

June 27, 2017: Issue I

THE FLAME



In This Edition:

Community

Town Hall (p. 2)
Newly Roomed (p. 3)

Features

Choral Music Spotlight (p. 4)
Social Science Spotlight (p. 5)

Events

Convocation Overviews (p. 6)
Area III Film (p. 8)

Extracurriculars

Zombies (p. 13)
“Melodrama” Review (p. 14)
Math Results (p. 14)
Social Science Results (p. 14)
Natural Science Results (p. 14)

News

Campus Life (p. 9)
Outside GSE (p. 12)

Submitted/ Opinion

Creativity Column (p. 10)
Letter To The Editor (p. 10)
Legislative Voice (p. 11)
Faculty Guest Writer (p. 15)

Entertainment

Meme of the Week (p. 16)
TA/C Facts Crossword (p. 16)

Town Hall: Learning about GSE

By Noah de Comarmond

Students filed into Jones Auditorium on Tuesday night for the first Town Hall meeting at GSE unsure of what to expect. As students filed out, it was evident that the meeting was one of the summer's most memorable moments thus far.

Allyson Buie, GSE's counselor, calmed the nerves of anxious GSE students with a reminder that nobody is here by mistake. The challenges that many students face are just a part of the Governor's School experience. Before handing the podium off to Site Director Laura Sam, she imparted upon the crowd that GSE is "not what you bring, it's what you take away."

Because this Town Hall was the first of the summer, Laura explained the procedure for asking questions and then gave students a chance to learn more about GSE and her own background. Questions ranged from her take on a heated campus debate (is a hot dog a sandwich?) to her experience as an educator. She gave her insight into the hot dog debate but was unable to choose a side instead citing the merits of each position. Her answers varied from telling the histo-

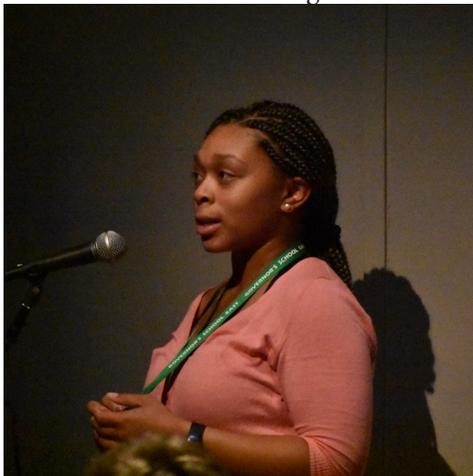


Photo by Kirin James

ry of Governor's School to leading the audience in a rendition of "America The Beautiful." Due to the recent controversy about future state funding for Governor's School, some of the first questions asked led Laura to explain the program's history.

Governor's School was established by Governor Terry Sanford in 1963 to educate gifted students across the state. It was the first program of its kind, and a model which other states would later follow. Its funding was first threatened during the 2008 recession. In 2011, the legislature cut the program from the year's budget. Luckily, the Governor's School Foundation rallied enough private support to keep it afloat until the state resumed financial support the next year. As a fervent advocate of the program, Laura talks with her state representatives regularly to promote the Governor's School. She does everything she can to preserve and expand funding by citing her own involvement as well as the unique experiences that she has witnessed in GSE students each year.

As further questions ensued, the focus shifted towards Laura's life and opinions. When asked about how she avoids media bias, Laura explained the way she explores news sources. To avoid considering only one side of any issue, she regularly compares news sources biased in either direction. Questions continued to delve further into Laura's experience as a citizen, student, and educator in North Car-



Photo by Kirin James

olina. Eventually it became clear that she lives and breathes GSE. Governor's School is a place where she recharges her mind, heart, and soul each summer. While it is her job, it is clear that it is her passion as well.

In response to a question about how she handles a bad situation, Laura drifted a bit off-topic to divulge a love story to eager ears. As an eighth grader in 1976, Laura saw the cutest boy ever, with a perfect Beatles haircut to top it off. Not long after, when she discovered his compassion and sense of humor, she knew he was the one. It was love at first sight and changed both of their lives forever. She took up running track (even though she absolutely hated running) just so she could watch him at football practice. He joined choir and learned to sing solely to be with her. From then on the two formed an inseparable bond. The two lovebirds can always be found chatting among students, TACs, and other faculty members around campus.

Tuesday night was much more than an introductory meeting to introduce convocation procedures. As GSE students, we came to know Governor's school through Laura and got to know a bit about her in the process.

GSE Hosts “The Newly Roomed Game”

By Kirin James

The Newly Roomed Game was the ultimate test of newly forged relationships and of communication. Roommate representatives from each hall were invited to go up on stage during the Monday Convocation. The rules were simple- a question was asked pertaining to one roommate, and roommate two was asked to guess what they believed roommate one wrote down as the answer.



Photos by Elly Sprinkle

The game consisted of three rounds with varying difficulty, starting with Round 1 at 10 points per correct answer and ending at Round 3 with 30 points per answer. Roommates tasked with answering questions spoke into a microphone and the roommate with the real answer to whom the question pertained wrote it down on a piece of



Photos by Elly Sprinkle



Photos by Elly Sprinkle

paper which the audience could see.

