# LEONID Vol. 59, No. 2

# Girls Dominate Class A Volleyball

Hanna DeLisio | Staff Reporter



The girls' volleyball team and fans pose after winning the championship.

he Bishop Canevin Girls Volleyball
Team has been on top for the past two
years and desired the coveted three-peat
at the WPIAL Championships this fall. Since
the summer, the four captains – Maddie Maziarz, Alexa Malloy, Hanna DeLisio and Gillian
Golupski – were pushing their team to achieve
this goal, which was accomplished with a 12-0
record for the season to win their section.

Many of the team members made All-Section teams. Maziarz, Malloy, DeLisio, Abbie Maziarz and Golupski were named to the first team, with members Kyla Hartoyo, Ana Luisa Galante and Olivia Thomas being placed on the second team. Abbie Maziarz made second-team All-WPIAL, Golupski made third team All-WPIAL, and Malloy, Delisio and Maziarz made first team All-WPIAL.

Three of the senior captains hit many records and other goals throughout their careers at Bishop Canevin. Maddie Mazarz set many personal goals of hitting 100 aces and receiving 2000 assists, but she actually reached 331 aces and 2652 assists by the end of the season. Malloy more than reached her goal of 1000 kills with a record 1169 kills. DeLisio had 100 aces and lead the team with 1039 digs.

This team accomplished much this season. Winning three WPIAL titles is a huge accomplishment in four years and is something not many other school teams are able to do. The girls smacked their rivals to win the championship, which was just the "cherry on the top." The five graduating seniors – Maziarz, Malloy, DeLisio, Galante and Julia Balobeck – have had an incredible four years of memories.

## **BC's First Play**

Where's Charley?	CAST STREET
Where o charley.	(in order of appearance)
Time:1892 Place: Oxfordshire, England ACT I	Brassott Daniel O'Donnell
Seene 1: A Room at Oxford University Seene 2: A street Seene 3: The deden Seene 4: Bradi: Where the Nuts Come From  ACT II Seene 1: The Garden Seene 2: A street Seene 3: The Ladies Dressing Room Seene 4: A Garden path Seene 6: The Ballroom Seene 5: The Ballroom	Jack Chenney John Fuels Charley Wykeham Timothy Tassick Kitty Verdun Lorraine Artizo Amy Spettigue Patricia Martineic Mr. Wilkinson Charles Udell Sir Francis Cheaney Raymond Dombrosky Mr. Spettigue Anthony Klaucher Donna Lucia D'Alvadorea Dolores Piluso Photographer Timothy Egerman Patricia Ritts Bridge
ht is graduation week at Oxford and Charley Wykeham and him of the Charley with the control of t	Regging State of the Statement of the St

"Where's Charley?" was the first play performed at Bishop Canevin, Nov. 26-30, 1962. The 2020 Spring Musical will be "Seussical."

# 29 Strong Prepare to Perform

Theresa Skindzier | Staff Photographer





uch more goes into a halftime show than just a few practices. With band director, Matthew Diehl, the 13 Crusettes and 16 band members have worked tirelessly to put together a show entitled "BC Radio." Despite the heat of the summer and learning to work under a new director, Drum Major and senior Danielle DiPaolo thought it all came together eventually. "The band and Crusettes worked extremely hard throughout the season, and Mr. Diehl helped us improve tremendously in the limited time he has so far been with us," she stated. "I believe that this change in attitude and feeling of excitement has long been overdue, and I cannot wait to see what next season holds for all the members of the Bishop Canevin Marching Crusaders."

As the football season came to a close, the seniors said goodbye to their time on the playing field. Although halftime shows may have concluded, practices have not. The band and Crusettes went right into getting ready for a parade, which takes a different type of organization.

