



the wingspan

the Wingspan Design By: Nova Kim and Meghan Moore
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ARE WE BETTER OFF?

As Leslie Knope asked the city of Pawnee, Indiana, in season five of *Parks and Recreation*, are you better off? In this case, are we better off than we were 40 years ago?

We are at a crossroads in our nation; we have never been more open-minded yet blinded by our own beliefs. If you were to take a look at the controversial topics on the news every night, such as LGBTQ+ and women's rights, police brutality, health care, racial tensions, foreign affairs, and climate change, and compare it to the past 40 years, you would see lots of the same issues being debated. It seems like you can't walk two steps without overhearing people discuss President Trump's policies, the latest police brutality scandal—or even just how much we *all* miss Obama.

When we look at the controversies of the 1970s, a time of free love and flare jeans, most will think of *Roe vs. Wade*, the Supreme Court case that granted women the right to terminate a pregnancy. You would think that would have ended things, right? Wrong. In fact, the pro-choice vs. pro-life debate is still one of the most controversial topics

today. Over the past 20 years, over 900 anti-choice legislations have been passed throughout the United States. Can you imagine growing up as a woman in the '70s, expecting to have control over your body, just to have the rights slowly chipped away over the course of the following decades?

Let's moonwalk into the 1980s where the after taste of "new" Coke remained on the tongues of millions of disappointed consumers for the last half of the decade. While the outrage of "new" Coke was a very crucial event in the '80s, there were many other controversial events that shaped the decade.

AIDS. We're jumping right into it. The first recorded cases of the deadly immune disease arose during this time. The disease quickly became highly stigmatized as a disease that only gay men could contract, but that theory was quickly disproven once cases were reported of women being diagnosed. This outbreak of an unknown disease caused widespread panic throughout the nation

and the world. To this day, there is still a heavy stigma surrounding the disease; the severity of a disease should not be clouded by

public perceptions of those most susceptible.

This brings us back to the present, where LGBTQ+ issues are constantly trivialized by those with absolutely no understanding of the "community."

Most recently, President Trump sparked outrage within several parties by attempting a military ban on transgender troops. This attempted ban ignited strong reactions on both sides of the issue, reminding us that we are far from moving forward as a united nation. Many of us probably haven't been this angry since "new" Coke.

Ah, the 1990s. O.J. Simpson, MTV, Bill Clinton, Nelson Mandela... one could call this time Nirvana. We are living in the aftermath of the '90s. If you put every single '90s kid in a room, you wouldn't be able to hear yourself think over the sound of every. Single. One. Of them talking about how they're a '90s kid—yeah, even the ones born in '99— and how it was the "best" decade. You probably wouldn't go so far as to call it the "best," just like you wouldn't go so far as to call a McDonald's Quarter Pounder the "best" sandwich. Like every decade before, and every decade to follow, there was and will be lots of controversy. Speaking of controversy,

one of the most polarizing trials took place during this decade.

O.J. and the acquittal heard 'round the world. Simpson's trial fueled the fire of racial tensions in California and around the country (hmmm... sound familiar?) The Simpson trial came on the heels of the Rodney King verdict, in which King, an L.A. taxi driver, was brutally and excessively beaten by three police officers while their supervisor watched. The verdict of the officers' trial? Three of the officers were acquitted. This ultimately led to the L.A. riots, where the attitude seemed to be "if you're not with us you're against us." In many cases that was the sad truth. Whether or not you believe that O.J. did it (which he totally did), there is no denying the heightened racial tension during the '90s. Honestly, if you look at headlines of newspapers and magazines during the '90s and compared them to the headlines we so often see on CNN or NBC, it doesn't seem that you would really be able to tell the difference. Which, if we're being totally honest, doesn't speak highly of us as a nation.

Flash forward to now. The news is a disturbing cocktail of the Kardashians, natural disasters, Donald

Trump, police brutality, outspoken political parties, and FDA news stating that all the foods we know and love will surely give us cancer (ahem, Nutella). You'll notice that in each decade, there really hasn't been that much change in the hot topics of the decades. Sure, each era has one or two "defining" moments, but at the core, we as a country are still talking about and fighting for the same things that we were 40 years ago. We still argue over women's rights and LGBTQ+ rights and racial equality and whether or not climate change is actually a thing and everything in between.

The thing to take away from this is that we are not as different as those before us. As much as we think that we'll never be like our parents when we get older, our parents were a lot like us. They lived through a lot of the same things when they were younger that we are witnessing right now.

If we zoom in more specifically to the students walking the same Centenni-

al halls as us, they were a lot like us. They were worried about getting accepted into their dream schools, having the coolest clothes, making varsity, and figuring out what the rest of their life would look like.

Although the years may fly by and the yearbook photos fade, our common experiences in the world bond us together through the decades. Let us keep this in mind during a time where we seem to be a country further divided. Let us keep this in mind when we proclaim that our parents just don't understand what it's like growing up in such a messed-up world. Because as much as we may hate to admit it, we are not the first teenagers living through controversy, and our children will probably say the same things about us.

