



# The TIE

Saint Joseph Prep's Student Newspaper

Tradition - Integrity - Excellence

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## SJP celebrates Multicultural Day

by Anthony Khoory `19

**SAINT JOSEPH PREP** — On Friday, March 31, SJP celebrated its diversity in the 5th annual Multicultural Day. After attending two class periods, the students toured the school with their advisory visiting different rooms where their classmates shared the heritage of 15 different nations.

Each room typically featured a digital presentation, food, and some activity representative of that group’s cultural identity. For example, **McKenzie Jennette `18** led an exercise in which she taught the visitors of Trinidad and Tobago popular slang terms specific to the islands. Over in South Korea’s room, **Jessica Kwon `17** wrote each visitor's name in Korean characters, creating name tags for everyone.



Mr. Shiner, Nailah Khoory, Jindi Ren and Anthony Khoory dance the dabke in the Middle Eastern room. (photo by L. Walkins)

Mr. Shiner, who helped in the Middle Eastern room, was “proud to see how every room was very student-led.” The Middle Eastern presentation included garlicky hummus, savory stuffed grape leaves, sweet baklava, and a communal dabke dance.

**Maria Andrade `19**, was so glad to have helped create a Cape Verdean room. She felt overjoyed to share this culture because “most people don't really know much about it.” In that room, the presentation included dancing, a Cape Verdean Creole lesson, and of course food.



Kira Fernandes and Maria Andrade share their favorite dishes from Cape Verde. (photo by L. Walkins)

Faculty members voted for the best overall presentations and the winners were announced at the assembly which concluded the fun-filled day.

Congratulations to the winning rooms:

**1st Place** - South Korea - Jessica Kwon `17, Jihae Kim `18, Jamie Seo `18, Min Kang `17, Sam Lee `20

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### Multicultural Day *(continued from page 1)*

**2nd Place** - Italy - Anthony Bradley `17, Cali Lapenta `17, Lily Fabrizio `18

**3rd Place (tie)** - Ireland - Sharon King `17, Mary Forbes `17, Hannah Burke `17, Hayley Leger `17, Cayleigh McMullan `17, Jackie Joyce `17

**3rd Place (tie)** - Cape Verde - Maria Andrade `19, Kira Fernandes `19, Armani Monteiro `17



Visitors to South Korea compete in the Chicken Fight game.  
(photo by L. Walkins)

Students also showcased the unique culture of the following countries:

China - Valerie Gao `19, Yvonne Li `18, Elena Wang `18, Bruce He `18, Randy Su `18, Sam Wu `18

Germany - Maren Strauss `19, Charlie Cassidy `19, Alex Tracanna `19

Greece - Sophia Sáponge `17, Sophia Pappas `19, Emily Taranto `17 and Bianca Tracanna `17

Haiti - Shereka Dauphine `19, Joadly Duplan `17, Tyler

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## TIE STUDENT LIFE

### Five seniors participate in model government conference

by Nailah Khoory `18

**MASSACHUSETTS STATE HOUSE, BOSTON** — On March 2-4, 2017, five SJP seniors attended the Model Government Conference at the State House and Omni Parker House. Over the course of three days, the students defended cases in mock trials and lobbied for bills in legislative hearings.

Split into three sections to imitate the federal government, the program is setup into the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Branches. Each branch organized its own agenda in order to inform the youth on how the government operates. Students applied and interviewed to take on the role of committee members, judges, or other government officials at the conference.

The students representing SJP opted to attend the conference as Congress members. Throughout the three days, they learned to voice their opinions, challenge others, and take constructive criticism in a legitimate and productive way. These skills will stay with them as they graduate this spring and matriculate in universities next fall.