They recently performed in the 100th Anniversary Veterans Day Parade in downtown Pittsburgh on Saturday, Nov. 9. Arriving at school around 8:15 a.m., the band began their day with a quick breakfast of croissants, then loaded up the bus with uniforms and instruments, arriving downtown shortly after 9 a.m., although the parade does not begin until 10:30 a.m. This early arrival is necessary as the parade organizers begin to line up all the participants and the Pittsburgh Police start to close off streets in and around the parade route. While standing around in the cold to eventually get the nod to "step off," the Marching Crusaders entertained themselves by conversing, dancing and singing musical theatre songs. They finally got to start down the parade route

Sophomore Crusette Katie Drauch said, "I think it went well for the Crusettes. Our marching was in step, our arms were strong, and we kept smiling, even though it was freezing."

The Marching Crusaders will perform in the upcoming WPXI Holiday Parade at 9 a.m. in downtown Pittsburgh, beginning at 11th Street and continuing down Liberty Avenue to its conclusion at Liberty and Stanwix Street, near Gateway Center, on Nov. 30.

## THE LEONID

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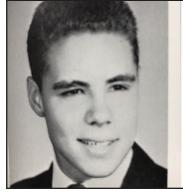
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## Visit from an Original Leonid Staff Member





John Fuchs was on the original Leonid Staff. Now, 56 years later, he returned to Bishop Canevin to look at the stage where he acted in the school's first play. Mr. Fuchs now lives in Connecticut.

## **Intramural Basketball** Gaining in Popularity

Hanna DeLisio | Staff Reporter

The BCIBBA, or Bishop Canevin Intramural Basketball Ballers Association, was started by students three years ago and has been gaining in numbers and popularity. There is a winter and a spring season. It is run mostly by students under the supervision of Mr. Jon Schultz as moderator. Students are allowed to create a team, name it, and compete against other BC student teams every Monday after school. Many student teams have even created matching jerseys to wear during in-house competitions.

The teams are mostly made up of students who do not play on the school's varsity or junior varsity teams and thus it is a perfect way to get students involved in playing a sport that does not require practices or travel time to play any games.

"I recommend and encourage anyone who is not on the basketball team to come play," said Mr. Schultz. "It's fun to watch our athletes compete and play with joy. My favorite part is the way the BCIBBA was organically created by the student body and it is enjoyable to watch that idea come to life."

## Ask Antonio

## Big questions for a big boy

Antonio Battista | Staff Reporter

## Which fast food place has the best hamburger?

Wendy's has a very good hamburger. Unlike competitors such as McDonald's or Sonic, a Wendy's burger is sizeable. Next to Burger King, Wendy's has the meatiest sandwich.



Combine the square patty and fantastic toppings for a delicious hamburger.

## What do you get when you go to Wendy's?

If you have not tried it, I recommend dipping their French fries in a chocolate Frosty. I usually order the Dave's Double. It's a good hamburger, and it's very economical compared to other burger choices in the fast food industry. And yes, I have dipped my fries in a Frosty before. I prefer the vanilla Frosty, though.

#### What is your opinion of the grading system? Do grades necessarily reflect a person's intelligence?

I think grades are necessary in an education system that aims to prepare students for college, but I do not think a letter has to be associated with a number. A 92 and a 93 are so close to each other that the difference could be considered negligible, but the assignment of letters to numbers exponentially increases the difference. Canevin's system disregards letter grades, which I believe creates a safer and more open education center. I also think that grades are more of a reflection of motivation and work ethic than intelligence. I think that, for the most part, anyone could take an honors or AP class. They just need the proper mindset and will to do what is required.

### Who is your favorite Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle?

Leonardo. I like his overall design, especially the blue Mask. Leonardo also wields the best weapon. The two katana Leo fights with are much cooler than any other weapons his comrades carry. Raphael is a close second, though. He is the most developed character.

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

#### Do you think knowing how to write in cursive is necessary in today's world?

In a word, no. While cursive is required for signing important documents like checks, for the most part, it has been replaced with shorthand. Technology has also added to the death of cursive. Most work that required writing is done on a computer because it is neater than handwriting. In this era, education systems have understood this reality and have replaced classes on cursive with technology classes which, I must say, is probably a better use of students' time.

#### Which came first, the chicken or the egg?

The chicken, definitely the chicken.

Which is your favorite football team? If the Steelers, then what is your opinion on their performance and how could they improve, if they needed to?

