



# The Cardinal

St. Andrew's School, Middletown, Delaware

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2016  
VOLUME LXXXIII, ISSUE 3

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*Ethan Bond '19, Noor El-Baradie '19, Mia Beams '19 enjoy sledding!*

## “Treading Lightly and Jangling Keys:” My Thoughts on Walk Around Duty

GRETCHEN HAGENBAUCH

I'm a pretty complicated person. I'm bossy, direct, and controlling. Yet I have a huge squishy soft center. It's as if my outside has to be hard simply to protect my inside, my heart. I'm simply amazed at the relationship adults in this community have with their students. I've never experienced anything like it in any other school I've either worked at or visited. We trust each other, and we expect the best from one another.

In Wellness, I get to talk about all the cool, juicy human experiences that might be excluded in other classes. When the subject of Walk Around Duty has come up in class, or at the dining room table, it is here where I get the sense that the SAS student/adult relationship is on shakier ground. I am honestly surprised by how upset students sometimes get on the topic of WAD (walk around duty). I've heard, “Oh...for sure, there are teachers who are literally TRYING to catch kids in compromising situations” or “I don't understand why the teachers here can't leave us alone!”

Let's be clear, as I move forward on the topic of WAD I am only sharing from my perspective. I have never met a teacher at SAS who wants to catch students in a delicate situation. I'm not saying that they don't exist; I'm saying that in the limited conversations I've had with other adults, never has a teacher said “Yeah...I like to sneak up on kids and embarrass the crap out of them!!”

This is how I've explained MY feelings about Walk Around Duty and sexual relations among students in general to anyone who will listen. Firstly, I'm an adult. Secondly, I want all young people, whether they are at St. Andrew's or elsewhere to have an age appropriate, consensual opportunity to engage in the things that make being a human great. It's normal, it's healthy, it's fun, and well...it feels good. Thirdly, back to the beginning...I'm an adult. Not only am I an adult, I'm an adult that is responsible for you. I'm your mom, if your mom was a middle-aged lesbian. If I was your 'real' mom I would want the same things for you that I listed above, and I would darn sure want to know that the school I was trusting your life with was not like some bad scene from the 1960's, with 'free love' and all that groovy stuff.

*(Continued on Page 4)*

HAVE AN OPINION?

WRITE ABOUT IT.



## The Cardinal



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## Seal's 19 Fun Facts About SAS

Cameron Turnbull '16

As we enter the New Year, I bet pretty much every St. Andean is almost finished with their rebirth as a grizzled veteran of our academic environment. "Surely" says the freshman, no longer fresh-tailed and bushy-eyed, "I am now an expert of the goings on of this Hogwarts-on-a-budget institution!" Don't get cocky, kid. Here are a couple truths about this school that even our salt-and-pepper seniors might be surprised by.

