



THE INQUISITOR

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Seton Seeking Spirit

By: Noelle Peters and Jenna Novecosky

The class colors and banners:

Seventh Grade: Yellow **Eighth Grade:** Green
Freshmen: White **Sophomores:** Red
Juniors: Blue **Seniors:** Black

For the second year, Seton held Spirit Week volleyball games within the grades. Although the seventh grade was filled with class spirit and perseverance, the 8th grade class played at their finest and won the game. The freshmen and sophomores went head-to-head with spectators on the edge of their seats, and the sophomores took the game with their cheering class. The seniors and juniors played at their best and cheered and chanted loudly to encourage their players. The juniors erupted in applause and cheering when they overcame the senior class.

Who wore it best?

Monday USA Day: Seton was decked out with red, white, and blue. Some students brought big flags to wave and show their patriotism to America!

Tuesday Tacky Tuesday: Students were decked out with masks, wigs, and other crazy outfits. Most wore pajama pants and slippers to stay comfy during classes.

Wednesday Disney Day: Seton was transported into the magical world of Disney. Some students joined together for group costumes.

Thursday Beach Day: Students came in with hats, Hawaiian shirts, and sunglasses decked over their uniforms. Some students brought floaties and towels to give the full beach effect before taking it off for Mass.

Friday Class Color Day: Each class was radiating their class spirit by wearing their class color over their uniform. Many students even brought face paint for their classes.

Songs

Seventh Grade: Never Gonna Give You Up
Eighth Grade: Sweet Caroline
Freshmen: September
Sophomores: Life is a Highway
Juniors: Uptown Girl and Dancing Queen
Seniors: Enter Sandman, Tonight Tonight, Can't Help Falling in Love, I Will Always Love You

Although Spirit Week was slightly altered this year because of COVID-19, there was still plenty of school spirit throughout all the grades. Each class proudly sang their class song and chanted to hype up their class. Near the end of the event every class chose to go to the senior or junior side of the gym. The students gave a drumroll and Cece Pogue read out the winners of spirit week! Seton cheered and began singing "For Christ the King" and chanting "Viva Cristo Rey, que viva!"

A big shoutout to all the class reps for all the grades! Thank you for your dedication to our classes and making spirit week so special!

7th graders: Javi Garcia and Helena O'Keefe
8th graders: Molly Bauer and Kolbe Olszewski
Freshmen: Addison Cobos and Luke Mantooth
Sophomore: Olivia Sayani and Gus Irving
Juniors: Ceili Koehr and Andrew Nguyen
Seniors: Lucy Ciskanik and Andrew Angsten

A very special thanks to Cece Pogue, Mrs. Uebel, and Mrs. Pogue!

The overall winner and placements for the grades were,
1st place: TIE between seniors and juniors
2nd place: sophomores

For the first time in Seton history, Spirit Week ended in a tie between juniors and seniors. Originally, it was announced that the juniors had won, due to a mathematical error in the point scale. However, after making corrections and adjusting the scale, Spirit Week ended with a perfect tie.

Seton Seeking Spirit

By: Noelle Peters and Jenna Novocosky

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Technology: A Blessing or a Curse? By: Elizabeth Dwane

The use of technology has increased dramatically, especially in this recent generation. Due to the COVID-19 shutdown, devices have become even more frequently used for work meetings, socializing, and entertainment. The real question is this: is the swelling use of technology a benefit or a hindrance?

Some consider technology to be a detriment. The truth is that there are multiple side effects to increased device use and, due to the shutdown, school and work responsibilities have shifted to being virtual. Students can spend the majority of their day hunched in front of a bright screen for hours on end, negatively affecting their posture. This prolonged behavior can also bring on eyestrain, especially if the device is used longer than recommended. Twenty-minute sessions are advised with twenty second intermissions to look at something at least twenty feet away to reduce eyestrain. This instruction is not commonly followed, especially when the majority of the day is spent in front of a phone, laptop or tablet. Long periods of time spent in front of devices is also linked to sleep issues, since the glare of the screen can potentially cause trouble sleeping or lack of attentiveness the following day. Additionally, society's abrupt shift online has decreased chances to gain physical exercise since daily duties can simply be finished in the comfort of one's computer chair. However, not only physical health is affected, but mental health can also take a toll due to technology use. More specifically, increased social media use is linked to the rise in adolescent depression, a statistic that should most definitely be considered.

