



## National Honor Society Induction

*Danny Champagne and Charlie Mills*

**October/November 2015**

In 1921, Dr. Edward Rynearson founded the National Honor Society an organization that strives to encourage students to become leaders, scholars, and servants in secondary schools across America and Canada. Dr. Rynearson's original chapter of the NHS was the Alpha Chapter in a Pittsburgh High School of which he was the principal. Nearly a hundred years later, there are over a thousand chapters spread across the country.

On October 6, seven seniors and two juniors were inducted into the newly-formed Trinity Christian School chapter of the National Honor Society. That evening, the students were sworn into the Society. Mr. Holcomb gave an inspiring message, and Miss Mendelsohn read the poem "The Road Not Taken" by Robert Frost. Mr. Prol read the oath that the inductees repeated and prayed for their futures. Mrs. Champagne gave a brief



history of the National Honor Society (the Trinity Chapter), and Charlie Mills provided a piano accompaniment for the evening. The students' parents were invited, and their mothers were given ceremonial yellow roses. The inductees also received commemorative pins from the NHS.

The juniors and seniors inducted were: Sharline Anaya, Isabel Budd, Kaitlyn Carbone, Alison Champagne, Josiah Chung, Ethan Hastings, William Martone, Ian Stempert, and Gregory Tanis. In order to keep their spot in the society, they must continue to show the character traits that got them there, participate in service projects, and maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.75 or higher.

For any upcoming younger students who wish to receive the honor of joining the Society, make sure you are practicing leadership, scholarship, and character in your lives.

Pray that God would bless these students as they go off to college in a year or two, and that they would continue to uphold the standards of the National Honor Society: servanthood, leadership, scholarship, and character as they carry on through life's journey.

## School Spirit

*Joseph Gustav V Boch and Kelly Reid*



Newly organized Red, Yellow, and Blue teams engaged in a battle of wits last Tuesday to formally kick off this school year's School Spirit competition. There were three activities: a trivia game, creating their team murals, and a name game. In the trivia round, each team split up by grade and Mr. Scotten asked them questions based on what they had learned this year in history and geography.



Next, each team began designing their own banner. Since this year's theme is Around the World, each banner is an outline of a continent. Students had to incorporate their team color and the name of their continent in their banner.



The third activity of the day was the name game in the gym. Everyone wrote their name on a piece of paper and put it in a pile. Students would then take a paper, match the name on the paper to the corresponding student, and then attempt to shoot a basket. Successful shots earned two points for their team.



The Yellow team holds an early lead, with 138 points. The Red team is in second with 130 points, and the Blue team sits in third with 97 points.



# ISIS on the Move

Jurgen Lipps and Dan Champagne

A few years ago, a terrorist group that is known as ISIS began taking over parts of the Middle East. Their name, ISIS, stands for The Islamic State of Iraq and Syria. Some people call them ISIL, or the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (an area in the Middle East that includes Iraq, Syria, and Palestine); ISIS has made it known that they would rather just be known as IS, or the Islamic State. Many Muslims are offended by this name, however, because they deny that ISIS has any true Islamic affiliations.

When ISIS first started their conquest in the Middle East, they attacked the city of Mosul in Iraq, and all of the Iraqi soldiers there dropped their weapons and fled at the sight of only eight hundred ISIS fighters. Since then, ISIS has taken over other cities in Iraq, gaining military equipment and numbers as they progress. This equipment came originally from the United States when it was training the soldiers in Iraq to fight the Taliban. Now, thousands of army trucks, humvees, and firearms lie in the hands of these ISIS terrorists.

More recently, ISIS has invaded Syria, but this time they were met with fierce resistance. The Kurdish people in Syria took up arms and are currently trying to slow ISIS down and eventually stop these jihadists in their tracks. However, the

Kurdish rebels are completely outnumbered, with only thirty thousand poorly-equipped, poorly-trained soldiers to fight all of ISIS. They have asked for outside help from America and many European countries who want to stop ISIS as well. Sadly though, only about one hundred Americans and Europeans have taken up arms with the Kurdish rebels to stop ISIS over the last year. These Kurdish rebel in Syria don't only need soldiers: on *Lions of Rojava*, their recruiting website, they are pleading for architects, engineers, street artists and anyone else who would be willing to help rebuild and reignite the flame of the Syrian people to fight ISIS.

While assisting the Syrian rebels would be efficient in containing the ISIS threat, there are many hindrances to this goal. Our president is under pressure from liberals and conservatives alike over whether to deploy ground troops to assist the rebels. In 2013, Obama stated that he thought the situation in Syria was under control and would not require the aid of American Troops, but merely funding, training, and weapons for the rebels. This is clearly not what the president thinks today as he has several times stated his belief that American troops would be of great assistance to the people in Syria and that much good for the Syrian rebels

would come from their deployment.

