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the wingspan

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My Path, Our Legacy



Piper Berry (left) and Ashley Berry (right) hold copies of the Wingspan they produced when they were Editor-in-Chief. Photo contributed by: Piper Berry

I remember the first time I stepped foot in the journalism room. A wide-eyed sophomore with a lot to learn and the hope of living up to the expectations her older sister left behind.

I remember the infamous legacy speech that our teacher, Rus VanWestervelt, delivered passionately on the first day of class, as he does year after year. He pointed to the names of all the journalism alumni painted across the walls of the room. He talked about where some of them are now and what they contributed to the Wingspan publication, and he urged us

to leave our own mark on the room.

He even pointed at my sister's block: "Ashley Berry, Editor-in-Chief." I smiled as he praised her previous accomplishments, but also felt the instant pressure to live up to the bar she had set. I vowed to make my own mark on the program but to take a completely different path -- and that I did.

My sister distinguished herself through her writing and design and is now pursuing a degree in Motion Graphics and Creative Technologies at Virginia Tech. Writing, however, is not my

forte, so I began my path in marketing. By junior year, my organizational skills landed me the role of Managing Editor, where I was able to rise to the challenge of organizing the complicated machine behind Centennial journalism. Under the guidance of former Editor-in-Chief Maddie Wirebach and advisor VanWestervelt, I implemented a system of organization that I hope will remain for years to come.

Senior year, I excitedly stepped into the role of Editor-in-Chief, ready for the challenge. Unbeknownst to many, this editorial is my

first, and last, piece of writing to be published in the Wingspan print magazine. A strange legacy, for sure, but one I relish. Undeterred by my aversion to writing, I poured my heart and soul into every issue we published: creating the ladder, reading and revising every article numerous times, and tweaking each and every design, so each publication was as cohesive as possible. That is something that I will always be proud of.

Despite my plan to forge a distinct path from my sister, I ironically ended up in the exact same role, and the

“Our legacy will be the work that we have done, the publications we have produced, and how we adapted during an unanticipated crisis”

similarities don't end there. There were many, albeit different, challenges each of us had to overcome and aspects of the publication we wanted to change. I can confidently say that Wingspan was a class that challenged both of us in ways we never expected.

Just as this year's team was nearing the finish line, the COVID-19 pandemic reared its ugly head and forced the nation, including the Wingspan team, to completely re-vamp how we do things. Selfishly, I was angry. Why did this have to happen to us senior year? We not only have one of the largest Wingspan staff and editorial teams of all time, but this is our advisor's last year with the program. VanWestervelt, a Centennial journalism legend, will be stepping down at the end of the year, and our amazing team deserves a better ending. I soon realized, howev-

er, that we all need to have a more optimistic outlook and recognize that this situation gives us the opportunity to accomplish something unexpected, despite the circumstances.

Publishing our senior issue amid this global pandemic may be the biggest challenge we have ever faced, but nothing worthwhile ever comes easy.

Our team may not end on a traditional Senior Issue, but that does not mean we will be forgotten. Our legacy will be the work that we have done, the publications we have produced, and how we adapted during an unanticipated crisis. Whether virtual or in print, I am proud of everything we have accomplished. In years to come, I may not have pictures of prom or graduation to look back on, but I can always look at this senior issue with pride.

While I may have stepped into that journalism room my sophomore year scared to death that I would not live up to my sister's legacy, I finish my senior year proud of what our publication has accomplished and how I was able to forge my own path. While my name and those of all Wingspan's seniors may not be painted on the walls of the journalism room like all those before us, we have still made our mark and adapted to an ever-changing world in ways we never thought possible.

-Piper Berry

the wingspan

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SENIOR WINGSPAN STUDENTS POSE IN COLLEGE APPAREL.

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Senior Athletes Reflect on Canceled Spring Season



The Centennial Dugout remains empty after the cancellation of spring sports. Photo by: Sara Ferrara

The sports world has gone on hold due to the coronavirus pandemic as athletic seasons have prematurely come to an end. For the class of 2020 and its spring athletes, their last season of high school sports has been stripped away from them.

The start of the regular season was just around the corner for high school spring sports teams when the coronavirus began affecting daily life. Programs filled out their rosters, players began practice, and coaches started strategizing for upcoming scrimmages and games.

However, the Maryland public school closure, which started on March 12, put a temporary hold on the season. Since then, schools

have yet to be reopened and all athletic events were cancelled for the remainder of the year, according to a state mandate issued by Maryland Superintendent Karen Salmon on April 28.

In an instant, what once promised to be the highlight of their high school athletic career became a source of sadness and disappointment for the senior athletes. They had to come to the painful realization that they would be unable to enjoy those final moments on the field.

“It has been extremely devastating to not be able to play since this was my last season,” said senior softball player Sarah Phelps. “I have been playing softball for 10 years now and I was really

looking forward to my senior season.”