-Meghan Moore

Photo by: Zach Grable



the wingspan

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CENTENNIAL SENIORS CELEBRATE JERSEY SPIRIT DAY ON OCTOBER 10, 2017

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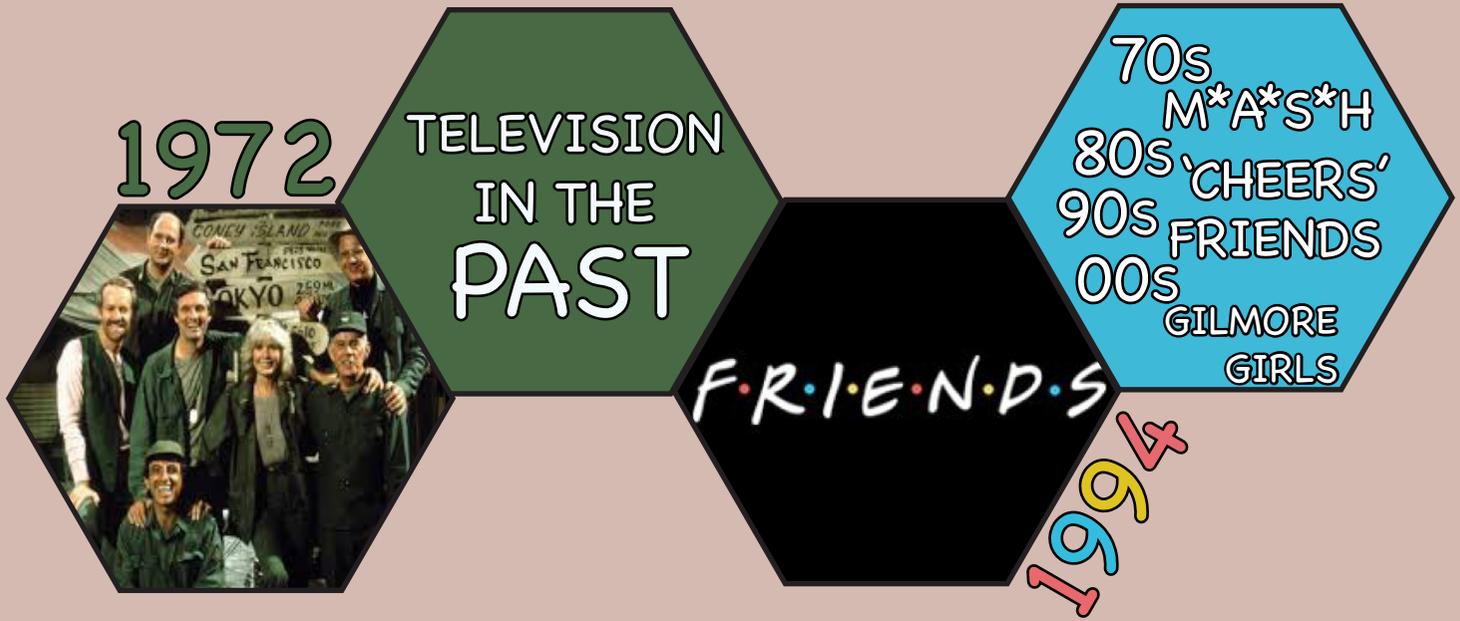
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#TREN