1. Did you know our headmaster's name is actually an acronym? T.A.D (or, the Terrifying Automated Director) was produced in the early 80's to act with the optimal balance of power, free day mongering and ethos in order to manage a boarding school. He must tame his luxurious mane fastidiously in order to keep the service hub on his scalp accessible, much to Mrs. Roach's disappointment.
2. At St. Andrew's, we pride ourselves on our use of local resources. Did you know that approximately 2/3 of our salt comes from Will Rob whenever he sees youth having fun?
3. Noxontown Pond was dug out as part of Dr McLean's whale conservation efforts. Old Bluetail returns to the surface every dozen years to grant one lucky Envi. Sci. student's wish.
4. It's almost common knowledge that Mr Finch took Tina Fey to prom back in the Palaeolithic era. What most people don't know is that he was the one who wore a pink sequin dress and rode in on a sick scooter.
5. Al receives royalty checks from Disney and Pixar annually. He is looking forward to expanding his personal gym after the premiere of The Incredibles 2.
6. There are approximately 14 people who have crossed Mr Kunen and subsequently disappeared. I'd say more, but then the number would become 15.
7. Lil' Jon's entire career was inspired after he saw Duffy perform as a hype man at a club where Ms. Pressman was an up-and-coming freestyle battle rapper.
8. Mrs. Kemer's love of gardening stems from when she was stranded on Mars for 461 sols, and had to grow potatoes to survive. She retains her love of space travel, which she partakes in frequently with her daredevil husband.
9. Mademoiselle Wright, contrary to popular belief, did not leave last year, but has instead been meditating at a shrine of field-hockey sticks hidden in the bellows of the chapel.
10. The entirety of the Mario franchise comes from one chance encounter between Mr. Dickson, who at the time had a moustache and a penchant for turtle and mushroom soup, and Shigeru Miyamoto in the sewers of Concord, NH.
11. The best-smelling member of our community is Seal Turnbull, and he totally DID NOT sell his soul for it, but, if you're reading this Beelzebub, there's a reason I'm not returning your calls.
12. Nathan Koski – Vascirca breastfed Gibson Hurtt for three months before either of them realised he was not the mother.
13. #canthelpbutconnect is derived from the ancient Polynesian phrase "Khanthal petkownet." Ms Devine has a close relationship with the spiritual forces at work in the pacific, which she curated as an ally after the Attack of the Undead in '52
14. The guns on display in the Main Common Room are relics of a forgotten age. Literally. Time is on a cyclical loop and they are artifacts from existence's previous iteration. It is our sacred duty to defend them until the great Reset, and then to ensure they make it back to the beginning.
15. Very few know that emotional maturity is the secret to being a deadly kick boxer. That is why Roz and Whiz are so feared in the ring. need more here i think.
16. Foehl, Permutt and Samulski once got on each other's shoulders and put on a trench coat to try and hang out with the GÜch boys.
17. Ironically, Miles, Ben and Harry once got on each other's shoulders and put on a trench coat to try and hang out with Crowley and Dickson.
18. The 20th century classic, "I'm Too Sexy" by Right Said Fred was written under the working title "The Ballad of Mastrocola"
19. New junior Emma Stegeman is on a highly covert mission for MI6. In order to avoid compromising the integrity of her secret identity DO NOT call her Agent 32. In order to avoid compromising the integrity of your spine, do not sneak up on her in a poorly lit hallway.



# OPINIONS

## Should You Order Food at SAS?

Bingran Hu '16

Here is a snapshot of Sherwood Common Room on January 28th, 2016. Besides exposing a lack of good personal habits, the picture shows how much people ordered food over Long Weekend. What made Chinese food and Papa John's superior to the dining hall food, especially with their ever-increasing prices? One reason could be that students were willing to spend more money during break to treat themselves. On the other hand, due to the blizzard it was difficult for Sage to get fresh products for the dining hall, and our diligent chefs were also probably worn out.

However, this is not the type of long weekend that I had been looking forward to. I clearly remember when, during my freshman year winter long

weekend, Chef Ray cooked steaks for the students staying on campus. Surprised, I asked why the food was so good. Chef Ray told me: "Because you guys didn't go home like the other kids, I want my food to make you all feel like you're home." (It was one of the sweetest things I've ever heard in my life). I grabbed a plate full of steaks (sorry vegetarians) and went to the old gym to enjoy my "luxuries" and watch the upperclassmen play SAISL. I can safely say that there wasn't any need for me to order anything. I had barely ordered for the first two years of my SAS career. In fact, I was actively against ordering food. Obviously I valued the importance of money, but more importantly I was already satisfied with the food that Sage offered us.

Maybe my taste buds are aging, but I finally joined the ordering culture and started looking for a larger variety of food. SWAG also started delivering sandwiches and desserts from various restaurants to satisfy those students who find the weekend food rather "uninspiring" (especially Saturday brunch). However, having been thrifty for all these years, I always feel somewhat guilty to just "throw away" twenty or thirty dollars every single weekend. I often tell myself that even though I cannot change the food offered at school, I can always be glad to accept what I have and prevent myself from unnecessary orderings. After all, dining hall food already takes up a huge chunk of our tuitions.

