

THE PROWLER

Quince Orchard High School

Two QO alumni deported despite public outcry

By FLYNN SNYDER
Managing Editor

Two former Quince Orchard students, Lizandro Claros-Saravia, 19, and Diego Claros-Saravia, 22, were deported back to El Salvador over the summer after a check-in with US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officials.

The brothers, who lived in the country illegally, had recently graduated from QO, and Lizandro was set to play soccer on a scholarship for a university in North Carolina. His brother Diego, was also granted a scholarship to attend a Maryland college, according to his former ESOL teacher, Heather Bradley, who now teaches at Northwood High School.

The Claros-Saravia brothers were given deportation orders in 2012 after entering the country when they were younger. However, the two were granted reprieves from those orders in 2013. Bradley claims that policies set forth by the Obama Administration would have put the brothers on a low priority status for immigration officials. She feels that under President Trump's current policy, all immigrants, not criminals exclusively, are being targeted.

According to other reports, the brothers were detained after they notified ICE of a change in address. Bradley stated that the brothers and their parents felt as if they were doing



Family members and friends of Diego and Lizandro Claros-Saravia gather to garner support and spread awareness about the brother's deportation.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WASHINGTON POST

the right thing in notifying officials.

"It is very unusual to be detained... it's terribly out of the norm," said Bradley "The whole thing felt intentional."

Bradley, who worked with Lizandro Claros-Saravia during her time at QO, and is in contact with the two, claims that the ordeal terribly upset the brothers and that being incarcerated hurt them.

"[The brothers] would not have otherwise been a priority for deportation at all," said Bradley. "We have to call to a higher authority... At what point is it

morally acceptable to punish immigrants?" USA.gov, a government-run website, claims that individuals "who come to the U.S. without travel documents or with forged documents may be deported."

The site also states that a foreign national may be detained by immigration officials prior to a trial or deportation.

After word of the brother's deportation orders spread, the community stepped in to help by setting up a page on GoFundMe, an electronic fundraising site. The brother's sister, a QO alumna as

well and a proponent of the immigration advocacy group CASA de Maryland, and the Claros-Saravias' soccer team, the Bethesda Soccer Club, organized help as well.

Through her experience working with students who are immigrants, Bradley claims that parents bring their young children to the United States in search of better economic opportunities and to escape crime.

According to Bradley, the brothers were sent to a rural area of El Salvador, where Diego still searches for help in supporting Lizandro and the rest of his family. Bradley claims that the brothers situation highlights an even bigger problem.

"People have a short-term perspective on immigration," Bradley said. "What people don't understand is why people come. People need to understand that they interact with people who are undocumented every day."

Financial publisher "The Economist" dubbed El Salvador, as the "world's most violent country" based on statistics that show 91 killings per 100,000 people in 2016.

Bradley and others hope that this situation calls people back to their community.

"They're not the only case. It's not the last time we'll hear about these boys," said Bradley.

The brothers, who have since moved out of El Salvador, are now attending an American university in Nicaragua.

Post-Labor Day reaction Community remembers AJC

By BRANDON FREEDMAN
Editor-in-Chief

The state of Maryland's post-Labor Day start of school, as mandated by Governor Larry Hogan, was put into effect this year. For the first time in decades, all public schools in Maryland started in September after the holiday, and that left many wondering if this would have a positive or negative outcome.

Hogan's main goal for this mandate was to boost Maryland's economy by having popular tourist spots, mainly Maryland beaches, be accessible for a longer period of time. Resort towns like Ocean City had the most to gain with much added revenue, although the exact numbers are not yet in regarding total gains. It was not only Ocean City that reaped the benefits from school starting after Labor Day this year. The Maryland State Fair, held this year between Aug. 24 and Sept. 4, saw an unprecedented number of attendees. Overall attendance increased by 20 percent from last year's fair.

Along with economical gains came personal gains for students, who got an additional two weeks of summer vacation, and people working at the beach got extra income. However, overall the feedback has been mixed. Others see the post-Labor Day start as a liability: less time for spring break, and more costs for child care. Bal-

timore schools CEO Sonja Santelises preferred to have students back in school before Labor Day. She said she is concerned that the additional week of summer leaves students vulnerable to making bad decisions and parents more stressed over childcare options. Prince George's County executive Rushern L. Baker III says long summer breaks hurt students who struggle academically, especially poorer children who lack access to enriching summer camps and programs. Some high-poverty schools have attributed gains in classroom achievement in part to their decision to shorten summer recess.

In addition to potential issues with students not being in a controlled environment, many student athletes in Montgomery County didn't have a chance to extend their summer, as tryout and practice dates did not change from previous years. Students were expected to report to their teams as much as 4 weeks prior to the September 5 start date. The result: these families were unable to visit beaches or take final family vacations.

As for the 2018-2019 school calendar, MCPS is looking at an even more condensed schedule for many reasons, one of which is election days. After all things considered such as election days and professional days the county is left with just six additional days off for other non-required breaks such as spring break.

By JENNA SHATZMAN
Managing Editor

Last year, QO lost one of its most beloved members when Austin Cohen passed away after his battle with the rare cancer osteosarcoma. The SGA plans to plant a tree in the courtyard in memory of Cohen to ensure that he will only be remembered in our minds and hearts, but through a physical memorial as well.

"He's been in all of our lives for so long, and he was a big part of QO so we want to make sure his memory lives on," said SGA President and senior Elizabeth Hellewell.

Discussions between the school SGA, senior class SGA, and administration concluded that a tree would be planted in the courtyard. The exact spot is not determined yet, as it must be in a place where the roots have room to grow and receive enough sunlight. According to Hellewell, the SGA is hopeful that the tree planting ceremony will be able to take place by this fall. Prior to that, however, the type of tree must be chosen and a plaque must be made. "When his friends have graduated and moved on with their lives, new classes will know a great kid named Austin Cohen attend[ed] this school," said Austin's sister, sophomore Courtney Cohen.

The Cohen family did not play a significant role in the actual decision to plant the tree, but they did have a few

special requests. "Perhaps a sunny location where the tree's leaves would provide shade that would cause people to want to sit with him in the spring and the leaves be very colorful in the fall," said Courtney.

For years to come, whenever a student passes through the courtyard—whether to eat lunch, take a shortcut to class, or simply enjoy the outside air—they will see the tree, which will encourage students to think of Austin. "During a busy day when [students] are stressed or just caught up with life," said Courtney, "they will have a variety of fond memories as they pass, whether they be personal or a [story] heard from a friend," Courtney said. Although plans are disjointed, the tree is certain to keep Austin's legacy alive at QO.

"He's been in all of our lives for so long, and he was a big part of QO so we want to make sure his memory lives on."
- Elizabeth Hellewell

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EDITORIAL POLICY

The Prowler gladly accepts comments, concerns, and letters to the editor. Letters may be emailed to qohsprowler@gmail.com, mailed c/o The Prowler to the school address above, or dropped off directly to Ms. Cooley-Klein's mailbox in Room 231 (English Office). Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

ABOUT

The Prowler is published six times a year by the students of Quince Orchard High School, and it has been continuously published since the 1988-89 school year. To become a staff member, students take Journalism A & B to qualify for the Advanced Publications class.