Another matter which is of great importance regarding the situation in Syria is the massive number of refugees attempting to flee the country. Syria is a war zone and many families are trying to leave promptly as the ISIS threat in addition to their own government pose serious risks to their well-being. The Syrian military has been known to use chemical weapons on its own people on behalf of Syria's ruthless dictator, Bashar Al Assad. Russia has been a Syrian ally for many years and Russian troops are currently fighting in Syria against ISIS forces as well as against the rebel forces. While Russia has aided in attacks on ISIS, they are also clearly trying to build up the Assad regime and assist the Syrian Military in destroying the rebel forces, despite Assad's repeated human rights injustices. Russia continues to remain untrustworthy in this battle.

Although this war is being fought overseas, it has direct ramifications for United States citizens. Can we afford to assist the rebels? Should we officially enter the war in Syria? Should we really enter a war close to the time of our next presidential election? Should we allow Syrian refugees to enter our nation? These are important questions, which will require serious answers from our leaders.

# Indian Day

Chanelle Spivak and Grace Markowicz

**What is Indian Day?** It's a living history day, where the 3rd graders eat Native American food, give a report on the tribe they studied, and tell how the environment influenced the houses they lived in.

### What activities did you do?

*Avery:* We did our speeches, played outside, had a feast, and we took a lot of pictures with our Indian houses.

### What were your Indian names?

*Isabella:* Eagle Feather  
*Jamal:* Bloody Tomahawk  
*David:* Iron Quill  
*Nick:* Red Warrior  
*Abigail:* Eagle-Eye

### What was your favorite thing about Indian Day?

*Nick:* I loved the popcorn!  
*Kaitlyn:* My favorite thing was eating.

*Ryan:* My favorite thing was the popcorn!  
*Nia:* My favorite thing was lunch. There was popcorn, beef stew, beef jerky, blue corn chips, fruit, and cornbread.  
*Hannah:* Putting our beads on the coup sticks.

*A special thanks to Mrs. Rumeau and the helpers, who organized Indian Day for the 3rd grade. They seemed to really enjoy this day, especially the popcorn.*



# Blazer Broadcast

Kyle Eliassen

## Jr. High

Excitement was in the air as the Junior Soccer team took the field for their semifinal matchup with their rivals Parsippany. After a respectable 6-4-2 record in the regular season earning them second place in the league, the team was pumped up and ready to play. After a very close and competitive game, a late goal sent Trinity to the championship winning 1-0. Their next matchup was with the undefeated Hackensack. After another close game, Trinity came out on the losing end 1-0. Matt Glaser and Caleb Schafer were recognized as All-stars, and Trinity earned a deserving second place.

## Varsity Girls

The crowd was electric as the Varsity Girls stepped onto the field for their semifinal matchup against Veritas. The girls were in third place in the league with a record of 5-8-0. After an evenly matched game, the girls lost 3-2 in overtime. The girls bounced back, and went into the third place game with high hopes against Parsippany. They cruised to a third place trophy winning 4-0. Seniors Kate Carbone and Izzy Budd and junior Hannah Voigt earned league all-star bids. Even though the girls wanted first, they still didn't go away from the tournament empty-handed.

## Varsity Boys

The Varsity boys entered the tournament in third place with a record of 7-6-1. The first game was against their rivals Parsippany Christian School, the second seed in the tournament. The boys overcame a 4-2 deficit at halftime, and shocked Parsippany with a double-overtime win 5-4. The boys next matchup was with Veritas, who beat Faith 12-1 in the first round. Veritas ended Trinity's title hopes, beating them 4-0. Senior Erick Justnes, junior Ian Stempert, and sophomore Peter Yamasaki got All-stars, and the boys got a well-earned second place.



# Let the Trump Resound

Ethan Hastings

Donald Trump: frontrunner in the polls. If anyone in the media had conceived of that thought six months ago, they would have been laughed at from everyone across the political spectrum. But now, leading the pack in some polls, Trump has fundamentally changed the way Americans view the political process. Some say this is because he is a "political outsider." I would disagree. Dr. Ben Carson is also a non-politician candidate, but he is fundamentally different than Trump. Also, neither of them is truly an outsider in every sense, as both are immersed in the corporate world.

So what is it that makes Trump...well, Trump? I would argue that his bombastic rhetoric, seemingly "xenophobic, racist, and sexist" remarks, and extremely self-aggrandizing hubris, appeal to Americans, because there is a new rift in politics forming. It is not a Tea-Party evangelical v. mainline GOP rift. It is not a moderate v. radical split. It is not even a conservative v. liberal split.

The split is between those who are

politically correct and those who aren't. Those on the political right are fed up with the leftist name-calling. If you express doubts about the liberal agenda, the welfare state, or LGBTQ legislation, you are automatically dismissed as a "racist" or a "homophobe."