Departing from my long weekend experience, let's talk about the orderings that take place during normal weekends. Since many students order, the chefs are actually only cooking for a small amount of people. Nevertheless, there is no way for them to estimate how many people will come to the dining hall for food. What if Papa John's and Nhuvu stop delivering due to a blizzard? I'm pretty sure that people won't go starve themselves and would instead "settle" for weekend dining hall food. Therefore, chefs often HAVE to overestimate the amount of food they have to cook in order to cope with the aforementioned emergency scenarios, which don't actually happen very often. Moreover, knowing that relatively few students actually come to the dining hall, it is also understandable (or even reasonable) if chefs aren't trying their best to make quality food when they know that most of it is going to go to waste. Following this logic, students who often order might indirectly force students who don't typically order into ordering. (With that being said, that was not necessarily the case for me)

I know that it is extremely difficult to change the quality of food offered at SAS on a fundamental level, but I believe that the school can come up with a system that can potentially increase the weekend food quality. It is clear that no matter how good the school food is, some people will order regardless. It's the same when lots of junior and senior guys order pizza on Tuesday night no matter how much dinner they eat. While not allowed to order during the week, students will take advantage of the rare occasions when they are given the freedom to order. My idea is that students can fill out a survey each week to indicate how many times they will order for that particular weekend, and, most importantly, whether they will be eating dining hall food. In this way the chefs have a better grasp of how much food they need to cook. Of course, students need to hold themselves accountable. Students who choose not to eat in the dining hall should simply order, and students who wish to "dine in" should restrain themselves from ordering (unless you are like a voracious eater like me). Basically, this system is similar to the meal plan system that almost every college uses. You swipe your card to eat in the college dining hall, or you choose to go out to restaurants. However, the school should use the survey instead of enforcing a meal plan card so that SAS students do not have to bear any financial loss or consequences for slight misjudgments of their own appetite. Of course, the system will only work if the misjudgments are slight, aka if students are honest. Lying in this case is the same as wasting food (which is actually what the SAS student body have been doing all along: Everybody is given the chance to eat in the dining hall, but few actually come.) It is also important that Sage posts the meals for the weekend. Students will make better judgments if they know what to expect from Sage. Now that chefs have an idea of how much to cook, they will definitely put more time and effort into ensuring the quality of the food they provide for hungry SAS students who do not wish to order (e.g. me).





## Top Six Music Videos

MILES TURNER '17

### Kendrick Lamar- These Walls (2015)

Director: Colin Tilley

This video is without a doubt one of Kendrick's most ambitious. The coloring and the concept are what hold me here, and with cameos by the likes of Terry Crews, SZA, and comedian Corey Holcolmb there is no doubt that this has the makings of a classic hip-hop video.

### Tyler the Creator- Domo 23 (2013)

Director: Wolf Haley

Tyler, the Creator is undoubtedly one of the most captivating video directors in music, and this visual interpretation for, "Domo23" off of his 2013 album *Wolf* surely proves that. The coloring and the energy are two factors that make this video truly impressive. If you have the time, dig into Tyler's videography and see just how his talents stretch far beyond music.

### UGK ft. Outkast- Int'l Player's Anthem (I Choose You) (2007)

Director: N/A

This collaboration alone is legendary as some of the South's finest (those being UGK, Three 6 Mafia, and Outkast) are all represented beautifully in perhaps one of the greatest hip hop records to ever come out of the South. It was even more awe-inspiring to see those 3 groups along with artists like T-Pain, Chamillionaire and other southern legends in one video. Every aspect in this video, from the cameos to the overall story, make it a legendary music video. R.I.P. Pimp C.

### Erykah Badu- Other Side of the Game (1997)

Director: N/A

This incredibly smooth track is appropriately accompanied by an equally smooth music video. The beautiful Miss Erykah Badu sings gracefully as her world revolves around her; such a beautiful yet simple concept. The cinematography in this video is pure art and the Andre 3000 cameo is definitely a nice touch. This video holds plenty of abstract symbolism that I will allow you to dig into on your own time, but visually this video is a timeless masterpiece.


### FIDLAR- Cocaine (2013)

Director: Ryan Baxley

FIDLAR's gnarly energy is matched by an equally gnarly yet NSFW video starring Nick Offerman, better known as "Ron" from *Parks & Recreation*. In terms of story there isn't much to this video, unless you can find a hidden meaning in Ron Swanson getting drunk and continuously urinating as he strolls about the town. Truthfully, that is exactly what makes this video one of my personal favorites and one that you will definitely want to check out with your friends.