QO welcomes new athletic director

By **BRANDON FREEDMAN**
Editor-in-Chief

This past summer Quince Orchard went on a hunt to find a new Athletic Director and the lucky winner was Jeff Rabberman. For the past nine years, Rabberman had been a part of the Gaithersburg High School athletic team, more specifically the baseball coach, and has had a successful tenure there, winning a state championship in 2015. Rabberman was hired after former athletic director, George Awkard left to become the athletic director at the high school

he attended as a student, John F. Kennedy High School.

With change comes uncertainty, but many of Rabberman's colleagues such as golf coach Russell Doane have excelled with the change. Doane claims that "information has been traveling a lot quicker and smoother," which makes "scheduling easier." He also said that thus far, "the school year has been running smoother than in previous years." Overall, Doane has had a positive experience with the transition and can't wait to work with Rabberman in the future.

As for the man himself, Rabberman says that QO "is a

great place to be and the appearance is very positive." As for his transition from Gaithersburg, Rabberman stated that the "faculty and administration has made the transition seamless and easy for [him]." Rabberman knew some of the coaches here like Mr. Gasaway, -- QO's baseball coach-- before he got the job, and that has allowed him to ease into his new role. "Gasaway and I have always had a bit of a friendly rivalry," said Rabberman, so he thinks it will be fun to now work with him and maybe even engage in good-natured bragging.

Although the staff has been a big part of his transi-

tion, Rabberman knows that the student body at QO is unmatched. He is excited to see the Red Army out and cheering at sporting events and knows how much energy and pride the Red Army has as a whole and hopes to be a part of it.

In regards to the upcoming school year, Rabberman says he is "starting to look forward to the future" and is "not as focused on the current day or event" but rather the bigger picture and the year as a whole.

Whether it's attending sporting events, interacting with students and staff, or working in the community, QO welcomes Rabberman with open

Portables, increasing population cause issues

By **CINDY LIU**
Managing Editor

The first day of school this year was a little bit more hectic than usual. Contrary to expectations, it isn't the freshmen causing the turmoil this time. Over the summer, QO brought back portables. QO has had portables before, but they were taken down in 2007 because of the dwindling student population, according to previous Prowler reporting. Now that the freshman class is gaining students at a more rapid pace, the school decided to revive the portables.

However, with this addition comes some concerns about the safety of the school. In an unofficial poll, the majority of the teachers and students said that the portables could be increasing the chance for stu-

dents to skip class. "There's no one watching the students as they go from the main building to the portables, so you could just walk out," said sophomore Daniyal Bharmal, who has English class in a portable. In addition, freshman Javier Gonzalez noted, "There are multiple exits to the portables, so it's easy for people to just walk off." In an experiment conducted by the Prowler, it was proven that a student could slip out and come back unnoticed through the doors leading to the portables. What's more is that the students skipping might not necessarily be students with a class in the portables, as one teacher pointed out.

Since the doors are open for students to access the portables, students could theoretically use this chance to slip out and back whenever they want.

Their concerns are reasonable, as security guard Howard Copeland confirms that it has happened "a couple of times, so far." However, since the numbers are low, it is not considered a major concern. "Skipping is not a big problem at QO," Copeland said.

Teachers at the portables also don't seem to be troubled by skippers. English teacher Eve Carpenter, who teaches all of her five classes in the portables, said that "[she] ha[s]n't noticed any lapse in attendance." Social studies teacher Seann Pelkey, who used to teach in the old portables, said that he doesn't recall any such incidents back then, either. For students that do get caught skipping, the standard procedure for security guards is to take them to administrators, or take their name and student ID to give to the administrators to call them later.

On another note, some people are concerned about a complete stranger walking into the building. Since there are no security guard watching the doors as students go from the main building to the portables, technically, anyone could just pull up in the parking lot and walk straight in a classroom. However, security has a presence in the hallways between and during classes. "We have certain posts—one person's posted on the first floor, two on second, and two on third," Copeland said.

As currently there is no team leader, there are only five guards in total. Copeland hopes that once the new team leader comes, things will get more organized. "Ideally, we would have seven guards, two people at each floor at all times. Then there could be one out in the parking lot on lookout," Copeland said.

NEWS FLASHES

Online threats against QO result in chaos



PHOTO COURTESY OF TECHORA.NET

By **FLYNN SNYDER**
Managing Editor

On September 15, QO administration discovered online threats against Quince Orchard and other MCPS high schools. The threats were discovered in a student's text messages during an investigation of a conflict between two individuals. According to school administration, the texts explicitly threatened violence against multiple local high schools. In response, the Montgomery County Police Department and MCPS security arrived on scene and allowed the school day to continue uninterrupted. The school system said it has cooperated with local law enforcement to ensure the safety of all students, staff, and visitors at school. The students involved in the incident have been disciplined according to the MCPS Student Code of Conduct; their identities have not been released.

2018 gubernatorial elections approach



PHOTO COURTESY OF POLITICO.COM

By **CINDY LIU**
Managing Editor

Maryland's 2018 gubernatorial elections will take place on November 6 next year, and the biennial race for the governor's office is expected to be competitive. The current lists of candidates includes Rushern Baker, Benjamin Jealous, Richard S. Madaleno, Alec Ross, Jim Shea, and Krish Vignarajah— all of whom are Democrats. They will be running against Republican Gov. Larry Hogan, who is seeking re-election for a second term. If Hogan succeeds, he will be the first Republican governor to be re-elected in Maryland in more than 60 years. Representative John Delaney (D-6th), who was a favorite to run, has declined to run for governor as he has declared his candidacy for the 2020 presidential election.



VIEWPOINT

QO vs. NW: Has the rivalry gone too far?

By JENNA SHATZMAN, FLYNN SNYDER & BRAN-DON FREEDMAN
Managing Editors and Editor-in-Chief

Just four miles down the road from our Red Army turf is Northwest High School. Every school has its rival, but this feud runs deep. For years the two schools have gone head to head on some of the biggest stages, whether it be for regional finals in football or a simple spirit battle. However, due to recent events, Quince Orchard has been forced to rethink the extent of our hostility. As the football season progresses, the

game against Northwest is always the most anticipated. The stands are packed on both sides and everyone is ready for both the chance to see their friends from down the road, and to watch a suspenseful and important game. Although Northwest is our rival school, many of us went to middle school together, but were split apart when it was time to head to high school. So why is our feud so intense? Just like any other high school, club, or professional team, there's always that team that you refuse to lose against and everyone always wants to see how the game will go down. It's just one part of what makes high school

fun and contributes to the ultimate high school experience. However, some people at our school have taken this fun rivalry too far, insulting people and portraying our school in a negative manner. On September 17, an offensive Instagram post was made by a student from our school, taking the infamous feud way too far. Although a sole student posted these "starter packs," our entire student body, as well as families and students who took offense to the posts, were impacted. Northwest High School has faced devastating hardships, such as the deaths of seniors Shadi Adi Najjar and Artem S. Ziberov,

these past few months, and we need to put our rivalry aside, and support them as neighbors from down the street. We won't let them beat us on the football field, or in any sports game for

that matter, and the Red Army will always be the best student section in Montgomery County. However, when real life tragedies occur, we should lift each other

up instead of tear each other down. We on the Prowler, considering the fact that most of us went to school with Northwest High School students, believe the rivalry should stay on the field.



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Natural disasters wreak havoc upon multiple states

By **AYESHA SHAHZAD**
Managing Editor

Over the past two months, a surplus of news regarding natural disasters materialized. Hurricane Harvey, a Category 3 hurricane, was the most prevalent topic in U.S. news for weeks. The hurricane, which lasted about one week and ended officially on September 2, wreaked much havoc in Texas, Louisiana, Honduras, Nicaragua, and other regions. Harvey produced 71 (confirmed) fatalities, and is reported to be the third most expensive Atlantic hurricane, causing over \$70 billion in damage.