**Hermione Zhang `17, Jack Brooks `17, Yilin Lu `17, Andrew Donabedian `17, and Reginald Fils `17**

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## Perfecting Pi(e)

by Kelli Aquino `18

**MATH DEPARTMENT** — “Let’s do this!” Mr. Faherty, one of the judges for the annual Pi Day Competition, shouted enthusiastically as he entered Mrs. Muth’s room, the location of the Pi(e) Bake-Off. He was joined by fellow judges Ms. Bacon and Ms. Byun who were selected to taste the 11 student-made pies.

The room was crowded with students who were anxiously waiting to taste some of the pies themselves. **Lily Fabrizio `18**, who made an Oreo Cream pie, was in suspense because she had “Only tasted the batter, so I am wondering how my pie tastes to other people.”

After careful deliberation, Mrs. Muth’s homemade trophy was awarded to **Charlie Cassidy `19**, who baked a spectacular Apple Cinnamon pie. When the winner was determined, students were then allowed a taste of all the pies entered in the competition.

Ms. Bacon commented, “I haven’t eaten this much pie in my life.”

Next door, Ms. Griffith’s room was quiet as students were hard at work at the Pi Day Memorization Contest. Students had spent the past weeks memorizing digits of Pi.

Ms. Griffith promoted this contest at lunch by giving out slices of pie to students who had memorized the first 10 digits of Pi. **Kira Fernandez `19** said that memorizing the 10 digits for a slice of pie was “So worth it!”

After school, students wrote all of the digits of Pi they had memorized on a piece of paper. It was a tight race. **Gigi Guarino `19** and **Emily Taranto `16** tied for third place with 50 digits. Second place was awarded to **Hannah Burke `16** with 51 digits memorized. The winner, with 86 digits, was **Kelli Aquino `18**, who won an amazing lemon meringue pie baked by Ms. Griffith, who had won a Pi memorization contest when she was in high school.

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## Freshmen athletes make friends and create lasting bonds on teams

by Jordyn Britton `20

**ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT** — As freshmen, the one thing that we all worry about (other than our grades), is making friends. We are all told that the ways we can do that is to be outgoing, nice, friendly, and most of all, don’t be shy.

But along with all of those seemingly excellent tactics, participating in sports can be a great way to get involved. Join a team and meet some people who share a common interest. Being in a new school isn’t just about new teachers and new classes. It is about new faces and friendships too.

**Allie Burke `20** (varsity soccer, JV basketball) agrees. “Playing sports has helped me form tight-knit relationships. Through sports I met my first friends in high school and as I have progressed through the different seasons, I have formed friendships with people in my own grade as well as people in other grades that I may not have talked to if I hadn’t played.”

This year, the freshman class has performed consistently on the sports teams each season. **Gabe Hanna `20** made his classmates proud on the soccer field being one of the essential varsity players. **Aidan Donohue `20**, **Sam Wright `20** and **Jared Methala `20** persevered through the football season along with the rest of their teammates like real pros. **Katelynn O’Connor `20**, **Colleen Dooling `20** and **Molly Wheet `20** were three of the star freshman starting players on this year’s girls varsity basketball team in the winter season.

It has been a long and prosperous year for the sports teams here at SJP. Now, the spring season is upon us and the freshmen are stepping up, making their

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### Youth in Government *(continued from page 2)*

dedicated several months to prepare for this conference.

They met every month with other members in the Allston-Brighton community to compose and practice their case in order to deliver it to over 200 students.

Andrew Donabedian's presentation persuaded the crowd so much that his bill about restructuring the current system regarding the homeless was passed by the mock House of Representatives. Additionally, Hermione Zhang showed such exemplary skills in legal advocating that she was one of four students to receive an Outstanding Legal Advocate award.

While they were in Boston, the students also spent time touring the State House, sitting in official sessions, and meeting Governor Charlie Baker.

The program that hosts the conference, Youth in Government, is sponsored by the YMCAs around Boston and run with the joint cooperation of the Massachusetts state government. **Danny Donabedian `13** initiated the program at SJP in 2012. This is the fifth year the school has sent a student delegation to the annual conference.