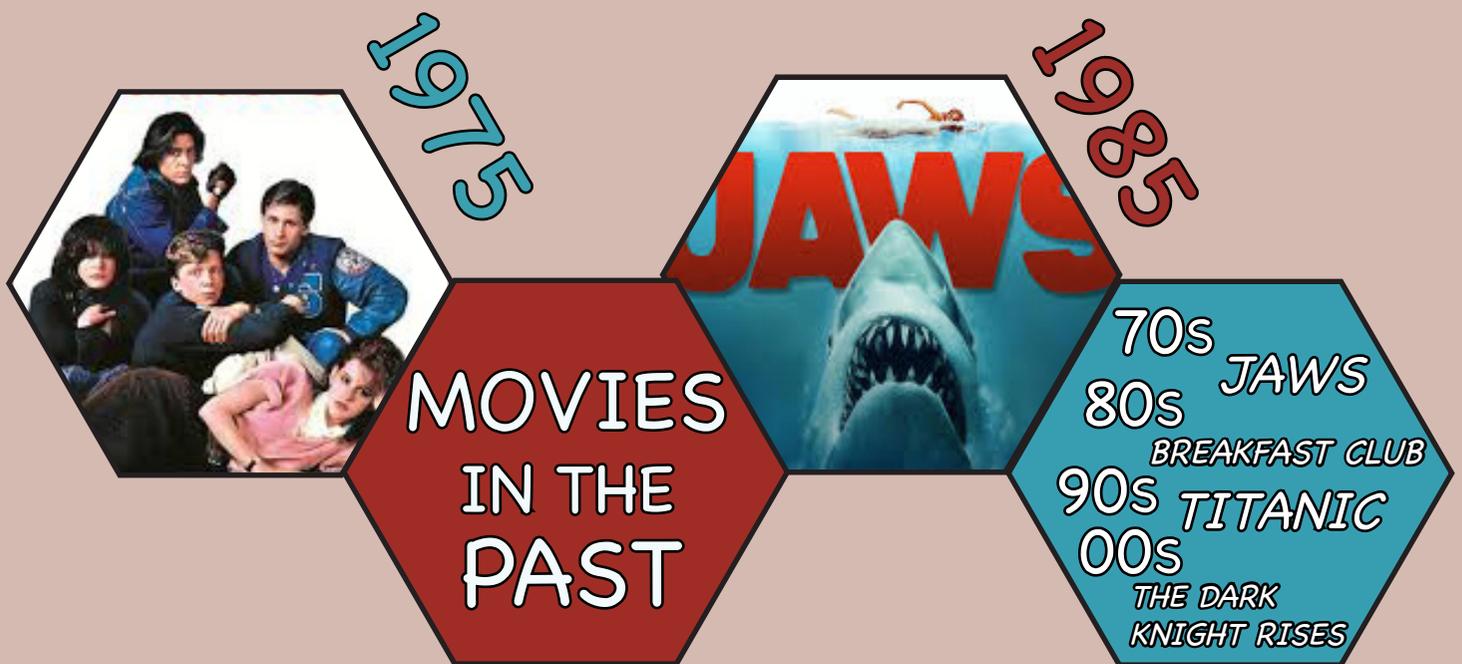


DING





#TREN





MUSIC TODAY



- Taylor Swift
"Look What You Made Me Do"
- 21 Savage "Bank Account"
- DJ Khaled "Wild Thoughts"
- French Montana
"Unforgettable"
- Charlie Puth
"Attention"

D I N G



MOVIES TODAY

2010



- IT
- DESPICABLE ME
- CARS 3
- BABY DRIVER
- GET OUT
- BAYWATCH

SPREAD YOUR WINGS AND LEARN TO WRITE

CENTENNIAL ALUMNI



Taylor Cairns graduated from Centennial in 2011.

Centennial High School has continued to churn out a talented, individualistic body of students since 1977, when its doors first opened. Some of its most successful graduates happen to be journalists.

Katherine Bernard, who graduated in 2005; Alyssa Bailey, who graduated in 2009; Taylor Cairns, who graduated in 2011; and Zach Newman,

who graduated in 2013; are some of these professionals.

Cairns is a reporter for *Good Day Maine* in Portland, Maine, and Newman is an investigative fellow for the Brian Ross Unit at ABC News in New York City.

Bernard is a fashion writer for *Vogue.com* and a *Vogue* contributor, and writes for the Critical Shopper column of *The New York Times*. Bailey is an associate news editor for *Elle.com*.

Cairns and the aforementioned New Yorkers, however, used to call Ellcott City home, and have reaped the benefits Centennial has offered to its students. Centennial students have a head start on their careers, as there is a wide array of specialized courses available to students at the high school level.

Cairns went on to become a broadcast journalist after taking the Television course in high school under Linda Norris, who still works at Centennial as a Media Specialist. Newman was a journalist for the *Wingspan* and served as one of the Editors-in-Chief of the paper from 2012-2013. Through his eyes, “[journalism] is a field where you only learn by doing.”

Journalism was not the only class that fostered Newman’s journalistic abilities and passion for informing the populace. Government was a class in

which he developed a keen interest in politics, and world history helped him to look outside of his own small world.

Bernard believes that the humanities helped her to relate different areas of study and genres of literature to each other. As a journalist, she uses these skills daily.

Bailey misses some of these same classes - psychology, history, and government, to be exact - and wishes she now had the time to study topics pertaining to these fields. Luckily, these were not the only courses into which she put her time and energy.

The position of Managing Editor for the *Wingspan*, as well as the position of Editor-in-Chief for spinoff newspaper *FYI* and a student life magazine, were filled by Bailey. It is in these positions that she discovered how a newsroom worked, setting her up for a fulfilling career in

journalism.

Teachers are some of the most important figures in students' lives. To Cairns, the lessons he learned from these mentors have been invaluable, setting the tone for his entire career. He recognizes the role of multiple teachers in his life: Mr. VanWestervelt emphasized "exploring the depths of your imagination," and Ms. Carlsen's challenging theatre courses taught him how to be confident in front of large audiences.

Bailey similarly feels as though VanWestervelt served as a strong motivating force. She states that he "believed in me and saw my potential as a leader long before I realized I had it." It's clear that she had potential - her position at *Elle* serves as a reminder that she "threw [herself] full heartedly into [her] classes and the publications [she] ran."

Cairns constantly turns to the lessons he learned in high school. Doing something as simple as writing a headline incorporates elements of creative writing. He emphasizes that a bland headline won't get you anywhere, but that

something with punch, like, "Mother of three battered and bruised after rescuing kids in house fire" will.

It's clear that he is passionate about presenting to audiences. Looking back at his teenage years, he remembers that one of his hardest decisions in life was quitting the school soccer team in order to act in the school play.