Soon after Harvey ended, Hurricane Irma began, originating in South America. The category five disaster nearly destroyed the island of Barbuda entirely. Barbuda, a small island off the coast of Puerto Rico, has a population of approximately 1,800. Many of these people are now homeless and stranded, and three deaths have been reported. In addition to this, the majority of the island has been left completely without power.

“At least 95% of the properties in Barbuda are either totally destroyed or damaged,” said Roderick Faustin, first secretary for the Embassy of Antigua and Barbuda, in an interview with

the LA Times. The hurricane then spread to Florida, and nine deaths have since been reported in the Florida Keys.

“At least 95% of the properties in Barbuda are either totally destroyed or damaged”

-Roderick Faustin

Amidst Harvey and Irma, there was also news of wildfires in California and Oregon.

The social media responses to these events have been all over the place. Many people online are making Biblical references, and have come to the conclusion that the large amount of natural disasters are related to the return of Jesus and/or God.

“Y’all think it’s not serious but in the Bible it says chaos in the world is a sign of God’s return,” tweets Twitter user @king_merino in regard to the “chaos” taking place throughout Texas and California. The tweet produced over 101,000 retweets and 195,000 likes.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ABC NEWS

There were many other such posts on platforms besides Twitter that were met with equal amounts of attention.

However, not everyone feels this way. In response to tweets such as the aforementioned, Twitter user @priscillux tweets, “We are overpolluting, overpopulating & exploiting the earth & [people] don’t do anything [because] they think it’s signs that ‘god is coming.’” This tweet generated over 122,000 retweets and 241,000 likes.

Many people are pondering the same question; could all of these disasters be linked? Some argue yes, these occurrences are obviously linked, while others find the idea absurd. Meteorologists and scientists are divided

on the implications of it all. President Trump dismissed

the possibility of the events in Florida and elsewhere being associated with climate change. Speaking to reporters aboard Air Force One after visiting Florida’s West Coast to survey damage by Irma, Trump said, “If you go back into the 1930s and the 1940s, and you take a look, we’ve had storms over the years that have been bigger than this. If you go back into the teens, you’ll see storms that were as big or bigger. So we did have two horrific storms, epic storms, but if you go back into the ‘30s and ‘40s, and you go back into the teens, you’ll see storms that were very similar and even bigger, OK?”



PHOTO BY CARLOS ALLEGRI

Local Congressman announces his run for President

By **AYESHA SHAHZAD**
Managing Editor

On July 28th, 2017, Maryland District 6’s own congressional representative John Delaney announced his 2020 presidential bid. Maryland’s sixth congressional district is comprised of Allegany, Garrett, Washington counties, and parts of Frederick and Montgomery counties, with a total population of 761,921 constituents. Delaney is a moderate Democrat, and is currently serving his third term as Congressman. Based on the content of his website, he seems to be most concerned about uniting the parties, the issues plaguing blue collar workers, and raising the American standard of living. These issues were prevalent during Delaney’s 2016 congressional campaign. “You need a villain in politics. My villain is partisan politics. It’s destroying our ability to govern,” said Delaney in a recent interview with Michael Golden of The Golden Mean podcast.

“You need a villain in politics. My villain is partisan politics. It’s destroying our ability to govern”

-John Delaney

Having interned for him during his 2016 congressional campaign, I can say that this announcement was not at all expected. It has been largely met by confusion and wonder

as to why he announced his decision to run so early. “Not to be dramatic but it’s literally rude of John Delaney to announce his 2020 candidacy this soon after WE ARE STILL RECOVERING,” Twitter user @sjtoplin writes.

From those outside of District 6 and Maryland, there has also been speculation as to who exactly John Delaney is, and why he is running. “John Delaney? Who’s he and why is he talking about 2020 now?” tweets Twitter user @AZvotes, one of many asking this question.

This was a surprise even to those on the inside. In fact, most of Delaney’s supporters, and the volunteers and interns working alongside me, were rooting for Senator Chris Van Hollen to run in 2020.

So what led Delaney to this



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNCLE JOHN’S BATHROOM READER

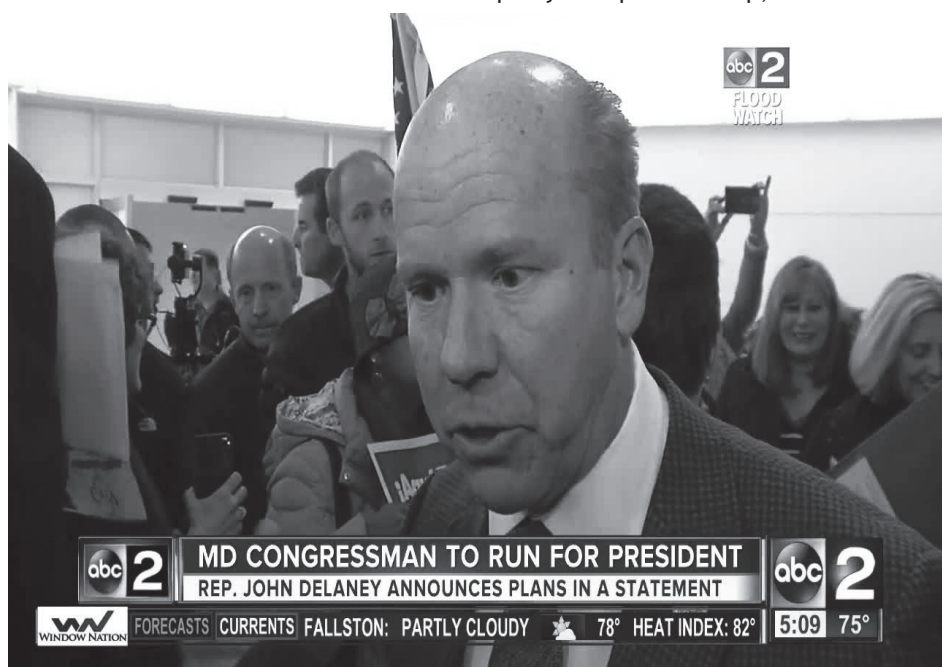
decision? In an editorial for the Washington Post written by Delaney himself, the 2020 presidential prospect explains what he thinks he can do for the country.

“My approach goes beyond party and partisanship,” he wrote. “I

am first and foremost an American. I believe in a common national identity. I love our ambition, our values, what we represent to the world and our ability to use our greatness for a good and noble purpose. It is my love of country that compels me to behave differently in politics – to work to do big things, seek solutions and compromise, respect the privilege of public service and be optimistic about the world.”

Even since becoming a Congressman in 2013, Delaney has kept a low profile. Following the news of his running for president, however, he has become much more active on his social media accounts, no doubt trying to make himself more known.

It is difficult to predict whether or not Delaney will gain a large following and/or the support of Democrats, given his obscurity in the media and his moderate stance on many issues. “Rep. John Delaney may not be the presidential candidate Democrats want,” writes Kevin Robillard, a writer for Politico, in an article titled “What is John Delaney thinking?” “But the wealthy, low-profile congressman and newly minted 2020 hopeful believes he’s what the country needs.”