Newly Roomed was an ice-breaker activity for the student body to get to know one another and debate the questions asked. The most controversial of questions was widely debated around campus: “Does your roommate think a hotdog is a sandwich?”

The competition started off with questions as simple as “What is your roommate’s Area 1?” to “What Disney character would your roommate be?” Round 1 ended with a level field; the representatives all had

similar scores. The competition changed at the end of round 2, with two groups tied for first, but not a total wash. The end of the game was highly anticipated, as Stringfield 4 and Brewer 1 had been close contenders the entire game.

At the end of the game, Brewer 1 and Stringfield 4 tied for first place, and their prize was “hot air” or bragging rights for the rest of the summer. The roommates in Brewer 1 were Beau Burgess (Social Science) and Michael Byrd (Math) and the roommates in Stringfield 4 were Annabelle Welford Small (French) and Calista White (English).



Photos by Elly Sprinkle

Choral Music: Portraying Composers' Visions



Photo by Kelsey Rector

By Jaelyn Wilson

If you looked up the meaning of chorus you would find the definition, “simultaneous utterance in singing, speaking, shouting.” If you asked a choral music student what their definition of chorus is, they would probably say that it is beautiful melodies and sounds that combine to tell a story or to simply get information out to the world. There are countless unique types of music that come from the souls of composers, and it is choral students’ job to help convey that music to an audience.

Who helps the choral students portray that music? The wonderful conductors and teachers who help mold them into better singers and better people. There are two choral music instructors at

GSE: Gwen Hall and Stuart Hill. The choral music TA/C is Robin Hardman.

Growing up in Wake Forest, North Carolina, Gwen Hall got an early start in music. She began taking piano lessons in the third grade and it didn’t take long for her to realize her overwhelming love for music. She attended UNC Chapel Hill and received her bachelor of music in piano performance. To receive her master of music in piano performance, she attended the University of Illinois at Urbana – Champaign. She is now the lead choral music instructor of the women’s ensemble of Governor’s School East. Many of her colleagues have described her as a “funny, smart and loving person.”

Currently, the chorus is

working on numerous pieces, most of them featuring different languages. This is one of the elements of choral music that rounds the students and helps challenge their perspective of the world. The choral students diligently warm-up with various techniques including tongue trills, lip buzzing, scales, and solfege practices, all while moving in their own unique way. The creative movements allow them to be weird together while having fun.

A choral student named Mackenzie voiced her thoughts about her experience at GSE in choral music by saying, “My favorite thing about being in choral music is that you get to be in an environment where everyone around you is incredibly

talented and incredibly gifted in music, and it inspires one to push themselves further, learn more, pay attention, really enjoy the class and get more out of it.”

Another choral student named Eloise added, “Being in GSE chorus is incredible. We have the opportunity to sing pieces we wouldn’t get to experience, and explore ideas, musical and otherwise, from around the world. Our instructors are enthusiastic and insightful and every chorister has a genuine passion for what they are doing.”

To experience the choral music performances, walk on over to Jones Chapel on July 5 and/or July 24 at 4 p.m. or 8 p.m.. Come hear music that will evoke joy and sorrow simultaneously—everyone is invited.

Social Science: A Malleable and Extensive Field

By Julia Murrow

Social Science: a field encompassing more subjects than one seems to be able to count. A field so malleable and extensive that it seems almost impossible to understand everything within its bounds. A field that seems to invoke an unmatched fire of passion within those who study it and devote their lives to it. Social Science as a field is phenomenal and the Area I class with which it shares its name is equally, if not more, fascinating and inspirational.

Despite the class only being in session for a few days, an atmosphere of open-mindedness and eagerness has already begun to construct itself. The teachers and TACS all seem to possess infinite knowledge in the world of social science, yet are remarkably humble about their own know-how. They exude an ambience of being simultaneously intimidatingly intelligent, yet incredibly “chill”, so to speak.

As equally impressive as the teachers of the course are the students: each one providing a unique and diverse opinion to the classroom. It goes without saying that the entire mass of 49 students are sagacious and passionate individuals, but perhaps the most surprising, astounding, and exciting characteristic the students all possess is their



Photo by Kelsey Rector

curiosity. On the second day of instruction, the students were asked to devise a list of topics they wanted to explore during the course of the term. The results of the compilation were awe-inducing to say the least. Each topic was thought-provoking, complex, and struck an optimal balance between being “mainstream” and obscure.

Discovering what piques the interests of each and every one of the social science students further proved the exceptionalism of the pupils within the class and revealed the students’ own innate desire to learn. The student-led curriculum creation cultivated a sense of openness within the classroom and seemed to encourage the students not just to simply embrace their own curiosity but to also embrace the curiosity of their peers.

There is something incredibly liberating

about shaping your own academic experience and taking a step away from the tedious monotony of the contemporary high school classroom, and the teachers of this course should be applauded for their recognition of this concept and their adoption of it in their Governor’s School classroom.

