

Allderdice Alumni Foreword

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June 2018

AFA Update

By AFA OFFICERS

Welcome to the spring 2018 issue of the Alumni Foreword! We are in our second year of this publication, and we've already established some great traditions like focusing our spring edition on the wonderful Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony that occurred in April. A big thanks to Hall of Fame Co-chairs Carey Knapp ('93) and Jamy (Wright) Rankin ('81) and the Hall of Fame Committee members Rachel Colker ('87), Jay Gefsky ('48), Judith Kadosh ('83), Janet Kinnane, Mina Levenson ('70), Rika Maeshiro ('81), James McCoy, Kristin Mertz ('78), Raechel Palmer, Paula Rulin ('81), Melanie Weisbord ('87), and Martina Wells. A special thanks to committee member Paula Rulin, for organizing, and alumni business owners Bob Wasserman ('76) [Food for Thought] and Marc Hourvitz ('87) [Walnut Grill] for providing excellent food at the event!

The Alumni and Friends of Allderdice (AFA) also has some exciting organizational updates to share:

Organizational status: The AFA is an officially incorporated entity in Pennsylvania! This is a required step in order to apply for a nonprofit status. Heartfelt appreciation to Ray Baum ('62) and Meagan Truong from Blumling & Gusky LLP; Betsy (Kearns) Krisher ('81); Rich Bream ('66), and Jim Rosenberg ('81) for generously sharing their perspectives through these administrative processes.

Meeting with Pittsburgh Public School Board members: In March, the AFA officers and board member Dana Fowler met with two of the three Pittsburgh Public School Board members who represent Allderdice and its feeder schools. The AFA representatives provided an overview of the AFA to Terry Kennedy (District #5, representing Greenfield, Mifflin, and Minadeo schools) and Lynda Wrenn (District 4, representing Allderdice, Colfax, and Linden schools), and the PPS board members shared their insights on how external organizations can help to support schools and their communities. The AFA Board plans to meet in the future with Sylvia Wilson (District 1, representing Liberty and Sterrett schools).

Membership committee:

As announced previously, to join the AFA, please register by completing your profile, following the instructions under the "Join the website" tab in the upper menu.

- AFA members will have the opportunity to vote for AFA officers.
- No dues are required for AFA membership.
- Individuals who would like to become AFA members but who would prefer not to register on the website are asked to contact the AFA at allderdice1927@gmail.com

The membership committee currently consists of 6 people who are dedicated to reaching as many alumni as possible to inform them about our website and to encourage them to join.

The committee met in mid-April and agreed to the goal of doubling our website community this year! We are in search of folks who are in charge of their class reunions or their class's correspondence to help us with this task. Please contact allderdice1927@gmail.com to help with "Membership committee" in the subject line.

Website updates: The AFA website (<http://www.allderdicealumni.com/>) includes an "Allderdice Today" section that features current information about the school and links to coverage of recent achievements and performances. Please check back regularly for updates regarding the school, reunions, and opportunities to support the Allderdice community. Please register on the site to join the AFA and to receive updates and communications from classmates.

Please contact us if you would like to become more involved in the AFA or if you have ideas for the group to pursue. We are planning to have a portfolio of activities targeting current Allderdice students, future Allderdice students, and Allderdice alumni. Official communications from the AFA are delivered through email messages and the AFA website. If you are not yet receiving AFA email messages directly, please sign up by emailing allderdice1927@gmail.com. To register on the AFA website, please visit <http://www.allderdicealumni.com/>.

Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

By CHLOE WERNER
AND ABIGAIL SEGEL

The Alumni and Friends of Allderdice (AFA) inducted a new cohort of five alums into the Allderdice Hall of Fame on the evening of April 26, 2018.

Before the ceremony started, alumni, friends, family, and honorees reunited and mingled around the auditorium as the student string-quartet played in the background.

In an interview, Allderdice's current principal, Dr. James McCoy, described feeling, "humbled and blown away by the accomplishments [of the inductees]." He recalled sitting on the selection committee and finding it exceedingly difficult to choose between candidates, as countless Allderdice alumni have gone on to achieve impressive success since graduating.

As audience members took their seats, Allderdice's twelve student drumline marched through the aisles in synchronized rows. The music's vibrations were felt through the whole room, and the drummers left to applause.

AFA President Rika Maeshiro ('81) introduced Jeff Martin, Senior Class President, as a representative of Dice students, who are, "the most important part of our community." Martin spoke about developments in the school since the inductees had been students, although admitted that, "[you] still can't get from first floor main to the first floor annex, so some things haven't changed."

Students sang the National Anthem, after which the audience was led in a rendition of the school's alma mater.

Dr. McCoy then formally welcomed everybody to the 9th annual Hall of Fame event. He gave high praise to the inductees, saying that they, "truly epitomize what it means to, Know Something, Do Something, Be Something," the school's motto. He hoped they would inspire current students to live those words as well.

