



Senior Andrew Gatherer on the senior prank
“After months of people telling us we were supposed to be mature and exemplary, we finally got a night to relive our childhoods. With unsophisticated seniors swarming around the Quad, the St. Mark’s campus literally became a preschool for the night while monumental box forts and engrossing blanket caves sprung up from seemingly nowhere.” **See Senior Section, pages 12, 13**

How the school’s graduation requirement of one year of fine arts helps to find...

the *Artist* in everyone



IN THE STUDIO Recently named Merit Award recipients, ceramicists senior Tommy Addy and junior Wesley Cha showcase their artistic products. Addy and Cha are just two of the many students who fit the school’s mold for creative, passionate and hard-working minds. The ceramics program, led by instructor Bill Kysor, emphasizes passion among its members.



For once, it wasn’t about the résumé. It wasn’t about college, or the “real world” or moneymaking. It wasn’t even about AP credits, or the hard earned A. For junior Wesley Cha, it’s still hard work. It requires hours in the ceramics studio, and many more hours of thought. But for Cha, it’s more than just black-and-white ideas, or one-dimensional figures.

For Cha, it’s all about — as in the words of Einstein — “intelligence having fun.” It’s all about creativity. “Ceramics, and more generally, the fine arts, is fun,” Cha said. “You don’t have to do everything in life just to have some sort of gain; it’s about doing it because you love to do it.” Cha’s love for his fine art, ceramics, is apparent in the numerous accolades he’s collected in the past months; in the Young Arts Presidential Scholar in the Arts National Competition, Cha won the Merit Award in the Visual Arts, the association’s fourth most prestigious title. “Along with the Merit Award from Young Arts, I’ve also won an Honorable Mention Award and a ‘Bailey Pottery Equipment’ award from the National K-12 Ceramics Exhibition,” Cha said. “And, as

for the Scholastic Arts and Writing Awards, I won two Gold Keys and three Silver Keys in the Region at-Large program.” Cha attributes the school’s Fine Arts program with instigating his passion for ceramics. Not only does the course provide him with an art credit and class, but it opens up completely new creative thinking processes. “The fact that St. Mark’s asks every student to take a year of art, or get them exposed to art, is very good,” Cha said. “Ceramics teaches me a lot about how to persevere. There are lots of times when I’m struggling after school by myself, so it’s taught me how to think creatively. It’s also taught me a lot about improvisation, when things aren’t going right. Without ceramics, I’d feel deprived of a passion.”

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► by **Cyrus Ganji**, life editor and **Shourya Kumar**, deputy commentary editor, additional reporting by **Richard Jiang**, staff writer | photo by **Andrew Gatherer**, head photographer

Signs now grace the newly-named Perot Quadrangle and Fojtasek Lower School

By **Noah Koecher** staff writer
The Ida M. and Cecil Green Commencement Theater location has been redefined with new signage closer to the entrance of Centennial Hall, while the new Perot Quadrangle has been named in its old location and the Fojtasek Lower School has been established as well. “We don’t just randomly make a decision to name something,” Assistant Headmaster David Dini said. “It’s done with a lot of thought and care and intention over time, and it has to be done in concert with policies that are established by the school.” Rather than a spur-of-the-moment decision, Dini stresses the signs denoting the Green Commencement Theater are simply being moved to new spaces provided by the demolishing of Davis Hall, previously, the iconic building on campus, after years of planning, while its old location will become the newly named Perot Quadrangle.

“The plaque you saw there, the monument with the landscaping around, was to say ‘This is where we have commencement,’” Dini said. “Well, Davis Hall used to sit right [along the Great Hall–Chapel Walkway], and then we tore Davis Hall down, so Commencement doesn’t occur there anymore, it occurs down [near Centennial]. So we’ve been talking for a number of years that we’re going to have to redefine and move the signage to reflect where Commencement now occurs.” This new signage, made of granite with the words “Ida M. and Cecil Green Commencement Theater” etched in, has become the new centerpiece for the chapel walkway, recognizing one of the founding fathers of both Texas Instruments and the school and a family with more than 60 years of continuous involvement. But that doesn’t mean the administration has forgotten more recent families of immersion. “That Commencement Theater is an

important, permanent reminder, and that’s why we want this signage to be a real important reminder of that legacy,” Dini said. “And in a similar way, the Perot Quadrangle, a family that’s had a more recent history, does some of the same kind of thing. It recognizes long-standing involvement from families that have been instrumental in the development and success and excellence of St. Mark’s.” In addition to the creation of the Perot Quadrangle, the new naming of the Fojtasek Lower School serves as another example of a continuous relationship of involvement and activity between a family and the school that has flowered into the naming of a central part of campus life. “And then, the third piece is the naming of the Lower School,” Dini said. “And again, the Lower School didn’t have a name on it, so this is a recognition of a family of engagement and involvement over time, and it’s an opportunity to recognize and highlight the

important role that the support of our community plays in ensuring that our students have the very best opportunities imaginable, and that means great facilities, great programs and great teachers.” And though the generosity and involvement of the school community is a crucial part of its continued success, Dini believes the naming of buildings and campus locations is a testimony to the impact of a people devoted to the future of everyone touched by 10600 Preston Road — and not by accident in the slightest. “That’s sort of the point,” Dini said. “When we’re able to recognize families, in big or small ways, it’s not so much about the money; it’s about the fact that people believe in the mission of the school, and they want to advance the mission of the school, and they believe in the people of the school, students and the faculty and they want to make sure that they’re given the very best opportunities they can have.”