Phelps was a part of the Centennial softball program for all four years. It is an unfortunate end for these athletes who have spent countless hours working hard to get better at their sport.

“I definitely miss my team and coaches the most. No matter what, they always made practices fun and we all had really good chemistry,” said Phelps.

Many questions still burden the senior athletes during this confusing time: What if they had their chance to play? What now?

But hope still remains within the student athletes that some part of the season could be salvaged by playing

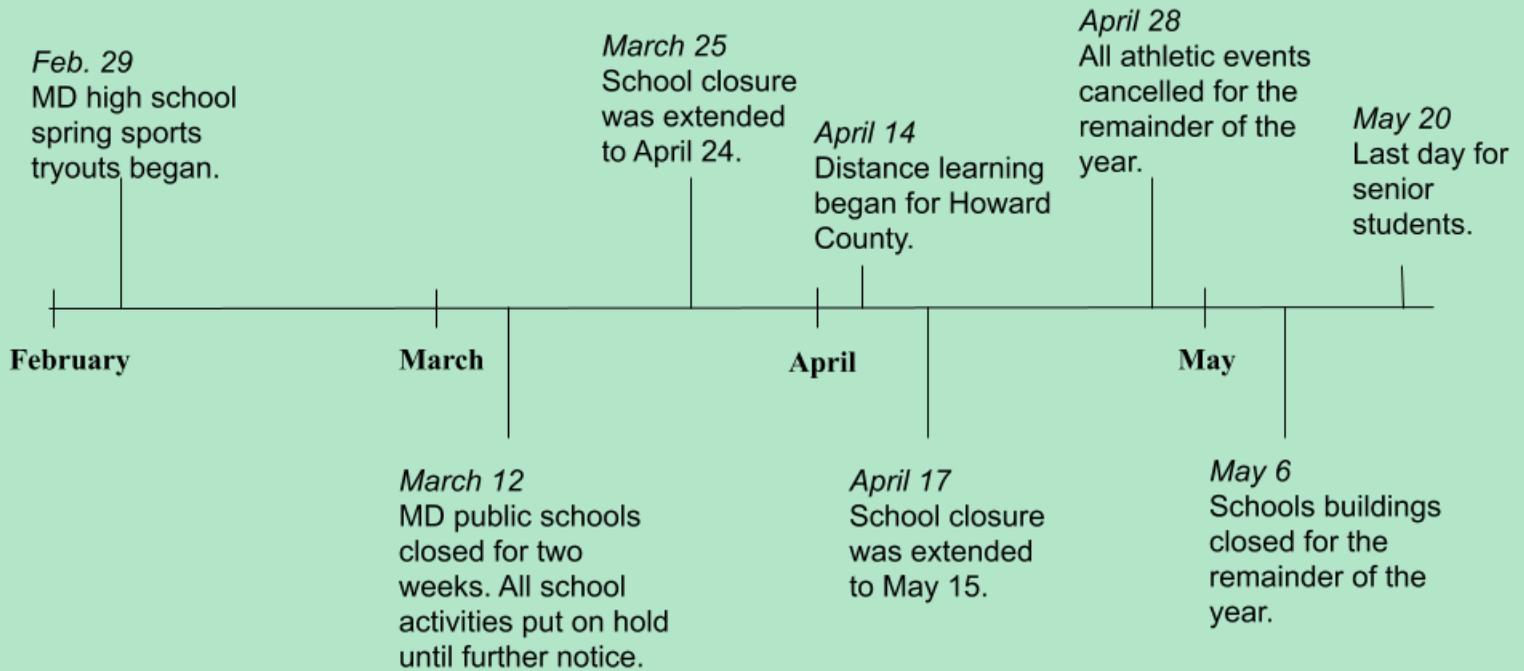
in the summer.

“I would love to get another opportunity to play with my teammates this summer for a short season. It would give us some closure to the sports we [seniors] have dedicated so much time to,” said senior lacrosse player Darian Avery.

Spring sports tryouts and practices originally began February 29, and the first game of the regular season was scheduled to be March 20.

“It’s been a bummer not to play. Looking at the calendar on certain days knowing you’d be having a game can be upsetting. It has made me really reflect and be grateful for the time I did have though,” stated Avery.

Coronavirus Timeline



Although the season has been cancelled, the spring athletes are dedicated to keeping themselves fit during the time off, especially those who are playing at the next level in college.

Senior Zack Steen was primed to have another successful baseball season for the Eagles after being named to the all-county second team his junior year. Starting in the fall, Steen will begin his college baseball career at Bloomsburg University.

“I have [started] a training and throwing program just recently that will keep me in shape until I go off to college,” said Steen.

Another spring athlete continuing her sport in college is senior Gigi Cas-

tle-Smith. During her time in high school, Castle-Smith was a three-sport athlete competing in soccer, basketball, and track and field. This fall, she will be attending St. Mary’s College of Maryland to play soccer.