COURTESY OF YOUTUBE



Survival guide for the worst natural disasters

By ALEXA ELLIOTT
Managing Editor

Murky water floods the room as elderly women wait for help to arrive. One woman knits hot pink yarn and a black and white cat sits on the table next to her as people's possessions float around them. A photograph of this scene—a senior center during Hurricane Harvey—went viral. Many shocked people expressed that they rarely considered the impact of natural disasters on the elderly or other people who are struggling. In light of recent natural disasters, many community members now question how prepared they are if a similar disaster hit Montgomery County.

Montgomery County's Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (OEMHS) creates emergency response plans and coordinates with first responders in order to prepare for emergencies such as terrorist attacks or natural disasters. "We, as a county, can respond to and recover from a significant natural disaster," said Marianne Souders, Planning Division Chief for OEMHS. "We are always trying to improve our capacity to prepare, respond, and recover from disasters."

OEMHS updates some of their larger plans yearly and makes major revisions every four or five years as mandated by the federal government.

While OEMHS is constantly reevaluating their emergency response plans and overall preparedness and capacity, Montgomery County is largely prepared due to its proximity to DC and the large amount of funding the county has. "Being in such a happening area

around DC, we are up to date on all of our things because we need to be," said senior Ben Skimmons, who is a certified EMT and volunteer firefighter. In September, the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service received more than \$2.2 million in grants to help support staffing, training, and operations.

While the county feels prepared for emergencies, there are still steps students can take to prepare for potential disasters. Students can make a kit with supplies and important documents in case of an evacuation, store non-perishable food and water at home, and create a family emergency plan with a designated place to meet their family if separated. They can also stay informed by joining Alert Montgomery, which sends notifications and warnings directly to students' phones. People can sign up for notifications on the Alert Montgomery website.

There are also plenty of opportunities for students to make a difference in the community during an emergency. When asked what students can do to help, Clint Kraft, captain for Montgomery County fire departments, simply said, "assist us when we ask for help."

Whether listening to personnel or helping on the scene when asked, little acts can make a big difference. Websites such as VolunteerMatch and Habitatmm.org also list various volunteer opportunities in the DC Metro area, which includes gathering kits and supplies for people in need, helping nonprofits run social media sites, and organizing donations.

The recent natural disasters have impacted many residents' approach and perspective on emergency preparedness.

"These events have highlighted and reminded people all over the county that everyone needs to be prepared, which in a way is a good thing," said Souders. Making emergency preparations and

volunteering in any capacity can have a positive impact. As Skimmons said, "You do not have to go out and do ten months of Montgomery Fire Academy to go out and still really make a difference."



PHOTO COURTESY OF NY DAILY NEWS

TRAPPED: Elderly women await help in a Houston senior center amid flooding.

Morning announcements: a post-Char era

By NICKI THOMAS
Managing Editor

Gooodddd morning, Cougars! After a long legacy of engaging announcements, Char Freedberg's morning announcement career came to an end as she graduated at the end of last year. As one of the first voices you hear in the morning, it needs to be memorable; Char did not miss out on an opportunity to let you know what was going on around the school in an engaging way. Now that she has graduated, three new announcers have let the student body hear them loud and clear. Juniors Cooper Hoffman and Kayla Parks, and senior Esther Quinonez, have taken over the P.A. system to

give the students the information they need to succeed.

Hoffman began his career in the spotlight on Cougar T.V. as he has always been interested in being part of the announcements. It was not until Freedberg told him that he would be good at the announcements that he took the chance. Hoffman auditioned for the position and was granted the role - now he is hooked and enjoys them so much that he hopes to permanently be involved in them.

It took a week or so for this year's students to step up to the plate and say that they were interested in the announcements. Hoffman believed that Freedberg was amazing, which caused hesitation in filling the position, but he felt ready for the job. "At the end of the day no

one is Char," said Hoffman. "She had big shoes to fill."

When giving out important announcements, it is essential to make sure that all the information is accurate. In the morning, the announcers get together and make sure that all announcements have correct dates and are still relevant. With three people doing the announcements, speaking roles can be chosen based off of personal interest. According to Parks, "We get handed the announcements for the day and you read over them and decide who is going to read what. Then we just turn on the mic!"

Char may have graduated, but her legacy lives on in these students.

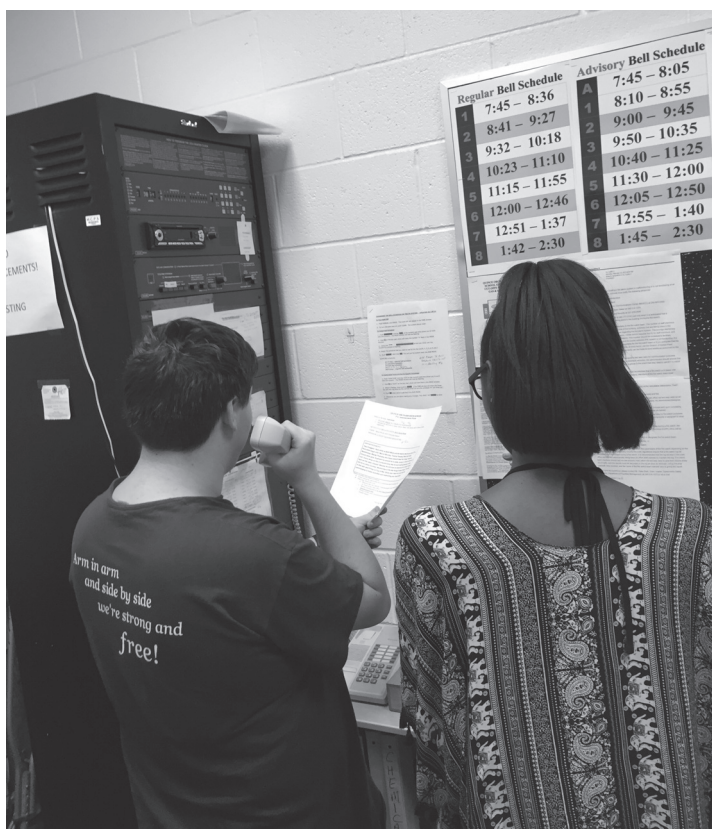


PHOTO BY NICKI THOMAS

BEHIND THE SCENES: Hoffman (left) and Parks (right) deliver the morning announcements.

Halloween Word Search

V O I D N O N S R P H U M G C E V W L Y
 I O T X D I K I J E A T M H O M J K D F
 G N W E K E Y T M O L O V O W U B I C M
 Y Q N P L H C T I W L L M S N T J L G G
 R Y M E R F F M Z U O Y I T F S P N S A
 N U T V A M P I R E W S R R N O T Q T C
 P O D I G Y U W H C E U S A H C P E A Y
 N F L O W E R E W C E T Z M C T P N R C
 U A M Y V G V Y U Q N J S L Y S D Q N O
 J I S N K D M V Y L A E G Y S Y U N R A

Candy
Halloween
Scary
Vampire

Costume
Monster
Skeleton
Werewolf

Ghost
Pumpkin
Thriller
Witch

Fact or Fiction? QO Edition

By MADISON MILLS and KAITLYN PRICE
Double-Truck Managing Editors

4th floor pool	Fact or fiction?	<small>ANSWER: FICTION</small>
Wear red to every football game	Fact or fiction?	<small>ANSWER: FACT</small>
Not being able to walk in the senior hallway	Fact or fiction?	<small>ANSWER: FICTION</small>
Freshman Friday	Fact or fiction?	<small>ANSWER: FICTION</small>
QO has the best school spirit!!!	Fact or fiction?	<small>ANSWER: FACT</small>

The Freshmen Forecast

By MADISON MILLS and KAITLYN PRICE
Double-Truck Managing Editors

The Class of 2021 began their first year of high school just like everyone else did: they joined the Red Army and attended the first home football game, they (attempted) to show class spirit at the first pep rally, they participated in the yearly Clubs Fair, and they wandered the halls finding their new classes and teachers. While returning students are used to these beginning of the year activities, the freshmen experience it for the very first time.

