



THE INQUISITOR

A Marian May Crowning

by Colette Kramer

May crowning is an important annual event at Seton. Ever since the school's founding, Seton students and teachers have participated in this beautiful tradition to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. Every year, all classes vote for one class attendant, and the May Queen. This year, the May Queen ended in a tie, with both Lily Griffin and Maggie Gibbons crowning the statue of Mary.

Before mass on May 13th, the feast day of Our Lady of Fatima, students processed in, laying their flowers at the foot of the altar, followed by the teachers. After Monday morning mass, students, faculty, and families gathered in the courtyard behind the church. The May Queens walked in, accompanied by their class attendants.

The attendants were seventh grader Annabelle Mikkelson, Maggie Schroer from the eighth grade, Caroline Brand, the freshman, Francesca Knighten from tenth grade, Molly Bauer, Bella Chau, and Anna Russo in eleventh, and Clara De Micoli. Our senior. Senior boys also escorted each of these lovely ladies. As the choir sang "On this Day Oh Beautiful Mother", the statue was crowned with a beautiful crown.

The assembled then prayed the joyful mysteries of the rosary. At Fatima, Our Lady asked us to pray the rosary daily. We honor Mary by praying for souls on her feast. May crowning is a beautiful tradition to honor Mary in this month that is dedicated to her.



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Pro-Life Speeches

by Luke Griffin

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Leading up to May 1st, the senior class at Seton had to compose speeches for the pro-life movement. The topics they could have chosen were abortion, contraception, euthanasia, or the death penalty. On May 1st, during a Seton assembly, the top speakers, chosen by Mrs. Carroll, moved on to give their speeches in front of the whole school. The seniors who presented their speeches this year were: Addison Cobos, Amelia Geary, Catherine Waldron, Jonathan McGraw, Joseph Allen, Margaret Gibbons, Matthew Baldwin, and Timothy Grinder.

Addison Cobos talked about, “how every unborn child is a unique person of worth and dignity, and specifically the experience of her mother, who chose life and gave birth to Addison, despite attempts to persuade her to have an abortion.” **Amelia Geary** discussed euthanasia and her family dinners, “how her extended family rallied around her grandmother after her devastating strokes, never



considering that her life was no longer worth living, and how the entire family benefitted from this experience.”

Catherine Waldron emphasized the danger and immorality of transgender confusion, especially with regards to children and young adults. **John McGraw** spoke of “his friend who suffered and died from cancer, and how

despite his sufferings, his life was worth living. He also emphasized how his friend influenced others for the better.” **Joseph Allen** told of his own family life and the great dignity each human person has. **Margaret Gibbons** outlined “the evil of the newly created abortion pill and how it can be reversed.” **Matthew Baldwin** explored “fighting of pro-abortion lies, his personal experiences on the front lines, and his hope for the future of children.” **Timothy Grinder** summarized his experiences as an adopted child, and how grateful he is that his biological mother, facing a difficult pregnancy, decided to let him live, rather than end his life before it had even started.

The competitors will move on to be placed in the state contest on Saturday, April 11th.

“I’m Dreaming of a White Christmas”

by Monica Smith, Teresa Curran, Emily Coreas, & Christina Curran

This year’s Spring musical, *White Christmas*, at Seton School was a success. There were five shows with over 430 seats, and each and every show was sold out, with a waiting list for the last two nights. Miss Mary Kate Vander Woude, a former Seton student (‘07), volunteered to direct the musical for her first time. She did a spectacular job bringing *White Christmas* to life on stage. Miss Vander Woude said, “It was incredible. Directing the musical this year was a privilege that I am so very grateful for. The Seton musical has a legacy and a tradition that has been passed down for years and years, one that brings our entire community together and creates something beautiful. To be a part of something so much bigger than oneself has been an honor and a complete gift. It was also just a whole lot of fun and a very joy-filled experience.”

Mrs. Erin Vander Woude produced the show with Mrs. Nancy Bauer as her assistant. Seton School had two amazing musical directors, Mrs. Shannon Catabui (‘95) and Mr. Dan Arnold. Three Seton alumni were this year’s vocal coaches, Mr. David Catabui (‘18), Miss Michaela Catabui (‘20), and Mr. Michael Allen (‘22). Miss Ann Pennefather (‘15) and Mrs. Gwen Dixon were the choreographers of the musical.