Castle-Smith used track and field as a way to compete and stay in shape during the spring, but she has found alternative ways at home to prepare for her upcoming college season.

“I have an independent development calendar [from my college coach] where I put in different workouts per week with different focuses each day,” Castle-Smith explained. “[The workout plan] gives us a structured workout template, but also the

freedom to put in goals and focus on what we [personally] need to achieve.”

Another consequence of the season being cancelled is that Centennial will not be able to celebrate the accomplishments of the athletes through in-person events such as senior night. The school has already taken steps to honor them virtually.

Over the last few weeks, the Centennial Athletics Twitter account has created the “senior spotlight” as a way to recognize the commitment the senior athletes have made to their programs over the years. In addition, teams have placed signs in the yards of the senior athletes to honor them.

Centennial’s newsmag-

azine, *The Wingspan*, has also recognized the senior athletes by dedicating a new page to them on their online website called the “CHS Senior Athletes in the Spotlight: Spring 2020.”

Unfortunately, the health and school officials deemed the cancellation necessary in order to protect the players and the community. Despite the devastating end to the year for the senior athletes, they have made the Centennial community proud throughout their high school sports careers and their accomplishments will not be forgotten.

-Joey Sedlacko

Suiting Up: Hebron and Centennial Raise \$50,000 in Fight Against Cancer

During the hard times that everyone is facing due to COVID-19, high school sports rivals Centennial and Mount Hebron joined together to help spread awareness for related causes. The Varsity boys' lacrosse teams from both schools came up with creative ways to honor lost students: Evan Nicholson from Hebron and Zachary Lederer from Centennial. Both students lost their battles to cancer.

Under normal circumstances, Centennial would host a 3v3 basketball tournament as they do every year, which takes place during Eagle Time over the course of 3-4 weeks. Similarly, Hebron has hosted a lacrosse tournament every year during spring break. Both events raise money for cancer patients who can't afford proper treatment.

The idea to team up originated from Hebron lacrosse coach, Mike McCarthy, who contacted Centennial's lacrosse coach, Ken Senisi, when it was announced schools were being closed due to COVID-19. The original plan was simply for each team to make promotion-

al videos, encouraging people to donate to their go-fund me. Whichever school received more donations would win. As the players became more involved, they developed more inclusive ways to spread the word of the fundraiser.

The first strategy that the Hebron team thought of with was the #SUITUP challenge. Players would suit up for something they're missing out on in quarantine, like a sport, and post a photo on their Instagram story. In this post they would shout-out a loved one who is battling or has battled cancer, and nominate three friends to do the same. It started to spread throughout the two schools, and eventually, all across Howard County. This caused donations to skyrocket.

But the players weren't quite satisfied. To give their fellow students even more of an incentive, they started doing Instagram live streams which featured the players from each team shaving their heads. Through this, they were able to collectively raise over \$50,000.

"When we first started this,

the goal for both high schools was to raise \$5,000 each," Senisi said, surprised by how much they were able to surpass that.

All of the funds went to the Zaching Against Cancer Foundation (ZACF), making up for the money they couldn't raise due to the cancellation of their annual gala.

While the fundraiser was a competition between the rival schools, it was a lot more than that to the players.

"It was never about just competition," expressed senior lacrosse player Connor Carpenter. "It was about finding good in a time of uncertainty and trying to do good in our communities."

Carpenter also praised his fellow teammates, particularly the other captains on the team, saying, "We could not have had all the success we did if not for the help from Zach Grable, Shawn Kruhm, Kieran Senisi, and Ty Sams."

Carpenter is not the only one to recognize the hard work that the players put in.

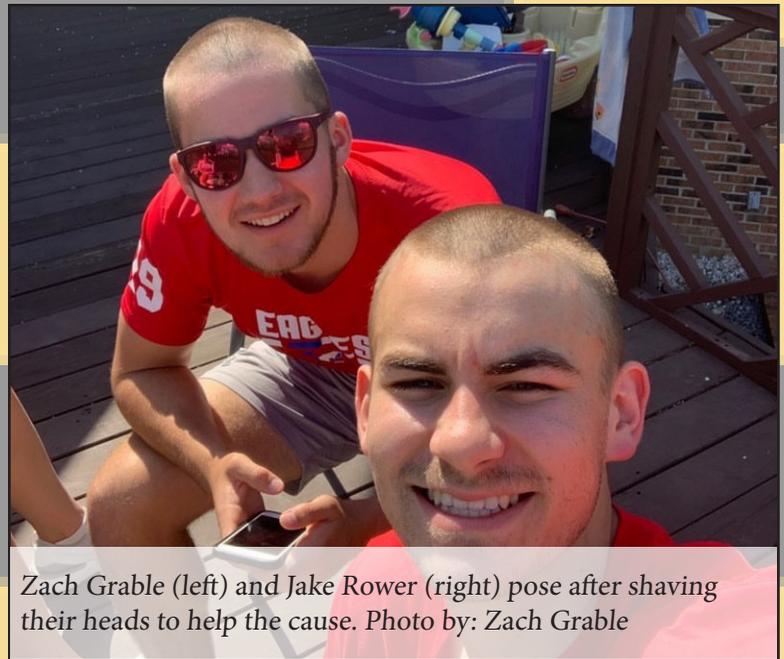
"The teamwork and competitive spirit that both schools