This brings up the question of what do freshmen really expect going into high school?

Entering a new atmosphere happens to everyone at some point in their lives, but each person feels differently about it. When starting this year at QO, freshman Ella Spurgeon was most worried about “not being able to find [her] way around [the school],” as well as being the youngest.

Freshman Ben Strober agreed and said that he also

expected “[to have] more work that would be harder.”

Although high school may seem scary as an incoming freshmen, students from the class of 2021 agreed that there are a lot of things to look forward to. Strober’s favorite part about his high school experience so far is “being more independent” compared to middle school.

Julie Seminara, freshman and member of the QO field hockey team, says that her favorite part so far is “definitely the sports” because she “really like[s] field hockey” and being a part of a team. Spurgeon, Seminara, and Strober are unanimous in that they are looking forward to attending more of the football games in all their years at QO.

The expectation of high school for most incoming 9th graders was that high school is a scary setting; after hearing from a couple new faces, they don’t feel that high school is such an intimidating place after all.

MS
and other
fresh
about

A Letter to the Freshmen

By **CLAIRE SULLIVAN**
Features Staff Writer

Dear freshman,
 I hope the beginning of high school went well for you, and I also hope it was nothing you expected it to be.

After speaking with a number of freshmen, I have gathered that some of you were prepared for locker stuffing, extremely hard classes, and people who don't care about you.

High school is not easy, and the years tend to get harder as you go. Do not let that deceive you; continue to take challenging courses because you may actually find yourself enjoying that class.

In addition, go to events—drama productions, club fundraisers, support your school. At sports games, if you don't lose your voice at the end of the day cheering, you shouldn't be there in the first place. That goes for prep rallies, too.

Your lack of school spirit and reciting the induction was embarrassing, but I know deep down you want to be proud of being a part of this school! Wear red and cheer your hardest!

In my opinion, respecting your seniors is the easiest way to get through freshman year.

I'm not just saying this because I have a senior brother who can beat me up in a heartbeat, but it makes it simpler. Seniors are like bees: if you don't mess with them, they won't mess with you.

Also, I hope the majority of you realized this already, but the school is shaped like a giant Q.

This means the hallways are always packed in transitioning from class to class, so please, please, do not walk like a herd of snails. This will get you enemies faster than you would think.

At times, people view freshmen as annoying, bothersome and immature. I will have to admit: coming across a group of freshman boys at lunch who couldn't answer three simple questions for a poll without giggling and adding something inappropriate means you might have some work to do.

On the other hand, freshmen, you do you. Wear what you want, talk how you want, do what you want. Don't spend your whole freshman year being afraid of how people see you, because freshman year will fly by before you know it.

20 STHS

er thoughts
 men have
 high school

Most Believable High School Stereotypes

By **MADISON MILLS** and **KAITLYN PRICE**
Double-Truck Managing Editors



Untold stories of the QO parking lot

By ALEXA ELLIOTT
Managing Editor

High school is often brimming with horror stories just waiting to happen. From trying to find the fourth-floor pool as a freshman to grappling with senioritis as a senior, high schoolers face many hazards during their quest to graduate. However, one of the most treacherous parts of high school

is navigating the QO parking lot.

Inexperienced drivers, high school drama, and an extremely small parking lot have created a perilous concoction that has impacted the lives of many QO students. "Nobody lets you in after a long day or when you're in a rush to get to work," said senior Sydney Rourke. "All the people who think they're cool drive 100 miles per hour and blast music." People are often cut off

and many have been involved in fender benders. Senior Sadie Wilson was driving into the parking lot when a car sped across the lot and almost hit her. "I honked at her and she flicked me off," she said.

Senior Edith Martinez has been nearly hit by a car twice in the QO parking lot. In order to avoid the riff-raff and ignorant drivers, Edith tries to get to school at 7:10 every morning.

"My spot is open and there is no line to get in," she said.

Delinquent drivers are not the only horrors awaiting in the parking lot. Frauds and fakers lurk as well. According to Tammy Shelhorse, a QO security assistant, students have forged parking permits and obtained permits for others. Shelhorse said, "That's why we require documentation."

Traffic, getting cut off, and fraud aren't the only things student drivers should be worried about. While teepeeing and egging have been going on for years, a new type of vandalism has been started by a QO student, who has chosen

to remain anonymous but calls himself the "Bologna Bandit."

"Basically I am a big proponent of lunch meat-based social justice," he said. This innovative student started putting bologna on students' cars last year after wanting to

get revenge on a fellow peer. His first night as the Bologna Bandit, he bought packs of bologna and plastered them all over the person's car. "The bologna would leave stick marks and it

was absolutely horrible," he said, grinning.

Martinez was one of the Bologna Bandit's later victims. She woke up one morning to find bologna all over her car. She and her friend had to peel it off and then drive to school. "I smelled like bologna, my car smelled like bologna, everything smelled like bologna," she said. She made the Bandit and his accomplice wash off the sticky circles

on her car later as penance.

The QO parking lot is wrought with danger. Though a deli-meat delinquent, the Bologna Bandit gave prolific advice, "Stay in school, be nice to each other or else there will be bologna at the end of the semester."

Inexperienced drivers, high school drama, and an extremely small parking lot have created a perilous concoction that has impacted the lives of many QO students.



PHOTO BY ALEXA ELLIOTT

LINE UP: A seemingly neverending line of cars builds up after school every day.

The Prowler, Jr.: introducing Carson Courier

By TORI BERRY
Editor-in-Chief

On Tuesdays at 3:45 PM, promptly after the elementary school children are released from their last class, fifteen of them meet in a classroom, get out their paper and pencil, and immediately get to work. Instead of doing schoolwork, however, they're writing articles. These students are part of a brand new newspaper being introduced to Rachel Carson Elementary School.

"As a child, I loved to write. In fifth grade, a teacher started a writing club and I was so happy," said Christine Wilson, an RCES parent and co-founder of the Carson Courier. "Our entire community supports the sports

teams, but sometimes we forget our writers and artists."

And this newspaper proves that there are plenty of these young, creative minds full of potential and enthusiasm at Rachel Carson. As opposed to simply giving in to parental pressure, one of the fifth grade members, Luca Devito, claimed that she "actually really wanted to" join the newspaper herself - and this seemed to be the case for many others who got involved. Luca's mother Lauren may be co-founder of the newspaper, but what truly motivated Luca to enlist was her own appreciation for writing and photography. She says, "I really like having my own story - it just feels good to say that. It feels good to say that I could be a reporter when I grow up because I had this practice."

Luca has a piece in progress about the best-selling

shoe brand - between Nike, Adidas, Converse, and Under Armour - by decade from the 1980's to current day. Her fellow fifth grader Andrew Shea is developing a story "about what is going on with the Kentlands, specifically [with] all the stores and restaurants closing." He has gathered information on which stores have already been closed, what may happen to the ones still standing, and he has even predicted which ones will be the next to fall.