In addition to the curiosity that permeates the social science classroom, an air of diversity of opinion, thought, and demographics exist within the confines of the classroom that will further serve to enable and generate stimulating discussion among the students.

On the first day of class, all students were asked to participate in an anonymous survey completed with the intent of gauging the different factors of diversity that existed within the student population. Following the completion

of the survey, the students were asked to physically quantify the information within the survey so that both students and staff could get a feel for the beliefs of the students within the room.

The survey revealed a broad mix of students within the classroom; both conservatives and liberals; religious and nonreligious; publicly educated and privately educated; people who were used to engaging with friends of differing races and sexualities and those who were not; etc. It was uplifting and somewhat inspiring to unearth the diversity of not just physical factors such as race and gender, but ideological factors and factors based on experience.

Social Science is undoubtedly an intriguing and intellectually stimulating field, but aside from this, what makes the class so great is the curiosity, diversity, and passion of the people within the class.

The “Myth of Powerlessness” with David LaMotte

By Daniel Hwang

“You don’t have a calling... you have thousands of them,” said David LaMotte. Last Thursday, at Governor’s School East’s first convocation, songwriter, author, and public speaker David LaMotte spoke about the power of an individual within a “movement.” Overviewing the major concepts in his book *Worldchanging 101: Challenging the Myth of Powerlessness*, LaMotte deconstructed the common

three steps: “To wait for the hero to appear, to wait for the hero to fix things, and to clap for the hero once he’s done.” LaMotte expressed that the notion of this heroic narrative deflects a sense of individual responsibility to spark change. Instead, he proposed that a collective “movement,” with everyone playing a small but critical role, would solidify social progress.

A common thread through LaMotte’s speech was this concept of change—

LaMotte revealed a different narrative. Pointing out how various individuals—JoAnn Robinson in particular—facilitated this one act of civil disobedience into a sweeping movement of nonviolent protest. LaMotte hit home the notion of the power of the individual, even on a small scale.

But how can someone get involved in a movement? LaMotte presented the “right” questions which help to answer that very concern. These included: “What Do

relevant, and time-bound.

However, the highlight for many, including LaMotte himself, were the questions which followed after the presentation. Questions ranged from “How should we prepare for college admissions?” to “If someone were to question your movement, how would you respond?” LaMotte was impressed with how well the students had listened and how they interpreted his presentation. And in response, LaMotte answered with creativity and authenticity, leaving us with valuable points such as “None of us feel perfect to be the hero, but we end up doing the work” and “If you’re unsure about sharing your art, you’re doing it right. It just means it has an impact, regardless if you’re scared about it or not.” He expressed that it was an honor being able to talk with students at this convocation.

The end of LaMotte’s presentation eloquently summed up his speech. “People assume that ‘Changing the World,’ is the same as fixing the world, or saving the world, but it’s not.” People are always changing the world, no matter how small it is. And consequently, that means people have a responsibility to carry this change. His message: get involved!

We at GSE were truly moved by this presentation, and we are grateful to have had David LaMotte share some of his time with us.



Photo by Tracy Chen

“hero narrative” and highlighted how every small action is important.

“Challenging the myth of powerlessness,” LaMotte explained, was something every individual needed to do. Many tend to view the world as a “heroic narrative,” where the average citizen has

large and small—from all corners of society. Perhaps one of the most widely known changemakers is Rosa Parks, a paradigm of the Civil Rights Movement. However, unpacking Parks’s story from one typically seen from the lens of an individual hero story,

I Do Next?”, “What Do You Care About?”, “What Do You Bring?”, “Where Is Your Community?”, and “What’s one SMALL thing that you can do?” In addition, he emphasized the use of SMART goals: those which are specific, measurable, attainable,

The Future of Space Exploration with Patrick Gray

By Moses Kamara

Beyond. Beyond the ocean, beyond time, and beyond Earth, the GSE students were enlightened by a insightful lecture delivered by Patrick Gray, a GSW alumnus. Gray is an accomplished marine and astrobiologist currently working

rizing that settlement on the Moon within the next 20-25 years is not only possible, but probable. Space sovereignty currently does not exist as the Moon is an international entity protected by the United Nations. Governor's School students were instantly engaged as students began to envision a future consist-

monopoly that billionaires (Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos, et al.) currently have on the space exploration market and he explained his prediction that the first trillionaire would arise from a private space exploration company. As trips to the moon continue to become more affordable, the probability that more Americans can experience space increases. The possibility of tourism was appealing to many students as Mr. Gray professed his determination to make a meaningful contribution to space exploration.

The possibility of other intelligent species was also introduced by Mr. Gray as

proposed an intriguing idea that humans simply cannot detect attempts made by other species to communicate due to our reliance on our five senses. He advised students to keep an open mind on the subject and spoke to the professional diversity the field offers.