### Missy Elliot- The Rain [Supa Dupa Fly] (1997)

Director: Hype Williams


Missy Elliot is the queen of ridiculous off the wall videos and this one in particular is a perfect display as to why she holds that crown. The director here, Hype Williams, is a legend in cinematography and his influence is immeasurable which is why he is still a force to be reckoned with in the video industry. Elliot's energy matches Williams's unique style so well which is why this video will go down in video history. 

### *Treading Lightly and Jingling Keys, from the front page:*

I KNOW that having teachers walk around the dark corners of campus kind of sucks, but it's what we are entrusted to do. We do WAD because we have to. It's not voluntary, it's mandated. Personally, I usually walk with another faculty member, we taking a rare moment to catch up on each other's life, we jingle keys when walking down halls, and some of us walk dogs. Dogs are great for announcing our presence. What we want to be sure of, is that IF anything is going on of a sexual nature, that it's consensual. If any student is ever in a situation where they feel in over their head, they yell for help...the ears of someone who loves them should be near enough to hear their cry. That's it for me.

On the flip side, what if we didn't do it? What if kids were allowed to do whatever they wanted to do? That's when I put my 'mom' hat back on. Look, I'm about as liberal as you can get, but if you were my sixteen year old child, living the life of a day student, do not think for a second that I would allow you and your boyfriend/girlfriend to spend the night together or even hang out in your room with the door closed. Why? Because I'm responsible for you AND I'm responsible for the other child AND I'm responsible to that child's parents. As your mom I would love the snot of you, and you would know that all those crappy, embarrassing, rules that you have to put up with (that maybe your best friend doesn't have) exist...because I love you. Tough nuts. Deal with it kid. I have never met an adult who suffered because their adolescence consisted of lovingly implemented limits and consequences. As a recovering addict, I have met a TON of adults who are completely messed up because they were allowed to run the show in their youth. Kids who raise themselves...simply aren't capable of doing a good job of it.

So there it is. I will say that if I ever encounter a situation on WAD where despite all my precautions to announce my presence, I stumble upon a situation that is uncomfortable for me and probably distressing to you, I hope that I do everything I can to uphold all our dignity and ensure that shame is not the end result. If you ever find yourself feeling shamed by an adult doing WAD (which is a type of community service), tell someone. Tell Mr. Roach.

That's it. I hope my thoughts help you understand Walk Around Duty a bit more. Isn't it amazing all the different ways that love can be expressed; yet misunderstood? Being human is a trip! 