People in the Democratic Party are also sick of this PC agenda. Those in the media, particularly comedians such as Bill Maher and Chris Rock, are tired of being told that their speech is "offensive." Many of them won't play colleges on their comedy tours, because of how sensitive the students are. This is a direct result of the PC speech codes in place on these campuses. Many on the left concerned with women's rights and political liberties have spoken out against the anti-Western ideologies within Islam. The PC police have deemed this speech to be "Islamophobia," a subset of "racism" (even though they are challenging Islam as a religion and political philosophy, not attacking the largely Arab population that practices it). This has caused prominent

atheists on the Left such as Sam Harris and Bill Maher to label these supposedly progressive liberals as "regressive leftists."

This is why The Donald is garnering so much popularity. He is not exclusively pulling from "Tea Party radicals" or "moderate conservatives" with no real values. He is appealing to Americans who are sick of being told what they can't say. This is America. We have the first amendment to protect the speech of all. As Neal Boortz put it, "Free speech is meant to protect unpopular speech. Popular speech, by definition, needs no protection." When Donald Trump comes out and rants about his no-nothing policies, his dismissal of women for their lack of physical beauty, and his "great" 2,000 mile long wall he is going to build to keep out all the "rapists, drug-dealers, and murderers," it's not what he's saying that is so appealing per se. It is the fact that he has the guts to say it. He is defying those that would infringe on his free speech. It is a breath of ~~hot~~ fresh air.

This newsletter was published using Scribus 1.4.

Advisors: Miss Mendelsohn  
Mr. Messer

Staff:

E. Hastings - Editor-in-Chief  
W. Martone - Artist  
J. Boch - Reporter  
A. Champagne - Reporter  
D. Champagne - Reporter  
K. Eliassen - Reporter  
J. Lipps - Reporter  
G. Markowicz - Reporter  
C. Mills - Reporter  
K. Reid - Reporter  
C. Spivak - Reporter



## Christian Persecution

Pastor Khan

John 15:18-20a

*"If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember what I told you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you."*

When you hear the word "persecution," what comes to your mind? Maybe you can recall accounts of tortured Christians in North Korea, pictures of those imprisoned for their faith in the Middle East, or secret house churches in China. You would be right to think of such things, because accounts of that kind of treatment in our day are many. Thousands of Christians are ostracized, attacked, and even killed by those that hate them, because they believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and are committed to live their lives according to His word. The Apostle Paul makes this point to Timothy when he says "all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution" (1 Tim 3:12).

We should pray for these dear ones, and support them as we have opportunity. But persecution is not exclusive to those living among communists, dictators and militant extremists. As Paul points out, it is the norm for all who desire to live godly lives in Christ Jesus. That means persecution can exist wherever there are true Christians, even in New Jersey. Persecution can mean being laughed at by your friends for obeying your parents' rules when mom or dad aren't there, being passed-up for a summer job because you won't work on Sundays, or getting condescending looks for wearing modest clothing.

If you're intent on pleasing God and conscientious to follow His word in all areas of your life, you can expect to face this kind of persecution. That might sound discouraging, but consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself (Heb. 12:3). Jesus persevered through all sorts of abuse and eventually death so that His people would not perish but would have eternal life. He is worth suffering for, and He "can repay from His own fullness all He takes away!"

## Bringin' It to Blaze

Alison Champagne and Chanelle Spivak

As many of you have probably noticed, we've been interviewing some of the secondary students for the past week or so. To see how well you all know your politics, we found out how many students could name at least three of the current presidential candidates. Congratulations to the 7th and 12th graders, 100% of whom could name three candidates. It looks like our juniors need some brushing up on politics, though; only 50% of those interviewed succeeded. It pays to be informed.

### Which of the candidates do you think will become president?

Carson: 41%  
Trump: 34%  
Clinton/Fiorina: 6.9% each  
Cruz/Sanders/Bush: 3.4% each

### If you could ask any of the candidates a question, what would you ask?

What will you do with our debt crisis?  
Do you support abortion?  
What will you do with Russia?

### Some non-political questions we asked:

#### What is your favorite thing about fall?

Morgan (10): My favorite thing is sweet potato pie.  
Joy (8): The colors of the leaves and the word "autumn."  
Charlie (9): Warm apple cider.  
Steven Cable (7): Football

### We interviewed some students to see what sports they'd like to see in the gym. Here are some of the crazy responses we got:

Curling  
Speed-walking  
Shinti (if you don't know what this is, it's Irish)

### Prayer Requests:

• Joy Tan's upcoming flute concert  
• The Lee family

Please send all contributions to [newspaper.trinity@gmail.com](mailto:newspaper.trinity@gmail.com).  
Thank you!