Yes, my favorite NFL team is the Pittsburgh Steelers. Players like Bud Dupree have greatly improved since last season and the new addition, Minkah Fitzpatrick, has solidified the squad into a turnover machine. If the Steelers could improve in any way, it would be on the offensive side of the ball, more specifically, Mason Rudolph's play. Rudolph is not a bad quarterback; he just needs to have further development. If his confidence grows and his time in the pocket decreases, I think Rudolph could be very good. At the very least, he has proved adequate in replacing Big Ben.

#### What does it mean to you to be in AP classes?

For me, AP classes I take are based on interest and financial value. Doing well on an AP test can reward a student with college credits, decreasing the time and money they spend in college. The \$100 cost to take the test is a bargain compared to the average cost of a college course. I also find that AP classes give me an opportunity to explore subjects that interest me. This year, for example, I am taking three AP classes: AP English, AP Euro, and AP Statistics. English and history have always been my favorite subjects, and a further study in statistics allows me to understand the board gaming mechanics that I love so much. Therefore, I'd suggest taking AP classes that either interest you or will help you on your journey to college.

## **Movie Review:** *Joker* **Is No Laughing Matter**

Adam Reyes | Staff Reporter

Batman is one of the most beloved comic book characters to ever exist, but one thing that every hero needs is a twisted villain to be the rival. This villain for Batman would be the Joker.

Fans of movies and TV shows can't get enough of the clown prince of crime. Sadly, though, the clown has never gotten his own time to shine, partly because his whole character is based on being the evil soulmate to Bruce Wayne. But now, director Todd Phillips, has tried his hand on doing a whole movie dedicated to showing how someone becomes something so twisted like the Joker.

Arthur Fleck, played by the spectacular Joaquin Phoenix, is a loner in society who works as a minimum wage clown so he can take care of his sick, elderly mother. Fleck also suffers from an unknown condition that causes him to break out in spontaneous laughter. In most cases, the laughter comes at the worst possible times and ends up making bad situations worse. Phoenix does this laugh masterfully; one can tell how physically painful this is and how much of a toll it takes on Fleck. But the core of this film is about showing how a disregarded loser can

become something cruel and twisted. Fleck is someone who doesn't have any breaks in his life and is just swaying from one tragedy to another. He's a failed comedian, a reject from society who has a mental illness that isn't being treated properly.

Though, as the plot progresses and Fleck's deeds get increasingly violent, he starts to look healthier. This sort of character development is the type that sends chills down your spine. The Joker once said that if he ever wanted to have an origin story he would want it to be multiple choice which, after a couple of surprise twists, one starts to wonder what is real in the movie and what might just be made up in the mind of a twisted guy such as the Joker.

This film is one for the ages, whether it's Phoenix's chill inducing take on Fleck, or the message this movie is trying to convey about how society treats the mentally ill or anyone viewed as a loser. But maybe this movie is just showing how some crazy guy becomes a killer clown.

Whatever the case, *Joker* is a movie that sticks with you long after the credits have finished rolling.

## **'66 Grad Finds Lost Ring Returned Decades Later**

Jack Mickle | Staff Reporter



Elaine Kocak's high school yearbook picture featuring her lost 1966 ring.

In the late 1980's, Elaine Kocak Beck ('66) had a daughter who loved to wear her jewelry, particularly her 1966 Bishop Canevin High School and Mount Mercy College (now Carlow University) class rings. Then living in Michigan, her daughter would often go with friends to various lakes. At some point, the rings were set down or slipped off her finger and were lost.

"I completely forgot about them," said Beck who is now a resident of Pittsburgh.

The rings were forgotten until Mrs. Natalie Liptak, current BC Guidance Department Chair, received a telephone call last month.

"My caller ID said I had a call from Michigan so I picked it up, thinking it may be a college. When I answered, a woman said while walking alongside a lake she had found a ring which read Canevin High School 1966," said Liptak. "I asked for the initials which the woman gave me. I looked for them in the 1966 Mosaic yearbook. There was only one person with those initials and that was Elaine."

Liptak called Beck and asked her if she had been to Michigan and had lost her ring, surprised then to hear that it had been lost 30 years ago. The ring survived three decades worth of exposure to the elements with relatively few scratches, a testament to the quality of a Canevin class ring.