The cast of Dice's spring musical, The Addams Family, took the stage to perform "Death is Just Around the Corner," which the audience thoroughly enjoyed.

In their following brief remarks, the chairs of the AFA Hall of Fame Committee, Jamy Rankin and Carey Knapp, spoke for the whole room in saying, "We are happy that [the honorees] have made their way back home to Allderdice."

Amidst cheers from the audience, the inductees filed onto the stage and took their seats at the tables beside their respective presenters.

Before the ceremonies could officially start, the organizers made sure to recognize Stanley Goldman ('62). He had recently passed from difficulties during a heart procedure, and the event that night would be dedicated to him.

The first presenter, Raymond Baum, Esq. ('62) came up to introduce Jackson T. Wright MD, PhD, FACP, FASH, FAHA ('62), an esteemed doctor who studied blood pressure with a focus

on healthcare equity for African Americans in his work. According to Baum, "His findings have been celebrated worldwide."

Baum reminisced on his experiences with Wright as a classmate; he recalled him being a popular and gifted student who worked exceptionally hard. His fellow students admired his intelligence and work ethic, and continue to be impressed by Wright's accomplishments.

In his acceptance speech, Dr. Wright discussed why he became interested in hypertension, and how his experience as one of only two black students in his grade at Allderdice continues to affect his mission and work.

Next, Maeshiro made another appearance at the microphone, but this time, it was to introduce her former classmate and dear friend, climate scientist Brenda Ekwurzel, PhD, MS ('81). Maeshiro remembered that in high school, Ekwurzel told exciting and memorable stories to her friends, and now has used the same skills to explain climate change to figures such as Stephen Colbert.

In her remarks, Ekwurzel elaborated on her Allderdice experience, acknowledging her classmates, the drama club, and the principal at the time, Mr. William Fisher, for inspiring and guiding her through high school and beyond.

After Ekwurzel's installation, David "Fro" Frischman ('72) introduced musician and composer Mike Himmelstein ('72). Frischman recalled listening to Himmelstein play music as a fellow high school student, as well as other memories the two shared.

Himmelstein captivated the audience with his wit and charisma. "I am particularly happy and proud to be sharing the stage with this group of Allderdice alums... and I've got a big head, so that's saying something," he said, drawing laughter from the crowd.

He then went on to describe his first reaction upon hearing the news of his induction, saying that he had originally thought that he was being set up in a police sting. Thankfully, he decided to come, reasoning, "I can walk into Allderdice again and see all my loved ones. I fully expect to be arrested tonight, but I'll go gladly, just to be with you all and to share some memories."

Himmelstein has written music for The Temptations, Julie

Andrews, Mandy Moore, Dick Van Dyke, Shrek, Saturday Night Live, The Tonight Show, and more. Following Himmelstein's speech, the Allderdice choir sang "Welcome to Duloc", a song from Shrek the Musical, which Himmelstein composed music for.

The next honoree, Devra Davis, PhD, MPH ('64) was instrumental in banning smoking from airplanes, is the author of several world-renowned books on environmental health, and has made a name for herself within other international governments and universities, among other accomplishments.

Davis was introduced at the event by Richard Morgenstern, her husband of 42 years. In both of their remarks, they largely focused on one of Davis's biggest missions throughout her life: advocating for social justice in America. "I can't march with people like I used to, but I can salute those who are picking up the charge now," Davis said, referencing the recent March For Our Lives movement. "And it's young people that are going to lead again, just as they led in the sixties."

The final honoree of the night, Tereneh (Mosley) Idia ('87), was introduced by Tony Norman of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. He offered her high praise as, "one of the most delightful people you will ever run into in Pittsburgh."

After completing her Masters in Fashion Design at Kenyatta University in Kenya, Idia spent time at a Maasai village, which led to the creation of Idia'Dega, a global eco-design collaboration of Native American and indigenous African textile arts. This hugely successful line that has been showcased in both the Paris and New York Fashion Weeks.

Up at the microphone Idia recalled being, "very excited, a bit nervous," on the first day of high school, and fondly remembered her principal Mr. Fisher. Her enthusiastic and intelligent energy is well complemented by what Norman described as, "her refusal to be anything but grounded."

As the ceremony ended, Rika Maeshiro made closing remarks, and attendees headed towards the unveiling of the Hall of Fame plaques. The celebration continued with snacks and conversation in the cafeteria, the halls ringing with the buzz of their voices and the feelings of old friends reunited again.



Image courtesy of Allegheny City Electric



Dr. McCoy addresses the audience at the Hall of Fame induction ceremony as the honorees and their presenters sit behind him. // Abigail Segel

Racial Equality in Hypertension Studies: Jackson T. Wright Jr

By ABIGAIL SEGEL



Dr. Jackson T. Wright Jr ('62), winner of the American Heart Association's 2015 Clinical Research Prize // University Hospitals Case Medical Center

Hypertension researcher Jackson T. Wright Jr. MD, PhD, FACP, FASH, FAHA ('62), in his calm and composed manner, spoke to the audience at the Hall of Fame induction ceremony with stories from his years at Allerdice to his work at the top of his field.

