



# Patriot Press

JAN 2015

## Seniors head to Richmond

### ODACS State Government Day invites FBTA seniors

by Jenneth, senior

Jan. 26 marked the date of senior state government day down in Richmond, VA. Although forecasts of snow threatened to cancel the annual event, the winter weather came as inner-chilling rain, but did not interfere with the event.

After arriving at the school at 6:00 a.m. and traveling in complete, snoozing silence for just under two hours, the entire senior class awoke out of their stupor long enough to groggily order from McDonald's breakfast menu.

After another twenty minutes on the road, Mr. Bradford dropped the class off on the streets of Richmond, a city not unlike D.C., and pointed out St. Paul's Church just around the corner, where several students were already gathered.

Inside, Dan Zacharias greeted the visiting schools and introduced Christian lobbyist Eddy Aliff and Jamison Coppola, AACIS Legislative Assistant, who both spoke on the importance of Christians being involved in politics and government affairs.



Senior students snap an "usie" with Mr. Bradford in front of the George Washington Equestrian Monument.

photo by Isaac, senior

At 9:45 the ODACS group headed across the street and through security to hear committee hearings about new gun and drug bills.

By the time 11:00 rolled around, school students had returned to St. Paul's to hear Delegate Jimmie Massie and eat a pizza lunch before getting a tour of the state Capitol, where students got to sit in old senate and

house floors (FBTA was careful to sit on the right side) and observe an actual session of the state senate from the above balconies.

When departure time rolled around, the entire senior class was dead tired, but glad they went. It was interesting to see how the state government functioned.



## Flurries, flu, & finals!

### Snow, sickness, and studying come head on at FBTA students

by Hope, junior

On Jan. 6, students experienced the first snow of the new year!

"Even though it was after Christmas break, it was nice to see all the beautiful snow!" said Bailey, senior.

Although the snow is pretty to look at, many students have caught a bug going around.

"It's not really fun to be sick 'cause all you do is stay in bed and miss school. It's boring," said Caleb, 6th grade.

"Getting sick is not fun, but I'm glad it wasn't during exam week," said Jason, junior.

On top of the snow days and the sicknesses, finals week was added on to the organized chaos.

"Even though the exam schedule got all messed up, it was nice to have no school so we could study more," said Joshua, junior.

"Three exams in one day was a little crazy since the snow pushes everything forward, but I'm glad it's over!" said Julie, freshmen.

So even though January was a fresh start after the Christmas break, it would be safe to say the students are all looking toward the next month with less crazy weather, better health, and no finals until the end of the year!



## Teen pizza eating contest

### The FBTeens battle for the title

by Hope, junior

The FBTeens enjoyed great food, fellowship, and some competition at the pizza eating contest at Mazzio's Italian Eatery on Jan. 24.

"The pizza contest was great! I love spending time with the teens of our church. They are so much fun, and I'm so glad that everyone was able to make it," said Bro. Boyd, youth director.

The winner of this competition last year was Timothy, junior. This year Elizabeth, junior, tied with Timothy at a whopping 17 slices of pizza consumed by each.

"It's sickeningly impressive. Hopefully, they were okay afterwards!" said Annie, junior.

While the majority of the teens had a blast, for a few the event didn't end as well as they had hoped.

"A few of the guys were a little bit too dedicated to winning and pushed themselves too far. They ended up getting to experience the pizza twice . . . if you know what I mean!" said Bro. Boyd, youth director.

With a few tiny exceptions, the pizza eating contest was great fun and an event that will always be memorable!

If you missed this teen activity, there's always another one coming up just around the corner. Don't miss the food and fellowship for 7-12 graders on March 13 at the Good Stuff Eatery in Crystal City. We leave the church at 5 p.m. and get back around 7:45 p.m.

Please invite as many visitors as possible. Anyone who brings a non-FBT or non-FBTA visitor gets a free milkshake! For more info, contact Bro. Boyd, youth director.

## Open House rescheduled for Feb 3

### Snow causes conflicts

by Rebecca, senior

A light dust of snow accumulated into a short winter storm overnight on Monday the 26th. And with the snow showers stopping just before morning, FBTA's Open House was canceled this past Tuesday, but was rescheduled to Tuesday, Feb. 3.