"When I lost my husband, Dennis Beck '64,. I made the spur of the moment decision to move back to Pittsburgh. I worried that I had made the decision too rashly. However, one or two days after I moved back, I got a phone call from someone saying my husband's 1964 Canevin ring had been found in a field somewhere in the middle of the state. His ring had been lost for about 40 years. I then knew I had made the right choice to move back," said Beck.

She continued, "I recently was at an art exhibition for my daughter on the Northside. When I was checking in, the woman at the desk said there were three Becks on the list - one was Elaine and the other two had no first names. The woman then said, "It could be anybody. It could be Denny Beck. I went to high school with a guy named Denny Beck." I asked her where she went to high school and, of course, she said Canevin. I said that was my husband and that he had since passed away. The woman, Pat Campbell Bibro '64, introduced me to her husband, Mark '64. They both knew my husband and hadn't been aware he had died. Through my getting both of our class rings back and meeting these people, I believe Denny was trying to tell me something."

Beck was finally reunited with her ring on Oct. 8 when she came to the school. She remarked that the school looked to be in very good shape for being 60 years old and was excited to learn the policies of Canevin today were a lot more relaxed than when she attended. She also shared many interesting stories about Canevin in the 1960's. Many thanks to Mrs. Beck for agreeing to be interviewed for this article.#BCisfamily

## **Maziarz Wins AMDG**

## Award

## Named first recipient



Hanna DeLisio and Tim Durkin | Staff Reporters

enior Maddie Maziarz was recently named the first recipient of the newly inaugurated AMDG Award. The school's motto - AMDG (For the Greater Glory of God) – was chosen as a fitting title to recognize students who are excellent examples of this motto in the classroom, on the court or field, or in activities and ministry.

Maziarz is a captain of the girls' volleyball team, a Student Ambassador, Rahner House captain, a member of Junior Achievement and International Club, a Eucharistic Minister, and a recent inductee into the National Honor Society. She also went on this past summer's

Mission Trip and is serving as one of the two student representatives on the Bishop Canevin Middle States Team. She additionally participates in FBLA and Crusaders for Justice.

"I feel honored and blessed to receive such a special award," said Maziarz. She balances all her activities by managing her time and working hard with dedication.

"I hope to show holiness by participating in service events geared towards showing God's love and including prayer in my daily life," added

Congratulations, Maddie!

## Get to Know Varley and LaQuatra

Luke Andruscik | Staff Reporter

You are about to meet some of the best cross country runners in the state. Trey Varley and Erin LaQuatra, both sophomores, have had very successful seasons. Both of them qualified for the WPIAL championships. These runners have shown true grit and dedication to qualify. I asked Trey and Erin some sports questions and personal questions.

## What other sports do you play at Canevin and which is your favorite? Why?

Trey: Track and Field, Cross Country, Baseball and Basketball. Cross Country is my favorite because I love everyone on the team and it's my best sport.

Erin: I play Volleyball, Cross Country and Track and Field.

## What is the hardest course you have

Trey: the WPIAL course at CalU (California University of Pennsylvania) Erin: Seton LaSalle's home course.



What is your favorite subject in school?

Trey: History

Erin: Either Spanish or English

What is your favorite restaurant?

Trev: Vincent's.

Erin: Benihana or Olive Garden.

## Who is your favorite professional

Trey: Brian Reynolds because I'm an outfielder too and he is a great underrated

Erin: I don't think I really have a favorite

## How did you get the nickname Trey? Trey: Trey is my middle name (first name

is William) and that's what my parents have always called me.

## **Alumni Spotlight:** Celina Pompeani

Nick Paluso | Staff Reporter



Celina Pome

ou may recognize this 2010 Bishop Canevin graduate from watching the KDKA news, home Pittsburgh Penguins games, or "Pittsburgh Today Live." This graduate is Celina Pompeani.

Her years at Bishop Canevin were spent being involved with BCTV, FBLA, the spring musical, and as captain of the Crusettes. All of this helped develop into her career.