Dr. Wright's work includes conducting numerous breakthrough studies and clinical outcome trials regarding high blood pressure and its effects, especially in the African American population.

Before realizing the aforementioned success, however, Wright was a "bright, disciplined, and kind," student, according to Raymond Baum, Esq. ('62) reading remarks written by Kenneth Schwartz ('62). "I believe that it is these characteristics that have allowed him to become successful in his career."

Wright was one of only two black students in the class of 1962 at Allerdice, and says the school taught him "how to overcome challenges." He also gives Allerdice credit in preparing him for his work academically, as well as supplying a large network of classmates he has stayed connected to after graduation. He reminisced, "There were many pleasant memories, centering around the many close friends I had."

One thing he didn't do during his time at Dice, though, was drive to school. In an interview, he expressed his pleasure in driving to the ceremony. "I got a chance to use the parking lot!"

He feels that being an Allerdice alumni still impacts him to-

day, and urges alumni to, "make certain that you contribute to the community that you are a part of."

After attending college he reluctantly spent almost four years in the Air Force, which delayed, but didn't prevent, the completion of his PhD at the University of Pittsburgh.

Wright then went into researching high blood pressure because, "all of the adults in my family had hypertension, or one of its complications, and my pressure is on its way up, and so you could kind of say I had a vested interest in the disease."

Wright said that, "despite the huge toll from hypertension... on black populations, there were few studies on its cause or the best ways to prevent or treat the disease in this population," when he entered the field. Seeing this injustice, he researched hypertension through large studies that had amounts of African American participants proportional to whom the disease affects.

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Climate Scientist Brenda Ekwurzel Fighting for Awareness

By CHLOE WERNER



Prominent Climate Scientist Brenda Ekwurzel // Union of Concerned Scientists

When Rika Maeshiro took to the stage to introduce Dr. Brenda Ekwurzel, her Allerdice classmate and dear friend of 45 years, she recalled how the influential climate scientist had always been, "a great storyteller," during her days as a high school student at Allerdice. And, Dr. Maeshiro said, out of their high school friend group of four, "the least likely to be jaded, the most earnest, not the cynical one, and not the one to put on airs."

These qualities have since led Dr. Ekwurzel to tremendous success in her academic career. The holder of a Bachelor's degree in Geology from Smith, a Master's degree in Geoscience from Rutgers, and a PhD in Earth and Environmental Sciences from Columbia University, Ekwurzel is now a director of climate science for the Climate & Energy Program at the Union of Concerned Scientists, author of the book, "Cooler Smarter: Practical

Steps for Low-Carbon Living. Ekwurzel has also been named an American Association for the Advancement of Science fellow. She has spoken repeatedly on climate science on television news programs, and even participated in the Colbert Report feature called Science Catfight.

But Ekwurzel herself gives credit to her roots in Allerdice and Pennsylvania. She recalls in particular her first time on broadcast television. Ekwurzel was afterwards approached by a colleague claiming that, "there must be something in your past, because you brought something extra to that media spot."

Ekwurzel, with a moment's thought, remembered her time as part of her high school drama club, although she'd, "had no idea that a club activity in high school would prove important to my career today."

Maeshiro also says "she's been tasked with trying to explain climate change, now a controversial issue all across the country."

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Composer and Songwriter Mike Himelstien's Music History Began During High School

By CHLOE WERNER



Composer Mike Himelstien ('72) // Pittsburgh Public Schools

When songwriter and producer Mike Himelstien ('72) thinks back on his days as a student at Allerdice, he recalls in particular, "the great friendships that lasted all these years, and all the wonderful memories." Looking upon the Hall of Fame event attendees from the stage, he said, "so many great friends that I have come to see and I'm just grateful to see every one of you, family members and loved ones, and I appreciate you."

Introduced by his childhood friend, David "Fro" Frischman, Himelstien was recounted as a musician since childhood. "He . . . introduced me to lots of new music," Frischman said. He went on to described high school memories he has of his friend, such as Himelstien's deftness with a guitar, how he had been writing original songs his whole life, and hearing him perform in local coffee shops.

Since then, Himelstien's mu-

sic has made its way up to the likes of Mandy Moore, Dick van Dyke, the Temptations, and the Brian Setzer Orchestra. He's won the Cynopsis "Imagination Awards," twice, is a three-time Emmy nominee, and an Annie nominee.

During his induction speech, Himelstien thanked family and loved ones. He bestowed honor on his mother in particular. "My mother made 125 dollars a week in 1970, and she had five children at home at that time," he said. "She gave me a hundred bucks one week and gave it to me so I could buy a guitar from one of our

classmates."