The director, Miss Mary Kate Vander Woude, chose the musical largely because of the number of chorus scenes. This musical provided plenty of opportunity for the many cast members to be onstage for much of the musical. Miss Vander Woude said, “One of the more challenging (and fun) aspects of the musical this year was the size of our cast. It took a great deal of thinking and drawing up different game plans to create a way where every student could be in the first and second act and really feel like an essential member of the show”. This year’s production had the largest cast in Seton School’s history, with over 170 cast members. Mrs. Catabui commented on working with such a large cast, saying, “Sometimes it can be difficult, especially with such a large cast, which includes all different levels of experience. This show in particular had more songs with challenging harmonies than we have done in the past. I am so proud of the cast for their perseverance. The results are being enjoyed by the audience every night.” She went on to say, “It is exciting to see (and hear) the growth of each cast member from our first rehearsal to our Opening Night. Music is a wonderful gift from God and I am overjoyed to help students utilize that gift.”



The musical had ten chorus scenes, perfect for such a large cast. One of the largest chorus scenes was the opening scene of Act II, with the song “I Love A Piano.” This scene had 49 chorus members as well as two of the leads, Phil and Judy, making a total of 51 people on stage at one time. This scene had long and detailed choreography, including tap dance, which made the scene very engaging. Many people who watched the show shared that this scene was one of their favorites because of the many different choreographed dances in one short scene. Many other scenes had large numbers of dancers, as well, such as “The Best Things Happen While You're Dancing,” which had over 60 cast members on stage. The number of large chorus scenes makes the musical much more entertaining, and shows that an incredible amount of time and planning went into each and every scene.

The musical at Seton depends on hundreds of students and volunteers, and shows the true spirit of the school and community. This show was only possible because of the sacrifices that the parents and volunteers made, especially Miss Mary Kate Vander Woude. The Seton musical is a special opportunity for students to show their God- given talents and to be involved in the community.



SETON SCHOOL'S JOB FAIR

by Luke Griffin

The Seton School's job fair was a gathering held in the gym on the 16th of April from 11:35-1:05. Various companies had the opportunity to advertise jobs to the students of Seton. The jobs ranged from summer jobs as camp counselors to cadet training for the police department. Other booths came to promote festivals, ask for volunteers, and even give career advice.

Cole Compton (a 12th grader at Seton) was here as a representative to offer summer jobs at Jitterbug's Ice Cream and talk about the City Market Center. Donna Garzione with Urbanna Pool, was offering positions as lifeguards. Similarly, Aidan Larkin, Akua Walters, and Ava Hudson were here with the George Mason Freedom Aquatics & Fitness to offer jobs for lifeguarding and summer counselors. Mulford Riding Summer Camp, represented by Mindy Mulford and William Mulford (a 9th grader at Seton), were also offered positions as camp counselors. Officer Mitrovich was here

for cadet training and internships with the Manassas City Police Department. Manassas City Councilwoman Theresa Coates Ellis was here promoting the Manassas Bee Festival on Saturday, June 22, 2024, from 10 AM to 2 PM. The House of Mercy Food Pantry & Thrift Store discussed internship opportunities, food drives, and volunteering. Pamela Mata, Curriculum Manager of the Catholic Herald came to talk about submitting articles, newspaper publishing, and interning. Also, Virginia Delegate Ian T. Lovejoy talked to students about career paths and gave advice.

Thank you Virginia Delegate Ian T. Lovejoy for being there and talking to students. Thank you City Councilwoman Theresa Coates Ellis for bringing details of city jobs and info on the Bee Festival. Thank you to all other representatives, for offering various jobs to our Seton students.



?Where Are They Going?

The Class of 2024

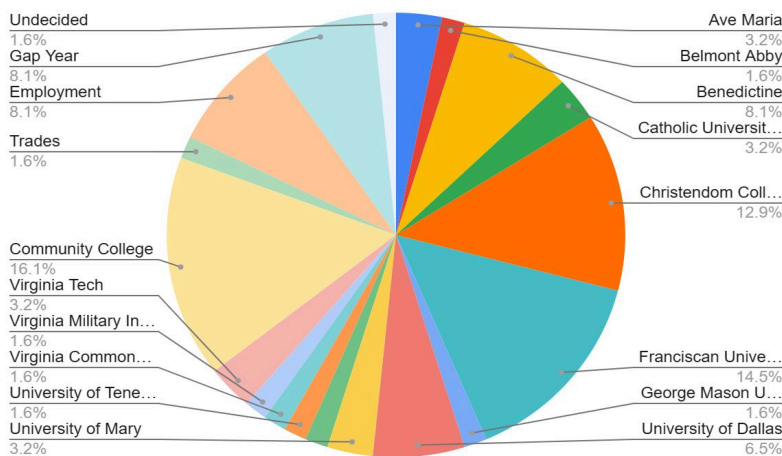
by Zach Moore

Mark Mosimann - He is going to The University of Dallas next year to study Economics. Mark said that Seton challenged him and kept him from complacency in a way public schools never could. He's excited to go off to college to be independent and become mature.