Reporting on stories like the Kentlands in order to keep the public informed is the most important job of newspapers, but the Carson Courier has a secondary purpose for those involved. "It's something that college students and high school students and a lot of other students are doing, and I think it's cool that my elementary school gets to do it," said Devito.

Homecoming Dance: a fading school tradition

By CLAIRE SULLIVAN
and NICKI THOMAS
*Staff Writer and
Managing Editor*

Homecoming: the classic high school memory. The dance is made for dressing up, looking your best, and socializing with your friends or a date. Many students have decided not to participate in the classic high school tradition. Instead, students get together with their friends and prepare for the dance by dressing nice, but when it comes time to head over to the school to celebrate, they ditch that idea and make plans of their own. The SGA has caught onto this trend, seeing pictures of everyone dolled up, but not seeing the popularity come through in the attendance of the school-sponsored event.

But why has Homecoming gained this reputation? According to junior Kaylin McGeever, "the dance is not as fun as it could be." Because of this assessment, McGeever has not attended any Homecoming dances, but she still decides to dress up and celebrate each year. "Instead of going to the dance, my group and I are planning on getting a bus and going out to dinner," said McGeever. She also believes that with better music and a different location, the dance may attract a larger group of people. Senior Christian Neylon also has similar views about the dance, as he has only attended the dance once but believes that it can be improved on.

The SGA works towards producing a great Homecoming football game and class corners, hoping that all students have a memorable experience. Sophomore Jianna Acevedo,

First Vice President of the Class of 2020, explained her views on ditching the dance but still celebrating the event. "When people dress up and don't attend the dance, it hurts because of how much effort the SGA puts into it," she said. The SGA has been planning the event since the beginning of the summer, with the class government preparing the homecoming corners and the school government getting the dance together.

A recent poll had been taken, asking students of all grades their plans for homecoming. Out of a group of 103, 45% of students planned on attending the dance, versus 55% saying they did not plan on attending the dance. Though the attendance looks good, when students responded to the question of how long they were attending, "just a couple minutes" fit the majority, about 57%. The

other either said the whole time (13%) or about half (34%).

Homecoming was created to welcome back former members of the school and push off a great start to the school year,

but with little attendance and the students' feelings towards the dance, the SGA might have to reevaluate the tradition and change Homecoming to appeal to the student's interest.

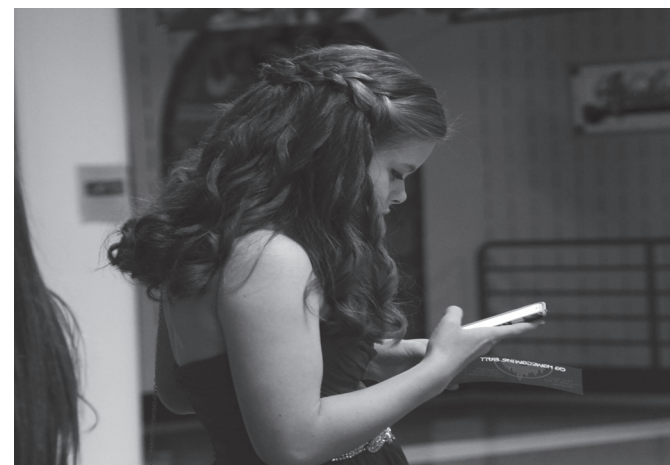


PHOTO COURTESY OF SARAH EMERSON

UNINTERESTED: student fails to find thrill in dance looks to her phone for entertainment.



New year, but same goal for QO's two prevalent teams

FOOTBALL / CHEER

By JANTZEN FOCHT
Staff Writer

With a 9-1 regular season record, plus an appearance in the Maryland state championship, it is hard to understate how good of a season Coach John Kelley's Cougars had last year. The mix of senior leadership and talent in the sophomore class complemented each other, as the team played well all year, including notching a notable win on the road against rival Northwest. This year, however, the QO Football Program is looking for the same success and then some in this year's Varsity squad.

Although it will be tough to come by losing notable seniors such as Noah Pagley, Joe Hodges, and Fofie Bazzie, the team will make up for it with their returning juniors and sophomores; both classes have the experience of going deep into the playoffs and playing at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis.

Senior Quarterback Doc Bonner thinks the team this year is "as ready as the team last year, and even more motivated because we have a goal that is set even higher than last years." Along with motivation, "We know we have the talent, skills, and potential needed to achieve those goals" Bonner added.

One interesting storyline to look out for in the future is the addition of private schools to the football schedule. This means that in the future seasons of Quince Orchard Football, the team will be allowed to play local private schools such as Georgetown Prep, St John's, Good Counsel, and most notably Bullis this season. Bonner, who has played Varsity for

3 years, thinks this is a very big deal for Quince Orchard athletics. "It allows us to make a statement to everyone that although we don't pay 40,000 for an education or get recruited to go to high school, we can play as well or better than the guys that do" said Bonner.

However, the vibe around the Cougar Dome would not be the same without the Varsity Cheer Team giving off their invaluable energy, whether it's through showing the crowd their stunts, tumbling, or leading the Red Army in their traditional chants.

The team, coming off winning counties last year, is lead by captains Jenna Gold, Sydney Dalin, Cierra Smith, and Erin Briscoe; all of whom are seniors this year.

Jenna Gold, who has been on the cheer team for 4 years, feels as prepared as ever to lead the team as a captain this year. "I feel very prepared to lead the team as a captain this year because I now feel like I understand the dynamic of the team and how to treat my team members so that they will trust and respect me," explained Gold.

The cheer team also has relatively high standards for the season, as they want to not only win counties again, but also contend for regionals and even compete in the state finals.

For the football and cheer teams, both are confident they can achieve their goals. They have the skills, talent, motivation, and work ethic required to do so. For now though, all they can do is to take it one day at a time. By letting the chips fall where they may, by November, they will look back at their high ambitions with a smile. Come out and support both of the squads, as they are both are striving for state championships!



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TOWN COURIER TWITTER
GAMETIME!: Seniors Desmond Johnson, Tyler Terry and Devonte Page fiercely storm the field.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TOWN COURIER TWITTER
GET LOUD, COUGARS!: The motivating cheer team gets the red army going with roaring chants.

Girls' sports reign over opponents on the daily

GIRL'S TENNIS AND VOLLEYBALL



PHOTO COURTESY OF GIOVANNI PIZZINO
LOCKED IN: Captain Serena Tong focuses and completely dials in before her match.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LIFE-TOUCH (WONGHAN)
WHAT A SERVE!: Senior Hannah Morin punishes the ball as she leads the Cougars to a victory!

By GABI EYRICH
Managing Editor

As the school year has begun, the start of our Girl's sports has followed with an impressive start. Always working extremely hard on the courts of Quince Orchard, the Girls Varsity Tennis team has trained hard this summer to prepare for a competitive season.

Coach Chris Barber shares insight by saying "My hope is to have a successful, winning season and hopefully work towards the division championship."

Girl's tennis starts their matches in full swing with players focusing practices on shot selection, approaching the net, and communicating with their teammates.

Junior Brooke Wibberley says, "Before every match I like to warm up with all my shots, especially serves, to avoid unforced errors."

The team shares that they're preparing to play a tough competition against Northwest High School. Captain of the team, junior Serena Tong shares, "Any division match is a challenge, but I hope to have more wins than losses this season."

Through the support of encouragement, caring, and motivating from Coach Barber, the team has approached the season with a determined mind and stepped up game. They look to continue their success!