"BCTV was where we would record little newscasts which really prepared me for my job in broadcasting today," said Pompeani. "The musicals also helped me feel comfortable speaking in front of crowds which is a crucial part of my job, especially when I emcee events around the city."

After graduation, she attended Point Park University, majoring in Broadcast Journalism with an oncamera concentration, and graduated in December 2013, a semester early, with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

She then landed her first job at WTOV-9 in Steubenville, OH where she anchored and produced her own shows on the weekends and was a general assignment reporter during the week. "I shot and edited all of my own pieces, which was really challenging working as a one-man band. I learned so much, though, and I am so grateful for that experience," Pompeani remarked.

Currently, she works with the Pittsburgh Penguins as the Pens TV host. She also works with KDKA as the morning traffic anchor and as a reporter for Pittsburgh Today Live. A typical day begins when she wakes up between 1:30 and 2:00 a.m. so she can be at KDKA

by 3:30 a.m. Upon arrival she begins building traffic and construction maps for the morning. She is live on the air on KDKA and the CW until 10 a.m. with several traffic updates during that time.

"It was always a dream of mine to work at KDKA with my dad (sports director/anchor Bob Pompeani). I always prayed that I would end up here. I love being live for hours in the morning (4:30-10 a.m.). It's a lot but it's so good knowing that I get to wake people up in the mornings," she chuckled.

From 9-10 a.m. she will either be live in the studio or out on location for Pittsburgh Today Live. Her morning normally ends by 11:30 a.m. If the Penguins have a home game, she has to get back into the city between 3:30-4:00 p.m. so she can begin her job as arena host. She then gets home around 10 p.m.

"It's definitely very hard waking up so early again the next morning, but I'm learning that naps are everything!" Pompeani laughed.

When Pompeani is not building traffic maps, reporting live or hosting on Pittsburgh Today or at the Arena, she enjoys her free time.

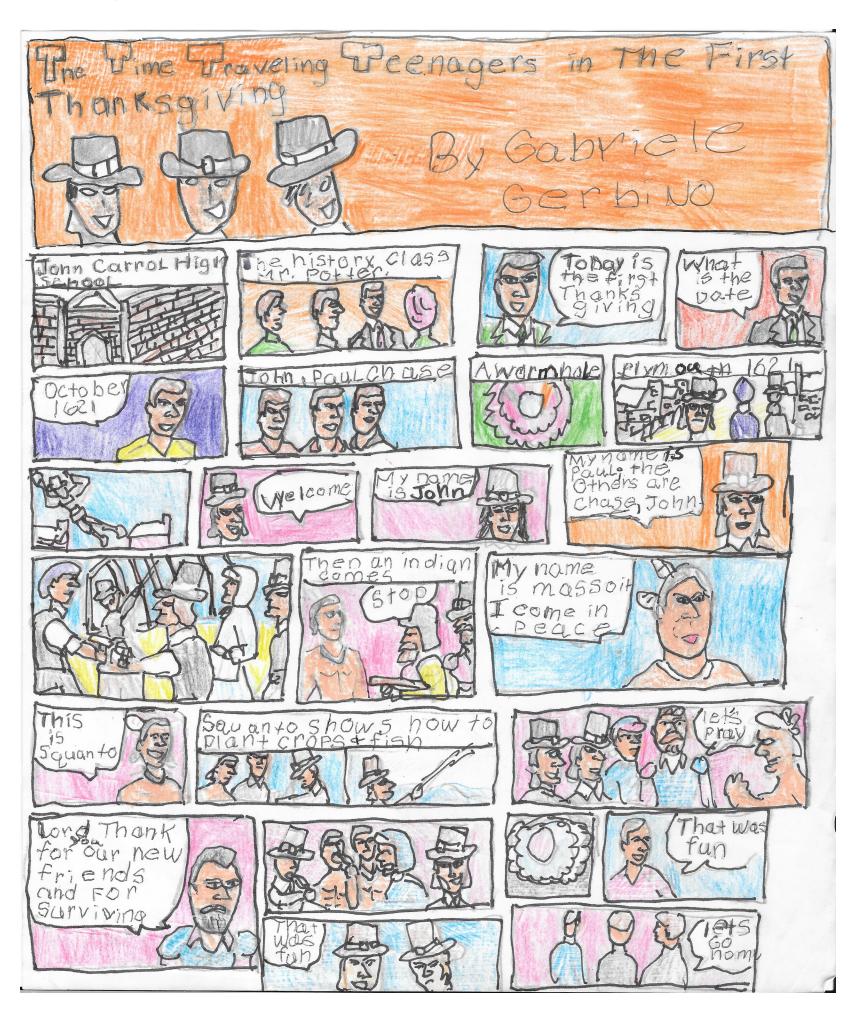
"I love working out! I take many different workout classes. I also love spending time with my family, my friends and my boyfriend, Mac. I love going to the movies and trying new restaurants around town," she stated.