Even though there are negative effects to technology usage in our times, there are also positive effects. First of all, without technology, our society would have had a much harder time adapting to life in quarantine. Schools would not have had the option to continue educating their students and even more people would be left jobless. Without the technological advantages we have today, our society would be suffering even worse from the pandemic. Even though social media can be linked to depression in some cases, it has actually helped teens to stay connected during separation from friends and loved ones. When used in the right way, social media can be a blessing. Quarantine has left the world rattled, but technology has helped the world to be better prepared for such an event.

Overall, technology has had a great impact on our lives, especially during quarantine. Without it, schools and certain jobs would have been unable to continue and social lives would have ceased to exist outside of home. Technology has helped our world stay connected and productive during these trying times. Even though there seems to be numerous bad effects of technology, all of them can be avoided easily, other than working on self-control. Certain measures can be taken in order to ensure that physical and mental health are unaffected by long screen time sessions such as taking short breaks and limiting time on social media. Although technology can seem to be a curse, the pandemic has shown that when used in the right way, it can help us to deal with the abrupt changes in our daily lives and to stay connected during these times.



Viva Cristo Rey!

By: Elizabeth Dwane

Seton's Spirit Week is always finished off with the school's annual Christ the King procession when the entire school celebrates our Savior by processing around the block. Jesus is upheld in the monstrance while the students and faculty follow behind, praying the rosary. It is a beautiful ceremony that is followed by the Spirit Week assembly, leaving the students full of zeal and excitement by the end of the school day.

Seton began this annual tradition in the early 1990's. According to Mrs. Carroll, the procession has "several purposes: To give the students the opportunity to pay public homage to Christ the King", "to honor Christ in the Blessed Sacrament," and "to witness to the people who see the procession that Jesus Christ is our King." She then added, "At Seton, we try to make Jesus Christ the center of everything we do, but sometimes His presence is more implicit than explicit. In this annual procession, His presence becomes prominent and public." The Christ the King procession is a beautiful way for Seton School to proudly put their faith on display.

However, the procession was different this year, as are many things due to COVID-19. After Mass, which was said by Fr. Moretti, only a small group of people were allowed to process along with the priest and the altar boys. Additionally, instead of around the block they merely processed around the school. Afterwards, they stopped in the gym and had Benediction, then the priest took the Eucharist back to the chapel. Mrs. Carroll stated, "It is always a great moment at the end of the ceremonies when the students sing 'An Army of Youth', with the concluding words 'For our flag, for our Faith, for Christ the King'. Then the seniors lead the chant, 'Viva Cristo Rey!' And the students respond at the top of their lungs 'Que Viva! Long live Christ the King!'" The joyous hymn is always sung with utmost enthusiasm and volume, praising the name of Christ Jesus. Even though the procession was limited, along with many other things this year, these obstacles do not overcome the joyous spirit of Seton School. Long live Christ the King!



Seton Sports Update!

By: Jenna Novecosky

Girls' Varsity Basketball is off to a great start this year with twelve girls on the team, including four seniors. Despite a few changes due to COVID-19, they are determined to have a successful season. Coach Jenn Lalli is taking temperatures for the team and two of the seniors are helping with management. Coach P. comments, "The spirit on the JV and Varsity girl's teams is really great. They are a wonderful bunch of girls." Theresa Lalli, a sophomore on the team, adds, "This is going to be an awesome season. I think the team blends really well together." Although only a small number of spectators will be allowed at the games, Seton will be cheering for the team in spirit. Good luck girls!

Boys Varsity Basketball is also ready to rock their season this year, despite COVID-19 guideline restrictions. A limit of twenty-five spectators will be able to attend games, while wearing masks and practicing social distancing, but the boys are determined to do their best regardless. There is no league tournament or regular season championship, but the team has eighteen games scheduled and will be attending a postseason tournament. Coach Vander Woude states that he is "looking forward to the varsity basketball season with several key returning starters coming back and several new solid players joining the varsity team." Team captains Andrew Nguyen, Trey Bauer, Jack Vander Woude, and Bobby Vander Woude are also excited for the season. Go Conquistadors!

"COVID will not beat **Seton Swimming!**", says Coach Koehr, head of the swim team. Although many changes have been made due to the pandemic, Seton families and coaches are working extremely hard to make it a successful season. Swimmers are required to wear masks whenever they are out of the water and aren't allowed to use the locker rooms to change or shower. Thankfully, swim families have grouped together to create "host homes" near Seton where students can shower and get ready for school.

