history. Nevertheless, he hopes to make students "open-minded to religions." Mr. Herman adds, "A lot can be learned from other religions, and we all need to show respect towards them." On his philosophy to teaching freshman, he points to the youth of his prospective students. "The first couple of months, I look at them more as middle schoolers. And while you want them to learn, you want to help make that adjustment easily." When asked when he encountered the most difficulty in high school, Mr. Herman again points to freshman year.

Mr. Herman will also be assisting the College Counseling Department. When asked about college choices, Mr. Herman balks at the notion of a perfect college, saying, "A college acceptance isn't a prize. Each student should be trying to find a good fit, but no college experience

is without work and challenges to make one grow as a person." Athletically, Mr. Herman will help to coach the Junior Varsity soccer team. "The JV level is more building skills as the coaches prepare them for Varsity. On the Varsity level, you focus more on the tactical elements of soccer because the players have refined their skills to a certain point," believes Mr. Herman. Nevertheless, he has been pleasantly surprised by the integrity of the Gilman athletic program. "I have never had players come up to me after practice and shake my hand. I was blown away by that," says Mr. Herman.

"The best part?" asks Mr. Herman. "It has to have been the timing. I get to know the students before school starts."

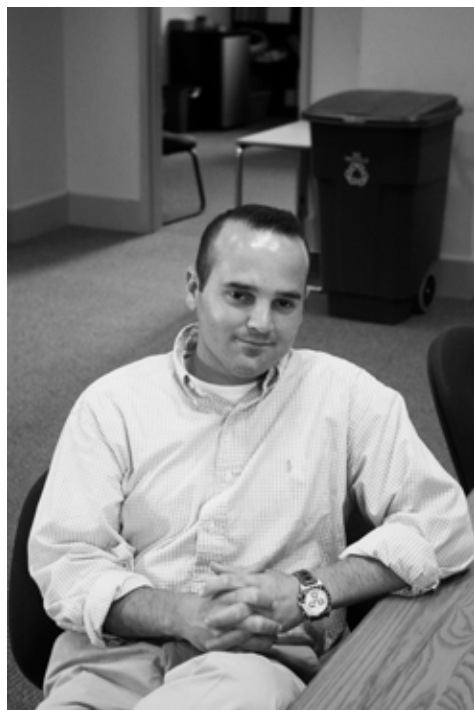


Photo by Seth Gray.

Political Clubs Break-Down: Red, Blue, & Purple

By HARRISON EBELING

This year, Gilman boasts three political clubs: the newly founded Young Democrats, Young Republicans, and Young Independents. All three groups hope to raise awareness in the student body about American politics. The Young Independents hope to "represent an amalgamation of political views around school," said Michael Katz ('11), a co-president of the newly-formed club with Will Hanley ('11).

The Young Independents club attempts to involve students who, as Michael Katz described, "have not typically thought about participating in a political club." The main goals of the club are to educate students about politics and help them cultivate their own opinions on current issues. "We plan to possibly watch a few movies, informally debate, and possibly host some speakers," Michael added.

The club is open to everyone at all times throughout the year, including first-timers who have not attended previous meetings. Overall, the group intends to "open up a political forum in an informal setting to both those who have established political belief systems and those who do not." The Young Independents will certainly bring a new perspective to Gilman's political culture.

The Young Democrats, led by Justin Schuster ('11), Sam Davidoff-Gore ('11), Alex Fang ('12), and Rishi Bedi ('13), hope to continue their political activism this year by involving themselves in politics outside of the Gilman community. They hope to involve themselves in state political races, such as the gubernatorial race between O'Malley and Ehrlich, through

phone-banking, weekend canvassing, and handing out literature at the Farmer's Market.

In addition, the club hopes to discuss the New York Times Week in Review during lunch, organize informal debates and discussion with Gilman's other political clubs and perhaps the girls' schools political clubs, and do volunteer work in the Baltimore community. The club will also try to bring in a host of guest speakers, including state delegates, senators, state attorneys, congressmen, and Maryland's Attorney General.

The Young Democrats hope to make a difference in Maryland through their activism. In the words of Justin Schuster, "Our voice and efforts can make a difference...The time to involve ourselves in this year's political campaigns is now."

The Young Republicans also hope to get involved in Maryland's campaigns and volunteer in the community. Its goals are to volunteer on Bob Ehrlich's campaign trail, to discover the political views of all its members, and gain a better understanding of Republican and conservative ideals.

The club wishes to discuss political events like gubernatorial races, Republican ideals, the war on terror, and controversial points like the Ground Zero Mosque. In addition, they will campaign for Ehrlich, raise money for American veterans of war, establish a fund for Gilman alumni in the military, debate among themselves and hopefully other political clubs, and possibly create political videos. As Ryan Mullican ('12), club president, declared, "We want to give a hand up over a handout. I really believe in that."

Flag Football a TD

By WILL SHERMAN

While Gilman's Varsity interscholastic sports teams are enjoying one of their most successful fall seasons of late, there are many other opportunities for young athletes to shine in our community.

This is evident within Gilman's expansive intramural sports program. One of the most popular fall intramural sports is flag football, which attracts almost 50 athletes each season. It is no different this year, as currently 42 students are taking part in the highly competitive activity.