*Andrew Donabedian, Hermione Zhang, Jack Brooks, Yilin Lu and Reggie Fils in the corridors of the State House.*

### Pi Day *(continued from page 3)*

Mr. Koelsh's room was the location of the Pi Day Creativity Contest and creativity was abundant. Ms. Piendak and Mr. O'Mara were the teacher judges and Mr. O'Mara remarked that each entry was, "Creative and artistic. Pi is a broad topic and it was interesting to see how people went down a lot of different paths with each of their art pieces."

The winner, **Damara Andrade `20**, was very humble when asked how long it took her to complete her artwork. She spent a total of two days on her remarkable masterpiece that featured a life-size leprechaun and a pot of gold with many digits of Pi inside. **Shereka Dauphine `19**, the second place winner, drew a pie in the shape of Pi and filled it with digits of Pi! **Gabriella Rizzo `20** and **Danielle Spillane `20** teamed up to create a poster board with informational facts about Pi and were awarded third place along with **T.J. Nolan `20** who drew a very "punny" picture of a "Pi-lot."

The Pi Day Contests this year at SJP were popular. A diverse group of students explored, enjoyed, and had fun with Pi and pie!

## TIE ARTS

### Phoenix Players shine in spring musical

**PHOENIX HALL** — Congratulations to the Phoenix Players. The spring musical production of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (directed by Ms. Griffith and Ms. Becker) was a hit!

Audiences filled Phoenix Hall with appreciative laughter and applause on March 31 and April 1 as the intrepid spellers (**Jojo Duplan `17**, **Yilin Lu `17**, **Doris Xue `17**, **Michael Chmura `18**, **Anthony Khoory `19**, **Aleksandra Christie `19**, **Carly Sacco `19**, **Valerie Gao `19**), competed for the coveted trophy. Rona Lisa Peretti (**Gabriella Ribeiro `19**), a former Bee winner, and vice principal, Douglas Panch (**Jeff Chen `20**), along with Official Comfort Counselor, Mitch Mahoney (**Hermione**

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**Multicultural Day** (continued from page 2)

Gary-Louis `19, Taisha Joseph `19, Emmanuella Rene `19, Shanice St. Fleur `19

Middle East - Gabe Hanna `20, Anthony Khoory `19, Nailah Khoory `18

Norway - Martine Björnstad `17, Jeonghun Kim `17

Russia - Aleksandra Christie `19, Cameron Ferent `19, Annie McElroy `19, Helen Miao `19

Judaism - Rebekah Forrest `17, Sarah Forrest `19, Audrey McDonough `17

Peru - Jonathan Stratter `17, Benjamin Stratter `17, Ricky Espada `17, Dante Salvucci `17, Theresa Sandbrook `17

Puerto Rico - Herminio Alvarez `18, Isaac Amato `18, Jacob Bianculli `18

Trinidad and Tobago - Kelli Aquino `18, Nacaira Hill-Malloy `18, Destiny King `18, Philippe Legagneur `17, McKenzie Jennette `18, Joseline Pineda Ruiz `18



Multicultural Day presenters proudly display flags from around the world. (photo by S. Shuman)

**Freshmen Athletes** (continued from page 3)

presence known and making new friends on the spring sports teams.

**Gabe Hanna `20** (varsity soccer, varsity track & field) noted, “The friends you make during sports, are friends that will last with you throughout your high school experience. On the soccer team and now the track team, I have made lasting friendships based from these experiences.”

Roll Phoenix!

**Students sample delicious dishes from around the world on Multicultural Day**

by Gioia Guarino `19

**SAINT JOSEPH PREP** — On Friday, March 31, 2017, the teachers generously gave up almost a full day of classes to celebrate the importance of the diverse cultures represented in our school community. Each year, everyone looks forward to Multicultural Day, especially having the chance to sample the delicious food from around the world.