What does she like about Pittsburgh

"The people, for sure," she enthused. "People in Pittsburgh are so warm and nice and I love getting to know all of our viewers. This is my hometown and I couldn't imagine living anywhere else."

## The Time Traveling Teenagers in the First Thanksgiving

Gabriele Gerbino | Cartoonist



## Yunker Shares Years of Experience

# Heart and Soul of Speech and Debate

Renee LaGrosse | Staff Reporter



R ita Yunker was inspired to become a teacher at an early age by watching her mother interact with her students.

"My mom was a dedicated teacher who wanted to make a difference in someone's life," she said, sharing that same passion. "Her greatest achievement was watching her students' mature and blossom into their own being and knowing that she had a small part in the development of someone's heart and mind. It truly is a special gift. High school students are the best. I love the interaction that takes place, the learning from them and the part that they play in my life."

Upon graduation from Edinboro University, Yunker immediately began teaching at Burgettstown High School, where she directed plays and moderated the newspaper, yearbook and drama club. She continued her education by obtaining her Master's Degree from Duquesne University and then became a part of the Bishop Canevin faculty in 1982. She also has more than 30 years' experience in the financial world in various roles in recruiting, sales, management and training.

Yunker competed in speech and debate throughout elementary and high school and her love for this subject has never wavered. "I believe that anyone, with the proper attitude, can become more comfortable with public speaking. No matter what profession you choose in life, it is a necessary skill," she emphasized.

Some of Yunker's most fondest memories from past Speech and Debate competitions include dancing and crying when she found out that someone qualified for a National Tournament.

Yunker was inducted into the Pennsylvania Speech and Debate Hall of Fame in 2019. This past August she spoke on "Mindsets in the Communication Classroom" at the National Speech & Debate Association National Conference in Colorado Springs, CO. Her goal is to continue striving to make an impact on the lives of students, both in a classroom and as an activity moderator. She always wants her students and competitors to "reach for the stars."

The Bishop Canevin Speech and Debate Honor Society is looking forward to another successful year. The tournament season is quickly approaching.

## A Day in the Life of the Chaplain

Mac Johnson | Staff Reporter



When Noel is not working, he can usually be found spending his time at one of Canevin's many activities. Because of his love for learning, he likes to sit in on classes here. Every time he enters a classroom, he tries to take away some kind of lesson. He also attends many Canevin sporting events and can be seen in the crowds, cheering on the Crusaders.

Being a chaplain is not complete without its challenges. One example of this is when Noel helps Canevin students and their families during a tragic moment in their life, such as the death of a loved one. He says that in times like these it is best to remember God's love when supporting those who need comforted. A more recent difficulty is the child sex abuse scandals in the Church. These scandals have brought much fear, anger and controversy towards the Church and its priests.

Noel said, "In such times, it is important to remember the Holy Spirit leading and guiding us, especially priests, to greater holiness and to work with greater commitment and trust for Him and not for ourselves."

In spite of the challenges and difficulties that Noel faces, he enjoys his job. The many responsibilities of being the chaplain at Bishop Canevin and spiritual director at St. Paul Seminary keep him very busy. It is fulfilling to him to see Canevin's students grow in their faith and relationship with God.