and communities showed was very awe-inspiring," McCarthy stated. "I am so honored and humbled by the generosity and school pride that both of our communities showed over the past few weeks."

Both McCarthy and Senisi expressed their pride in the hard work of their players who kept their heads held high during uncertain times to support a good cause.

"I'm just so proud of them," Senisi said. "For being able to support Zach and this unbelievable organization (ZACF)."

-Joey Sedlacko



Zach Grable (left) and Jake Rower (right) pose after shaving their heads to help the cause. Photo by: Zach Grable

A Friendship Beyond School Walls

A nearly two-month-long quarantine has casted a chaotic spell over the finality of senior year. Friends who normally see each other every day are now required to follow distancing rules for safety purposes. They can't sit next to each other in class, go to prom, walk side by side, or even hug. Despite this rift, strong friendships can never be severed. And at Centennial, two very unique young women are a tremendous example of this.

Allison Vanisko and Catherine Gilbert were nominated for the senior superlative "Dynamic Duo." Though they didn't win, they still made history. They were the first nominated duo including a student in the Academic Life Skills class.

Gilbert has Down Syndrome, where a person's 21st chromosome is altered or includes a third replication. She and Vanisko have grown up together, having been best friends for almost nine years.

"We first met at Veterans Elementary School in the fifth grade," said Gilbert. They grew close in a P.E. class that year.

Being friends for so long, they've found many activities that they love doing that allow them to stay close.

"We have been playing games and having pizza, [going to] the pool, and working together

during cheerleading," Gilbert said as she smiled.

Vanisko has been coaching cheerleading since she was in sixth grade. She also shared that Catherine has always been her best friend at school, so it was natural to stick together. "The activities we do outside of school really help build our friendship." She later added another key fact of their relationship: "Catherine is amazing at knowing song titles and artists. I call her my walking Shazam."

As time passed, the girls grew even more tightly knit, and their peers and community took notice.

When they were nominated for Dynamic Duo, Gilbert said she was overjoyed.

"I was happy! [Allison] is a very nice girl," she said.

For Vanisko, their nomination and the votes they received meant something even bigger. Ableism throughout history has created a strong divide in the school system and in society. But to many, this was a huge step forward.

"It meant that our peers saw our friendship was the same as their friendships," Vanisko said.

Despite everything, not even quarantine or COVID-19 can break them apart. They've been keeping in touch since this strange new way of life began.

"The lockdown order was



Catherine Gilbert (left) and Allison Vanisko (right) pose for a photo. Photo contributed by: Allison Vanisko

two days before Catherine's birthday," Vanisko began with a smile. "So I surprised her at her house with a gift and a cake and we had to talk through the window."

Not only that, but the two also attended virtual prom on April 25. Both girls were looking forward to getting dressed up to dance together over a video call.

With senior year coming to an end, neither Gilbert nor Vanisko is fazed by the thought of being at different schools next year.

"We're going to stay in touch," said Gilbert, "and I'll go to her school and have lunch when she's in college."

Along the same lines, Vanisko added, "I was thinking that when I'm at Towson, [Gilbert] can come visit me for a day... and one day I'll visit Centennial."

During the interview, they

also promised even more FaceTime calls and days to visit each other, play around together, and even swim in the summer. It's clear that some bonds can't be broken, and the connection between longtime friends like Vanisko and Gilbert are no exception.

-Emily Hollwedel

Wheeler Says Goodbye with the Class of 2020

Not much happens inside Thomas Wheeler's classroom anymore. There is no teacher and there are no students. Within its walls, papers are no longer written, books are no longer read, and teaching no longer takes place. In all likelihood, these things will never come back— not to Wheeler's classroom at Centennial High School at least.

Despite this uncertain future and surreal present, Wheeler's classroom still holds reminders of the buzzing students and the brilliant teacher who once called it home. Still there, locked in his room for the past two months of the state-mandated school closure, remain a dead bouquet of flowers and a likely deflated set of balloons. Centennial gave him the gifts to congratulate him on winning this year's Teacher of the Year award— long before his classroom fell silent. The winner of the prestigious award is chosen each year by Centennial's senior class through an initial round of nominations and a final round of voting. Although they had no way of knowing it when they chose him as Teacher of the Year, recent events have created a special connection between Wheeler and this year's seniors, truly making him the Class of 2020's teacher.