With 103 swimmers and 3 managers, 30% of Seton School is swimming this year. These huge numbers are thanks to the 8 team captains this year. "No group of Captains has ever done better in recruiting new members for the team", explains Coach Koehr. In order to provide space for all the swimmers, a separate practice group meets on Wednesdays and Fridays. The 16 swimmers on Seton's first diving team also meet twice a week and have had great success so far.

"Unlike every other independent or public school in the State of Virginia, we are hosting a meet every Saturday throughout the entire season," explains Coach Koer. Additionally, the Swim Team will be hosting the Northern Virginia Catholic High School Championship, the VISAA Division II Invitational Championship, and the VISAA Junior Varsity Invitational. Good luck to all the students who are swimming this year!



Christ The King Dance

By: Charlotte Yelvington

Seton School held its annual Christ The King Dance and Greek Cultural Event on November 21st. Having overcome challenges due to COVID-19, the school was still able to create an exciting and educational experience for its students. Including talks on Greece, prayerful time in the chapel, and of course dancing, the night was a memorable experience for the students.

With the theme of the Greek Isles, the event began with Mrs. Murray and her son and alumnus, Anton, giving an educational presentation. They talked about Greece and many of its traditions. Several visual aids were included to help students immerse themselves into the culture. To end the presentation, the pair sang a beautiful Greek hymn.

When the presentation ended, the students made their way to the dance floor. Popular music played throughout the gym as the assembly danced the night away. "I had such a great time dancing with my friends," one student recalls. "I will never forget

the memories I made that night!" Many students feel the same way about their experience at the Christ The King Dance and Greek Cultural Event.

While students danced along to the music, each class was called into the school chapel to have a moment to pray together. Sophomore girl's religion teacher, Mrs. Duran, decorated the chapel and had the honor of exposing the blessed sacrament to the students. Once the class entered the chapel, volunteer students led the group in a rosary. With each class having a moment together in the chapel, the students were able to connect on a spiritual level.

Overall, the Christ The King Dance and Greek Cultural Event was a great success. While being educational, the school was still able to make an exciting night for the students. Thank you to the Seton staff and SGA for holding an unforgettable night for the high schoolers!



Yours Truly Julie

I didn't get asked to the dance, I feel worthless. Help.

-Anonymous student

When I first read this, my heart immediately sank because I have been in the same situation. When you are surrounded by your friends and other people in your class being asked and you are left without a date, you begin to think to yourself, "What's wrong with me? Why wasn't I chosen?" I would first like to start off by saying that you are not alone in your feelings, and that there is nothing wrong with you! Having a date to the dance is not what makes the evening special and does not determine your "popularity" or how "likeable" you are. I will tell you from experience, going with friends, even if they have dates, is so much fun! You can have a night to relax, dance and eat really good food. It will be exciting and fun to wear a pretty dress, and feeling beautiful is really what you should be focusing on, not who did or did not ask you to the dance and just loving yourself. I can't tell you how many times I have tried telling the friends around me that having a date shouldn't be what you put all your hopes into for having a good time. In the end, you're not going to be the only one at the dance without a date because some boys don't ask anyone and there are usually more girls than boys in the classes. Remember, it is not your fault that you weren't asked and my biggest hope for you is that you still went to the dance and made lasting memories with your friends.

Hey, Julie. Will you go out with me? ;)

-Anonymous

Let's talk about how to let someone down gently. First things first, let him know that you are thankful and flattered by him asking you. Do not immediately say no if you are surrounded by other people and are not one-on-one. Next, I would say that you should ask him if you could talk privately. Once you two are alone, briefly explain why you would prefer to not go out or go to the dance with him. Again, thank him for the effort and tell him how you really were flattered that he asked you. Also, do not be afraid of the other person's reaction because it is better for him to hear the truth. If he asks you over text and it is very casual, then you can respond casually as well. If he sends a very sweet and elaborate text or calls you to ask you out, ask him if you could speak to him in person because it shows that you really care about his feelings. Remember to tell him that his friendship is important to you and that if a romantic relationship is not a part of your future together, a great friendship is. Hope this helps!



Staying Healthy in Winter

By: Elizabeth Dwane

Sickness has a habit of running rampant over the winter holidays, which is why it is absolutely important to keep in mind ways to stay healthy during these festive times. The following are some tips and tricks to keep safe and healthy over the winter.