# What Republicans REALLY Believe In

Hoyt Reed '17

- 1. Budget & Economy** - Fiscal conservatism and low taxes are the two most important factors of the GOP's economic policies. Republicans advocate for a smaller, arguably smarter, and more efficient government with minimal waste and fewer unnecessary intrusions into American's lives. As far as taxes, republicans advocate for lower taxes because they believe that the increased spending as a result of lower taxes will grow the economy as a whole and therefore increase the value of the small taxes they take. They also promote a free-trade economy where the government doesn't interfere with businesses. This includes government regulations, subsidies and tariffs.
- 2. Healthcare** - An extremely contentious issues in recent years, and one of the greatest differences between republican and democratic ideologies. The GOP has been very critical of Pres. Obama's Affordable Care Act, claiming that it puts the government between patients and their doctors, creating an even more bureaucratic system that would increase healthcare cost and decrease quality of care. A free-market system where American's choose their own healthcare providers and insurers would make healthcare more affordable and responsible. As an alternative some Republicans, such as Rand Paul, have proposed that healthcare costs become tax deductible.
- 3. Minimum Wage** - Most Republicans are against minimum wage hikes thinking that the increased cost of employment would cause employers to lay off workers. In addition, 64% of people who earn minimum wage are part time workers and just over half are between 16 and 25 years old. There are also very few people earning minimum wage, just 3.3 million or 4.3% of the total hourly workforce, according the Bureau of Labor Statistics. A national minimum wage hike also doesn't make much economic sense when thinking about cost of living disparities between different parts of the U.S. The minimum wage in New York City should be very different from the minimum wage in Middletown, Delaware, where the cost of living is drastically different. As an alternative Republican's have advocated for an earned-income tax credit to help lift poor families out of poverty.
- 4. Gun Control** - The GOP has traditionally been against gun control in most cases. This is in part because Republicans take a very literal reading to the constitution and are not very willing to make any changes to it. The Second Amendment of the Constitution says: "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." The right to bear arms was originally a fail-safe against a tyrannical government that would allow the American people to rebel against an overreaching government. As unlikely as it sounds, the need to rebel against the American government is always there, so the Second Amendment puts the power into citizens hands. This is also part of the reason the GOP is so reluctant to budge on any gun control issues, such as assault rifles. Weapons that can match the firepower of the U.S army are necessary for a "well regulated Militia" to keep the government in check. It has also been shown in other countries that lower gun-ownership rates does not result in less murder, Russia has the highest murder rate in Europe at 20.54 murders per 100,000 citizens with the third lowest gun ownership rate. Meanwhile, Australia, which confiscated 600,000 of the country's guns in 1996 saw no significant change in Australia's homicide rate as a whole. Unfortunately, America's murder problem is too complicated to be solved by just increasing gun laws.
- 5. The Environment** - Many Republicans are against increased environmental regulations because they are often at odds with free-trade economics that they advocate and introduce additional burdens to businesses. For example, Brazil is often criticized for deforesting the Amazon rainforest. But, it is important to keep in mind why Brazil is deforesting their country: they reap economic rewards for doing so and it helps their country as a whole to develop. For American's to criticize their actions would be both ignorant and hypocritical, because we are already a first-world country and deforested much of our country in order to do so. However, this doesn't not mean that all Republicans prefer coal and gas energy, many Republicans want to increase our use of solar and wind energy because it would decrease our reliance on foreign oil. Republican's have also favored allowing U.S companies to take full advantage of natural resources available to us, such as natural gas, thereby reducing energy causes and moving us closer to energy independence. 🐦







## SASN Presents: Justin Duncan

NIKHIL MALHOTRA '17



**Hometown:** Kingston, Jamaica  
**Sport:** Soccer  
**Position:** Forward/  
Attacking Center  
Midfield  
**Year:** Senior  
**Age:** 17

sophomore. Being a new sophomore for anybody is never easy, and for Justin it was no different. He found the transition into student life manageable because he had his brother to fall back on. However, Justin found coming to the soccer team a little more challenging. So how did an international student arriving as a new sophomore become St. Andrew's soccer?

Justin believes that, initially, he was not a vital part of the team. He was unfit and in poor condition to fully succeed in coach Matt Carroll's demanding preseason. The timid new sophomore was afraid of being cut to junior varsity, but pushed through the exhaustion and difficulty of preseason. While Justin was unable to show everything he had, Coach Carroll saw something in him. He decided to put the new sophomore on varsity.

Although he made the varsity squad, Justin did not score his first goal as a Saint until the sixth game of the season against Middletown High School. Finally, Justin started to see more and more minutes. He suddenly stepped into this huge role, as a new sophomore, of being an essential part to the team's offense and, ultimately, success. His growth as a player and his skill on the field helped take the Saints to the state tournament in his very first year on the team.

Justin went to this the state tournament with no experience in a game of so much importance and had never played in front of such a large crowd. When Justin took the field, he was shocked to see so many people and, naturally, became nervous. While playing, Justin's nerves only kept increasing. The noise of the crowd drowned out his teammates, and the communication between Justin's teammates and him became seemingly nonexistent. However, with the score tied 1-1, Justin did what he does best. He received a pass from Ted Park '15, and put in the go ahead goal past the Brandywine keeper. The Saints went on to win 4-1. Justin recalls this memory as his favorite soccer moment. After the game, for the first time ever, he got interviewed, which, he admits, made the moment that much more special.

However, Justin isn't just a goal scorer. Justin is the inspiration and foundation for soccer at St. Andrew's. Justin is the most vocal player on the team. He brings an admirable attitude to the field every single day. Justin sets the tone for each practice and each game. The whole team follows Justin's lead, because he brings the team to success. Justin embodies the essential aspects of any sports team: skill, effort, leadership, and family. Justin is a great leader, captain, and teammate. Along with all the other soccer seniors, Justin will be greatly missed next year. Despite losing its goal machine, the boys varsity soccer team looks to march forward.