As the advisories made their way from room to room, the students and their teachers were able to taste many different dishes. Fifteen nations and their cuisines were represented this year.

The top five foods according to the students who spoke to *The TIE* were both sweet and savory.

For **Meghan Doyle `19**, the *empanadas* in the Puerto Rico room were “very delicious!”

Moving on to our friends representing South Korea, the visitors who competed in and won the Chicken Fight game or another game called *Ttak Jee* were awarded spicy noodles as a special treat. The victors all exclaimed how the noodles really were spicy, yet delicious.

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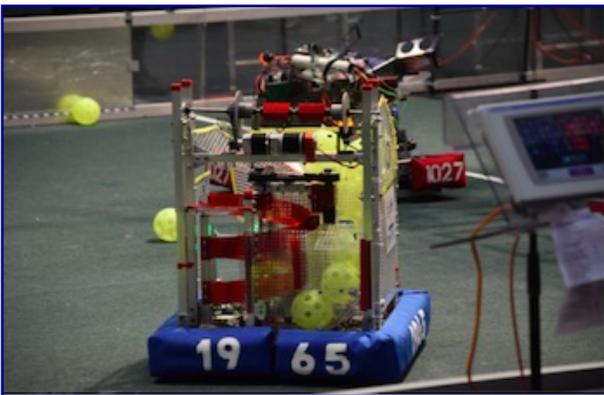
## TIE CLUBS

### SJP Firebirds compete in two robotics competitions

by Gabe Hanna `20

**ROBOTICS LAB** — The SJP Robotics team competed in two competitions in March. The first competition at WPI served as a learning experience for everyone involved.

This year, during "FRC Steamworks 2017" there were three necessary components for the robot: shooting, setting gears, and rope climbing. For the shooting mechanism, there was a high placed goal, and a low placed goal into which the robot would shoot or place large whiffle balls. For gear placement in the middle of the field, there were two human player stations. Once a robot has retrieved a gear, it would place the gear onto an arrow on the station, and the human player would lift up the gear and rotate it clockwise to gain points. In the last thirty seconds of a match, all robots would look for their own ropes on the human player station. The ropes, would be detached from the station by the human players in order for the robots to climb.



Archie, the Team 1965 robot, in action (photo by G. Hanna)

SJP's robot, named Archie by the team, was raring to go and passed through inspection on the first try, ensuring the team was ready for matches at noon. Although, everything did not go to plan during the first competition, the robot constantly was under repair or re-tested. No matter the problem, whether coding, or the mechanisms, the students assisted by mentors worked their hardest to

ensure there was no ultimate failure.

The Firebirds were complimented quite a lot during the competition by judges, and fellow teams. This was primarily because of a 3D-printed Archimedes screw, designed on CAD, by **Theresa Sandbrook '17**. This thoughtful and creative component made our robot's design stand out.

Dropping from a comfortable 11th place to 39th at the end of the day, the team was not "disappointed" per se; everyone on the team had the desire to do better next time at Revere High School.

Our robot's climbing mechanism was faulty, and needed more support while climbing. Before going to the next competition, the Firebirds adapted an idea from another robot, creating a half 3D-printed and half Velcro rope climbing mechanism.

At Revere High School, the team was pumped, ready to show how Archie was different from the rest. It passed inspection and the SJP fans erupted into cheers as the SJP robot took center stage, ready to shine in the spotlight.

Assisted by two other teams, the Firebirds put in the finest work on the field. The robot placed gears with perfection, collected and attempted to shoot, and climbed the rope with amazing ease and no hesitation. The crowd started to shout and applaud. The Firebirds achieved the highest score in the competition, being in the high three hundreds, to the opposing team's two-hundred some points.

The rest of the competition went to plan, becoming one of the most successful ones in Team 1965's history. Led by

**Cam Ferent `19**, Team 1965 poses for a group photo. (photo by G. Hanna)



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## STUDENT POLL

### March Madness book tournament in LC

by Nailah Khoory '18

**LEARNING COMMONS** — Besides being known for Saint Patrick's Day, the Ides of March, and the first day of spring, the month of March brings anticipation and excitement to those who follow the March Madness basketball tournament.