If worried about getting the flu or a cold, try:

- Washing hands as much as possible.
 - This will help get rid of germs.
- Refrain from touching your face.
- Setting alarms on your phone to remind you to drink plenty of water while at home.
 - While at school, bring a water bottle and aim to need to refill it after every class. This will help you reach the necessary eight cups of water that your body needs, especially during the winter.
- Go to bed earlier.
 - Rest helps your body function, and there's nothing wrong with plenty of rest and relaxation! It's also the time your body heals itself, so giving it plenty of time to fight off any pesky bugs will go a long way to making you feel your best, and avoiding illness.
- Rest is important, but you should also make an effort to stay healthy and in shape during the cold months.
 - Your body can't survive off of junk food. Plenty of lean meats, fruits and veggies fuel your body to run efficiently.
 - The point of eating is to help your body produce energy, which needs to be used instead of wasted; so try different workouts! It really can't hurt!
- Try going on runs, use a well-reviewed workout app, or-- with help from your parents-- use workout equipment, provided you have some.
- Thanks to wi-fi, if you miss your friends over winter break, feel free to call them!
 - They miss you too and loneliness can lead to stress, which brings on multiple problems for your mind and body.
- Friends may be great, but family is forever! Spend time with them inside and outside to keep yourself, as well as your family, happy!
- Don't forget to bundle up!
 - Hats, boots, socks, and coats are all extremely important during this time of year. Losing a large amount of heat from your body can be extremely detrimental to you. Optimal heat is required for blood vessels and other vital organs to function normally. Keep warm to stay healthy. Besides, fashion is great at this time of year!

The Show Must Go On: A Summary By: Elizabeth Moore

This year's fall play, titled *The Show Must Go On*, featured a fantastic crew, hilarious improv, and tons of talented actors. The show starred senior, Jillian Riley, as "The Stage Manager", an exhausted girl who must deal with stressful situations such as "Chad Chadington III" played by senior John Moore-- not showing up until four minutes before the show began; As well as missing props, torrential downpour on Seton's tin roof, Mr. Easton, played by Mr. Westhoff, raging about olives, and a Student Safety in COVID Compliance Officer (SSICCO)--played fantastically by 7th grader, Aiden McCardell.

Joining *The Stage Manager* in her painful pursuit of perfecting the play is the "Assistant Technical Director", played by freshman, Zach Moore; the "Assistant Production Manager", played perfectly by junior Alexa Roussel, "The Assistant Stage Manager", played by sophomore Isabella Mancini, "The Master of Ceremonies", played by freshman Madelyn Zadnik, and "The Illiterate Sign Guy", performed by junior, Justin Orr. They all do their best to tie together the two one-act plays, written by Lewis Mathews, with insanity as the "SSICCO" tries shutting the show down every step of the way.

The first one act play was *Ending the Dust Bowl Dream*-- a tale about an author's (played by senior John Peter Moore) final, unfinished work before he died being completed by a drunken nobody, Dan Hammond, played by senior Timothy Kelly. In an attempt to finish the show and to understand it, the drunken Hammond begins to hallucinate the creator of the play, Roger Walthum Stract-- an enraged elderly man who had been dead for the three months previous.

The show Dan is rushing to finish is *The Dust Bowl Dream*, which focuses on a downtrodden family of four, each with different goals in mind. The eldest son, Job (junior, Justin Orr), is fed up with the life he leads in rural Oklahoma with his mother, Mary (sophomore, Elizabeth Moore); his sister, Ella-May (freshman, Annaliese Orr); and his senile great-aunt Bessie (8th grade, Orla Haggerty). He wants nothing more than to go and join the war effort in order to leave the starving, empty hole he is forced to live in. This breaks his mother's heart and causes his sister to become enraged at his selfishness.

So that Dan Hammond will stop writing the play Stract sends in characters such as The Scotsman (Mr. deBrock), The Astronaut (sophomore, Marisa Reyes), and Mr. Hammond himself. After a nervous breakdown, Hammond gives in and deletes the show, prompting Stract to tell him why the show was so important to him in the first place.

The deceased man explains that the show is not made up at all, and is about his own family in Pennsylvania during the Vietnam War. Stract feels awful for leaving his poor family and laments about their mournful endings. Feeling bad for the sorrowful man, Hammond gives the play the ending Stract had wished for his true life; Job returns to the family, having made it big in New York, and promises to move them all away from the Dust Bowl. With a tearful goodbye, Stract leaves Dan alone in his kitchen to finish the play.

In between the first and second plays was improv, as well as more of *The Stage Manager* losing her mind, as the improv team has lost their script-- prompting the stagehands to rush to the library to get three more books. Furthermore, the SSICCO causes more mania for the stressed students by dumping an entire barrel of hand sanitizer onto the improv stage, leaving a slippery mess for the improv team.