Wheeler did not expect to win. After the nominations round, Centennial invited Wheeler and the seven other Teacher of the Year finalists to



Thomas Wheeler proudly poses with his Centennial Eagles yard sign. Photos contributed by: Thomas Wheeler

a breakfast where the winner would be announced.

"It was really pretty much up for anyone," Wheeler recalled. "The list of the teachers that were going to that breakfast was a very strong list. A lot of people I admire."

At the breakfast, he felt like the odd man out amidst the "pretty high-powered offense" of teachers around him. Wheeler, however, seemed to underestimate himself. Soon after, they announced him as Centennial's 2020 Teacher of the Year, a moment he described as "an incredible feeling."

For Wheeler, the award val-

idates his experience in an incredibly subjective field. The nature of a teacher's job makes it difficult for them to gauge their true impact on students.

"There are just days where you don't know if you're doing your job as effectively as you can be," he remarked, adding that, "I know that [all teachers] feel that way at certain points."

As a result, being selected Teacher of the Year by his own students means so much to Wheeler.

"It makes me feel like I am in the right position," he said, "I'm doing the right things even if it doesn't always appear that way."

Unfortunately for Wheeler, the incredible feeling of winning Teacher of the Year would soon be interrupted. On Monday, February 24, only two days after the Friday award breakfast, he received important news of a very different nature.

That Monday, many Centennial teachers were informed that they would be transferred following the 2019-20 school year. A smaller student population and larger maximum class sizes next year meant that some teachers would have to be moved elsewhere in the county, according to seniority. Having only worked in the school system for five years, Wheeler was one of them.

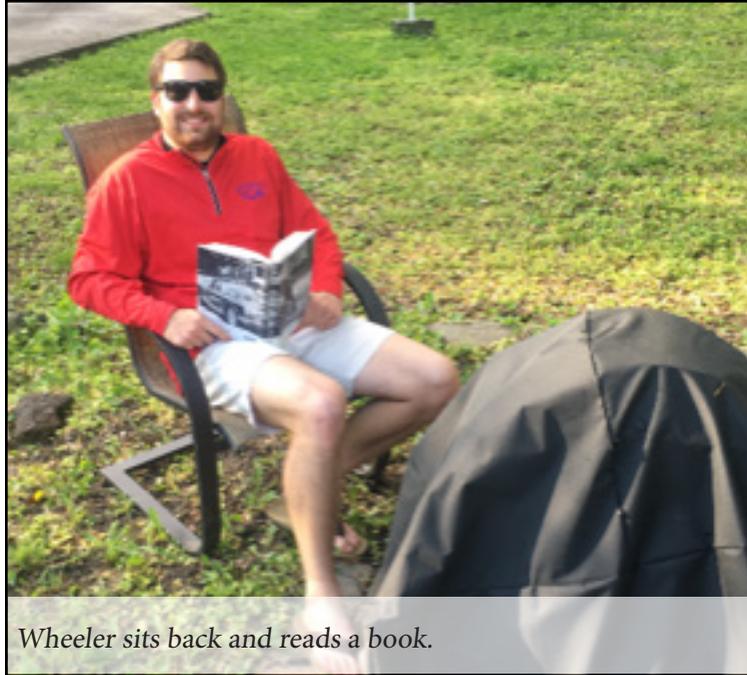
"I had a feeling it was coming but it still hurts [in the moment]," recalled Wheeler.

Wherever he is transferred to, he knows he will be leaving the students and fellow teachers he has grown close to over his four and a half years at Centennial. For a people-oriented person like Wheeler, that's the hardest part.

"It's such a people business," reflected Wheeler on teaching, "if you're not in it for the connections then you shouldn't be in it at all, that's really what the job comes down to."

He points out that, this year, he has finally taught students from every grade level at Centennial. Standing in the English hallway between classes, he was "waving all day" at students he knew.

“It feels kind of nice in the sense that the same class that I came in with, the same class that voted me Teacher of the Year, we all get to go out at the same time.”



Wheeler sits back and reads a book.

“Now I don’t have that anymore,” he said. “I’m going to have to go back to square one... of just knowing very few people in the hall.”

The relationships Wheeler has formed with many teachers, especially within the English department, will also make it difficult to leave.

“These are legitimate friends, they’re not just coworkers. These are my family members at this point and I’ve got to say good-bye to them too.”

If there’s one saving grace for Wheeler amidst the difficulties of the transfer, it’s the timing of it all. Although Wheeler began teaching at Centennial midway through the 2015-16 school year, he feels like he really started in the 2016-17 school year. That was his first time ever teaching the same group of kids for an entire year. That group, then entirely freshmen, are now seniors.

“Now I’m ok with it,” he says, “it feels kind of nice in the sense that the same class that I came in with, the same class that voted me as Teacher of the Year, we all get to go out at the same time.”

