



Anticipating prom? Enjoy some helpful hints to prepare for the grand occasion.

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the highLIFE

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How sad it is to see people on the streets of our states begging for money and shelter. It is evident that America spends exorbitant amounts of money on wars but does not take care of its own poor.

”

De'Shawn Jones

News

GHS Alumni Association celebrates yet another successful fundraiser with its ever-popular Whirlie Walk, an annual affair. **page 2**

Opinion

Student questions whether admissions officers really prefer average grades in college-level courses over top grades in honors and college-prep courses. **page 3**

Features

Enjoying Spring Break did not necessarily mean a visit to the beach for some students who chose a change of venue this year. **page 9**

Sports

Committee adds golf and rugby to schedule of 2020 Olympics at the expense of wrestling, one of the oldest sports recorded. **page 10**

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Vatican City welcomes first Latin American, first Jesuit pope, former Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio

BY MAC BALL
Editor-in-Chief

As of March 13, 2013, the Catholic Church welcomed a new, non-European Pope, Francis I. Elite Cardinals from around the world elected Jorge Mario Bergoglio, former Cardinal and Archbishop of Buenos Aires, Argentina, in a generally short election period; less than a week of discussion and voting was necessary, much shorter than other papal elections in history. Bergoglio is the first Pope in history to come from the Americas, as most have emerged from Europe.

Pope Francis is the first to take the name of the infamous Saint Francis of Assisi. St. Francis is known as the patron saint of animals, the environment, and numerous other categories recognized by the church. He was also very well known for his work in aiding the poor in Italy. Pope Francis assumed the name to show his main focus as head of the Catholic Church will be helping impoverished Catholics, especially those in his home of South America, which has the largest population of Catholics in the world.



Pope Francis greets the crowd on Thursday, March 14. At his side were Cardinal Santos Abril of Spain (left) and Cardinal Agostino Vallini, the Vicar General of Rome. *Internet photo*

As the Archbishop of Buenos Aires, Pope Francis lived a very simplistic life. Generally, the Archbishop lives in a very nice home and has a personal driver to take him to work and elsewhere; however, he refused to take either and instead lived in a one-room apartment downtown and rode the city bus to work in order to meet with the general public every day. South Americans consider him a beloved figure, as evident on the

night of his election when devout Catholics flooded the streets of Buenos Aires in celebration.

Even so, many people are already ridiculing Pope Francis for his strongly fundamental ideals, which Catholics have followed for hundreds of years. As a member of the Jesuit order, he is a strong supporter of same-sex marriage, openly fighting against gay marriage in a recent Argentinian refer-

endum, a battle which he lost in the end. In addition, the Pope is strongly against women's empowerment and influence within the church.

Pope, in the dictionary, means Papa in Italian, and in Latin, it means father, thus the Pope is the father figure for the Church, a role that Pope Francis's predecessor, Benedict XVI, did not take seriously enough, according to some members of the Catholic Church. Much of the Catholic community hopes that Pope Francis will take his role very seriously and act similarly to Pope John Paul II, who passed away in 2005. John Paul II is now known as the Great John Paul II because of his world renowned kindness, care for the poor, and work to bring the Church, both the Catholic and Eastern Orthodox, closer together. John Paul, who is now in the process of becoming a Saint, was beatified by Pope Benedict XVI in 2011. Pope Francis demonstrates similar characteristics of Pope John Paul II, sparking international interest in his new leadership role.

YAMFest draws crowd due to optimal planning, engaging speakers, programs

BY LUKE SUMERFORD
Layout Design Editor

On Saturday, March 16, senior Kassra Homaifar and math teacher Roberta Rohan hosted the Greensboro Youth and Media festival, YAMFest. First of its kind in the area, the event brought together speakers from across the country to converse with parents, teachers, and students about the relationship between youth and media. YAMFest's mission is to encourage such conversations between adults and today's youth in order to improve their communication and understanding of each other. More than 200 people were in attendance.

In this day and age when so many children are browsing the Internet, some adults have little or no understanding of social media's impact on teenage life. At YAMFest, speakers tackled issues ranging from cyber bullying to computer hacking to music on social networks.

"We wanted to have a well-rounded group of speakers in a variety of topics related to social media. In the end, through hard work and persistence, we were able to draw speakers from Harvard, NYC, and A&T as well as students and teachers from Grimsley," said Homaifar, the project manager.

From Harvard University's School of Engineering and Design, Hugo Van Vuuren delivered the Keynote speech. He later lectured about innovations in transportation, communication, and education and technology's impact on all of them. Meredith Beaton, along with Sandra Cortesi, a director of the Youth and Media Project, hosted a session called Mythbusters, in which they tackled common misconceptions regarding social media. Another highlight of the festival was listening to Byron Turman, a professor from A&T, who addressed how social media has affected the music in-

dustry and will continue to do so the future.

Music director Marshall Johnson also hosted a session. He demonstrated how people can record studio-quality songs directly from their personal tablets through advancements in technology.

Following the sessions, attendees of YAMFest were eligible for raffle prizes that included an IPAD mini and two Kindle Fires.

"Since the festival, we have received great feedback from students and adults alike and have been encouraged to continue hosting the festival for years to come. We are excited to have underclassmen take the reins and hopefully gain even larger attendance next year," said Homaifar.

Planning for the event took several months, beginning in October or 2012. Committee meetings occurred in the morning before school started on Whirlie Wednesdays. Eighteen

students, along with faculty members and community leaders collaborated on all of the logistics involved. For instance, Judge Lawrence McSwain from the Community Foundation helped sponsor the Big Ideas competition and announced the first-place winners, juniors Akash Akaggandi and Akhil Bondlela.

Homaifar was pleased with the number of people who attended YAMFest, especially considering it took place on a Saturday afternoon when the ACC tournament was in full swing.

"The event was a blast, and we were really pleased with the conversations that each speaker fostered in their workshops. Overall, it seemed like the students, teachers, parents, and community leaders all enjoyed learning about issues relevant to them and their communities," said Homaifar.