Cairns is not the only one who realized what he was passionate about early on. Bailey was Co-President



Alyssa Bailey is a 2009 graduate of Centennial.

of the Fashion Club, and resonated with the personality of the *Elle* woman. She describes *Elle* as being "so ahead on trends" and as "a leader in the cultural conversation, but. . . never

pretentious." Her view of the publication she devotes so much of herself towards mirrors her own being.

Like Bailey, Bernard has always had an affinity for fashion. She relates fashion and pop culture to trends and stories beneath the surface. To her, fashion is more than a pair of polka-dot sunglasses or a little black dress, which lent itself to her experimentation with it in high school.

Though career interests may remain, personalities are constantly changing. Bailey has become much more "relaxed, resilient, resourceful, [and] confident" since her high school days.

Bernard was also a bit of a workhorse in high school. As Editor of the Vanguard section of the *Wingspan* and captain of the tennis team, she took herself more seriously than she does now.

However, all of the journalists interviewed seem to echo Cairns' belief that if "you can look in the mirror and be happy with what you are doing. . . you

should rest easy."

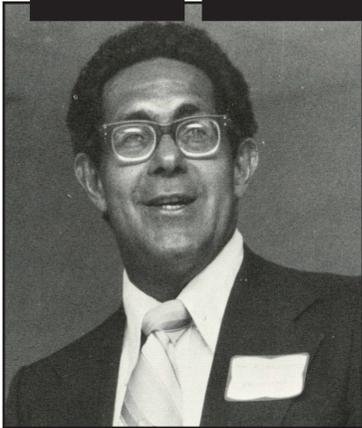
Newman similarly places a focus on contentment in life, emphasizing healthy habits. Though he tries to "[hustle] at an impressive capacity," as former mentor and NBC anchor Andrea Mitchell did, he believes that work is not everything. He states, "Work will always be there. It's important to take time for yourself. . . There's more than one way to be productive."

Journalism plays an important role in society, and Cairns recognizes this. Word by word, journalists are able to take snapshots of moments in history and change the way people think. Cairns' favorite articles to publish "tell the stories of ordinary people because at the end of the day that is what most of us relate to." He adds that his daily goal is "to be able to do something that can change the social environment around me through emotional understanding."

-Caroline Chu

Photos contributed by those featured.

LEADING



Angelo J. Fortunato
(1977-1979)



Lee Noel
(1980-1983)



Thurman Butcher
(1983-1987)



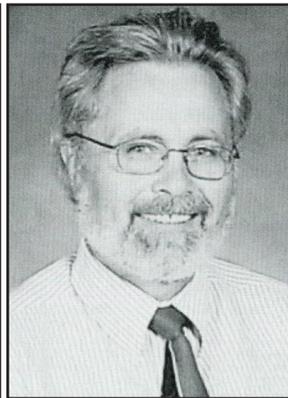
Sylvia Pattillo
(1987-1993)



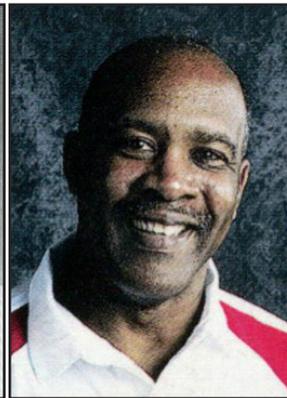
Edgar Markley
(1993-1996)



Lynda Mitic
(1996-2004)



R. Scott Pfeifer
(2004-2008)



Carl S. Perkins
(2008-2013)



Claire Hafets
(2013-Present)

10 LEGACY

HOMECOMING OR HOMELEAVING?

In August, Centennial announced that the varsity football team had been disbanded due to concern over the safety of our students and lack of players. While some students were disappointed at losing the opportunity to try out, many were panicked over something different: how this would affect the homecoming game.

When freshmen students Gabrielle Bacon and Aaliyah Atoigue were asked how they felt about changes to their first homecoming experiences,

they had mixed feelings but remained positive.

“Not having a traditional homecoming game is a bummer,” Atoigue commented, “[but] I think they gave a reasonable explanation.”

Bacon similarly stated, “I’m kind of disappointed because every other school has a varsity team but us. I don’t know if it will be as fun going to see JV because everyone likes to see varsity play.”

While these freshmen are worried about how the game change will affect the magic of their first homecoming, some seniors hold a sentimental view on the change. Senior Saraiah Khaled looked back at her past three homecoming games fondly.

“It’s definitely different, I liked having a varsity team,” she reminisced. “I feel kind of sad since it’s my last homecoming and there’s no varsity

game to look forward to, but at least we have a game.”

No matter what happens on October 13, the homecoming carnival and activities are still scheduled on the eve of the big dance.