The league, which held its long-awaited draft on September 17, comprises 6 teams of 7 players each, all headed by an upperclassman team captain. These team captains are frequently seen quarterbacking for their offenses. Contrary to popular belief, Gilman's "flag" football league is, and always has been, a two-hand touch league.

The league's commissioners, who also act as the officiating squad, include Mr. Larry Malkus, Mr. Don Rogers, and Mr. Paul Otto. The three are excited about some modifications this season,

including the expansion of playing fields from last year's two to this year's three. This change allows room for more participants and more teams.

Prior to the last week of the fall athletic season, Commissioner Malkus reviews the season's results and creates a playoff bracket which is "kind of like the NFL playoffs." The two teams with the most wins are rewarded with a bye for the first set of games, while the remaining four compete in a set of elimination quarterfinal games. The winners, of course, go on to play the two bye teams, and the winners of these games play for the coveted Gilman Intramural Football League title.

After watching only a short amount of game play over the past week, I can report first hand that these players mean business. While they're not playing under the lights at Johnny Unitas Stadium at Towson University like their Varsity classmates, these "flag" footballers play with just as much intensity,



Jack Realo ('12) and John Emmett ('13) jog along the scenic in Intramural Fitness (Photo by Rishi Bedi).



Aaron Goldblum ('12) scales a rock climbing challenge. (Photo by Daniel Yue).

Clubs in Community Once Again

(continued from Page 1)

such as Debate Club, Model U.N, and the Young Independents try to examine political culture. "Through the wide variety of political clubs that Gilman has to offer, students can pursue their interests in politics outside of the classroom," says Young Democrats President Justin Schuster, "Gilman's Young Democrats Club provides an opportunity for students to participate in an election, to discuss similar political views, and to volunteer outside of Gilman."

Not only are students uniting culturally and politically, but they are also coming together to pursue academic interests. Joining clubs like It' Academic, are two Philosophy clubs, a Dead Poets Society, and a Physics club. Li explains, "We will be discussing mind-blowing topics such as free will vs. predestination, absolute reality, as well as moral dilemmas."

Several clubs have reemerged in the

Gilman community. After a yearlong hiatus, Mock Trial and Scrabble Club have been rejuvenated. "After Harry Rudo left, there was no one to lead the Scrabble Club," comments Ms. LaBella, "We will try to meet during fifth periods to play Scrabble."

Last year, other than Film Club, there was a distinct lack of the exposition of student's interests. As evidenced by the Snow Club and the Contemporary Piano Club, Gilman is showing off its student's interests. Meeting in the first floor common room, Contemporary Piano Club plays current hits on the piano. "Playing Dynamite on the piano is a great outlet for stress after a long school day," remarks club president Alec Tarantino.

The involvement within the community proves while clubs cannot match the excitement that sports create, they are an essential component of school spirit.



(L-R) Jack Waller ('12) Ben Friedman ('11) and Griffin Pedroni ('12) strike the 'tree' pose (Photo by Rishi Bedi).

Rock Climbing: "Hidden Gem"

By WILL SHERMAN

As the intramural season starts, students must consider rock climbing as a potential sport of choice. Although it has fewer participants, it is both fun and rewarding. "It is a hidden gem in the Gilman intramural repertoire," says Austin Dase ('11). Ryan Carey is the teacher adviser for the rock climbing intramural group. The program is centered at Earth Treks in Timonium, the area's premier indoor rock climbing gym. The Baltimore area does not offer many options for outdoor climbing, so to compensate, the group occasionally climbs at Rock State Park in Great Falls. Mr. Carey has a passion for being outdoors and loves to challenge himself, two important elements of rock climbing's appeal. He says, "I really love the individual challenge, and there is no one else to blame." Many in the intramural group like Austin Dase, Ward Sandberg ('13), and Robby Brown ('13) agree with Mr. Carey, asserting that rock climbing is a physically challenging sport. Rock climbing is the only intramural sport at Gilman where if one has no energy left, he risks falling from a height of up to 30 feet. Robby Brown finds another aspect of climbing very appealing, stating "You can challenge yourself based on your own skill level." If one wants to participate in rock climbing, he or she needs both physical and mental toughness because the climb is an individual exercise in conquering the relentless force of

gravity. Ward Sandberg '13 adds, "I like rock climbing because it is a challenge that makes your mind and body work together." Austin Dase agrees, stating: "It is this combination that makes rock climbing a really fun sport." If the climber succeeds in conquering the wall, he gets an unrivaled sense of accomplishment that brings about positive feelings.

Rock climbing is not all fun and games, however, but a sport that if not taken seriously, can injure the climber. As Mr. Carey said, "All of the gear used is safety-oriented, and is tested to be safe." Some of the pieces of equipment used for climbing are a harness, helmet, special climbing shoes, chalk to keep hands dry, and last but not least, a good strong rope. In climbing, the climber must always have faith in his or her belayer, who is standing on the ground, controlling the rope, and protecting the climber in case he starts to fall. The Climber's life depends on the belayer. Talk about the ultimate in trust! In climbing there are many terms that the climber and belayer must know, but to do rock climbing at Gilman, one must only learn certain climber commands like "belay-belay on" and "climb-climb on."

For students who do not know what they are doing next season, especially freshmen, try something new like rock climbing. "For some people it really clicks and is a good way to really get to know your peers," states Mr. Carey. "Just get out there and try it because it may be something you really like."