"I really enjoy my time at BC in building relationships with all the members of our community: students, parents, teachers and staff," said Noel. "That is most rewarding about this position."

blessing I don't take for granted is seeing, over the course of years, how our students grow up in their faith and in knowing God in the many aspects of what they do and learn," said Fr. Brian Noel, the chaplain at Bishop Canevin.

A chaplain is a member of the clergy, usually a priest, who is assigned to a specific institution, such as a school. No two days are alike for Noel. Each day has its many challenges, although Noel is always prepared for what they have in store.

At the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year, Bishop David Zubik, bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, appointed Noel as the part-time chaplain of Bishop Canevin, as well as the full-time spiritual director at St. Paul Seminary, which is located beside Bishop Canevin. As chaplain, Noel is responsible for presiding at liturgies and being available for individual spiritual talks and pastoral support. He also organizes seasonal opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, school masses, class masses, and retreats. In a larger sense, Noel says that the purpose of his job is as follows:

"As chaplain, I help to oversee, along with our campus ministry team, the very important task of providing opportunities for members of our school community to grow in their relationships with God through the sacramental life, prayer, and spiritual formation."

Noel is always trying to provide new and fun experiences for the students instead of having the same old events every year. For example, he took a larger role in the school mission trip this year by leading the trip himself.

Back issues of The Leonid in its present online format may be found at: bishopcanevin.org/apps/pages/leonid

## Galante Attends Leadership Forum

Anessa Preteroti | Staff Reporter

he National Youth Leadership Forum Law and CSI program is for the brightest and most motivated students interested in pursuing a career in law. This past summer, senior Ana Luisa Galante attended the program in Washington, D.C.

She is very grateful that she had this experience. "This program really allowed me to meet new people with similar interests," she said. Galante was able to make new friends from the program and is in touch with many of them to this day.

"It wasn't intimidating to be around people interested in the same career as me," Galante stated. "It was a lot of fun."

She would recommend this program to anyone interested in learning more about law and CSI (criminal science investigation). Students had the opportunity to not only listen to lectures from college professors but to ask questions and converse with them personally. Attendees also had the chance to visit four area law schools: American University Washington College of Law,



University of the District of Columbia Law School, Howard University School of Law, and the University of Maryland School of Law. This gave the students the opportunity to experience mock law school classes.

Galante shared that a typical day in the life of the program consisted of learning about CSI and law proceedings along with participation in certain local activities and visits to sites in D.C.

Although she is currently undecided as to what college she will attend, Galante will be pursuing a career as a homicide detective.

# **Book Review:** *Ninth House* **Colleges, Ghosts, Murders and Bad Endings**

Tim Durkin | Staff Reporter

Inth House by Leigh Bardugo, is an intriguing novel in many ways. The premise uses the overdone image of magic, but tells a unique story. The main character, Galaxy "Alex" Stern, goes to Yale University. However, her only purpose there is to monitor the other magical societies that reside within the university's walls. There are a total of 8 houses, and she is part of the mysterious ninth one, Lethe House. It keeps order among the different houses. Alex is special because she is able to see ghosts which is both a blessing and a curse. When a girl named Tara is found dead in an auspicious location, Alex has to go undercover to find out the reason why.

Positively this book is imaginative and creative. The magical elements add to the experience, rather than hamper it. The concept of Alex interacting with the dead is one I have seen many times but never so masterful an execution. Alex's reactions and interactions with these otherworldly beings is strangely relatable. The central setting of Yale is grounded and well- developed. However, the magical locations are the ones that truly shine. Each one is unique and varied, my favorite being

the odd spot between life and death that Alex travels to once. The characters are all compelling and realistic. Daniel "Darlington" Arlington, Alex's mentor, is the best character by far. For reasons explained later in the book, however, he only appears in flashback sequences that occur every other chapter.

Yet this book is far from perfect because of the lack of explanation for some parts and the ending. There is a guide in the back of the book that explains each house in greater detail, but I shouldn't have to go out of my way to get information on a core part of the story. This is insignificant when compared to the ending which is a cliffhanger and a bad one at that. Due to it being a duology book, I feel the author arbitrarily inserted conflict so that the next book will have a decent plot. The true villain is not compelling at all. The ending was a massive disappointment; it doesn't ruin the book but it does taint the experience.