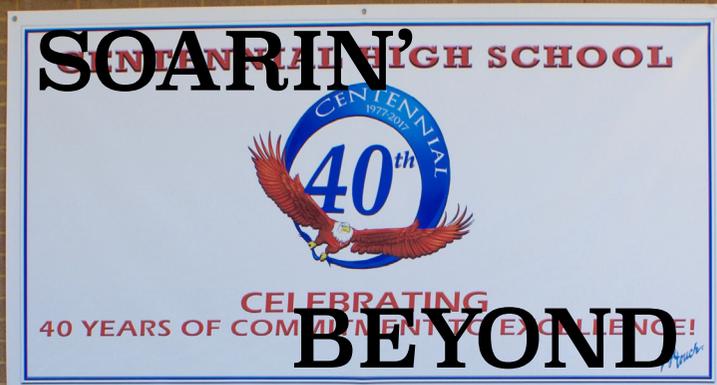
As Atoigue optimistically looks forward to her first homecoming, she stated, “In the end, this doesn’t change my mood at all. I still can’t wait to go to homecoming this year.”

-Lisa Kerr

CENTENNIAL HIGH SCHOOL

This year is Centennial’s 40th year anniversary. The history of Centennial not only highlights the amazing things students throughout the years have accomplished, but also how far we have come as a student body within our classrooms and communities.

According to Claire Hafets, Centennial is proud to rep the title of #1 in Howard County for SAT scores as of 2016, with five students even receiving perfect scores. With our students’ ambition and love of academic rigor, it is no surprise that according to *U.S. Newsweek*, we are ranked the 10th best public school in Maryland and more students take AP tests than any other school in the county. Centennial has also graduated recipients of the \$20,000 Coca Cola Scholars Award, a U.S Prep Scholar, and 14 merit scholars.



With all of this said, it’s a great honor to say that for the past four consecutive years, 99% of our students have attended college and continue to show the world what Centennial prepared them for.

We also can’t forget about Centennial’s clubs that have always been dedicated to allowing students to engage in something they passionately care about. For example, introduced to Centennial over 20 years ago, Centennial’s Future Business Leaders of America

club has continuously proven their dedication to business careers and ventures. Their success is well known within the FBLA community as they have consistently passed the regional conference stage and made it to the state level, a feat that only seven Maryland schools achieve each year.

Who could forget our amazing sports teams? Anyone who has ever attended a Centennial sporting event has definitely heard our school

spirit echoing from the fans in the bleachers as they cheer on our outstanding JV and varsity teams. For example, Centennial’s girls’ and boys’ basketball teams are known for their perseverance and dedication to doing their best each game. Through making it to the state tournaments and finals several times and even reaching the final four round in 2010, both teams have proven their refusal to be thrown off the court and continuing love for the sport.

Through our students’ legacies, it’s clear that over the past 40 years we have worked hard to excel in everything we do and look forward to the greater achievements that our students continue to strive towards!

-Lisa Kerr

EXCELLENCE

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

REGIONAL TITLES:

1977

1980

1990

BOYS INDOOR TRACK:

1994 2003

1997 2005

BOYS OUTDOOR TRACK:

1980 1993

1988 1994

1990

FOOTBALL

REGIONAL TITLE:

1980

FIELD HOCKEY

STATE TITLE:

1995

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

STATE TITLES:

1990

2013

2015

GIRLS INDOOR TRACK:

1988

1989

GIRLS OUTDOOR TRACK:

1988

1989



SOCCER

BOYS STATE TITLES:

1983 1992

1988 1994

1991 1995

GIRLS STATE TITLES:

1988 1998

1995 2001

BASKETBALL

BOYS STATE TITLE:

2015

GIRLS STATE TITLE:

1981

LACROSSE

BOYS STATE TITLES:

1980

1981

1998 2002

2004

2005

GIRLS REGIONAL TITLES:

1990

2008

THROUGH THE YEARS

GOLF

BOYS REGIONAL TITLES:

1979	1990
1980	1991
1981	1992
1988	2006
1989	2007

GIRLS REGIONAL TITLES:

2008
2009

TENNIS

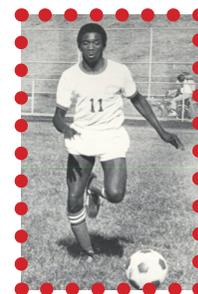
REGIONAL TITLES:

1988
1996
1997

WRESTLING

STATE TITLES:

1981 (TEAM STATE CHAMPIONSHIP)
TED LEWIS: 1980, 105 LBS.;
1981, 119 LBS.
RONNIE FLETCHER: 1981, 126
LBS.
CLIFF KRAISSER: 1983, 119 LBS.
JOON KIM: 1995, 189 LBS.
DAVE NAKASONE: 2002, 140 LBS.;
2003, 152 LBS.
MARK NAKASONE: 2003, 145 LBS.
NATHAN KRAISSER: 2009, 103
LBS.; 2010, 112 LBS.; 2011, 125
LBS.; 2012, 126 LBS.
AUSTIN KRAISSER: 2014, 145
LBS.; 2015, 152 LBS; 2016, 160
LBS
JASON KRAISSER: 2016, 132 LBS.,
2017, 138 LBS.



BASEBALL

STATE TITLES:

2001
2004

SOFTBALL

REGIONAL TITLES:

1980	1989
1982	1992
1985	1993
1986	

GYMNASTICS

STATE TITLES:

1987
1988

VOLLEYBALL

STATE TITLES:

1989	1998
1991	1999
1992	2000
1993	2004
1994	2005
1996	2006
1997	2008

SENIOR OF



Kassí Kamal

"Life has a way of finding you exactly what you need"

Intended major:

Biology

Nickname: K \$

Favorite Band: One Direction </3

Favorite Meme:

Confused Mr. Krabs (represents me)

Spirit animal: Unicorn

Anything else? My fish died recently 9/20/17 R.I.P.