Dom Irving - Dom is excited to play lacrosse for Benedictine. He's looking forward to growing further in his faith and meeting new, exciting people.

JJ Pogue - He is excited to "Get his money up, not his funny up," over the coming year as he builds his business empire. @yardguard

Michael Fioramonti - He is excited to go to Nova and study HVAC.



New Classes and Electives

by Emily Coreas



Seton has a new semester course this upcoming school year. It's called Digital Photography and Yearbook. This course includes composition, working with the yearbook, and a camera would be needed. This course has a limited amount of space. This semester class is half a credit.

Art is another elective choice. It has a 45 dollar fee, but it's honestly worth it. It's a fun class overall, Mrs. Tsukalas does a good job with art class. Lots of different art styles and history is learned in this class. Creative art work like painting, sketching, chalk art, and so much more.



Band is another good choice for an elective. No experience needs to be required. In this course, learn the basic skills on how to read and perform music. This class also has a total of two amazing concerts.

Another elective choice is Chorus. In this course, a variety of singing will be done. From popular music, traditional music, to sacred music.

Speech is a fun elective pick. Basic public speaking skills are learned. Constantly, speeches are done in the class. This class is also like a debate class as well.

Writing for Publication is a good option if writing is an interest. Write articles every month to publish into the inquisitor. Journal prompts are given to students as well, with interesting topics! Creative writing assignments are given every quarter. In this course is a mix of journalism, school newspaper, and creative writing.



The Pentecost

by Teresa Curran

The feast of Pentecost falls on Sunday, May 19th, 2024. This feast is one of the largest feast days in the Catholic church, and signifies the end of the Easter season. The Pentecost commemorates the day the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles in the upper room.

“When the day of Pentecost came, it found them gathered in one place. Suddenly from up in the sky there came a noise like a strong, driving wind which was heard all through the house where they were seated. Tongues as of fire appeared, which parted and came to rest on each of them. All were filled with the Holy Spirit. They began to express themselves in foreign tongues and make bold proclamations as the Spirit prompted them" (Acts 2:1-4).

On the day of Pentecost, shortly after Jesus ascended into heaven, the apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit. They began speaking in tongues, and were so filled with God’s power that they inspired 3,000 people to be baptized that day. This day was the day that the Catholic faith began to spread all over the world, fulfilling Jesus’ words.

“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes down upon you; then you are to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, yes even to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

It is easy to think that the Holy Spirit’s power and gifts do not come to us like they came to the Apostles. Though they may not come in the same visible way, the Holy Spirit offers these same gifts to us, if only we are open to using them. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, a few men brought thousands of people into the family of God. If we ask the Holy Spirit for that same zeal for the faith, we can change the world around us, a little at a time.

Praying this novena on the days leading up to Pentecost is a good way to meditate on the coming feast day.



Mother's Day

by Christina Curran

This year's Mother's Day falls on Sunday, May 12. Although Mother's Day is now a secular holiday, it was first celebrated for religious purposes. The tradition of honoring mothers can be traced back to the Greeks and Romans. They held festivals in honor of the goddesses, Rhea and Cybele, the mother goddesses. Mothers were also celebrated by early Christians on "Mothering Sunday," a day on which all the faithful would return to their "Mother church" for a service. This tradition also included honoring mothers with flowers.

Mother's Day became an official holiday due to the efforts of Anna Jarvis. Anna's mother, Ann, was a Civil War medic, and she held "Mother's Day Work Clubs", in which she gave advice to other mothers. Ann Jarvis dreamed of having an official day to honor mothers and the hard work they do. After Anna died in 1905, her daughter, Anna, wanted to honor the sacrifices that all mothers made for their children. With 500 white carnations, her mother's favorite flower, Anna Jarvis organized the first Mother's Day celebration at a Methodist Church in West Virginia, in 1908. After this success, Anna Jarvis was determined to make Mother's Day a national holiday. Jarvis created the Mother's Day International Association to promote her cause, and in 1912, Mother's Day was celebrated individually by some states, and many people adopted it as an annual holiday. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson established Mother's Day as an official holiday, to be celebrated on the second Sunday in May.

There are many different Mother's Day traditions, varying depending on the country. Mother's Day in Thailand is celebrated on the birthday of the queen, Sirikit. In Ethiopia, mothers are honored through a multiple-day-long festival, known as Antrosht. In France, mothers are traditionally given flower-shaped cakes. In the United States, people honor mothers on Mother's Day by offering candy, flowers, and gifts, breakfast in bed, and homemade cards.

Mothers are so important to the formation of a family and society. Mother's Day is the perfect way for people to recognize the hard work mothers do and the sacrifices they make. Though it is now a secular holiday, Mother's Day is a day to honor both our earthly mother and our mother in Heaven, The Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary the Mother of God, pray for us.