Justin Duncan '16 has not only established himself as the best soccer player at St. Andrew's, but as the best soccer player in the state of Delaware. The seventeen year old forward, elected co-captain by his teammates, is one of the most dominant soccer players the school has produced in recent memory. Justin has continuously amazed the entire school and St. Andrew's community with his near perfection on the field. His pure skill, dedication, and exemplary leadership has inspired us at the St. Andrew's Sports Network to feature him in this issue of *The Cardinal*.

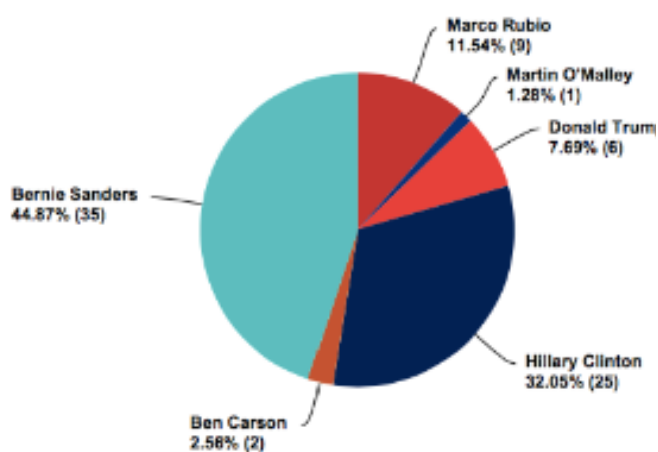
Justin Duncan started playing soccer at the age of five. He hasn't stopped since then. He began playing for his school back in Kingston, and when he started, Justin hated soccer. Justin claims that his team was terrible and, consequently, he didn't enjoy playing the game. However, little Justin worked through it and kept playing soccer throughout his childhood. As he grew up in Jamaica, Justin admits that he wasn't the dominant player he is today. The current goal machine didn't score his first goal until the sixth grade playing in a tournament back home. He recalls the goal as this: "The keeper mishandled the ball and the ball just went off my thigh and in." That's not quite the magic and brilliance Justin shows us today, but it's a start.

As time went on, Justin gradually grew into the player he is today. He found St. Andrew's. He enrolled at St. Andrew's as a new

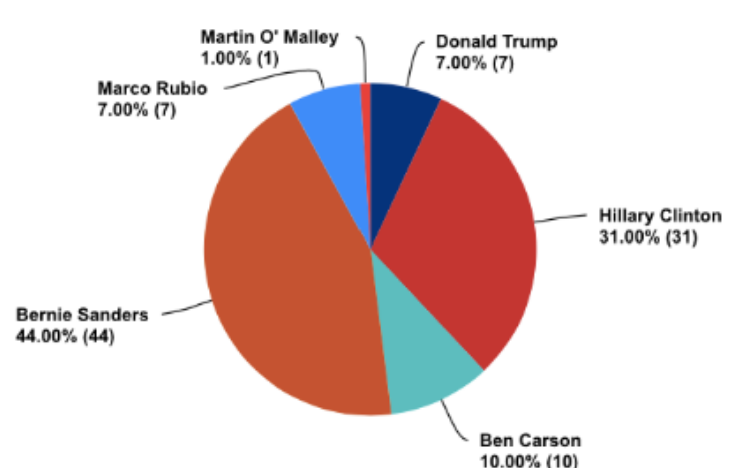
## SAS Presidential Poll

VICTORIA STEELMAN '18, CARON ANN-PALA

Alumni Poll (78)



Current Students (100)



The two charts above are results of two Survey Monkey elections- one from our alumni and one from our current student body. One of our librarians, Ms. Carol-Ann- Pala, graciously reached out to alumni and asked them who they would vote for.


As in the data, it's clear majority blue blood runs through the veins of both past and present St. Andreans, with Bernie and Clinton composing about 70% of the voters. Yet in the opposing party, there was some division in candidates from the choices of alumni and current students. It seems that Ben Carson would be leading the Young Republicans club, but Rubio would be making the stand for alumni.