This connection between Wheeler and the Class of 2020 grew even stronger, albeit for an unfortunate reason, with the arrival of the coronavirus pandemic and the resulting state-mandate school closure. As the days since Friday, March 13 turned into weeks, it became clear that students and staff would not be returning to Centennial this school year. For those leaving like Wheeler and the senior class, that meant never returning.

“It makes [saying good-bye] downright awful,” Wheeler sums up matter-of-factly. When a student reached out to him regarding the transfer news, he pointed to a quote from *The Office* to describe the hardest part of the whole situation.

“I wish there was a way to know you were in the good old days,” reflected character Andy Bernard in the show’s finale, “before you actually left them.”

To this end, Wheeler realizes that there are people he’ll never see again with the closure now extended through the remainder of the school year. He views the situation as even worse for seniors, who may never see

some of their classmates again. It’s this lack of closure, both for him and the senior class, which stings the most.

He laments that, “It feels like we both got robbed of what would’ve been a great end of the year. And that will be the hardest pill to swallow when it’s all said and done.”

As Teacher of the Year, Wheeler would typically be responsible for delivering a speech at graduation. Although it will be heard through laptops and phones instead of the loudspeakers of Merriweather Post Pavilion, that speech will still happen this year.

“That was actually probably the most terrifying concept of winning Teacher of the Year and secretly I was dreading it,” Wheeler remarked.

“But,” he joked, “if [fellow English teacher John] Shambaugh can do it, how hard is it, you know?”

While his speech may not be given in the ideal setting, it will solidify the bond between Wheeler and the Class of 2020. They entered Centennial together four years ago, a group of students nervously excited

for their first year of high school and a teacher ready to welcome them into his first full-year classes. Now, after selecting him as their Teacher of the Year, they will leave together under the same unprecedented and unfortunate circumstances.

In his closing thoughts, Wheeler offered the simple reminder that, “All things come to an end.” He’s right, for the most part. A student’s journey through high school, a teacher’s time at a particular school, the trials of the coronavirus pandemic— all of these will inevitably come to an end, for better or for worse. But he’s wrong about one thing. As the chapters of our lives come and go, sometimes seemingly on a whim, the connections, relationships, and bonds we form carry on, from one chapter to the next, in the hands of no one but the people who created them.

- Caleb McClatchey

DOIN' THE WRITE THING!



LEGACY: Centennial's Own Rus VanWestervelt

In the midst of an overwhelming, frightening, and new time in everyone's lives, Rus VanWestervelt is a light. VanWestervelt has been an English teacher at Centennial High School for 18 years. He has been teaching journalism and English for 33 years total, also teaching theatre and yearbook for several years. Although, as he announced to his Wingspan classroom just a few short months ago, he will be retiring from journalism.

Dare I say, VanWestervelt is a rarity among the teaching world. His passion for students, for language, for learning, can be felt upon even his initial entrance into the classroom.

I felt this presence the first time I walked into the journalism room at the end of my freshman year. Of course, the paint covered walls and ceilings caught my eye right away; an

ode to past successes, a physical marker of legacy. Standing in the middle of the room, behind

“If there’s one thing VW loves to discuss most: legacy.”

a podium, was VanWestervelt, or as his students call him, VW (also known as V-dub).

There are moments when talking to VW where you can feel his excitement, his appreciation and genuine care for the work we are doing. If you happen to see VW in the classroom and not while he’s pushing that infamous cart through the hallways, he’s most likely in a meeting with the Wingspan team. As all Wingspan members know, you can count on VW to pull you aside at least once each day. He will excitedly share good news, or deliver bad news in the “I believe in you” tone.