The ingenuity of scientists like Mr. Gray is quite similar to the intellectual curiosity displayed by the students at GSE. The desire to push the boundaries and test limitations are common themes that link academics of his ilk to the young, precocious minds present at Meredith College. As the students filed



Photo by Natasha Toledo

at Harvard University. His enthusiasm for these two growing fields was evident as he discussed the implications concerning the exploration of our oceans as well as that of the last true frontier (space). His premise was centered on the privatization of the space market as companies hope to produce large profits through the mining of precious metals on Earth's moon. According to Gray, the international community currently works cooperatively to lessen the financial risk one country would face independently. He introduced a compelling argument theo-

ing of space colonization. Incredible science has increased the ways that data collected from satellites be used. Mr. Gray explained that a newly developed satellite was capable of identifying small-scale environmental events such as oil runoff into the Bay area of California. The possibility of heightened tension in foreign policy was also broached as he explained the Chinese government is positioning itself to be the premier space leader by 2025 at a time that NASA's funding remains stagnant. Mr. Gray was asked about the



Photo by Natasha Toledo

he used conservative estimates in the Drake equation to predict the likelihood and quantity of other civilizations in the galaxy. Through the application of Occam's Razor in a theoretical model, Mr. Gray declared that it was highly likely that other intelligent species exist. He

out of Jones Auditorium, they engaged in discussions about the compelling ideas Mr. Gray had put forward. His time as speaker left an indelible mark on students as Governor's School closed in on the end of its first week.

Obedience and *Remember My Lai* Adds Insight into Human Nature

By Sharanya Ananth



“After it was over, everyone knew it was wrong, but the damage was done.”

On Wednesday, June 21st, students gathered in Jones Auditorium to view two movies for Area 3 classes: *Obedience* and *Remember My Lai*. *Obedience*, a short documentary, detailed the procedure and results of the famous Milgram experiment which tested the extent of human obedience. Subjects acted as teachers to deliver electric shocks to a learner when he answered memorization questions incorrectly. When the teacher began to hear shouts of pain from the learner, he became reluctant to continue and checked with the experimenters. More often than not, after the experimenters commanded the experiment continue, the teacher would resist but eventually comply. This process continued, for some subjects, to the maximum shock, 450 volts, only for the teacher to discover that no learner was actually shocked and that the sounds of pain were automated. In different trials of the experiment, variables such as an increased degree of closeness to the victim, another teacher, or an experimenter were altered. The experiment concluded that men are not sadistic, but simply drawn to orders and often lack empathy when faced with orders that cause harm. The story of the Milgram experiment left an impact on many students and its revelations became much more poignant once tied to the following movie.

Remember My Lai touched upon an often neglected historical subject in an interesting way: from the perspective of the perpetrators and the victims. American soldiers of Charlie Company, on the average aged 20 years, were given orders to go into My Lai and kill any person they saw because the village was thought to be occupied by the Viet Cong. Soldiers went in and murdered around 400 villagers, only to realize later that these had been innocents, uninvolved with the Viet Cong. Soldiers also tortured villagers

cruelly, in a variety of ways including scalping, cutting tongues and limbs, burning to death, and rape. Upon hearing the horrors committed by Charlie Company in My Lai, students in the audience audibly gasped and despaired at the fate of the villagers on that terrible day. Graphic descriptions of rape by survivors of the massacre, and revelations that no military officer involved was charged, especially appalled students.



The mood following could only be described as somber and reflective. Maura Scroggs, an Art student, describes her feelings following the film: “I had heard about the My Lai incident in history class, but we brushed over it in about 5 minutes.” Many described a similar experience, as they had only heard brief accounts of the massacre or none at all. “But to actually see these people who lived through it and witnessed the murders made it much more personable. The thing that really struck me was the soldiers’ justification of their actions and that the soldier mentality completely erased their human values.” This was also a major point of discussion following the film, as the idea connected back to *Obedience*. Tran Nguyen, a Choral Music student, described a personal connection to the documentary: “I was thinking about how being put into a stressful situation puts you in regression and reduces you into a more infantilized state. It was definitely interesting, because I’m Vietnamese, and my dad fought in the war, and it was really emotional for me to see that connection.” In Area 3 discussions, students were prompted by the film to raise questions concerning American imperialism, dehumanization of the enemy, devaluation of non western bodies, and the true meaning and price of our freedom.

Campus Life: A Day in the Life

By Avni Kulshrestha

The first week of Governor's School is officially over! New friendships and memories are built everyday that will last for a lifetime. Ever since the first convocation, Meredith College's campus has been filled with happiness, laughter, and joy. Bright and early in the morning, students from various regions of North Carolina leave Stringfield, Vann, and Brewer to assemble in the Quad. At 6:30 AM, some students begin their morning run, some do yoga, and others simply enjoy the peace of the morning while listening to the song of the birds. As the morning unfolds, students rush to the Belk Dining Hall