“The Last, Full Measure”

by Gabriel Marm

Every year on the last Monday of May, we celebrate Memorial Day. But Memorial Day has a much deeper meaning than catching that 50% off deal on that Xbox you really want, or that new couch that would fit so perfectly in that room. We celebrate Memorial Day to honor those who gave their lives in service to this country.

Memorial Day was instituted after the Civil War, to commemorate the 800,000 Americans who had given their lives upon the field of battle. Originally known as Decoration Day, the goal was to decorate the graves of the men, both Union and Confederate. These men valiantly died for their countries, families, and brothers in arms. After WWI, every state recognized it as a state holiday and honored all those slain in the Great War as well. In 1971, it was made a Federal holiday.

The most common traditions on Memorial Day include visiting cemeteries and decorating the graves of fallen soldiers with flags and flowers. Generally, you should not say “Happy Memorial Day” on the last Monday in May. For thousands of families in America, it is not a happy day. It is sober, a time when they remember their loved ones who fell in service to our nation. If you know families who lost loved ones in the military, it is meaningful to thank them for their sacrifice to this country. They know people personally whose commitment to keeping it free cost them their lives. But perhaps the most meaningful action of all is to visit a military cemetery to decorate the graves of the fallen. It consoles the families of the slain to know that people they don't even know appreciate the sacrifice their family member has made, the Last Full Measure of Devotion.



SHAKESPEARE: THE MAN BEHIND THE MASTERPIECES

by Allison Quispe

William Shakespeare was born in 1564 in a town called Stratford-upon-Avon. Even though we're not totally sure of his birthday, we know he was baptized on April 26th. Shakespeare wrote many different plays that everyone still reads and performs today.

When he was 18, Shakespeare married Anne Hathaway. They had three kids together: Susanna, Hamnet, and Judith. After that, he moved to London to try to make it big in the theater scene. In London, Shakespeare wrote lots of plays, both comedies like "A Midsummer Night's Dream," tragedies like "Romeo and Juliet" and histories like "Richard III." But his most famous works, "Hamlet," "Othello," "King Lear," and "Macbeth" he wrote later in his career. People loved his plays, and they were performed at the Globe Theatre, which he partly owned.

Shakespeare retired back to his hometown, Stratford-upon-Avon, when he got older. He lived there until he died in 1616. Even though he's been gone for a long time, we still read and perform his plays today because they're super cool and teach us a lot about life.

Here is one of Shakespeare's most famous poems:

Sonnet 18:

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate.
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,

And summer's lease hath all too short a date.
Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,
And often is his gold complexion dimmed;
And every fair from fair sometime declines,

By chance or nature's changing course untrimmed.
But thy eternal summer shall not fade
Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st,
Nor shall Death brag thou wand'rest in his shade,

When in eternal lines to time thou grow'st.
So long as men can breathe or eyes can see,
So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.



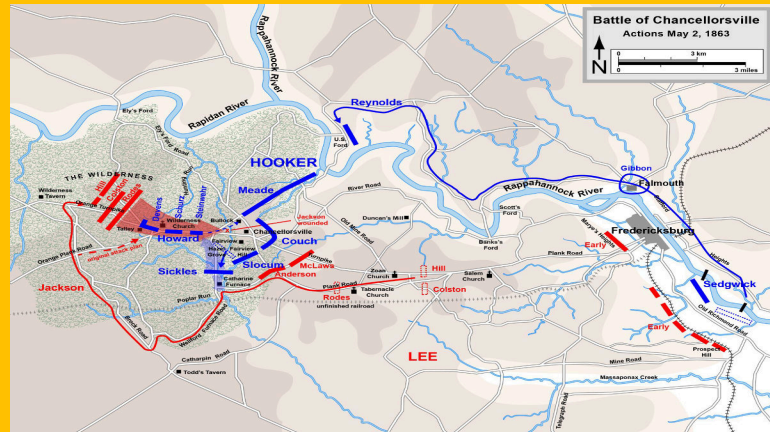
The Battle of Chancellorsville

by Gabe Marm

Early in 1863, the Union Army of the Potomac was reeling from a crushing and humiliating defeat at Fredericksburg the previous winter. The new commander of the army, Gen. “Fighting Joe” Hooker, worked to refit the men and boost their morale with a major victory. He designed a complex plan to surprise and trap Lee’s army, which was still at Fredericksburg.

Lee, however, had plans of his own. He left some 15,000 of his men at Fredericksburg, while taking the other 45,000, he rode out to meet Hooker’s 130,000-strong army head on. The two sides clashed on May 1, in the Wilderness, just 3 miles east of Chancellorsville. In the late afternoon, Hooker was winning the field. But he surprisingly withdrew to the ground surrounding Chancellorsville, and waited for Lee to attack him there. That night, Lee and his best subordinating General, Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson, strategized throughout the night about the best move for the morning.