## Report: Peter Choi '17 Linked to Big Time Drug Cartel Lead by El Chapo

PATRICK WINDELS '17, COLIN CAMPBELL '17

Fifth form class president and member of the illustrious Public Speaking Club, Peter Choi '17, went on a mysterious, unexplained leave of absence from St. Andrew's School during the two weeks leading up to Winter Long Weekend. Although the administration insists that Choi's absence was due to a green card violation, recent speculation suggests that Choi was actually detained by the police upon his arrival in the United States because of suspected ties to powerful Drug Cartel leader El Chapo. Upon his arrival at JFK airport, Choi was detained by the police and imprisoned in NYC's maximum-security prison, Riker's Island. In a highly hushed-up incident, Choi was broken out under mysterious circumstances two weeks after his imprisonment and concealed somewhere in New York City for the duration of Winter Long Weekend. Upon Choi's arrival at the bus stop that would return him safely to SAS, eyewitnesses Francis Kigawa '17 and Haden Cunningham '17 observed Choi acting shifty and preoccupied. Nam Nguyen '18 noticed two white suburbans with turquoise rims closely tailing Choi as he waited for the bus's arrival. Although the exact nature of Choi's involvement with El Chapo's Cartel remains undisclosed by the St. Andrew's Administration, common conjecture is that Choi must hold a powerful position in the Cartel, as a massive breakout was justified on his behalf. Whatever the case, here at SAS Choi has retained his political stranglehold on the Fifth Form and continued to avoid recapture by the U.S. government. Although the search for the notorious escapee "El Choi" will undoubtedly only increase in intensity over the following weeks, I have full confidence in the SAS communities' ability to protect Peter's secret and preserve his freedom until the situation is fit for him to resume activities with the Cartel.


"El Choi" was detained at 2:39 A.M ET on Friday, January Fifth, 2016 and escaped sometime between 12 A.M. and 5 A.M. ET Wednesday, January 20th, 2016. His whereabouts remain unknown. Please call your local emergency hotline if sighted. 



## Pretzel Boys: Untying the Knot with Middletown


SARAH PINTO '17

Recently, there has been a drastic change at St. Andrew's. No longer can one walk into the dining hall at 10:30 on any given Tuesday or Thursday and find (sometimes) warm, (usually) golden brown, and (infrequently) fluffy Pretzel Boy's soft pretzels. The majority of the St. Andrews community has quickly forgotten this fixture as it has been quickly replaced by Amoroso Bakery's Philadelphia Soft Pretzels. But I would like to take a few moments of your day to pay homage to the great establishment that was Pretzel Boys of Middletown. Tony Tagliaferro, president of the Middletown franchise, had this to say about his experience with St. Andrew's: "You guys have always been such great customers, we have really enjoyed working with you and bringing you pretzels for such a long time." Tony also mentioned that St. Andrew's was one of his first customers, so his business feels a strong connection to the St. Andrew's community due to our long-running patronage.

Regardless of the quality of the pretzels, the end of Pretzel Boys at break time is the end of an era. Pretzel Boys will continue to be missed due to the clear inferiority of the new pretzels that have appeared. It is now impossible to find a pretzel that is not burned or cold. Grace Flynn states, "I [now] often avoid snack on Tuesdays and Thursdays." Pretzel Boy's sudden disappearance has gone as far as to drive students away from their mid-morning sustenance. Mr. Robinson claims, "Pretzel Boys made the best pretzels I have ever tasted." Although the loss of Pretzel Boys is a clear catastrophe, there is still hope. Mr. Tagliaferro declared that his staff and he might return to making their pretzels in the future. Although the operation would be under a different name and on a smaller scale, the students of St. Andrews can continue to dream that Pretzel Boys may someday return to mid-morning break. 

## Life Being a Faculty Child!

ALLAIRE BERL, ALANI DAVILA

The fun part of being a faculty child is being allowed to go anywhere and play. There are also so many students to be friends with or they can help you with homework. We like to sneak around and sometimes peek into classes without them noticing. The best part of being a faculty child is how much freedom you have to run around campus and play with your friends. All of the faculty are so nice to us (even if we make a few messes!) and helpful and so are the students. When we moved here we didn't really feel that we would make friends because we didn't like it here very much, but now we have so much freedom to go wherever on campus because we know that it's a safe place to live, play and learn! 