Photos by: Kelsey Rector

to grab breakfast before their first period class. Whether students are going over their science experiments or discussing a challenging math question, students are prepared for their busy days. Although the Quad and the resident halls get quieter during class periods, stimulating conversations and discussions are occurring in every class which require each student to think outside of the box and challenge



various ideologies. As students leave their classes midday and gather around the fountain in the Quad, the active energy increases on campus. Hiral Patel, a math student from Cary, says, "I am really enjoying my experience on campus so far. I enjoy the atmosphere that Governor's School East provides. I have made a lot of friends from all over North Carolina. It is interesting to see the different perspectives that students have." Caroline Foster says that "What I enjoy the most about GSE is my ability to interact with people who are not studying French in my Area II and III classes. I also appreciate learning about the lessons taught in other Area Is. I did not expect to be exposed to so many other areas of education, so I am extremely happy to have access to so many other aspects of intellect." Many students agree that campus is the most active and exciting in the evenings during Quad time. Students play tag, ultimate frisbee, and sing songs together. The air is filled with people singing together and laughing together

while strengthening the GSE community. On Tuesday evening, five students assembled between Vann and Stringfield. While singing together and playing their guitars, many other students joined which created an epic impromptu sing-off! Students had smiles on their faces while singing classics by Taylor Swift and Maroon Five. Not only were there choral music students, but students from areas like Math and English joined as well. Julianne Danford, an English student from Charlotte, describes her experience that night as follows, "I had never thought I would assemble with twenty to thirty other strangers at that time and sing Taylor Swift's "We Are Never Getting Back Together" at the top of our lungs. That was an experience I will cherish for the rest of my life and I hope that there will be more sing-offs in the weeks to come."



There is truly some activity for everyone at Governor's School East. Whether it be a salsa class or a meditation class, students have the opportunity to experience new things, explore new ventures, and reinforce their strengths. As said at convocation, everyday is the happiest day at GSE!

Letter to the Editor

Is there a topic you're passionate about and want to share with the GSE community through The Flame? The Letter to the Editor is the place for you! Whether it be a news topic you're passionate about, an important story, or simply a suggestion, we want to hear from you! Submit your typed article to Kelsey at gsepublication@gmail.com.



To the Editor:

I am writing to express my concern about the current and future funding for Governor's School, and to urge advocacy for full funding. From the beginning of my sophomore year when I heard about Governor's School from a previous student at my school, I knew I was interested. At the beginning of junior year, my English teacher, who happens to be the Dean of Students at GSW, urged every student in her class to apply.

She spoke of her life-changing experience at Governor's School and how she would not be the person she is today without it. She spent a class period explaining how much love she has for this place, the knowledge it provides, and the teachers involved. There was no doubt in her mind that if any of us were selected, we would have a summer better than anything our hometown had to offer.

But she also spoke about the treacherous past and jeopardized future the program is facing. We were told the story of the 2011 budget cut and the generosity of alumni and the Governor's School Foundation to provide partial funding to keep the program alive for that year. This was not a permanent solution.

Hearing about it at the time, I will

admit, it did not mean much to me, as it may not to anyone outside the program. But for those of us fortunate enough to be here today, to have been here before, and those lucky enough to come in the future, the issue of GS funding should carry the weight of a crisis.

I have been here for merely a week, but I already feel the love, respect, opportunity, and knowledge GS has to offer. I already understand that this is a program worth the fight.

Whether it be through friends, new experiences, or knowledge, GS benefits everyone that participates, providing them with an opportunity for immense personal growth.

Governor's School deserves to thrive. While we have secured partial funding, we deserve full funding. To the Governor's School community, fight for the things you believe in, including GS. Enjoy your summer, but advocate for others to experience this same life changing program with as much funding as possible.

Tori Joy

Creativity Corner

"Writer's Block"

By Emmy Soll

Writer's block

It's that feeling when words won't flow
to paper
And ideas condense to vapor to form
...nothing

When thoughts are smogged with fog
Too dense to speak
Too thick, too weak

And pen fights paper like Luke Skywalker
to Darth Vader,
Paper resisting pen
And pen resisting paper,
Is the force really with you?

So when the phrases jumble
And the words fail
And the story sounds familiar,
About a puppet swallowed by a whale,
Stay strong, and let the words prevail

And to reassure,
If you feel unsure,
There is a cure: coffee perhaps, or a
relaxing leisure

Are you an artist, poet, author, songwriter, or creative student looking to have your work under the spotlight? This is the place for you! The publications office is on the lookout for weekly submissions highlighting your creativity. Each week, one or more submissions will be chosen to be highlighted in the creativity column of The Flame. This is a great opportunity to share your works with the greater GSE community. Send your submissions to gsepublication@gmail.com. Happy creating!

Having A Voice in the NC Legislature

By Randy Whitehead

Voices and opinions are expressed through a myriad of ways. Some express themselves through abstract modes like music, dance, and art. Others express themselves through more concrete forms like science and math. But, despite the fact that people express themselves in different ways, we all want what we believe is right. We all promote our opinions in some way or another, and we all feel disregarded when our opinion is unrightfully snuffed out. Sadly, this travesty of justice has occurred many times, and will most likely continue to occur many times over.