The second play begins with Rob played by senior Timothy Kelly, and Shane, played by junior Justin Orr, driving on a cross-country trip to celebrate their high school graduation before starting at Princeton. As Shane drives, he argues with his father over the phone and pays little attention to Rob's directions, causing the two to crash into a sign saying "The World's Biggest Ball of String" on the edge of a farm. The owners of the farm, Bob Twinner (senior John Peter Moore) and his wife, Mrs. Twinner (junior Alexa Rusell) rush out of their house along with their daughters, Megan (senior Catherine Pacheco), and Annie (freshman Moira McCardell), along with Dr. Tanner (freshman Madelyn Zadnik,), the local horse doctor.

As Megan rushes up to Rob, he recounts that she is the most beautiful thing he has ever seen, even though she is in a chicken suit. The boy is found to have a broken leg, along

with some scratches and bruises. Along with the unforeseen injuries, Shane's car is totaled, so the two must stay at the old farm.

They learn that the family has been facing financial troubles, and that crashing into the sign only made it worse as the sign was the only thing attracting people to the family's attraction: a giant ball of string accumulated since the second World War. Bob is absolutely enraged at the boys and finds out that Shane is their bank owner's son-- the same bank that is planning on foreclosing on the nearly destitute family.

We also learn that, despite Shane's familial wealth, Rob's family is of lower middle class--his father being a physicist and his mother not having a career. Because of this, Rob is devastated when he learns he cannot keep his lacrosse scholarship at Princeton.

As Megan takes care of him, they learn that they are both extremely intelligent in their words and actions, and Megan is a major fan of Rob's father, his work, and his coworkers. The two quickly become much closer.

During Megan's story, she explains just how annoyed she is over her monotonous life and her frustration regarding the giant ball of string that nearly made her family homeless. After her father's injury, Megan is the only person in their family who has a job. She provides for the other three members of her family, as well as the two boys stranded along with them. Despite Rob's immediate self-declaration of love for her, Megan explains to the audience that the boy crashed on the ground was the most pathetic thing she had ever seen.

She feels devastated over the fact that, despite being accepted into Princeton's physics program, her family does not have enough money for her to attend.

We learn that, much to his father's chagrin, Shane's grandfather left him five-million dollars, which he decides to use for charity. Shane gives money to the Twiners so they can keep their farm, as well as send Megan to Princeton. Shane also pays for Rob to go along with his new crush, and leaves for Africa to start a charity.

Before he leaves, he unravels the ball, a major point of internal discourse for Megan and her father, and makes two rings for Rob and Megan. This brings a close to *Unraveled*, once again by Lewis Mathews.

As the SSICCO screams at the cast and crew, a new character appears; the SSICCO's father (played by Anthony Smitha), who happens to be a Broadway producer. He wants to show the play in various famous places, up to and including the moon; but in order for the show to be finished, he requires a summary of the show from the improv team.

The show wraps up with the producer giving a large sum of money to the cast and crew... until Jillian wakes up in Mr. Westhoff's class. Surrounded by her friends in the show, she laments the loss of this year's fall play.

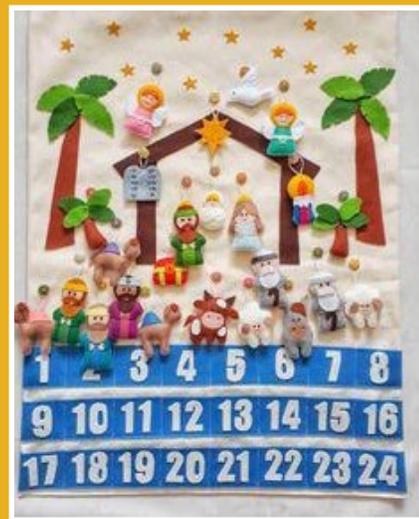
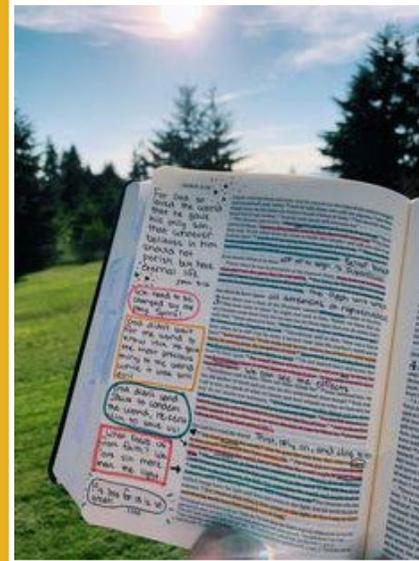