He also spoke on how his time at Allerdice affected his relationship with music. "This school has had its challenges with things like diversity, and it was that way in my years... but one thing that brought us together was music." He recalls a classmate who would leave his record player in the cafeteria and bring his records to school every day to play them for the other students during lunchtime, and teachers who pushed him and other students to live and think creatively. These experiences incorporated his music into his regular school life.

He discussed one teacher in particular who once assigned the class to create an unplanned five-minute long multimedia creative event, saying, "How empowering was this, to all of us? She was saying to us, 'I believe in you to do something interesting, right now. You're not going home to think about it, you don't have a week to do all that, I want you to use your

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Fashion Designer Tereneh Idia Connects Communities Across the Globe

By ABIGAIL SEGEL



Tereneh Idia, visionary creator of acclaimed fashion line Idi'aDega // Njameh Njie/Eleven Stanley Productions

One of the most important lessons inductee Tereneh (Mosley) Idia, MS ('87) has gathered through her various endeavors around the globe is that, "something might be in your textbook, but find other sources. ...not to say don't trust people, but if there's something written down in a book, there's probably thirty other versions or thirty other opinions."

Perhaps she learned this from her father, who frequently assigned extra 'homework', given when she was done with her schoolwork, and it wasn't too late at night. Idia said that through this exploration, she "really learned more about the beauty of African American achievement. And what I understood, was that even if I wasn't learning it in school, it existed, and I understood that I have, within my body, mind, and soul, this great, rich heritage."

That's not to say that she didn't learn from her time at Allerdice. In fact, in an interview, Idia credited Dice with teaching

her "how to negotiate multiculturalism in a real way," because it was by far the biggest school she had ever attended. "Meeting new people, having just to negotiate and understand big spaces, little spaces, listening to people, finding your place in a big room, finding your place in a little room, and just figuring out how to connect," she explained.

Idia was named a Top 10 Graduating Senior from Drexel University. Here, she apparently, "had, like, twenty-thousand ma-

jors. I had no idea what I wanted to do when I graduated high school, and it took me a long time to even go back to graduate school," she said. She finally went on to receive her Masters in Fashion Design from Kenyatta University in Kenya.

All of these experiences of growth, as well as her time spent living in a Maasai village in Kenya, were highly influential in her creation of Idi'aDega, a visionary global eco-design collaboration.

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Tereneh Idia

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Launched in 2013, Idi'aDega is the first ever Native American and African indigenous design collection, a fusion of authentic cultural design with modern technology. It has been presented in various publications, at Paris Fashion Week and New York Fashion Week, as well as in Pittsburgh and Nairobi, Kenya.

When introducing Idia at the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, Tony Norman of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette remarked, "it is the coming together of worlds that is deeply moving and imaginative. To call Tereneh a visionary for coming up with this approach to fashion is an understatement."

Her time at Allerdice played a part in opening Idia's world view, and now she is opening the view to the world.

Mike Himelstien

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instincts and your abilities right now."

Himelstien's songs have made their way to a vast group of listeners, being heard on Saturday Night Live, The Tonight Show, Sid the Science Kid, Mickey Mouse Clubhouse, and both Shrek the Musical and Shrek (the movie.)

But despite how successful he has been since his time in Pittsburgh, Himelstien still felt incredibly honored to be welcomed in the school's Hall of Fame. "Know something, Do something, Be something is easy to be cynical about it as a high school kid . . ." he said, referencing the school motto, "but through the years I've never forgotten, Know something, Do something, Be something. That is something, and I'm glad I went to this high school, and I'm proud to be a member of this Hall of Fame."

Jackson Wright

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Despite showing deep knowledge of his extensive research, Wright made clear that he'd had plenty of help along the way. Along with thanking his wife, who was in attendance, he said, "I have an outstanding team that I work with, and I've also been blessed with having both my parents throughout most of my life."

To finish his acceptance speech, Wright made a powerful case for Affirmative Action. "Affirmative Action offered me the opportunity, not the guarantee, for success... I believe that I demonstrate the value of that investment. We can no longer afford the losses of capital resulting in the lack of investment in the education of our [African-American] youth."

Wright advises, "be as great as you can at whatever you can that will benefit others." His remarkable work to ensure racial equity in hypertension research is a result of following through on this himself, and his example inspires everyone familiar to his story to do the same.

Devra Davis

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member of Al Gore's Nobel Peace Prize winning team, and has discussed pertinent environmental health issues on several major news networks.

Davis has used her unwavering passion for the betterment of all aspects of society in everything she has done, and appreciates passing on that enthusiasm to her grandchildren.

Davis's life has been one of service, and much of it stemmed from her time as a student at Allerdice. "I got that notion that you have to get involved," she said, "you have to do something, you don't just stand there; you have to be involved and engaged."

Brenda Ekwurzel

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And she's talked about it, and her roots in Western Pennsylvania, and how that helps her to have conversations with people who may not necessarily agree with her."