According to Colin Campbell from *The News and Observer*, on May 30th of this year, 100 protesters convened at the North Carolina Legislative Building in Raleigh, North Carolina, to advocate for more well-rounded and available healthcare. They were led by Reverend William Barber, the president of the North Carolina NAACP. This sit-in led to 32 arrests, one of which was Rev. Barber himself. The protesters were accused of second degree trespassing for blocking the door to Senate leader Phil Berger's office and refusing to leave the Senate Rules Committee Chairman Bill Rabon's office, according to the General Assembly Police Chief Martin Brock. All 32 of the arrested individuals have been banned from entering the North Carolina Legislative Building at any



point in the future. According to the North Carolina and the United States Constitutions, citizens have the right to address political leaders with their problems. However, as Megan Pope, Social Science pointed out, protesting inside the Legislative Building and blocking office doors is considered disrupting the legislative process, and should have been reprimanded. Since the protesters were disrupting the legislative process, I personally believe that it was reasonable for them to be escorted out. I do not, however, believe that the multiple arrests and bannings were justified.

These protesters were standing up for what they believed to be right, however unorthodox their methods

may have seemed. In reality, it doesn't matter if one agrees with what they were protesting about or not, because the Constitution allows freedom of speech. The 32 people that were arrested had their political voices and opinions stripped from them, and, as a consequence, a right taken away from them. Though some sort of action was justified, the multiple arrests and bannings were, quite frankly, majorly out of line. Everyone should have the right to share their opinions and what they believe to be true. Considering past and present events, is this right slowly withering away? Is there a point in time when we will no longer be able to protest?

Advice from TA/Cs

“Try to get the most you can out of the experience because five and a half weeks is not a long amount of time.”

- Nafiya Enayet (Natural Science)

“Test your limits.”

- Cole Smith (Math)

“Meet someone new everyday... and play euchre at least three times a day.”

- Andrew Legg (Social Science)

Life Outside GSE: What's Going On?

By Dora Pekec

While contently immersed in the bubble that is Governor's School East, it might become easy to lose touch of local, national, and international news. Fear not, The Flame has your current-event needs covered! Here's your weekly briefing:

Death of American Detained in North Korea

University of Virginia honors student Otto F. Warmbier, a captive of North Korea for seventeen months, was released to the United States last week. Warmbier returned to his parents' residence city of Cincinnati, Ohio, only days after his family was contacted about his comatose state and his release. Warmbier died at Cincinnati Hospital on June 19th, described by family members as "at peace." The incident sparked debate concerning future American-North Korean tensions, as the Trump Administration promptly declared North Korea "a top foreign policy priority" and placed pressure on North Korea and ally China to release the three remaining American hostages in the authoritarian nation.

NC State Budget Battle Continues

A prime example of the Republican legislature versus Democratic governor power struggle ensued this week. On June 21st, the NC Senate voted 38-11 to approve the final budget proposal for the coming fiscal year. Four Democrats joined the Republican Senate majority in approving the \$23.03 billion plan which includes slight pay raises for state employees including teachers, increases in pension checks, and provisions for slashes in both personal and corporate income tax measures. Despite the proposal's speedy passage through both house of the state legislature, it raised pressing concerns among many Democrats as well as executive leadership. Governor Roy Cooper is expected to veto the bill, citing its fiscal irresponsibility and lack of prioritization of education as reasons to condemn the legislation.

Southwest Heat Wave Raises Climate Change Concerns

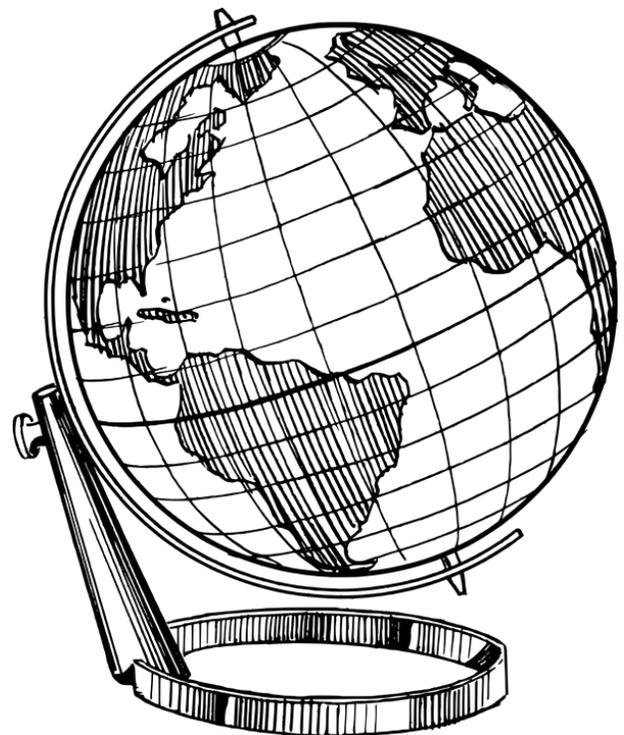
Beginning early last week, a record-breaking heatwave overcame the southwestern United States, including California, Arizona, Nevada, and On June 20th, Phoenix, AZ hit an all-time daily high of 119 degrees Fahrenheit, as did Death Valley, CA with 127 degrees Fahrenheit. Striking a blow to the airplane industry, the extreme heat has led to dozens of flight cancellations across the southwest. In addition, spikes in power outages and wildfires coupled with bucklings of major roads and highways raised questions concerning the effects of rising global temperatures in health, environmental, and political spheres.