Even though most schools were closed, a few families showed up for the originally scheduled Open House. Thankfully, Mr. Bradford was in the office, and he was able to give them a personal tour of the facilities.

Several more families visited during the rescheduled event, and the student council was able to greet them and give the tours.

That evening, the students held the concert, and parents were able to save \$100 off of their registration fee. Well worth the night out!

## Save the date!

**Our third annual FBTA Silent Auction and Benefit Dinner will be held at 4 p.m. on Saturday, March 21.**

Last year's event proved to be a tremendous success and a great evening of fun and fellowship.

All proceeds will be used to enhance our school's technology with the introduction of e-books and technology in the hands of our high school students.

Please make plans to join us!



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6401 Missionary Lane  
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703-323-8100 • FBTministries.org

**Advisor** Mrs. Deanna Dyck  
**Newspaper Editor** Rebecca  
**Yearbook Editor** Jenneth

**Senior Editors**  
Annie  
Hunter  
Victoria  
Hope

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33°



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Varsity girls pose with their first place trophy during the awards ceremony.

## Varsity girls call the shots!

The varsity girls' team wins it all at the Valley tournament

by Carlie, sophomore

On the weekend of Jan. 16, the Fairfax Patriots' varsity teams had the opportunity to travel to Valley for an overnight basketball tournament. Many of the girls on the varsity team agreed that the tournament was the highlight of the basketball season so far!

The team arrived at Valley and started off right away with a game ending in a victory of 30-9 against Valley. The day proceeded with two more games ending in victories as well.

At the end of the day on Friday, the varsity boys and girls decided to play a quick game of pick-up when the gym was emptied of people. Although no one was keeping score, it was still fun to play with the guys and become closer as a school!

The girls' team enjoyed brownies, ice cream, and bonding time before attempting to get comfortable enough to sleep on the floor of a Valley classroom.

"My favorite part about the tournament was when we all watched a scary movie trailer together right before we went to bed," said Madison, senior.

On Saturday, the girls team woke up bright and early to support the guys in their morning game. The girls' team won their morning game against Keystone and ended up winning the championship game against Frederick Christian with a score of 24-18.

"It was tough not being able to play in all the games [because of an injury that occurred the week before] but it was fun to watch how we improved every game and then to win the championship game," said Susannah, senior.

"It was so much fun! It was kinda crazy not having a lot of time between games, but it was an awesome memory! I can't wait until next year!" said Alexis, sophomore.

The success and happiness of the girls' team was contagious. Mr. Fender might have even shed a few tears of joy! Overall, the tournament was an entertaining, memory-making weekend, and it was a great bonding experience for both teams.



As if 5 games in 2 days wasn't enough for them, both teams enjoyed a pick-up game after the fans had gone home.

## Boys' basketball team scores

First wins of the season during tournament at Valley

by Hunter, senior

On Jan. 16-17, the varsity guys' and girls' basketball team headed to Valley Baptist Christian School in Edinburg, VA, to participate in their 2015 Valley Basketball Tournament.

The guys' first game on Friday was against the Odenton Eagles, who beat them last season. But this time, Fairfax Patriots pulled out a win and their first victory of the season, with a score of 38-28.

"Actually winning our first game was the best part," said Tim, junior.

After a quick bite at Subway, they played their second game against Centerville. This game was extremely close all the way down to the last whistle, but the Patriots ended up losing by one point: 31-30.

When the games were over for the evening, the guys played a quick game of basketball with some of the girls.

"It was a fun time hanging out with friends all weekend long," said David, junior.

The next day the guys' team had an early game against Frederick, who had beat them earlier in the season. But Fairfax ended up on top this time 31-22 with their second win of the season.

In their second game of the day against Valley, they ended up losing by 14 points, and in the third and final game, they played Gill Grove and lost to them – another 14 point loss.

At the end of the day, Valley won the tournament and Fairfax ended up in 4<sup>th</sup> place, which was actually a better result than last year's tournament. Overall, the guys were pleased with their wins although they were exhausted after having played so many games.