Brandon Boone

"I hate when people confuse me with Channing-Tatum"

Favorite Band: I

don't really listen to much music so I'm just going to say BTS for all those KPop fans out there

Favorite Meme: Every Spongebob meme

Hero: Colossus (the big metal dude)

If your life was a movie who would play you? A bootleg Jaden Smith crossed with Seth Rogen Shark or dolphin?

Dolphin any time of the day



Isabel Trojillo

"Today's a gift, that's why they call it present"

Intended career: Physician's assistant

Favorite Movie: *Insidious 1 and Insidious 2*

Favorite Actor: Evan Peters

Hero: Grandmother

Dream vacation: Italy

THE MONTH



Alex Keppler

"Is that your mom?"

Intended major:
Business
Nickname: Kepptastic
Favorite movie: The
Boss Baby
Favorite meme: The
mice
Hero: Leonardo
DiCaprio
If you could go back
in time, what decade
would you live in?
1900s back with my
brothers



Leah Bicknell

"Can I"

Intended major:
Occupational Therapist
Nickname: Binky
Dream vacation: Fiji
Favorite Meme: I am con-
fusion
Hero: Alex Keppler

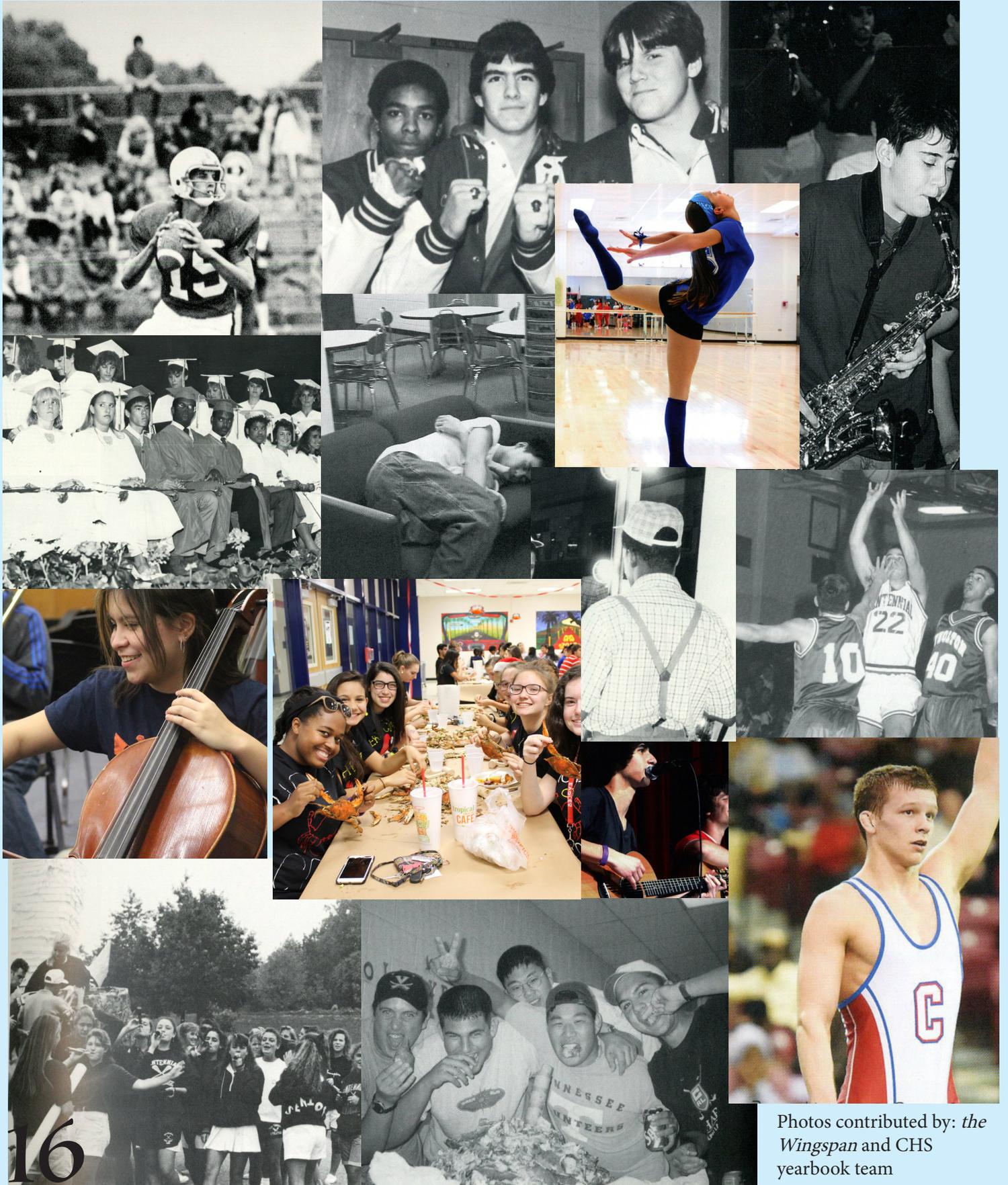


Dillon Glyder

"Kinda have to"