Catholic Officials Report More Than 3000 Killed in DR Congo Violence

A report released by a group of Catholic officials in the Central Congo region on Tuesday June 20th called attention to the overlooked civilian killings as a result of the ongoing battle between the Congolese army and an opposing militia group. The report found over 3,300 deaths and the complete destruction of at least 14 villages since October of last year. The United Nations human-rights chief issued a statement to the UN High Commissioner, calling upon the international organization to lead the global community in addressing said issue.

Trump-Russia Investigation Unfolds

Although Trump's lawyer denied rumors of the president's being investigated by the FBI, discussions of obstruction of justice have abruptly arisen as a result of Trump's firing of former FBI director James Comey. New last week, former Homeland Security Director Jeh Johnson revealed in a written statement that the Russian government "orchestrated cyberattacks" on the US "for the purpose of influencing our election - plain and simple." Possibly consequently to the ongoing investigation and the administration's responses, President Trump's approval rating dropped to its all-time low since inauguration at a whopping 36 percent last week.



Zombies Surfacing in the Raleigh Area?

By JJ Sylvia

Police declared the whole of historic Oakwood Cemetery in Raleigh, North Carolina to be a crime scene last night, after family members reported that one of their family plots appears to have been excavated. The land above the grave has been disrupted and the casket was broken and empty.

Relatives have been barred from the site for approximately one week while an investigation takes place.

The local police chief went on record saying that this may be the beginning of a copycat mass grave re-selling scheme.

Recently in the neighboring state of South Carolina, 300 graves were excavated by cemetery employees and then resold for a large profit.

“Although we are saddened by such an incident, we are happy to report that

we have discovered this scheme before more graves were disrupted,” said Chief Ima Coverup.

However, not everyone in the com-

community is convinced that this incident was a copycat crime scene. A local religion and sociology professor at Meredith College, who requested that her identity remain anonymous, issued the following statement: “Several religious groups believe that once hell reaches its maximum capacity, the banished souls of the dead will be forced to return to their rotten bodies here on earth. They say these also empty souls actually crawl from their graves and join us again among the living. Many actually believe this has already begun to happen.”

Chief Coverup refused to comment directly on this statement, but noted that an investigation was ongoing, and that locals should not be concerned as the situation is under control.

Students attending North Carolina Governor’s School East are advised to be aware of this situation.



munity is convinced that this incident was a copycat crime scene.

A local religion and sociology pro-

Meme of the Week



A Review of Lorde's *Melodrama*

By Jacob Woody

Melodrama is Lorde's follow up album to her wildly successful debut *Pure Heroine*. This is a feat that has been difficult for similarly talented artists to accomplish. Just ask Lauryn Hill or Billy Ray Cyrus about their difficulties following their break-out albums. Lorde maintains her success through impressively mature lyrics and understated production. This style is captured in Lorde's opening track, "Green-light."

Here she transforms a Taylor Swift style break up story into a mature song, using her masterful songwriting abilities. Lorde maintains the Swift-esque storyline with lyrics like "Well those great whites, they have big teeth. Hope they bite you."

She then adds a more adult element through her usage of more profound lyrics in "The Louvre" such as: "Well, summer slipped us underneath her tongue, Our days and nights are perfumed with obsession." Lorde continues to use sophisticated lyrics such as these to bolster her

themes of the over-exaggerated, wild, and melodramatic lives of 20-year-olds like herself.

These themes are captured well in the bridge of "Sober" where Lorde states: "We know that it's over. In the



morning you'll be dancing with all the heartache and the treason, fantasies of leaving. But we know that, when it's over in the morning, you'll be dancing with us. But what will we do when

we're sober?"

Lorde continues to mock the melodrama that surrounds young adults with the beautifully constructed second verse of "Homemade Dynamite," where Lorde coyly sings: "Might get your friend to drive, but he can hardly see. We'll end up painted on the road. Red and chrome. All the broken glass sparkling. I guess we're partying."

She continues to mock this melodrama with the line, "I'll give you my best side, tell you all my best lines." Lorde combines her beautiful lyrics with her trademark understated production in her creation of *Melodrama*.

This production is marked by pauses where there is no music at all that represent the communicative skills that 20-year-olds lack, as well as heavy dark sounds that contribute to the overarching theme of the exaggeration that plagues young adults. Ultimately Lorde uses her deft songwriting in tandem with her unique production style to create another excellent album.

Challenge Results

The Area I challenges of Math, Natural Science, and Social Science are open to all students regardless of their discipline. This week, a myriad of students participated. The current leaders are as follows.