Advent: A Time of Preparation

By: Abby Ramos

While it feels like we just celebrated Thanksgiving, Advent is already here! This is the time to get ready for Jesus' birth and to prepare for a new liturgical year. If you are not feeling motivated to get prepared during Advent, think of your family preparing for you to come when your mother was pregnant. Like your family, we should be excited for Jesus to come and we should dedicate some time to be ready for Jesus' birth. There are many ways to prepare for Christ's birth and the new liturgical year. Here are a few:

- 1. Set a prayer time:** During this time of the year, your day is probably really busy, so this way of preparation is perfect for people with limited time. Pray in silence and just listen to God, pray a decade of the rosary, spend five minutes in the chapel, or read a passage from the Bible. As Advent goes on slowly add more time for prayer to help deepen your prayer life.
- 2. Go to Confession:** Advent is also a time to remind us that Christ is coming soon and we need to be spiritually ready. We should try to have a clean soul and a close relationship with God. Confession is the perfect way to prepare for Jesus' coming, so it would be good to go during Advent.
- 3. Decorate your house:** Decorating your house with Advent decorations or making the decorations yourself is a good way to prepare for Advent. Make an Advent wreath, a Nativity scene, or an Advent calendar. You can look on Pinterest or Youtube for ideas.
- 4. Work on a virtue every week:** This is an amazing way to prepare for Advent. Think of your vices and try to find the virtue (or opposite) of that and work on the virtue every week! For example, if you're impatient, work on temperance, or if you're always nervous or worried, work on trust.
- 5. Sacrifice:** This sounds like a lot of work, but it will be worth it. Your sacrifices can help so many people and even yourself. You don't even have to do anything huge, just a small sacrifice a day is enough. For example, getting out of bed right when you wake up. As simple as that sounds, that can be so hard and it might inspire others in your house to get ready earlier. Another sacrifice could be limiting your time on your phone. Instead of going on your phone during your homework time, put your phone away and just completely focus on your work. This can be a real sacrifice for some, and you can offer it up to get many souls out of Purgatory.
- 6. Do works of charity:** This could also tie in with sacrificing and it's focused on helping others. You could help your siblings with chores or homework, or ask your parents if they need any help with anything, and you can also help your mom with wrapping gifts.



Pocahontas Movie Review

By: Addie-Quinn Kammerdeiner

The 1995 Walt Disney film, Pocahontas, may not be historically accurate, but it is an incredible film showing the importance of human dignity and to not make presumptions about one's character based on preconceived judgements. The directors of this animated movie are Mike Gabriel and Eric Goldberg with writers Carl Binder, Susannah Grant, and twenty-five more. Pocahontas won two Oscars, thirteen awards, and seven nominations. Pocahontas was even named "the best-looking of the modern Disney animated features" by movie critic, Roger Elbert.

Pocahontas begins by showing the Virginia Company, a group of Englishmen, getting ready to leave London to head to the New World, America, in the 1700's. Following the Company on their journey is the soldier that is "the best at fighting Indians" by the name of John Smith who was voiced by Mel Gibson. As their journey continues on sea, the scenes move to the Native American tribe that is living in Virginia at this time. It shows how the people of this tribe live and treat each other while their Chief comes home from fighting in another land. Chief Powhatan, voiced by Gordon Tootoosis, proceeds to ask where his daughter Pocahontas is, which introduces the next scene. A young, beautiful girl is on top of a cliff taking in the view of the river and mountains below her. We later find out that this girl is Pocahontas, voiced by Irene Bedard. She jumps off this cliff into the water and goes to see her father.