Intended major: couldn't
tell you
Nickname: Big Dilly
Favorite Movie: Ride Along
Favorite Meme: Cat crying
emoji
Spirit animal: Donkey
If you could go back in
time, what decade would
you live in? Cavemen
Anything else? Yozuuí

40 IN PHOTOS



Photos contributed by: *the Wingspan* and CHS yearbook team



CHS HAS SPIRIT

Photos by: Laila Abu-Ghaida and Zach Grable

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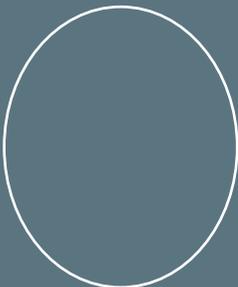
In Memoriam...



*Dr. Angelo Fortunato
1980*



*Daniel Day Rose
2003*



*Linda Leaird Ittner
1986
(not pictured)*



*Benjamin Vassiliev
2003*



*Caleb "Cal" Timney
1988*



*Debbie Hughes
2003*



*Alex Waters
1989*



*Emily Davis
2004*



*Roger Crawley
1997*



*Calvin M. Johnson
2006*

Always the legacy... never forgotten



*Brittany D. Phenicie
2006*



*Casey Spence
2009*



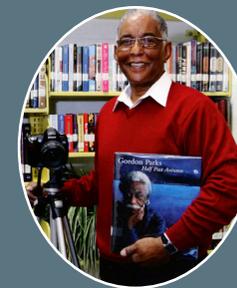
*Matt Watson
2007*



*Chuck Sands
2009*



*Michael Hsu
2007*



*Dave Barnett
2010*



*Michael Kelly
2007*



*Zach Lederer
2014*



*Katrina "Kara" Tagget
2009*



*John "Doc" Costantini
2017*

The Story of Us

The life of student immigrants

According to the United States Census Bureau, 42.4 million immigrants are living in the United States as of 2014. Many immigrants can be found living in Ellicott City, Maryland, and attending Centennial High School, which is known for having a large South Korean presence.

Ximena Diaz, a junior, moved to the United States in 2013 from San Luis Potosi, Mexico, which she described as violent. Criminals would stop people on the roads and steal their cars, sometimes murdering the drivers of the cars in order to do so. Girls

would disappear and would never be heard from again.

Though she was saddened to leave most of her family and her closest friends behind, Diaz realized that she and her mother needed to leave for their own safety. She states that she “could no longer truly enjoy these types of benefits without feeling scared of

what could happen.”

Fleeing conflict has become an increasingly common reason for immigration. The United Nations Refugee Agency states that 65.6 million people around the world are currently forcefully displaced, with 55% of refugees hailing

Senior Yubin Lee, who is originally from South Korea and who moved to the United States when she was 10, has had a similar experience.

In South Korea, Lee stated that she was tutored in English, and that she went to math, science, art, and

many choose to immigrate to Howard County, Maryland. The Howard County Public School System was ranked the #1 Best School District in Maryland at the end of last year by Niche.com, a national education and community analysis firm.

Though the United States has an accessible public education system and is known as the melting pot of the world, which Diaz believes makes it “a diverse and beautiful place,” American citizens or American residents who hail from other countries are not always



from South Sudan, Afghanistan, and Syria.

Not all was negative in Mexico for Diaz: she lived in a nice house, attended private schools where both Spanish and English were taught, and took violin lessons. Her father was an engineer and her mother was a teacher, so it's logical that education was placed at a high level of importance in Diaz's household.

from South Sudan, Afghanistan, and Syria. Not all was negative in Mexico for Diaz: she lived in a nice house, attended private schools where both Spanish and English were taught, and took violin lessons. Her father was an engineer and her mother was a teacher, so it's logical that education was placed at a high level of importance in Diaz's household.

piano classes after school. She comments that she was “surprised during my first week of elementary school when no one had tutors or academic after-school activities. In Korea, because many parents feel that school education is inadequate for their children, they often send their children to subject-specific academies.”

It makes sense that so

subject to the best treatment. Diaz states that she has faced “comments about my accent, [people asking] if I am illegal, and racist jokes about Mexicans right in front of me.”

What some do not realize is that human beings, no matter what place they call home, share more similarities than differences. For example, everyone likes food. One can infer what



Diaz misses the most about her native country. It's the food.

Muhammad Arsalan, a junior who moved to the United States from Pakistan in 2013, feels the same way. When asked about what he missed most about Pakistan, he responded via email "the FOOD," capitalized and all.

Lee shared a similar story, as she remarks that she not only misses her family and widespread, safe public transportation, but also the street food of the crowded walkways of South Korea.

Even something as mundane as food, which may differentiate countries in terms of smell, or spices or ingredients used, has the ability to tie people together.