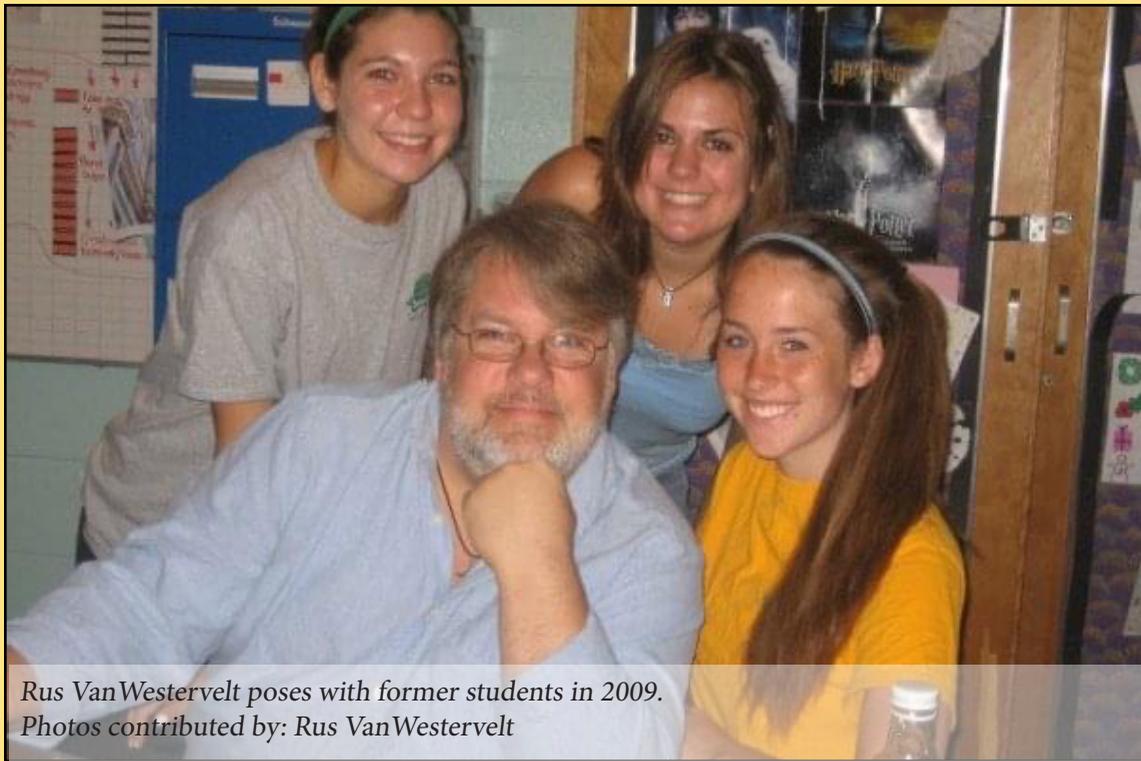
Truthfully, I’m not sure when he sleeps. I have never seen a human being create as much as I have VW. He spends hours each day absorbing what the world has to offer: reading nearly every journalistic publication known to man, crafting playlists, scribbling thoughts and ideas into his daybook, and checking in on the successes of

his past students.

If there’s one thing VW loves to discuss most: legacy. The legacy of room 701, of the students whose names are permanently painted on the wall, of the thousands of past Wingspan issues in the cupboards; the sheer energy and excitement of a working publication.

“My job, since 2003, has been to keep that room together. To keep that legacy intact. To keep people focused on what was started before I arrived,” he said. “And, I’m pretty proud that our students have done that, and that when they put their name on the wall, it’s not taken lightly by them or by me. At all.”

He is the kind of teacher to keep notes from students that graduated 40 years ago.



Rus VanWestervelt poses with former students in 2009.
Photos contributed by: Rus VanWestervelt

“Open up
that channel
to be a
human
being first”

Chances are, not only does he still know their names, but he talks to them on a regular basis. His desk and laptop are plastered with sticky notes, obscure drawings, and pencil etchings.

The passion he exudes for teaching is not just because of the material— it is the students. He is empathetic, understanding, a parental figure when one is needed, a mentor, and an inspiration. He seems to know when you are having the worst day of your life and just how to help. A coloring book, a deep breath, maybe some class meditation.

His philosophy, put simply, is compassion.

“Open up that channel to be a human being first, and then say, ‘Hey, I noticed your assignments are dropping off, we can work that out,’” VW says.

He knows when it is the best day, when you are capable of more than you can imagine. He knows your strengths and how to utilize them, and your weaknesses and how to improve them. He sees potential in ev-

eryone, no matter what side of themselves they choose to present to him in the classroom.

At the end of the 2019-20 school year, VW will no longer be teaching journalism. He

will retire from the Wingspan team, with 18 years under his belt, some 400 students, 1000 articles, and a lifetime of memories— both good and bad.

I prompted the question, what

is your most proud memory?

“The only thing that makes [moments] great, are the people who made them great, and that’s you, the students,” VW said. “It wasn’t the event itself.”

His last words as the leader of the Wingspan’s legacy are a mere marker of his humanity.