Overall, Ninth House was a truly unique experience and, despite its ending, one that I would recommend to anyone.

## Swim Team Aims for 4th Historic Title

Jack Mickle | Staff Reporter

o a c h M i k e Schneiderlochner has a very optimistic view on the upcoming season. "I think we are going to win the girls and boys section titles for the fourth straight year," he predicted.

The swim team is in its fifth year of a co-op with Carlynton High School. In each of the last three years, they have been the section 1-AA champions, beating Brentwood in 2017 and 2018 and Chartiers Valley in 2019. In addition, they have not lost a section meet since 2016. This is also the first time the team has won three straight section titles.

The team has a roster of 32 swimmers, many of whom are new to the sport or are freshmen.

"When you look at the upcoming season, I think that you have a nice blend of people who swam before as well as some nice newcomers to the group," said Canevin Athletic Director Dale Checketts.

Checketts also doesn't think anyone should be discouraged by the team being under the Carlynton name.

"Canevin is a place that is a land of opportunities for everyone, whether it is academically or athletically," he continued. "If swimming is something that is your forte and you like to be in the pool, I'm all for those people being able to do that, whether it's under our name or a co-op's name. It's about the opportunity for our kids to be able to do what they like to do."

"We actually have more boys and girls from Canevin this year than Carlynton on the swim team, which is impressive," commented Schneiderlochner.

Two years ago, during the

2017-18 season, there were only six swimmers from Canevin, and they were all boys. Currently there are around 15 male and female swimmers from Canevin.

Partially because of the increased participation in coop sports with Carlynton, the school has purchased a new Ford Transit "Can-e-van" to help shuttle student athletes back and forth between the two schools.

When asked who to look out for on the Canevin side of things, Schneiderlochner did not come up empty-handed.

"People to look out for on the boys' side would be Jack (Mickle) and Carson (Gaitens), Garrett and Gavin (Nolf), and Sam Nicolella is looking pretty good; he might score some points for us. On the girls' side I would say Sarah (Barron), Lizzy (Volz), Ava (Gaitens), Libby (Hitchings) and Bella (Thomier)."

The Cougars/Crusaders open their season with a home non-section meet against Northgate.

"I think we'd like to at least push Northgate, because they lost their one girl who's been killing us for the last four years," said Coach "Mike." "We'd like to be within ten points on the boys and girls side."

His message to the student body is simple: "Come and swim. You'll be in the best shape of your life by spring."

The swim team opens up section competition on Jan. 2 against Carrick. All dual meets are held Tuesdays or Thursdays. Home meets are held at Carlynton High School. The season culminates at the WPIAL District 7 Championships to be held on Feb. 27-28 at the University of Pittsburgh Trees Pool.

## Ping Pong Club

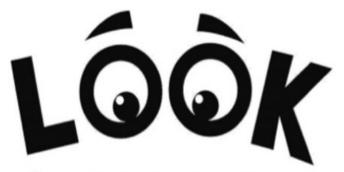
Tuesday's after school in the Student
Lounge until 4:30pm
No prior skill or experience necessary
No weekly commitment necessary

Each week we plan to have a knockout tournament of champions.



From the Leonid staff





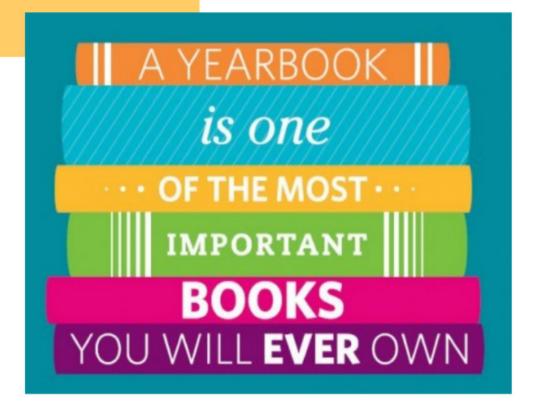
Canevin is starting its own museum and we need YOUR help!

See Mrs. Smith G105 or Jack Mickle G210 to donate items

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