THE THINKER Teaching Fellow **Emmett Gilles** has been hired as a full time instructor next year for the freshman history course, Foundations of World Societies. **p. 4**



ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE COLLEGE BOARD KATE LEVIN
“Our goal is to support college readiness and success for more students and to make sure that those who are prepared take full advantage of the opportunities they’ve earned.”
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The benchwarmer’s pride

I’m not very good at basketball. This season, I played in 18 of the team’s 26 games. I scored seven points, I dished out six assists, I turned it over four times. And I loved every minute of it. This season was a lot of hard work – workouts with Coach Dilworth on the track, weekends gone to tournaments in Wills Point or Houston, being a little late to class after a 6 a.m. Friday practice because you’re too tired to get in the shower – and a lot of exhilarated towel waving. For me, that’s enough. It wasn’t about playing time – I knew I would be limited in that. My goal was about challenging myself to do something hard and get better. But when my teammates voted me “Hardest Working Player” at the end of the year, I was stunned. I, one of the senior benchwarmers who averaged .39 points per game – right on pace to be tied for 466th in the NBA with Sacramento Kings center and Senegalese superstar Hamady Ndiaye – was somehow an award-winning player on a great Division one SPC team. It helped me solidify a suspicion I had long held about this school – that hard work is valued just as much as success. Maybe more. Yes, I dreaded those morning practices, I complained to friends during those far-away tournaments, and I sighed with as much angst as I could muster when I saw “Dilworth,” on the daily practice plan. But the team went through it together, got better together and became great friends. The work let the benchwarmers wave our towels with pride as we made Division One, won a triple overtime thriller against Greenhill and beat the Eagles on a night that reminded everyone how robust and vivacious the Marksman spirit is.



DYLAN CLARK

I can’t sum up the St. Mark’s experience. There’s no way to say “this is the right path for a Marksman,” because the Path to Manhood is different for each of us. All I can say for certainty is that I worked hard – in class, in sports and on this newspaper – and am leaving happy. Maybe that will work for you, too. And as I look upon the 36 days left until I walk across that stage – the one so often whispered about as the larger-than-life milestone at the finish line – I think that effort is that secret, one-size-fits-all solution for those who fear feeling unfulfilled the day graduation looms in the horizon as it does for this Class of 2014 now. We worked our butts off. Our class has won SPC and State championships, won math competitions, survived junior year and built a box fort that may not have stood the test of time but will become legend. When Commencement comes calling, we will get our diplomas, but we won’t get any receipt that lists all those hours we spent working on the musical or tutoring children at Jubilee or doing X or Y or Z. But we don’t need any “receipt” because all of that effort has made us who we are – 86 men on our ways across the country to learn, to serve, and to lead. The hard work will soon pay off.

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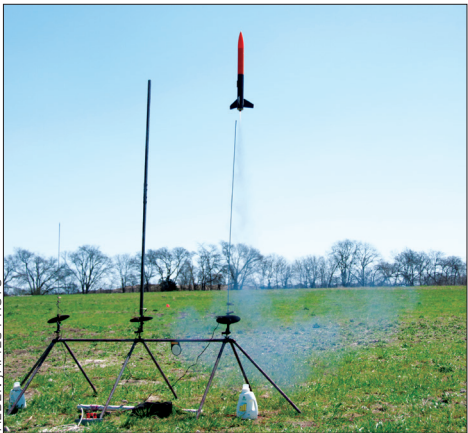
To those who aren’t running short on days left as Marksmen, don’t squander the chance to make something amazing out of your time here. Outdo us. Get involved in an extracurricular, dedicate your time to mastering a language or unveil the journalist inside yourself. Be a debater, a ceramicist or a three-sport athlete. But also allow yourself to be bad at something. Learn about it. Strive to be better at whatever it is and I promise you’ll learn something about yourself too. You’ll be in my place in just a few years and, if you work your hardest here, you’ll be glad you did. Believe me, you can be the guy scoring .39 points per game and loving it.