Ekwurzel thanks Allerdice for being a guide in the area of teaching, too. Her principal at the time, Mr. William Fisher, was a huge inspiration for her. His philosophy to mentor, rather than to punish for misbehavior, took away hurdles in Ekwurzel's path. Likewise, she now makes sure to "strive to find creative ways to reduce obstacles and provide opportunities for those that I supervise, that I mentor."

Overall, Dr. Ekwurzel is grateful for her Allerdice experience, and thanks not just her principal and drama club, but fellow classmates and friends as well. As for advice for recent alumni, Ekwurzel says, "Don't lose touch with your friends, they'll be your best advisors throughout life, because they knew you when you were starting to figure out who you are and what you're interested in, and they will be able to keep you grounded."

Ekwurzel has taken this advice to heart, and it has propelled her to achieve lasting change in the world.



Devra Davis: Environmental Health Advocate



Civil rights activist turned environmental health researcher Devra Davis // Tantor Media

By ABIGAIL SEGEL

Throughout her life, environmental health researcher and social justice advocate Devra Lee Davis, PhD ('64), has exemplified Margaret Mead's famous maxim, which, during an interview, she called a, "very important thought:" Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

Davis grew up in the small steel town of Donora, Pennsylvania, before moving to Pittsburgh. Her husband, Richard Morganstein, noted, "When her family moved to Pittsburgh, she found herself at a school of several thousand people, coming from a small town, and she had to make a lot of adjustments."

Despite this, she took classes at The University of Pittsburgh, wrote for Allerdice's school paper, The Foreword, and was highly involved in the Civil Rights and anti-war movements while at-

tending Allerdice. At the Hall of Fame induction ceremony, Davis showed her everlasting passion for those issues. "Those of us who survived the sixties," she said, "and I use the word survived advisedly - we're the lucky ones - will recognize we lost far too many of our generation. Some left the country, and far too many died in a war that many of us protested for a long time."

Davis became involved in the Civil Rights movement after she saw the bloody images from the famous march to Selma, Alabama. She noted that although she and the young people around her were rebellious in spirit, they channeled that feeling in the right way. "We stood up for racial equality at a time when that was a daring thing to do."

Even after her years as a social justice organizer, she felt her high school experience guide her. "Learning to look beneath the surface is something that Allerdice taught me."

She stayed true to that principle as she entered the field of environmental health. Davis is the author of the highly influential books The Secret History of the War on Cancer, Disconnect: The Truth About Cell Phone Radiation, and When Smoke Ran Like Water.

Also, "she has advised governments around the world on scientific health matters," according to her admiring husband, "was instrumental in banning smoking from airplanes," was appointed to President Clinton's Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board from 1994 to 1999, was a

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For updates from the AFA, email allderdice1927@gmail.com

To register for the Allerdice Alumni and Friends Association, visit <http://www.allderdicealumni.com/>



Celli-Flynn Brennan

Allerdice Alumni and Friends Association

RIKA MAESHIRO ('81)
CHAIR
MARTINA WELLS
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PTO LIAISON
ROBBIE CAPLAN ('73)
AFA WEBSITE CREATOR
CAREY KNAPP ('93)
HALL OF FAME CO-CHAIR
JAMY RANKIN ('81)
HALL OF FAME CO-CHAIR
ANN KAGAN ('88)
ALUMNI FACEBOOK PAGE LIAISON

Dragon Spirit Fundraiser a Success

By MELANIE WEISBORD

The third annual Dragon Spirit party was held on April 28th at the Pittsburgh Golf Club. The event helps to raise funds for projects not covered by the school district.

The evening began with the seventeen-piece band of Allderdice students led by orchestra director Mr. Brian Lee, who performed for the cocktail hour. One hundred people were in attendance and enjoyed the appetizers while the band played.

Then, a DJ took over as dinner was served. There was an impressive silent auction which included baskets made by Allderdice teams, clubs, and departments. Parents baked a variety of cookies for the dessert buffet, which was a hit!

Organizers were pleased by the number of parents, alumni and community members who came out to support the fundraiser.

Archive Project with Heinz History Center

By CHLOE WERNER

When Andee Lowenstein, a member of the Alumni and Friends of Allderdice Association (AFA), reached out to the Heinz History Center to explain that the AFA committee had a supply of old yearbooks and school newspapers dating back all the way to the 1930's, the archivists there

were ecstatic. To gather these materials and begin an archiving project would make it possible to connect the dots of people's lives from generations ago.

The project, which began in October and November, has blossomed into a collaborative effort between the history center, the school, and Allderdice's graduated students. To begin the process

of collecting the historical items, archivists from Heinz first held a meeting with Mr. Jon Parker, Allderdice's journalism teacher, and Mrs. Jen Brothers, the school librarian, to discuss what materials the school had that would be significant in the archives. In Brothers's library, Dice yearbooks are housed from decades back, and Parker has several old Foreword editions partially preserved inside PTO funded boxes at the school.