The League of Kitchens,

a New York City-based organization described as an "immersive culinary adventure," provides immigrant-led cooking lessons for New Yorkers. The immigrant chefs cook ethnic meals in their own homes, and people show up to learn from them.



The League of Kitchens has provided an area for American-born citizens to

realize that most immigrants "just want to have an opportunity at a better future like everyone else," which Diaz believes.

Immigrants still face some cultural adjustment; moving across the globe is not an easy task. Coming from a majority Muslim country, it was strange for Arsalan to see the difference in dress between Pakistani and American women. The concept of private space is much more strict here than it was in Pakistan, and the level of respect for elders was much stronger in Pakistan than it is in the United States.

Adjusting to different styles of clothing, however, is not as much of a struggle as the language barrier.

Lee says that she couldn't "speak a word" when she first moved to the United

States, even with the benefit of having been tutored in English.

In addition to language, a strong sense of community may be lost for immigrants. Arsalan misses having Muslim religious events widely celebrated, and after moving he felt as though "bonding with others sometimes seemed hard." Lee also remembers that it was hard to interact with new people - her shyness got in the way of making friends.

However, like Diaz, Arsalan is happy to have moved, and takes a positive outlook on making the most out of your situation, stating that "one has the power to make [immigrating] better or worse."

Lee sees immigration as a completely positive concept. "Ironically, the diversity that exists in [the United States] both unites and empowers its citizens. Through this unique environment, we as one learn to pay respect to other cultures and to hold pride in our own heritage."

-Caroline Chu

STRESS IN *College*

With the start of every school year, academic stress tends to pile up quickly for students at Centennial. One grade in particular usually faces more stress than the others: seniors. Since many college applications have deadlines within the first semester of school, the class of 2018 is already scrambling to fill out their Common Application, take and send in their final SAT or ACT scores, cram in as many AP classes into their schedule as possible, get letters of rec-

ommendation from teachers, and keep their grades and hopes up to get into their dream schools. Stress is more than common for seniors preparing for their futures. With so many things to do and so little time, it can be extremely hard to balance everything at once.

Some seniors already finished their applications during the summer and are only working on revisions now; other students, however, still aren't even sure where to start. Seeing all

of their friends and classmates motivated on their applications can cause them to feel like they have to be motivated too, but they may have no clue what to do or what to write their essay on. This can lead these students to feel even more stressed, since they feel far behind others.

Charissa Zhu started filling out the personal information sections of her college applications earlier this summer. "As of now, I only have very rough drafts for the written portions of my apps.... Having apps is kind of like taking an eighth class, but as with any other course, you have to split it into chunks and try to do it every or every other day."

Zhu is looking forward to life after college apps. "After I'm done with my apps, the main thing I'm looking forward to is having more free time and less things to care about. I have a lot of books I want to read and places I want to go!"

Ethan Steuernagle has been a bit more relaxed about the process thus far. "I plan on starting as soon as I can locate my work ethic, which is hopefully tomorrow," he joked when

HOW SENIORS ARE HANDLING THE WEIGHT OF COLLEGE APPS



Charissa Zhu writes ideas for senior essays.



Ethan Steuernagle works on senior coursework.

asked if he had begun. "I'd advise students to just keep in mind this is just another chapter of your life- it has a beginning, but more importantly, it has an end. Remember to at least try and keep things in perspective. There's a lot to life beyond high school grades," he said.

Photos and words by:
Laila Abu-Ghaida

CHANGING TRADITION

Centennial disbands varsity program for '17-'18 season

On the 40th year celebration at Centennial High School, the Eagles football staff and athletes were faced with a very tough decision: this year will be the first year without a varsity football team, forcing this year's seniors to either mentor the JV football team or not play football at all. Juniors were able to play this year alongside incoming freshmen and sophomores on the JV team.

The Eagles have three seniors mentoring the team: Cameron Martin, Kevin Zhang, and Ryan Donohue. For seniors especially, it is very disappointing to not be



able to play in their last year of football. Martin said, "I've been playing since my freshman year and I wanted to finish my high school career with a great season, but it just couldn't happen."

With the news of not

having a team quickly spreading, other JV teams must be prepared to face players that are one or two years older than them. Last year's varsity team went 1-9 having their first win in two seasons over Hammond High School. With last year's roster being very small with many seniors on the team, this year's team looks to increase the size of the roster.

The decision to disband the Varsity football team leaves the question, what's next?

If all the JV players stay on the team, there is a strong possibility there will be enough men to field a team next year.

Centennial senior, and former Varsity football standout player Corey Eudell said, "I think we should try to recruit kids in the school to come out and commit to the team and the program," adding, "The people who play this year need to make sure they come out again next year and serve as role models and leaders so Centennial High School will never be without a varsity team again."

Football is a game loved by many, especially those at Centennial High School. Students, staff, and coaches want football back at Centennial High School to regain the sense of community and teamwork, but more importantly, get a winning team back.

-Josh Horen



Photos by: Zach Grable

Thank you for the new cameras,
 Boosters and PTSA!
 - '17-'18 Wingspan team



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