In the morning of May 2, Jackson took almost 30,000 men and marched them 15 miles in front of the Union Army, expertly hiding his movements by a thin line of skirmishers. He then swung around the Union right flank, and caught them completely unprepared. He decimated the Union right and rear, caving their line in almost two miles. After darkness fell, Jackson and his staff rode in front of their pickets to scout the Union Army’s positions. A Confederate picket line, mistaking them for Union cavalry, opened fire upon them. Jackson was mortally wounded, and several of his staff were killed.



The battle raged on for the next two days, the intense fighting adding casualties to both sides. On May 5, despite the urging of his corps commanders to continue the fight, Hooker decided to retreat. This decision left both sides confused, as Hooker had a vast numerical advantage and still could have won. The Union Army sustained 17,304 casualties, and the Confederates had 13,460. The battle was Lee’s crowning offensive victory. His magnificent strategy of dividing his army and hiding it from the Union is still studied today. But it was clouded by the loss of his best general. Jackson’s death was a loss that Lee could never recover from, and it would shape how he fights at Gettysburg two months later, and ultimately cause him to fight defensively after that.

!Que Viva Mexico!

By Allison Quispe

Cinco de Mayo commemorates the historic Battle of Puebla in 1862, where Mexican forces, led by General Ignacio Zaragoza, achieved a remarkable victory over the French army. This victory, though not decisive in the overall Franco-Mexican War, holds a deep significance as a symbol of Mexican resilience and unity in the face of adversity.

While often confused with Mexico's Independence Day, which falls on September 16th, Cinco de Mayo is celebrated as a day of Mexican pride and cultural heritage. It serves as a reminder of the bravery and determination of the Mexican people in defending their sovereignty against foreign attack.

The celebrations of Cinco de Mayo are marked by a variety of festivities that showcase the vibrancy and richness of Mexican culture. In Mexico, particularly in the city of Puebla, where the historic battle took place, celebrations include parades, reenactments of the battle, traditional music and dance performances, and culinary delights featuring authentic Mexican cuisine.

In the United States, Cinco de Mayo has evolved into a widely recognized cultural celebration, especially in areas with significant Mexican American populations. Cities such as Los Angeles, San Antonio, and Chicago host festivities, including street fairs, concerts, mariachi performances, and of course, eating delicious Mexican food and drinks.

Key traditions of Cinco de Mayo celebrations include the lively strains of mariachi music, the colorful and energetic performances of folkloric dance, and the traditional Mexican dishes like tacos, tamales, and guacamole. Decorations featuring the colors of the Mexican flag green, white, and red along with papel picado and piñatas add to the festive mood.

Cinco de Mayo serves as a reminder of the shared heritage and cultural pride that unites communities both within Mexico and around the world. It is a day to celebrate not only a historic victory but also the resilience, unity, and diversity of the Mexican people. As we come together to honor Cinco de Mayo, let us reflect on the lessons of history and embrace the cultural richness in our world. ¡Viva México!



Summer Activities and Recipes

by Monica Smith



School is finally coming to an end and summer is on its way. Many people decide to travel outside the state for vacations and trips, but sometimes traveling far with young children can be difficult. Listed below are some wonderful places and activities that stay within Virginia, and are definitely family friendly. 1.) Cape Charles is located on Virginia's Eastern Shore and has many activities other than just the water, including: restaurants, golf, harbor, marinas, boat ramp, and sport fishing. 2.) Another fun activity is hiking the Appalachian Trail, which is 101 miles long. This trail is in Shenandoah National Park and can be seen running across the view of Skyline Drive. 3.) Smith Mountain Lake is a beautiful destination and it is called the "Jewel of the Blue Ridge Mountains," as it is surrounded by them.

Although summer is great, it can get very hot. Below are some delicious recipes to help cool you down, and keep the oven off. 1.) [Honey Mustard Grilled Chicken and Broccoli \(howsweeteats.com\)](https://www.howsweeteats.com/recipes/honey-mustard-grilled-chicken-and-broccoli/) This recipe is a great way to cook outdoors, and is fairly simple. 2.) [Grilled Chicken Rice Bowls with Cilantro Lime Dressing \(howsweeteats.com\)](https://www.howsweeteats.com/recipes/grilled-chicken-rice-bowls-with-cilantro-lime-dressing/) This recipe is quick and easy, and many things can be added or taken out to make it your own. 3.) [Burst Tomato Burrata Pasta - Weeknight Burst Tomato Burrata Pasta \(howsweeteats.com\)](https://www.howsweeteats.com/recipes/burst-tomato-burrata-pasta/) This recipe is very unique with many different flavors combined to make this incredible dish. Different types of pasta can be substituted. 4.) [No-Bake Cheesecake Jars - Sally's Baking Addiction \(sallysbakingaddiction.com\)](https://www.sallysbakingaddiction.com/recipes/no-bake-cheesecake-jars/)

Seton Sports Wrap-up

by Colette Kramer

Time is flying, and the 2023-2024 school year is over, along with the spring sports season. All of the girls sports teams are preparing to close out their season.