"It was a great weekend in that we played five games in two days, won a couple of them, and still had some free time to spend with friends," said Dan, senior.

## New Teacher Spotlight: Mr. Kaylor Versatility in action

by Rebecca, senior

Versatility, the quality of being one of many talents, is a characteristic found in Mr. Kaylor, the teacher for Advanced Computer. He is currently teaching two Advanced Computer classes to high school students here at FBTA.

Along with a Masters in Cyber Security, Mr. Kaylor has also been a member of the Air Force for almost 14 years. He is a certified scuba diver, a proud owner of 10-12 pairs of cuff links and watches each, and has about 50-60 designer ties, as well. Additionally, he loves Italian food, earned a Bachelor's degree in psychology from Buffalo State College, and is a white-hat (ethical) hacker.

Originally from upstate New York, Mr. Kaylor has traveled to many places, including Bora Bora, Australia, Costa Rica, Germany, Bahamas and Hawaii. He has an extensive golf ball collection.

"I have a golf ball from each place I have visited. Whether it's from some specific adventure or just the state itself. One of the things on my bucket list is to visit all 50 states."

Mr. Kaylor came to know the Lord in his senior year of high school, and then met his wife, who is a Doctor of Physical Therapy, when they were in college, although they attended separate schools.

They met in her college's school library while working on a research project for his Neurological Psychology class.

His first impression: "We were introduced by my friend and she was doing handstands in the library. I honestly didn't pay attention at first. I wasn't that interested, but she later told me that she knew that if she didn't find a way to hang out with me that night, she would never see me again. So a few of us went out to grab some late night food."



That impression and lack of interest changed dramatically. Three and a half years later, they married.

For their engagement, he decorated a shoe box and in it he placed some pictures, a ticket stub from their first date, and other items that would represent memories of their time together. At the bottom rest a note. It read, "Remember the time that you agreed, to spend the rest of your life with me," and with the note, a diamond ring.

His thoughts after 7½ years of marriage, "She is my rock, best friend and compliments me completely. I live each day for the Lord first and then her. There isn't even really a close third. Also, I couldn't do what I've been doing for the last year and a half without Sara. The Lord knew what He was doing when He put her in my life." Mr. Kaylor is referring to his current fight against a very rare, and even more difficult to treat, stage IV cancer.

In 2001, Mr. Kaylor enlisted in the Air Force and discovered his love for computers. After dedicating 14 years to the Air Force, he now shares that passion with his Advanced Computer classes.

He states, "I've never taught a class before. But I love teaching you guys and I really feel like you guys are learning something and want to learn."

He is also known for his notable email signature-motto: "Only two defining forces have ever offered to die for you—Jesus Christ and the American Soldier. One died for your soul, the other for your freedom."

His affable and easygoing persona and cool humor are a great addition to the FBTA family.



## Blades and bruises

Cavalier Skating activity leaves people battered but laughing

by Annie, junior

One of the favorite activities of the year for both school and church kids is the Family Roller Skating activity. Held at the Cavalier Skating Center in Stafford, VA, on Jan. 17, the activity consisted of races, limbo, and spontaneous rounds of tag. There was also a play area for younger members who could not skate. One of the most enjoyable past times of the activity was watching who would fall.

"I think the part I most enjoyed was talking to people while watching. Limbo was great too!" said Hart, 8th grade.

One of the times when skaters fell the most was during the limbo. Two skating officials held a long wooden pole across an area of the rink, and skaters would have to glide, or rather fumble, under it. As the pole sunk lower and lower, more and more skaters fell to the floor.

"I liked the limbo!" said Alaina, 1st grade.

Because the Valley tournament for the varsity basketball teams was being held on the same day as the roller skating activity, there was a considerably smaller crowd at the rink that night.

"It was nice that the rink floor wasn't so crowded because then I was less likely to crash into someone. But at the same time, it felt weird being one of the only teens attending," said Kenneth, senior. Although the basketball players were missed, there was an opportunity for more visitors to attend.

"I really enjoy rollerblading!" said Charity, 5<sup>th</sup> grade. "It was really fun to watch people wipe out, and I didn't get blisters this time!"

Our thanks to those who did fall for providing the entertainment for the evening.