## Malawian Magic: A Fictional Short Story

PETER CHOI '17

"I can't speak African," I said to the Malawian children in front of me, failing to realize that "African" is not a language.

"They have no idea what you're saying Peter," my older brother Caleb said dismissively. Five years older than me, he thought he knew everything. Unfortunately, this time he was right.

"Forget Caleb," I thought, "they'll understand the universal appeal of magic."

Magic had become my indulgent hobby. I pulled out the deck of Bicycle cards that I always carried with me from my khaki pocket. The cards made the blood in my hands rush. I was going to perform my best card flourishes and deck cuts, establishing myself as a living legend. *But am I willing to leave these people in confusion for the rest of their lives?* I thought. I would never reveal my tricks to these children, no matter how much they begged to know the wizardry behind my skills. It was part of my magician's oath. But momentarily, I felt guilty. What if I left them in unbearable agony until the day they died, wondering how I could have changed the card with the flick of my finger?

"No," I reassured myself, "it'll be good for them."

I continued, looking over my shoulder to see if Caleb was watching me. He wasn't. "I'll show him. I'll amaze all of you," I mumbled to myself as I shuffled the cards, although it seemed as if I was speaking only to the boy standing inches away from me.

"Okay. I might not get this right exactly, but it's pretty dang awesome," I stammered to the boy as I fumbled with the cards. My brother was still not watching. Nearby, I smelled the dirt rising from the recently dug well site. We had come to East Africa with a program that allowed us to volunteer at the Kasungu District Hospital. Today, we had been given respite from the humdrum of the hospital halls when a Malawian friend invited us to visit his tribe and to witness the drilling of a well. The tribe didn't understand the purpose of our presence, as we too were merely strangers. All I was doing was distracting the children. I noticed Caleb's eyes on me. Okay, I had his attention. I let out a deep breath and asked the boy to pick a card. He didn't understand. I repeated myself. He looked at the card, then back at me, finally taking one. I grabbed the card from his hand and glanced at it. Wait. I wasn't supposed to look at it. Whatever. I put the card on the deck face down and performed a false cut, creating the illusion that the location of the card was now lost. I waited for the moment of anticipation. Now, the prestige. I magically reproduced the card with some sleight of hand. When I finished the trick, I looked around, expecting to find the children contemplating the wonder of what they had just witnessed. But all I saw were awkward smiles and some hushed giggling. A little annoyed, I repeated the trick. When I was done, they were no longer paying attention to me. They saw the illusion in its entirety, and they weren't amazed. I turned around. Even Caleb had his back turned, talking to another member of the trip.

However, I decided to show them a different trick, this time ignoring my brother completely. I asked another boy to pick a card. He pulled one out and handed the card back to me. He extended his arm and I took the card, performing a trick ... yet, he remained unimpressed. After an hour of magic, I handed out clothes to the tribe. Soon, it was time to go back to where we were staying. The children swarmed me and hugged me, an indication that they didn't want me to go, to which I laughed and nodded my head understandingly. Before I entered the bus, I demonstrated a trick in which I "pulled off" and "reattached" my thumb as a final attempt at redemption. I was delighted to see the children gasp in wonder at the impossible display. Their dumbfounded response took me aback, but I loved their appreciation for a trick so simple. Even though I didn't speak any of the two thousand African languages, I knew that they were demanding me to repeat the trick when they squealed in glee and grabbed my arms. I showed them a few more times, a serious offense within the magic community, but it was definitely worth the violation. I got on the bus and watched them through the window as we were leaving. Every single person was smiling so kindly with not only their mouths but also their eyes.

On the ride home, my brother asked, "So you showed them some magic? I couldn't really see."

After a pause, I replied, "Yeah."

"What'd you do?" he said.

"I showed them some card tricks and stuff," I said.

"Wow, I can't believe they would fall for that kind of stuff."

"Actually, they didn't," I eventually said, "I don't think they really understood the point of the trick."

"What was the thing you showed them at the bus?"

"Oh, I pulled my thumb off of my hand," I said.

"Well, that's not impressive at all. That's barely a trick," he said.

After a minute, I said, "Yep. It barely is." 🐦



**SAVE THE DATE:  
FEBRUARY 29TH,  
2016 IS LEAP DAY!**