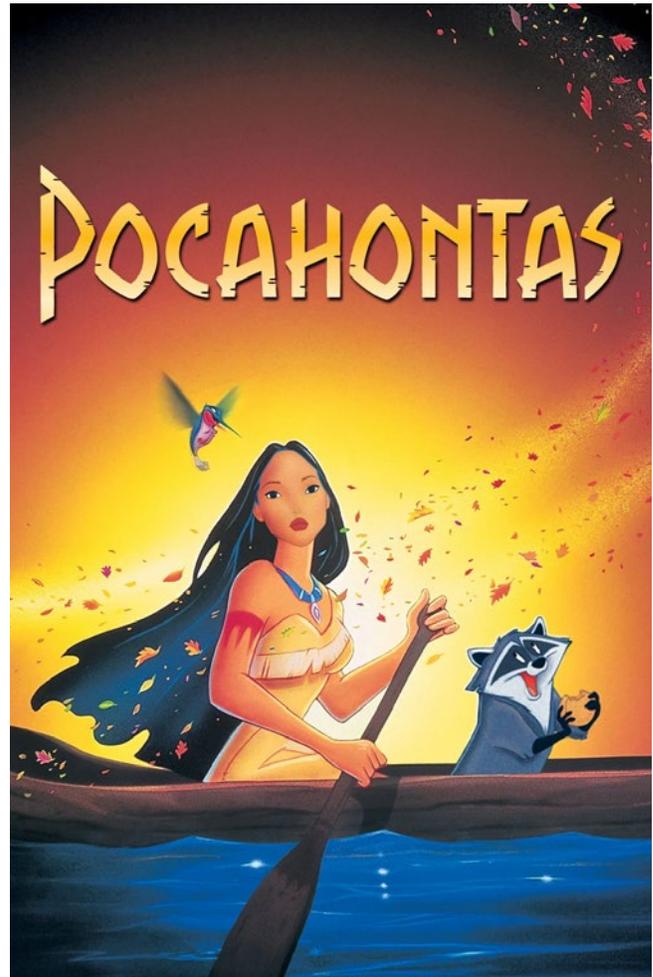
After seeing her father, Pocahontas learns that she is to be married to one of the men in her tribe, who she dislikes because he is very serious, unlike her wild, free spirit. Pocahontas then goes to see her Grandmother Willow, a spirit in a tree who is voiced by Linda Hunt, about a recurring dream she is having. Pocahontas believes this dream has a deeper meaning and is trying to tell her what path of life she should take. As Pocahontas continues to explore nature, she finds the Virginia Company who has started to cut down their trees. She hides behind a bush and watches John Smith and how he seems to be different from the other Englishmen.

John Smith finds out Pocahontas is following him and even thinks about shooting her, however seeing that she didn't appear to be a threat, he begins talking with her. The two begin to form a close bond and even fall in love and show each other the goodness of both sides, which is not in the history books. John shows Pocahontas his compass which has an arrow just like the one in her dream, so she believes that he is the path she must follow. While the two are sneaking away, a young Englishman by the name of Thomas, voiced by Christian Bale, is sent after them. After shooting an Indian, Thomas runs away, but John is blamed and is taken as a prisoner and is to be executed the next morning.

Right when the Chief is about to kill John, Pocahontas gets between them, not allowing her father to kill the man she loves without killing her, too. She then gives a speech on how the English and the Natives should work together to prosper in Virginia and that the violence and

fighting on both sides needed to come to an end. The villain of this movie, Governor Ratcliffe, who is voiced by David Ogden Stiers, points a gun at the Chief and fires, but John takes the bullet even when all of his men had stood down in the name of peace. John was very injured, so he had to be taken back to London to be treated, leaving the two lovers apart, but they had already made an impact on the future peace between the English and the Native Americans.

This story is very different to the one that we hear about in our history classes, but nonetheless, it is a colorful film that is a lot better than I had remembered it to be when I had watched it years ago. I would highly recommend for you to keep an open mind about this movie, even though it is inaccurate to the occurrences in history, and watch or re-watch, this Disney film.



“Clueless” on Your Style? As If!

By: Abby Ramos

Finding new and unique hairstyles seems almost impossible since every cute hairstyle has pretty much been worn repeatedly. To save this issue, here are some cute, and hopefully new, hairstyle ideas for you to wear!

1. Bubble ponytail: This hairstyle is pretty easy and is super unique! You will need a lot of ponytails depending on the length of your hair. Put your hair into a high ponytail and section off some hair after the hair band to make the “bubbles”. Pull the sections to make it round and “bubbly”.

2. Hair wrap: This lovely hairdo is perfect for that boho look. Section off a tiny section of your hair and braid it. Then, with friendship bracelet string, double the length of your hair, fold it in half. Put the fold through the top of your braid and put the ends of the string through the loop. The two ways to wrap are making “X”s front and back or tightly looping around the section.

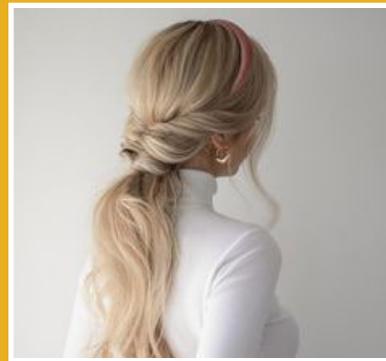
3. Twist with a headband: This style will make you feel like royalty and is super adorable! On both sides of your head, twist your hair back until they meet in the middle at the bottom of the back of your head and tie your hair. Pull out some strands to frame your face and put on any cute headband and you’re done!