Also serving up a great fall season, the Girl's Varsity Volleyball team is very excited to continue their best work and make it far into playoffs.

Sarah Watson, coach of seven years, says the team has faced challenges, especially injuries. From concussions to shoulder problems, "We have had most games without the whole team being able to play."

Through their difficult obstacles, the girls have had a successful season so far, recently placing second out of ten teams in their recent tournament and having three statement wins under their belt.

Senior Hannah Morin says "We are preparing to play Northwest, one of our biggest competitors," at the Dig Pink Game, supporting Breast Cancer awareness, on October 3rd.

Ultimately, the Girl's Tennis and Volleyball teams are prepared and determined for one of their best seasons yet.





Kat Arata and Zach Levey already proving doubters wrong

UNDERCLASSMEN

By **MATTHEW GORDON**
Editor in Chief

What many people don't necessarily know about QO soccer teams is that the potential of the underclassmen is off the charts.

Freshman Kat Arata of the girls soccer team and sophomore Zach Levey of the boys soccer team are prime examples. They both play varsity as underclassmen and they show up to practice everyday, receiving a heavy workload.

This is both their first year of playing a varsity sport, and they got involved in one of the more successful ones at QO, as the girls went 8-4 last year, and the

guys went 10-3 so both had winning records.

Kat Arata is a freshman, but don't underestimate her. She's played in every game so far as of October 13, 2017, and performs well each and every time. Being the youngest on the team, Arata is well aware that her older teammates are essential to her development. "My older teammates develop me as a player because they are always pushing me to play harder," Arata said, "whether it is putting more pressure on me physically, or forcing me to use my left foot. Yes, I am ready and feel prepared because everyday. I am surrounded by the leadership of our captains and other team members and it makes a huge impact on me."

It sounds like we have a future record holder: she acts like a veteran, even though it is just her first year playing at

this level.

On the other hand, sophomore Zachary Levey is on track to be the centerpiece of the soccer team. He spent last year playing JV soccer, and it "prepared" him, as he said, for the intense competition.

But the big boys don't necessarily haunt the future star. "It feels good playing with the older guys because I'm always being challenged," Levey said. "Sometimes the older guys intimidate me because they are much bigger. I feel very prepared for the future."

The way Levey talks, you can tell he's prepared to take the leadership role of the team. His hard work in practice every day and strong bonds with his teammates only strengthen his game. Along with excelling on the soccer field, he also does a very well job in the classroom, by obtaining mainly A's in very rigorous and chal-

lenging courses.

He's got it all, and he's still got two years left. Everybody can't wait to see what he's got for his senior season.

Both players are phenomenal athletes, even though they are still very young. Both are in the season right now, so if you want to check them out in live action, go check out one of their games! Their next games (as of October 13, 2017) are up against Watkins Mill (Senior Night) at home for the girls and away for the guys on October 19th, and then on October 21st as they square off against Churchill, with the girls still playing at home and guys on the road.

Arata and Levey could just be the next big things for the QO soccer teams. These young athletes have loads of potential, and we'll see how they develop as players for the up and coming seasons!



PHOTO COURTESY OF GIOVANNI PIZZINO

KAT ATTACK: Freshman Kat Arata is as aggressive as they come.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ZACH LEVEY

EYES ON THE PRIZE: Zach Levey's laser focus often helps him on the pitch.

Golf team looks to go low this season

GOLF

By **JENNA KASE**
Managing Editor

In their first match of the season, the Varsity Golf team started off by defeating Walter Johnson and falling to Sherwood and Northwest. However, the team has a strong core of returning players, so Quince Orchard's golf team is looking to have a successful season.

After the season ends, each player works individually to improve their skills. "During the summer I play in tournaments weekly to help prepare for the season," said senior Ryan Balow. On the other hand, sophomore Kyle Balow "hit the gym in the winter" in order to prepare for the fall season.

With the loss of some key players, senior Jack Faraone said that the team has handled the loss of last year's graduating seniors "very well."

"We will work through [the challenges]" - Kyle Balow

However, the loss of last year's seniors shouldn't affect the golf team as they are made up of a group of talented athletes. Kyle added that the golf team will "work through [the challenges] and rise to the occasion." As for this season, Ryan believes the team has a great group of players that are "playing great golf" and "preparing to play well in states."

Being one of the few unrecognized

sports teams at QO, the golf team would like to see more support from the student body. Ryan said he would like to see more fans at the golf matches. "We need more support from the Red Army," he said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE LEVINE

IT'S IN THE HOLE! : From left to right: Sophomore Kyle Balow, and seniors Justin Minkoff, Cameron Levine, Brandon King, and Ryan Balow leads the golf team back into contention this year.

Fockey team on pace for stellar season

FIELD HOCKEY

By **JENNA KASE**
Managing Editor

After ending their season on a tough loss against Clarksburg in the playoffs last year, QO field hockey is off to a great start this season posting three wins, one tie, and one loss. With the season underway, the field hockey team is hoping to carry the intensity and strong work ethic that has helped them have a successful start all the way through the playoffs and to the State Championship.

According to senior Olivia Meyers, the field hockey team has "proven [themselves] strong even with a young team." Meyers also believes that "even though [they] have lost a lot of great seniors [last season], the new senior class

worked hard in the off season and [they] are coming back even stronger than [they] left off."

As a four year varsity veteran, Meyers knows how to implement the team's culture to make the underclassmen feel welcome. "I plan to continue our teams unity and family culture which I hope the underclassmen will continue [in future years]." Meyers said. In addition to carrying on the team's culture, the youthful and fresh faces on the field hockey team also bring lots of talent and quickness to the team, which will help the team achieve their ultimate goal of winning states.

Despite being a young team, Meyers believes that "the future of QO field hockey looks very bright." The cougars can be caught in action on Monday against the Hawks at Urbana High School.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TONY KOSIYACHINDA

TEAM ON 3! : The leaders of the field hockey team never miss a chance to help the underclassmen find their way.



What's happening this fall sports season?

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					-Varsity Football vs Einstein @ 7:00 PM	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	-Varsity Field Hockey @ Urbana @ 7:00 PM	-Varsity Volleyball @ Paint Branch @ 4:45 PM	-Varsity Field Hockey @ Springbrook @ 6:00 PM	-Boys Varsity Soccer vs Watkins Mill @ 5:15 PM -Girls Varsity Soccer vs Watkins Mill @ 7:15 PM	-Varsity Football @ Whetstone @ 7:00 PM	-MCPS XC Championships @ 9:00 AM -Girls Varsity Soccer vs Churchill @ 10:00 AM
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
						-Varsity Football @ Gaithersburg @ 6:30 PM -XC MPSSAA State Championships @ 10:00 AM

Kicking the competition

GIRLS SOCCER

By **MATTHEW GORDON**
Editor-In-Chief

The fall season sports are underway, and the varsity girls soccer team is looking more dominant than ever, led by captains senior Beth Ellinport and junior Jenna Williams, and coached by Peg Keiller. The team's record as of October 9, 2017 is 2-3, but their losses have all been hard-fought.

The players have loads of talent and dedication, and senior Abby Cohn is one of those hard working members of the team. She has been waiting her whole life for this special moment of playing a great amount during the varsity season, and couldn't let this opportunity pass up. Her goal is easier said than done: "Win the division, and go on from there to take home the state championship." This is Cohn's 2nd year of varsity soccer, so all of the preparation from her former teammates has shaped her into the player she is now today. Keep an eye out on the field for her.