To Parker, the possibility that the old Foreword articles could soon be displayed in the history center is remarkable. "I'd say a dozen times a year, a teacher, a community member, an alum, somebody will come in and want to look at the papers . . . and I'm like, 'Go look at them! They're right there!'" he explained. But he admits that there should be a better organizing system, as the papers are, "not preserved in a permanent way... where you could actually find something if you were looking for it."

To archivists, however, the old yearbooks and school papers

are a treasure trove of information. They use pieces like these to research people's origins for historical development. They can determine who attended Allderdice at what times, who was related to whom, what graduates did after high school, and even who neighbored whom.

Parker explains this using the analogy of a puzzle; it's the individual scraps of information, like a Foreword article or a long-forgotten band uniform, that come together to form the entire picture—the stories and histories behind the people of Pittsburgh who attended Allderdice years ago.

"We have yearbooks from basically 30, 40, 50 years ago, all the way through, we have newspapers basically without interruption from 1937 on," he explained. "And so, while they might have had one or two puzzle pieces that people stumbled on during yard sales, now . . . of a 500-piece puzzle, they have 450 of them."

Alums of the school who happen to stumble across relics such

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The Senator John Heinz History Center

Boys Tennis Team's Secret to Success: Coach Keith Goldman

By JACKSON BLAUFELD

"We get no respect," says Coach Goldman, Varsity boys tennis coach at Allderdice High School. Coach "G" is referring to the media, as they predicted the top seeds to advance in this year's WPIAL tennis playoffs rolling over the underdogs, such as Goldman's Dragons.

This season, the team compiled an impressive 8-3 record. 2 of those 'dubs' have come from playoff victories against Moon and Peters Township, contrary to what the media strongly predicted. Coach Goldman commented on the victory against Peters, "That's a moment you'll remember for the rest of your life. That will remain in my memory box forever."

What most don't know is what went on behind the scenes prior to the big match. Senior star singles player Marcus Mitchell said, "The best moment this season had to be 'the pep talk.'" Mitchell is referring to the pre-game speech from Coach Goldman Monday before the Peters Township match. "Inspirational words from Goldman just really got the team fired up. I won't say what he actually said," hinted Mitchell.

When Goldman was interrogated for further information, he said, "The Post Gazette had an article in Friday's paper (Coach 'G' reads the paper every day religiously), basically mentioning how the favorites would cruise to victories. I explained to the team what I thought of that...in private terms [laughs], among the team." This illustrates the team's perseverance, from top to bottom of the depth chart.

In fact, depth is a strong spot on this year's squad. The team boasts singles players Marcus Mitchell, David Missry, and Kazuma Parkinson. Doubles pairs include Sammy Nayhouse and Scott Sobel, as well as Leo Sweeney and Benji Gluzman. Not to be outdone, Senior leaders Peter Mischler and Scott Strassburger have provided much needed leadership. Goldman said, "Peter and Scott have been a secret ingredient this year. They are always ready to jump in when needed. Shoutout Peter and Scott."

The team's success this season is a product of their hard work. A typical practice day isn't a cookie cutter program. Coach Goldman uses stations, three to be specific, to keep players challenged and engaged after a long

school day at Dice.

Specifically, one court is reserved for challenge games for highly skilled players to compete against one another. When asked if there's a prize for the winner, Goldman responded, "No. This is high school tennis."

Opposite of the challenge court are two other stations. One is run by the top level players in the program, working on specific situations they could run into in the next match.

The last station is run by Coach Goldman. This area is for basic skills needed to see game court for Coach Goldman. Past skills, mental toughness is necessary in this program. Expectations are high, says Goldman. "What I expect is that they have a strong work ethic, no matter what, on that court, they better be outworking and out hustling whoever they're playing against." Unique to this team, he said, "We've never had a problem with that. I'm so proud of this team."

The expectations don't stop there. "Out strategize. We've got to be thinking to ourselves...What is it I can do to get back into this match?" says Coach G. When teams switch sides of the net, the Coach gets a quick moment to talk

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Spring Musical Nominated for Gene Kelly Awards

By MARY CLAIRE RETHAGE

Spring has sprung and so has the Allderdice theater. Once again Ms. Madden-Harold has directed another musical success. I can be completely honest when I say that The Addams Family production was a hit. It exceeded all expectations and I was very pleased with the end product.

Opening night was on Thursday April 19, and there were a good number of people in the crowd eager for the snaps that every Addams Family fan knows. To begin, Mr. Lee conducted an outstanding orchestra. The students showed off their talent and were easily one of the best parts of the show. Amazing lighting added to the Addams Family feel.

The casting for the star family could not have been better. Sophomore Sean Whitney proved his talent by reprising the role as the leading male in the school's annual production. His portrayal of the charming and funny Gomez was outstanding with the support of senior Jesse Sowell as Morticia. Sowell put on an impeccable performance, creating a motherly vibe. Juniors Patrick Carroff and Carly Chotiner were two of my personal favorites in this musical. Their ability to act as the Beineke family parents was incredible.