Varsity Softball:

The Varsity Softball team continued to play well, with wins against Foxcroft, Oakcrest, and John Paul the Great. The scores for these games were 22-5, 15-4, and 15-5, respectively. Their Senior Night was on March 22nd, against Fairfax Home School, and our ladies crushed it with a final score of 11-1. They also had a couple of sad losses, including a very close loss of 11-12 versus John Paul. On May 13th, they played in the VISAA championship and lost to the excellent team from Isle of Wight Academy with a score of 5-16.



Junior Varsity Softball:

Junior Varsity Softball girls continued to improve their game. Although they have lost all of their games so far, their hard work and dedication is apparent. They played Fredericksburg Christian, Oakcrest, and had a 7-11 loss against St. Thomas Aquinas. Sadly, their game on May 6th was canceled, but they played again against the GMBL team in a last minute game. Considering that more than half the team has never played before, these girls have done remarkably well.

Varsity Soccer:

Despite a rough start to their season, Varsity Soccer made a comeback with wins of 5-1 and 8-0 against Immanuel Christian and Manassas Park High School. Although they had close losses to St. John Paul the Great and Fredericksburg Christian, they won against John Paul when they went up against them again. After a few more losses, they had more wins against Immanuel Christian and John Paul for the second time. On May 13th, they also played in the VISAA championships and lost a very close game to Trinity Episcopal School.

by
**Colette
Kramer**



Junior Varsity Soccer:

The Junior Varsity Soccer girls have had a great season so far, and are continuing to play their best. On April 11, they had a 2-0 win against John Paul. After an upsetting loss to Holy Family, they had an amazing win against King Abdullah with a spectacular final score of 5-0. They lost to Oakcrest but continued to beat John Paul the Great in a 2-1 match. On May 7th they lost to St. John's in Front Royal. Their final game of the season was on May 14th, and they lost 0-3 after a very difficult game.

Junior High Soccer:

Our Junior High players have had a very impressive season. After a loss to Oakcrest, they had a great winning streak of three games. The first, on April 16th, was against Trinity School at Meadow View and had a score of 5-2. Two days later, they played Fredericksburg Christian and won 4 to nothing. After another win against Immanuel Christian, they sadly lost two games in a row but won their most recent 6-0. On May 14th they played St. Thomas Aquinas School and ended the season with an amazing win 3-0.





Boys Tennis: Victory at Last

by Victor Henry

Seton's Boys Tennis team had an excellent season this year. They didn't skip a beat over the previous off-season, as they lost no graduating seniors. The Tennis team, led by Coach Rowzie, headed into states with an 8-3 record, never having won a postseason game before. This year seems special for them. When questioned about the team's state before States, team member Charlie Dusek described the team as having a "fire in our play," and stated, "we aren't gonna lose". The tennis team went on to win their first postseason game in Coach Rowzie's career. In fact, they even made it to the state championships, but fell to the Covenant School 3 matches to 5. The team will say goodbye to graduating Seniors Michael VanderWoude and Nick VanderWoude this season. Seton's tennis team finally broke through their playoff victory drought, so Coach Rowzie will surely have his eyes on a states victory within the next couple years.



Boys Baseball: Arriving at Home Plate

by Victor Henry

The Varsity baseball team finished 4-10 this season. Steve Clune did a great job coaching this young team against the challenging competition. Seton did have two amazing games against Quantico High School, in which they won 10-0, and 17-3. Pitchers Robbie Gasser and James Knight helped lead the team to the victories against Quantico and their two others. Sadly their season came to an end in their first game of the postseason against Fredericksburg Christian, where they narrowly lost 6-7. The team will lose three seniors next season: Mark Moisimann, Chris Lynch, and Michael Flynn. I am sure the team will practice over the offseason to come back stronger than ever next year.