College teams play against each other to qualify to the next round until there are only two teams left in the championship game. Fans root for their alma mater or current school, and the tournament has gained more and more press each year.

To imitate the excitement of the basketball tournament, the Saint Joseph Prep Learning Commons held a March Madness Book Tournament to select SJP's 2017 Book of the Year, collecting votes through weekly polls sent out to all students and faculty.

In the first round to choose the Elite Eight (for the sake of March Madness terminology) a classic *The Great Gatsby* won over *The Catcher in the Rye*. Non-fiction and sports related winners were *The Nazi Hunters* and *If You're Reading This*. A different kind of book that was featured was *Persepolis*, a graphic novel about a girl growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution.

Two popular fantasy novels were pitted against each other with *Harry Potter* claiming victory against *Percy Jackson* which sparked some heated debates at lunch.

*The Name of the Star*, *Saint Anything*, and *A Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, were also winners prevailing over *Revolution*, *Anna and the French Kiss* and *I, Robot*. Unfortunately, these titles did not make it to the next round, the Final Four.

As the month of March progressed, basketball fans suffered as upsets occurred and teams lost. Luckily, the book madness did not cause any suffering. In the Final Four, between *The Great Gatsby*, *If You're Reading*

*This*, *The Nazi Hunters*, and *Harry Potter and Deathly Hallows*, *Gatsby* and *Harry Potter* advanced to the finals.

The championship between a roaring twenties prohibition novel about a wealthy and wild businessman and a fantasy concerning teen-aged wizards growing up with magical powers, was close because both books are popular in the student community.

While *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* came out victorious, I encourage each of you to read all of these interesting books.

Happy reading!



Did you vote in the March Madness polls to select the 2017 Book of the Year at SJP? (photo by L. Walkins)

### Robotics (continued from page 6)

quarterfinals, becoming alliance captains. Additionally, **Carly Sacco `19** received an Industrial Safety Award.

This year has been a great year for the SJP Robotics team. It will be sad to say good-bye to seniors, **Sharon King, Matt Muldowney, Theresa Sandbrook, Hayley Leger, Rebekah Forrest, Raphy Hanna, Sophia Sáponte, Emily Taranto, and Cali Lapenta.** The team thanks the seniors for their great contributions and wishes them success as they head off to college.

### Multicultural Day Food (continued from page 5)

Next came Norway, where the scenery is beautiful and the chocolate is amazing. The *Freia* chocolate was my favorite thing, and I look forward to it each year.



Delectable chocolate from Norway. (photo by L. Walkins)

On to Italy! Italy is known for its pride, and it is especially evident through the food. **Jacob Bianculli `19** tried the meatballs and exclaimed, "I kept going back for more."

In the Middle East, there were delicious snacks consisting of rice wrapped in grape leaves. These were especially popular with Ms. Mueller's advisory!

What will the Multicultural Day menu offer next year?



Collage of scenes from the Spelling Bee (photo by L. Walkins)

### Spring Musical (continued from page 4)

**Zhang `17** shepherded the quirky youngsters through the competition. To add to the fun, spellers from the audience joined the students from Putnam County each night.

Taking their roles to heart, the student actors perfectly captured the unique spirit of their characters bringing them to life on the stage.

**Carly Sacco (Leaf Coneybear)** said, "I feel like I connected to Leaf on a spiritual level. She is me and I am her. She was so fun to play!"

Led by musical director, Mr. Shiner, the spellers explained their personal stories and dilemmas through song. They performed funny numbers like "Magic Foot" and poignant songs like "The I Love You Song."

Behind the scenes, the crew did an excellent job with the set, costumes, sound and lighting as well.

Bravo!