4. “Flying” Butterfly Clips: This hairstyle is very elegant. It’s also simple and all you need are butterfly clips. Grab small groups of hair and pin them back with a butterfly clip. Do this as many times as you want and you will soon be looking like a princess!

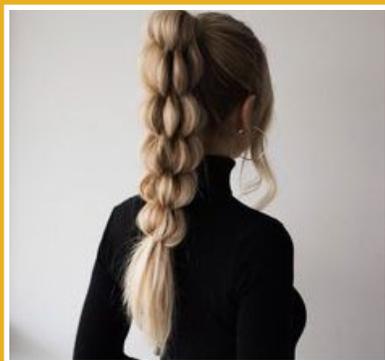
5. Hair claw: There are many ways to use a hair claw, but a unique style is pulling all your hair back. This style is very chic and sophisticated and is really easy to do. Twist all of your hair back and loop it down then clip it with the claw clip.



Hair claw



Twist with headband



Bubble ponytail



Butterfly clips

Home for the Holidays

By: Addie-Quinn Kammerdeiner

As the holidays are approaching and the leaves are changing and scattered on the ground, many want to capture the beauty of the changing seasons! A great way to do this is by going to different seasonal spots that really grasp the holiday spirit. As some may have found out, it can be a bit difficult to find the perfect location to have a photoshoot in Northern Virginia. After talking to photographer Cayley Kammerdeiner (@thehomesickphotos), I learned that there are quite a few local areas to get that perfect seasonal vibe we are all searching for.

1. Old Town Manassas, Manassas, VA



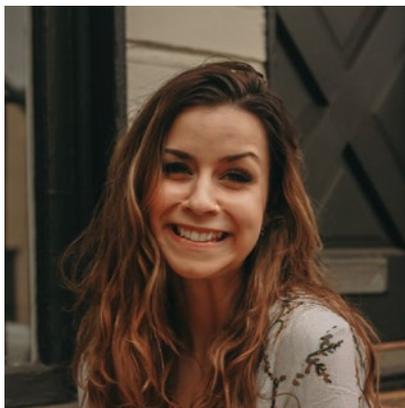
2. Manassas Battlefield, Manassas, VA



3. Skyline Drive, Shenandoah, VA



4. The Town of Middleburg, Middleburg, VA



5. City Center, Washington D.C.



Election Update

By: Charlotte Yelvington

The election of 2020 will certainly go down in the history books. In this election, mail-in voting has been introduced in an effort to minimize the spread of COVID-19. These efforts to keep citizens safe while voting may prove to be more of a problem than a solution. Along with mail-in voting, the tensions between the republican and democratic parties has seemed to reach new levels this year as Donald Trump and Joe Biden race to the White House. With a global pandemic, new forms of voting, and seemingly endless controversy; this election has been nothing short of interesting.

New to the election process, mail-in voting has been introduced. Mail in voting is the process of registered voters sending in their votes through the mail. With a global pandemic taking place, this seems like a practical and safe concept-except for the one major flaw of voter fraud. All mailed in ballots must be counted and volunteers place the ballots in a bin depending on the candidate. There have been several alleged cases in which volunteers have crumpled up ballots or counted unregistered ballots in hopes to help aid their preferred candidate. These instances have led to Republican candidate, Donald Trump, leading a formal investigation of voter fraud that is believed to be taking place in the election.

Controversy between political parties has been prominent this year, with both Democratic and Republican groups having tensions raised to an all-time high. Since the election has not officially been called, the country is on-edge waiting to see who the next president of the United States will be. States have been trying to count all mail-in ballots which has extended the process tremendously. Even though the majority of states have called their electoral votes in favor of democratic candidate Joe Biden, no formal decision has been. Even when all votes have been counted, the formal investigation led by President Trump will need to play out in the courts. However, all the Americans should welcome a confirmation that we had a free and fair election.

With a country so divided in political standings, the controversy between parties seems to be never ending. Even once a candidate is selected the transition of power may still cause unrest among the citizens of America. In an uncertain time like now the only thing to do is to pray for a peaceful transition of leaders and that the next president will lead our country well and, in a God honoring way. May God Bless America!



Giggles & Grins

Seton's Silly Corner

By: Noelle Peters