Junior Sydne Samuels put on a skilled performance as Wednesday Addams. Her abilities shone through in both her solo and her duet with love interest Luke. Luke

Beineke was played by senior James Gresos, who was able to portray the nerdy yet love-struck teenager impeccably.

Fester (junior Russell Petro) and Pugsley (sophomore Eitan Winkle) portrayed hilarious characters, and their solos showed off astounding vocal talent.

Last but not least, Lurch (junior Ben Cummings) and Grandma (sophomore Ariana Smith) were definitely the funniest characters in the musical, their jokes bringing laughter from the audience.

With this year's show, the students of Allderdice showed off their admirable talent. The ensemble blended very well and their harmonies were incredibly impressive. Everyone showcased their strengths with singing abilities and portraying the characters. I walked out of the theater with a smile on my face.

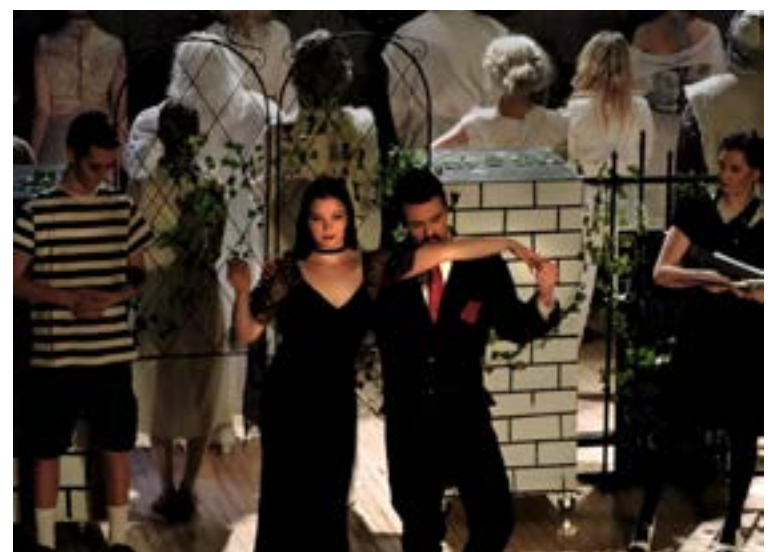
On May 26, the cast of the musical attended the 2018 Gene Kelly Awards for Excellence in High School Musical Theater. Along with 29 other Allegheny County schools, Allderdice had been nominated for numerous categories. The cast and crew were up for best musical, best lighting design, and best all-student orchestra.

Although they didn't win any awards, the musical was a massive success and the Allderdice community is proud of the talented students and staff who brought the production to life.

Addams Family The Musical



Students perform in Allderdice's spring production of *The Addams Family* // Dalia Maeroff



The Allderdice Alumni Foreword

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Archive

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as their old band uniforms, for example, can now reach out to the center and see if there is any interest in archiving these items.