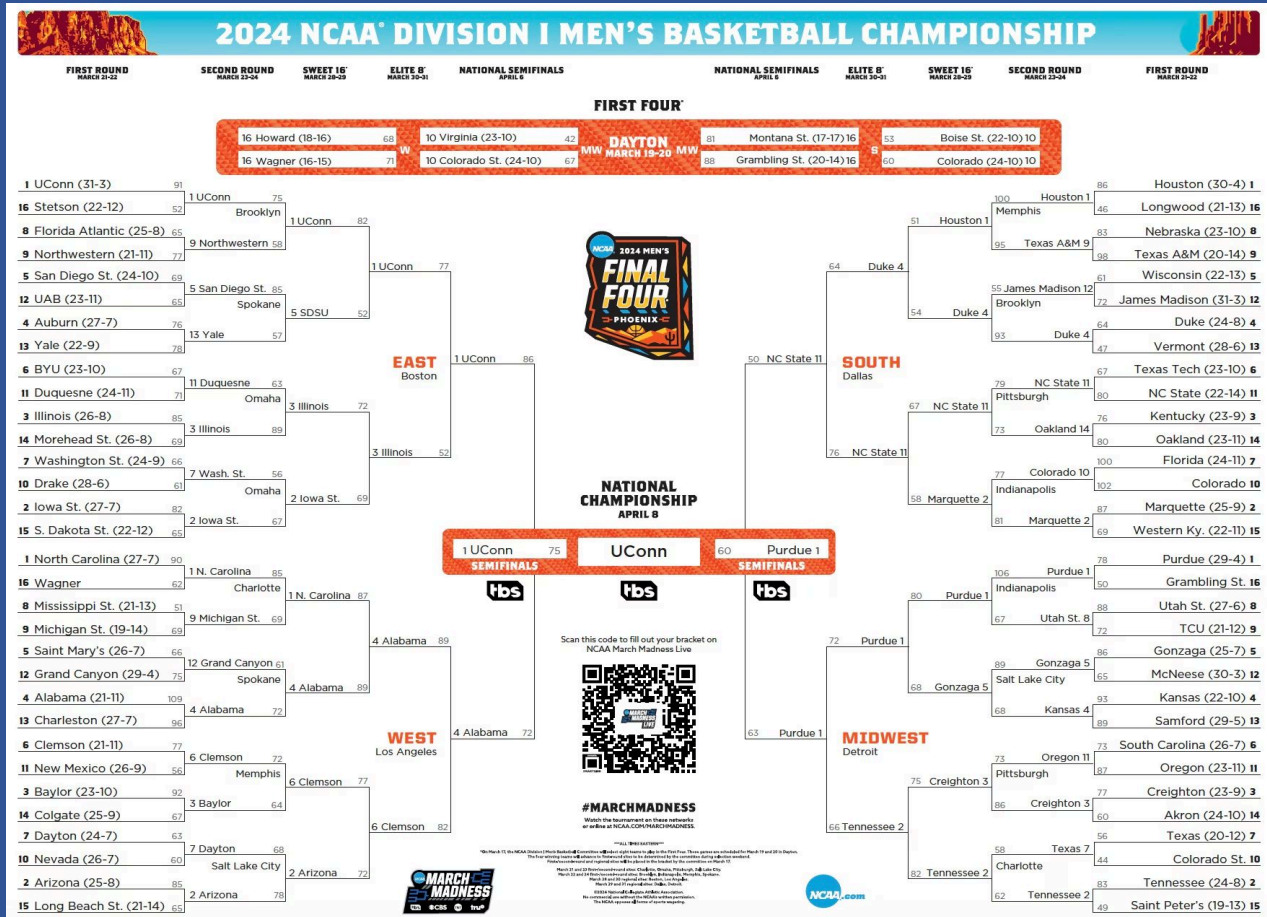
The Junior High baseball team started the season off 0-4, losing by an average of 13.5 runs. However, Coach Kevin Clune managed to turn the season around though. Pitchers Joe Witter and Rafe Clune worked together to pitch two shutout games to bring their final record to 2-4. Their last three games were canceled, so the team can go into the offseason on a high note, and the majority of the team prepares to move up to JV next season.

The JV Baseball roster consists of 9 of the 12 members on the Varsity roster, with those three discluded members being the aforementioned seniors. The team finished the season with an impressive 4-1 record. The number of games totaled to only five this season, because three of their games were canceled due to the abnormal amount of rain we received this year. Some of their wins were notable though, as they triumphed over the acclaimed Paul VI high school. JV had a great season this year, and the boys who played on Varsity and JV worked extra hard on both teams, so big props to them.

SPORTS COLUMN



SPORTS COLUMN



BONUS ARTICLE: March Madness

BY VICTOR HENRY

It's that time of year again, where the "madness" of college basketball is shown off in a tournament watched by millions. The NCAA Men's Division 1 Basketball Tournament, better known as March Madness, is structured as a 7-round, single elimination tournament with a total of 68 participating teams. The first round, named the "First Four" is essentially the Wild Card round. 8 teams from the bottom of their respective divisions play for a spot in the main tournament. In this article, only the notable or high-seed upset games and the winning teams will be mentioned, as there are over 60 total games. Let's get into it.