Math Challenge Leaders, Week 1:

Daniel Hwang (Math): 6
 Mariusz Derezinski-Choo (Math): 5
 Morgan Opela (Math): 4
 Luke Joyce (Math): 4
 Tyler Zickmund (Math): 4

Natural Science Challenge Leaders, Week 1:

Daniel Haller (Natural Science): 9.5
 Luke Joyce (Math): 9
 Morgan Opela (Math): 7.5

Social Science Challenge Leaders, Week 1:

Eloise Williams (Choral Music): 8/15
 Beth Weisinger (Social Science): 7/15
 Annika Allen (Art): 6/15
 Alayna Powell (Social Science): 6/15
 Connor Rokos (Social Science): 6/15
 Sarah Staehle (Social Science): 6/15

Week 2 Challenges: Tuesday, June 27: Natural Science Challenge Wednesday, June 28: Math and Social Science Challenges

Guest Column: “Pink T-Shirt”

By Robin Follet



Photo by Sade Proctor



What Is Your Favorite Food Served In Belk Dining Hall?

Emily Holland: Veggie Burgers
 Kieran Clark: Chicken
 Quinton Loy: Tacos
 Joseph Lorbacher: Burgers
 Janasia Miller: Oatmeal Cookies
 Enrique Babilonia: Ice Cream
 Gabby Bautista-Aguilar: Pizza
 Alondra Ramirez: Fish Filet
 Ethan Hunt: Mostly Anything!
 Olivia Michael: Salad
 William Evans: Fish
 Molly-Beth McAbee: Chicken

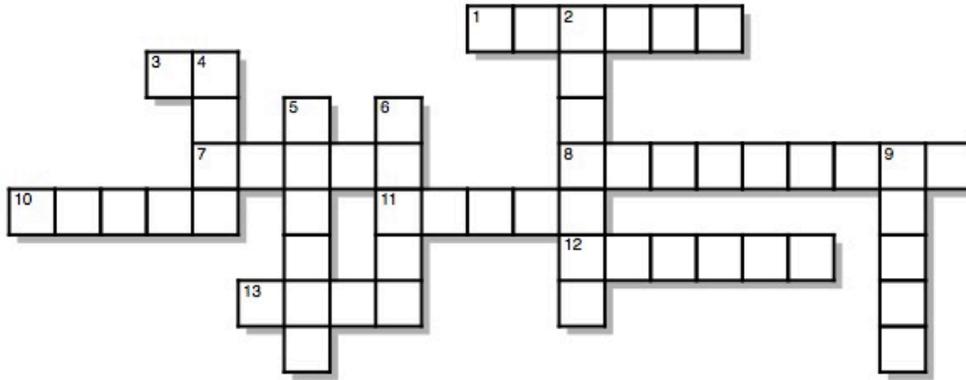
Anna Herbert: Brownies
 Connor Rokos: Donuts
 Colin Scherer: Tortellini
 Gabriella Keller: Mac 'N' Cheese
 JT Owens: Pizza
 Alex Lay-Calvest: Burger
 Mitchell Jones: Chicken Parmesan
 K Bo: Thin Fries
 Gigi Juras: Lemon Bars
 Megan Pope: Cheerios
 Kamille Graham: Fish
 Kristoff Smith: Chicken Noodle
 Avery Harris: S'mores Bars



... BECAUSE WE CAN TAKE OUR COOL OFF, TOO.

Crossword created by Romy Whitesell

Name the TAC



ACROSS

- 1 This TAC is moving to Namibia after GSE
- 3 This TAC likes patterned socks
- 7 This TAC has a scuba diving license
- 8 This TAC's middle name is Kathleen
- 10 This TAC eats a dill pickle every day
- 11 This TAC has perfect pitch
- 12 This TAC speaks five languages
- 13 This TAC is a tattoo artist

DOWN

- 2 This TAC does spoken word
- 4 This TAC has double jointed arms
- 5 This TAC likes to collect mugs
- 6 This TAC has climbed a glacier
- 9 This TAC is a drummer

The Flame Staff

Lead Editors

Stephanie Godwin
Sam Johnson
Tori Joy

Managing & Design Editors

Maydha Devarajan
Sam Ellison
Beth Weisinger

Photo Editors

Beth Weisinger

Publications Coordinator

Kelsey Rector

Publication TACs

Elly Sprinkle
Luisa Torres

Copy Editors

Sam Cryan
Justin De La Rosa
Luke Evans
Caroline Foster
Emily Holland
Moses Kamara
Siona Kshirsagar
Molly-Beth McAbee
Catherine McMillan
Elizabeth Moore
Angel Nugroho
Romy Whitesell

Staff Writers & Photographers

Sharanya Ananth
Tracy Chen
Noah de Comarmond
Adrian Dujmusic
Daniel Hwang
Michelle Gan
Kirin James
Avni Kulshrestha
Laura Meshnick
Julia Murrow
Dora Pekec
Sade Proctor
Emmy Soll
Natasha Toledo
Jaelyn Wilson
Randy Whitehead
Jacob Woody