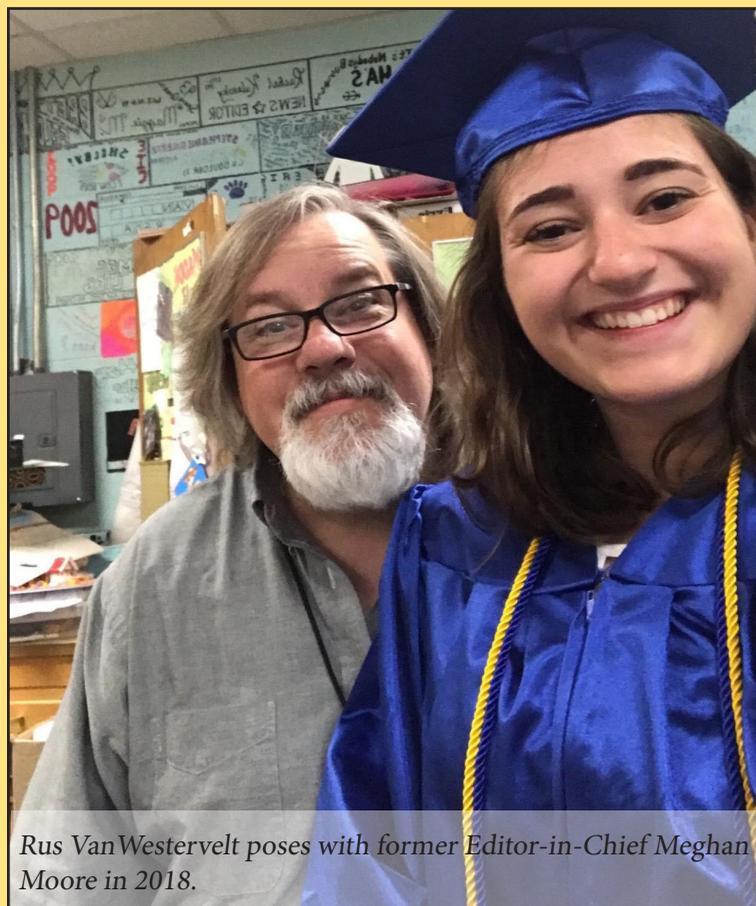
“I thank you for the honor of being a part of this experience.”

And if you haven’t already, read Fossil Five, by yours truly, Rus VanWestervelt.

The Wingspan will miss you dearly, VW. Thank you.

An aside: I don’t think any editorial could depict the true experience of a Wingspan student. It’s difficult to capture how wonderful of a teacher Rus VanWestervelt is.

- Natalie Knight-Griffin



Rus VanWestervelt poses with former Editor-in-Chief Meghan Moore in 2018.



Now Is Not The Time To Judge

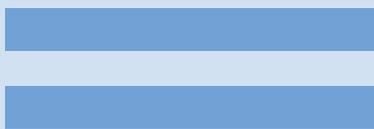
Protester in Downtown Annapolis holds up her sign. Photo contributed by: Jess Arnold from WUSA9

It's indisputable that quarantine sucks. Even celebrities hate it, so much so that very early on in quarantine, some of them decided to record themselves singing a song that denounces capitalism while in their million-dollar mansions to try and cheer people up. I, for one, haven't been too affected by the quarantine, but people who aren't looking forward to the end of this lockdown are few and far between for a multitude of reasons.

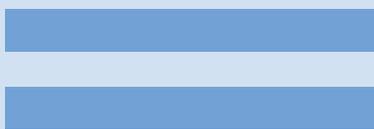
Social interaction is still possible with technology, but talking through a screen to your friends is not the same as being in the same room as them. Seniors in high school are missing out on things that many of them consider important because of the lockdown, such as prom and graduation. Some people are just sick of being confined indoors for this long. Despite all these reasons to want to end the quarantine, most people understand and accept why the quarantine is necessary.

The point of the quaran-

tine is to limit the spread of COVID-19 as much as possible, and yet some people have decided to amass in large groups



“There is nothing to be gained by villainizing other points of view.”



to try and end the quarantine. If that sounds dangerous and counter-intuitive, that's because it is. However, there is some validity to the reasons for wanting the quarantine to end. Not

everyone at those protests are people who think the virus is a hoax or that it isn't as dangerous as science says it is— some of the protesters are people who are actually being harmed by the quarantine.

Many workers are lucky enough to do their jobs from home during the quarantine, but there are many non-essential employees that cannot work from home. Many of those non-essential jobs are already low paying, and the employees end up living paycheck to paycheck.

What are you supposed to do when you were unable to afford putting money away into savings and now no longer have a source of income? The stimulus checks will help some people for a short amount of time, but \$1200 isn't a lot of money to many people in the United States.

I don't know the answer to that question. Chances are there isn't a good solution; this situation is unprecedented and there is no way to judge how

we are handling it in the moment. No one knows everything about what is going on, so we shouldn't pretend that we do.

It's easy to just look at what others are doing and say they are wrong, but looking at why they are doing it and understanding their motives is what we should be doing. There is nothing to be gained by villainizing other points of view. Regardless of what anyone thinks during this pandemic, we truly are all in this together, and we need to look out for one another.

- Xander Mauer



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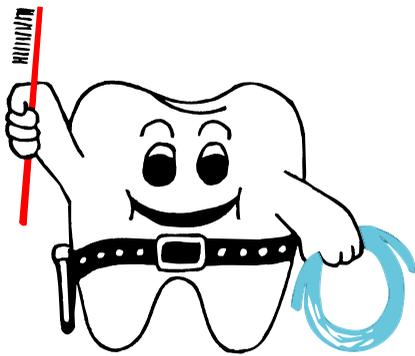
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