BONUS ARTICLE: March Madness

Tournament Champion: UCONN Huskies

The Huskies successfully defended their title with a back to back National Championship win, the first team to do so since the Florida Gators in 2006-7. They demonstrated their true dominance this year, steamrolling any team that stood in their way by an average point margin of 23.3 points. With players like MVP Tristen Newton, 3-Point threat Cam Spencer, and 7'2" Center Donovan Clingan, their team skill, chemistry, and the depth of their bench was unparalleled. . As they were heavily favored to win from the beginning, it is no surprise that Head Coach Dan Hurley and the Huskies pulled off the win.



Tournament Runner-Up: Purdue Boilermakers

The Purdue Boilermakers had an incredible team this year, and it was no surprise they took the #1 seed for the second year in a row. The team is led by Center Zach Edey who towers over the rest of the team at 7'4". Purdue had a very well-rounded roster, similar to UCONN, including many shooters and playmakers who can feed the ball the Edey off of screen and rolls.



UCONN vs Purdue¹, Championship UCONN 75-60 Purdue

Purdue lost to UCONN primarily due to their stamina and lack of subs. As mentioned above, UCONN had a very skilled bench, and the team played almost identical with or without their starters. This was not true for Purdue, as their entire offense was planned around Zach Edey and their other starters. This worked well for them in previous games, because their opponents also had weaker benches, so the teams would always be evenly matched. However, UCONN always played at full strength. So when Purdue's starters ran out of gas, UCONN kept playing full strength until the buzzer, giving UCONN the 75-60 dub.

SPORTS COLUMN

Notable Games from March Madness 2024

Notable Games: Kentucky⁴ vs. Oakland¹³, Round 1

Oakland 80-76 Kentucky

Kentucky went into this matchup expecting an easy win against the low seeded Oakland Golden Grizzlies. They were shocked to meet Oakland's guard from the bench, Jack Gohlke. Gohlke drained a mind-boggling 10 three pointers and shot 50% from the three, which is one 3 away from tying the all-time March Madness 3-pointer record. Gohlke scored 32 points, bringing Oakland to a huge upset victory and ruining millions of brackets worldwide.

BYU⁶ vs. Duquesne¹³, Round 1

Duquesne 71-67 BYU

Duquesne upset Brigham Young University in this first round thriller. The teams were evenly matched, with the scoring spread out evenly among both teams. However, the Dukes eventually came out on top and sent the aspiring BYU Cougars home.

Creighton² vs. Oregon¹¹, Round 2

Creighton 86-73 Oregon, 2OT

This game looked like an easy win for the Blue Jays on paper, but in reality it was a neck-and-neck, hard fought, double overtime win for Creighton. The teams were very well suited for each other, with Creighton focusing their team around a strong shooting core, while Oregon boasted their seven foot center N'Faly Dante. It was back and forth between the teams through both halves of regulation and the first overtime period until the Ducks ran out of gas. The Blue Jays were able to keep up the pace by outscoring the Ducks in double overtime 15-2, earning them a spot in the Sweet 16.

Duke³ vs. Houston¹, Sweet 16

Duke 54-51 Houston

The Blue Devils once again proved their dominance in basketball by upsetting the #1 seed in the South, the Houston Cougars, making Houston the first one seed to be knocked out of the tournament. Both teams did a great job defending each other, as neither team scored more than 60 points. Houston just gave up one too many points to Duke's big man, which would cause their downfall.

Marquette² vs. NC State¹¹, Sweet 16

NC State 67-58 Marquette

NC State had a great opportunity to make it far into the tournament, and they seized it. With a great point guard in DJ Horne to get the ball to their two excellent big men, NC State was in complete control over Marquette for the entirety of the game. The Wolfpack took complete advantage of Marquette's rough shooting night (12.9% from 3-point line) to move on to the Elite 8 for the first time in almost 50 years.

Purdue¹ vs NC State¹¹, Final 4

Purdue 63-50 NC State

Purdue's Zach Edey put on a show against the aspiring "Cinderella-team," NC State, by scoring 20 points and 12 rebounds. NC State's incredible season sadly came to an end against this formidable Purdue offense. However, I feel Purdue and especially Zach Edey deserve a trip to the championship after a disastrous loss to the 16 seed Fairleigh Dickinson University last year in the first round.

UCONN¹ vs Alabama⁴, Final Four

UCONN 86-72 Alabama

Alabama put up a surprising fight against the undisputed overall #1 seed UCONN. They couldn't hold it together for the whole game though, as they fell to the seemingly undying consistency of UCONN.