upcoming | THINGS TO DO IN THE WEEKS AHEAD

Today	This Weekend	Next Week
<div><p>STEPPING UP Director of Development David Dini addresses students, parents and faculty at last year’s annual Cum Laude Induction Ceremony.</p></div> <div>> Elections for Student Council executive officers will take place in Upper School assembly at 10:30 a.m.</div> <div>> Free the Children’s last bake sale will take place at 3:45 p.m. in the Commons. All proceeds will go to the club’s charitable operations in Africa.</div>	<div>>School will not meet tomorrow due to the Good Friday celebration, which is a part of Christian holy week.</div> <div>> Classes will begin at 10:30 a.m. Monday after Easter. The normal schedule for late start days will be followed.</div>	<div>> The Cum Laude Induction Ceremony will take place Wednesday at 3:15 p.m. in the chapel. The event recognizes the top academic performers of the junior and senior classes.</div> <div>> Course selections for the following school year are due under the course requests section of Whipple Hill next Monday.</div>

newsfeed | A QUICK LOOK AT NEWS AROUND CAMPUS

- Freshman **Ian Fitzgerald** received second place in the Chinese Bridge Speech Contest for high school students March 8. Inspired to participate by Chinese instructor Dr. Lei Zhang, he was selected from a group of 24 finalists. He went to the University of Massachusetts at Boston, delivered a speech about poetry and held a question and answer session, both in Chinese. “It was definitely a unique experience, and I plan on doing it again,” Fitzgerald said. The competition was sponsored by the Confucius Institute at the University of Massachusetts at Boston.
 - For the second year in a row, all three school publications have earned a Gold Crown from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA). *The ReMarker* extended its streak to 11 consecutive Gold Crowns, while the *Marksmen* earned its sixth in a row and *The Marque* its fifth total. *The ReMarker*, *Marksmen* and *The Marque* were among 66 other publications awarded a Gold Crown by the CSPA. A panel of judges evaluated 1,200 submissions nationwide for the 2012-13 school year and awarded Gold Crowns at Columbia University March 21, 2014. Last year’s editors-in-chief were **Daniel Hersh ’13** for *The ReMarker*, **Parker Matthews ’13** for the *Marksmen* and co-editors **Robbey Orth ’13** and **Nic Lazzara ’13** for *The Marque*.
 - The annual Spring Piano recital, held by **Sandy Hall**, piano studies teacher, will be held May 4. This year, all of Hall’s students will participate in the recital. “All of my students are participating in this, and there are just about 50 [students],” Hall said. The recital gives all of her students a goal to work towards and accomplish. “The piano recital gives my students a chance to share their best works with family and friends,” Hall said. “My students have almost half a year to prepare, and then the recital is a chance for them to finally display their work”. Hall’s piano recital, which is held twice per year, is a requirement for all of her students. “Although the recital is a requirement for my kids, I think that it is something they look forward to, to showcase their skills.”
 - Senior **Ryan O’Meara**, issues editor of *The ReMarker*, was named the Texas High School Journalist of the Year last month after submitting a portfolio that included examples of his writing, design and work on special projects. He travelled to San Diego earlier this month to attend a convention where he was named second place finisher the National Journalist of the Year, sponsored by the Journalism Education Association and the National Scholastic Press Association. “I’m so proud of this award, but a lot of the credit has to go to the whole staff,” O’Meara said. “Without everyone working their hardest, I wouldn’t be able to do work like this.” Last year’s editor-in-chief, **Daniel Hersh ’13**, placed third in the previous national competition.
- Newsfeed stories reported by Akshay Malhotra, Matthew Placide, and PJ Voorheis



ALDEN JAMES PHOTO

SKYBOUND The St. Mark’s Aeronautics and Space Administration (SMASA) club launched a qualifying rocket for the national Team America Rocketry Challenge which has secured them a spot for nationals in Virginia and a chance at internationals in Paris.



CONNOR OLSON PHOTO

JAMMIN’ OUT At the Austin Street Center dinner and charity event, the jazz club launches into a performance to benefit and entertain clients staying at the homeless shelter. Dozens of Marksmen attended the dinner March 27, which preceded the Street Fest several days later.



ALDEN JAMES PHOTO

PIECE BY PIECE In the annual cow dissection, students in fourth grade instructor Debra Materre’s class cut into a heart, identifying various sections and pieces of the organ to further their knowledge in science.

overheard | COMMENTS MADE BY FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENTS AROUND CAMPUS

‘They’re not hippie molecules!’ - Chemistry instructor **Ken Owens** describing radical molecules to his tenth grade class

‘It looks like something people would have made just after they learned to walk.’ - Ceramics instructor **Bill Kysor** to senior **Ryan O’Meara**

‘What? It helps me focus.’ - Sophomore **Chance Cooley** on watching *Jeopardy!* while doing his homework

‘I’ll give you the sparknotes version.’ - Sophomore **Arno Goetz** describing his plans to take over the world to a classmate

‘Mhm mhm, no, only Big Daddy touches the stapler’ - English instructor **David Brown** to junior **Nick Jelsma**

‘What? What kind of Communist country do you think this is?’ - sixth grade humanities instructor **Kathy Schoeberlein**