Ellinport, who has committed to play Division I soccer at George Washington University, plays the game like an art. Her unique passing skills, dribbling, and striking makes her a viable asset to the team, which explains why this is her fourth year of varsity soccer. She obtained the captain title this year, and let's just say she most definitely deserved it.

But with greater responsibility comes a greater challenge. "Yes, [I] lead the team no matter the score or circumstance [and] keep our focus through anything," Ellinport said. "[It] means being responsible at all times, and sometimes you have to be the one to be annoying and stop the fun."

Ellinport knows that she is a big part of the team, but they she can't do it without her teammates, and even you! Come support to soccer team to watch her, Cohn, and the rest of the team absolutely dismantle defenses and get motivated for a state championship. The next home game for the soccer team is on October 19th against Watkins Mill, and it's senior night! Go out and support the talented ladies, because they're up to something!



PHOTO COURTESY OF: CLAIRE LANE
GO FOR GOAL: Senior captain Beth Ellinport strikes a free-kick in Quince Orchard's 2-1 win against Gaithersburg on September 19th.

XC making a run for states

CROSS COUNTRY

By **JANTZEN FOCHT**
Staff Writer

The Quince Orchard Cross Country team is looking to put their mediocre season last year behind them and start fresh, as seen by their willingness to get back to states this season.

After running the Kentlands 5K, an important community event for the runners around the Quince Orchard area, the team is getting back into the swing of things by participating in many events, such as the team running in some recent meets at Smokey Glen Farm, the Oatlands Invitational in Leesburg, Virginia, and at Timberland Park against Walter Johnson.

While doing well in these meets will undoubtedly prepare them for the playoffs, senior Chris Thoms believes that the team can be ready in time for the playoffs by "realizing what the problems from last year were and fixing them as a team." Thoms added that he is hopeful that the team's attitude on practice will help them, more specifically being the team embracing working harder to get better in the long run.

Sophomore Cooper Hall feels that the team can make it back to states if they "run less like individuals and more like a pack." Hall who has finished in 10th, 17th, and 9th place in the first three meets of the season, already looks to be one of the team's most impactful runners, even though he is only running as an underclassmen.

Coach Seann Pelkey, while disappointed with last years results, is confident that the team that has assembled this year can get the job done just as easily as the years before. The problem he says though is that, "while the team has

very good individual runners, it is just as important in Cross Country to build the depth of team up as well," said Pelkey. "If we can build up that depth, either by the more experienced runners helping the younger runners progress in terms of getting faster or by other means, the team will in fact improve upon last season."

And while it is easy to dwell upon the past and think about what went wrong, the Quince Orchard Cross Country Team has left all those thoughts in the rearview mirror, focusing solely now on the future and ways to improve as a team. If they can look out for each other and strive everyday to get better, do not at all be surprised if the Cross Country team runs their way back into contention for the state championship.



PHOTO COURTESY OF: JOHN LILYESTROM
LEADING THE PACK: Senior Elizabeth Cassell and junior Margaret Lilyestrom lead the girls race at Smokey Glenn on September 13th.

On and off the ice, this sophomore is the real deal

BY JENNA KASE
Managing Editor

At the age of four, most students enter preschool, but that was not

the case for sophomore Emma Gunter: she started ice dancing. At first just a solo skater, Gunter got invited by another ice dancer named Caleb Wein

to begin skating as a duo. For the last four years, she and Wein have been traveling the world and competing in multiple events to represent Team USA and showcase their ice dancing skills.

Ice dancing is an advanced form of figure skating that draws inspiration from ballroom dancing. In 1952, ice dancing became a category in the World Figure Skating Championships. It also eventually became a Winter Olympic Games medal sport in 1976. Gunter has been able to master the strict rules and regulations, such as not being able to separate from her partner for more than two arm-lengths, to represent Team USA.

Gunter first began representing the United States in ice dancing when she and Wein “got put into a pool of skaters and US Figure Skating chose [them].” Together, they have been three-time national medalists and have won many international medals.

While representing Team USA,

Gunter states that her fondest memories consist of “traveling to different countries to compete.” In her career, Gunter has traveled to Japan, Latvia, and twice to Germany. Despite having her first international competition in Germany, Gunter recognizes Japan as being her favorite destination. “[The culture] is very unique and very different there,” she said. While in Yokohama, Japan this past year, Gunter and Wein competed in the Junior Grand Prix, where they placed seventh.

Although she has won many medals and traveled to multiple countries, Gunter still has high aspirations for her ice dancing career. Her ultimate career goal is to attend the World Figure Skating championships and win a gold medal. She is not only a terrific skater, but she also kills it in the classroom. If you see her in the hallways, be friendly to her. She might just be too cool for you soon!



ATHLETE OF THE MONTH QUESTIONNAIRE

FOOTBALL



Doc Bonner '18

Quarterback Doc Bonner attacks the game with a killer mindset, and leads his team to many victories. His leadership is without a doubt irreplaceable, and his skills are as well.

GIRLS SOCCER



Mary Wari '19

Forward Mary Wari attacks each game with aggression, determination, and quickness, the same way she attacks the soccer goal. She is a great teammate and is a great asset to the girl's soccer team.

GOLF



Ryan Balow '18

Senior Ryan Balow is the captain of the very successful golf team, as he led them to states for the third year in a row. His precise putting and monster drives excel him on the links.

BOYS SOCCER



Alexander Raines '19

Junior Alexander Raines goes to practice everyday with a focused mindset. He dribbles like Messi, scores like Ronaldo, and celebrates like Suarez.

CROSS COUNTRY



Elizabeth Cassell '18

Senior Veteran Elizabeth Cassell, has put a large impact on this season's success. As her fourth season of cross country comes to a close, her goals and times have showed how hard she has worked over this season.

POMS



Jena Motiwala '18

Senior Captain Jena Motiwala is without a doubt one of the most motivated and energetic people on the team. Her moves are off the charts, and her leadership is as well.

We asked these athletes the following questions...

	Doc Bonner	Mary Wari	Ryan Balow	Elizabeth Cassell	Alexander Raines	Jena Motiwala
What is your favorite Halloween Candy?	<i>Spongebob Krabby Patties</i>	<i>Candy Corn</i>	<i>Twix</i>	<i>Kit Kats</i>	<i>Twix</i>	<i>KitKat</i>
What are you scared of?	<i>Heights</i>	<i>Snakes</i>	<i>Jeffrey Jernigan</i>	<i>Pelkey in a devil costume</i>	<i>Spiders</i>	<i>Spiders</i>
What do you want to be for Halloween?	<i>The G.O.A.T.</i>	<i>A nerd</i>	<i>Matthew Zlotnicki</i>	<i>College Tuition</i>	<i>Myself</i>	<i>Balow</i>
Hot or cold weather?	<i>Cold</i>	<i>Cold</i>	<i>Hot</i>	<i>Cold Weather</i>	<i>Hot Weather</i>	<i>Both</i>
What's your favorite football team?	<i>I don't have one. I just like watching football.</i>	<i>QO Cougars</i>	<i>Cleveland Browns</i>	<i>New York Jets</i>	<i>Washington Redskins</i>	<i>Cowboys for sure</i>
What is your favorite horror movie?	<i>School jkjk CONJURING</i>	<i>Insidious</i>	<i>The Life of Matthew Zlotnicki</i>	<i>Would You Rather</i>	<i>The Purge</i>	<i>I don't really watch movies</i>