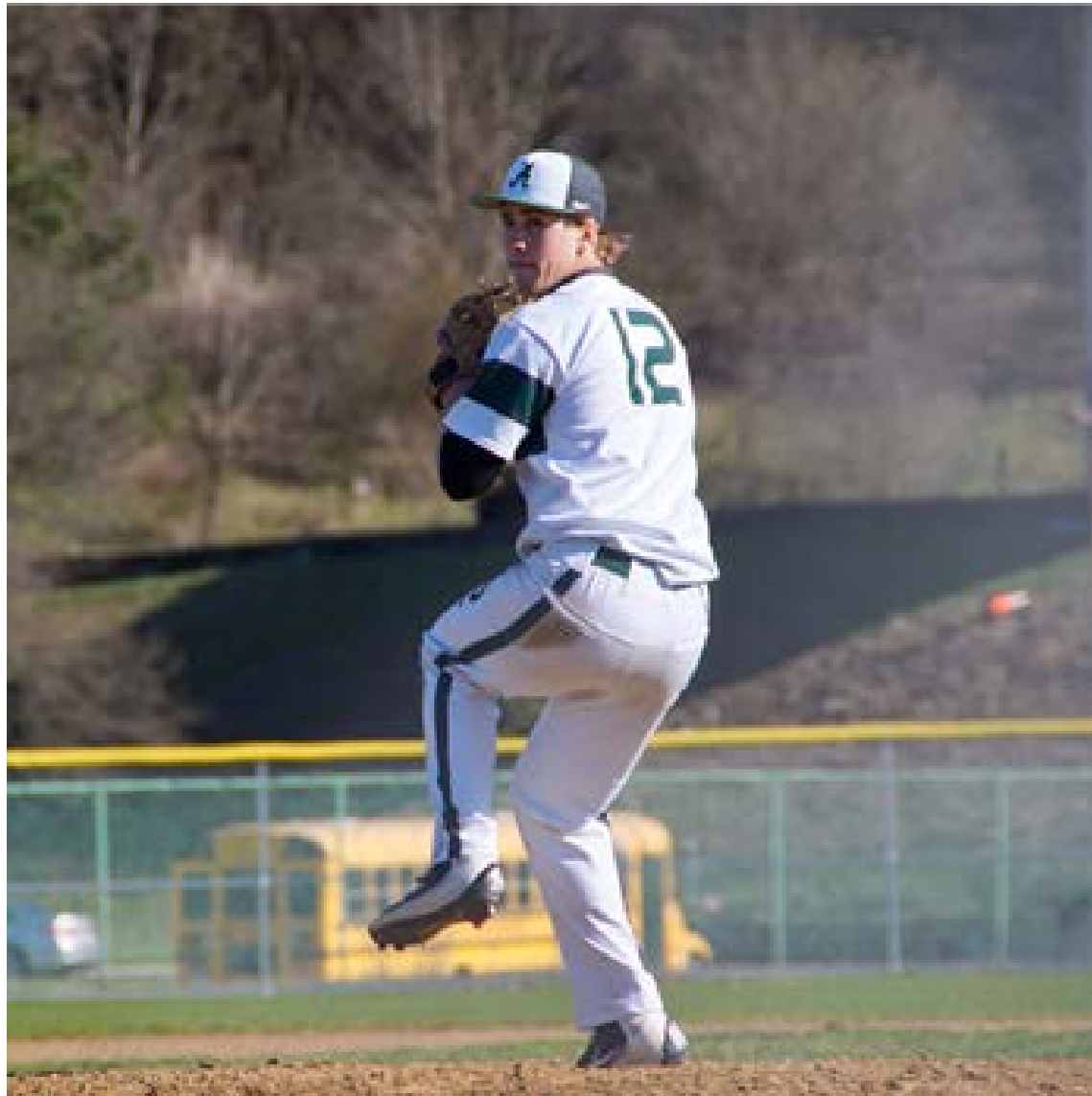
However, despite the dedication from all involved in the project, it has not gone entirely conflict-free. The articles in the Foreword papers are owned by the student writers themselves, not the school nor even Mr. Parker, though he is the school's journalism teacher. Although the archivists are only planning on storing, not publishing, these papers, they still require permission from these writers that Parker cannot give on their behalf. "There's some bureaucracy around giving them that stuff," says Parker.

The archivists must try and gain the permission to store memorabilia from individual owners, requiring an individual meeting with every person trying to donate to the project. Because of this, it's suggested that those with items to give hand them off through the AFA, so that the archivists can meet with the association as a whole, instead of conducting innumerable meetings with everyone interested in giving to the project.

Roadblocks notwithstanding, the project is coming along impressively, and the flood of old high school reminders coming in from various alumni and Allerdice itself is finally piecing together the puzzle that Parker had known it would. In his eyes, the archiving and preservation of the yearbooks and papers alike is very exciting.

"I've always thought the Foreword archives are pretty incredible. I mean, we have actual print copies of newspapers from 80 years ago," he says. "But the value of that to an archivist is way higher than it is to just a random . . . human being who likes to see stuff that's old and interesting . . . from the archivists' perspective . . . for them, they're incredibly valuable."

Player Spotlight: Tanner Jacobson



Allerdice senior Tanner Jacobson winds up for a pitch on the baseball mound. He will play Division II baseball next year at college.

By EMMA WAITE

Senior Tanner Jacobson is a leader on the Allerdice baseball team. He has had an exceptional baseball career at with the Dragons and his senior season has not disappointed.

Jacobson usually pitches and plays shortstop, with success at both positions. In fact, he has recorded 50 strikeouts while pitching this season and is looking for more. Jacobson is a special player because of his dedication, leader-

ship and love for the game.

Jacobson started playing baseball at five years old and has been committed ever since. Baseball is sometimes known as "the game of failure" because even the best hitters still fail 6 out of 10 times they step up to the plate. This does not discourage Jacobson, in fact, he embraces the difficulties of the game. When asked what he thinks makes baseball better than any other sport, he replied, "There are non-stop challenges that I have to face, and you

need to be real athlete to be able to make plays and hit the ball."

This season is different for Jacobson because he is the primary leader of the team. He has taken on more responsibility and the role of getting the players prepared to replace the graduating seniors. "A leadership role allows me to motivate younger players on the team to work on getting better and look forward to filling in and being ready when the time comes," he says.

This season, the Dragon's

have a record of 1-13. Although their season may seem rough to the average fan, Jacobson believes that this record does not do them justice. Compared to last season, the Dragons have improved tremendously. "Our record does not reflect on how we played this season and there's a lot of young talented players that will make a bright future for Allerdice baseball," Jacobson says. Not only does he have fun playing with his younger teammates, he has full faith in them that their hard work will pay off to more Dragon wins. He said that the best part about playing baseball specifically at Allerdice was being able to play with young talent.

Jacobson's high school career may be coming to end, but his baseball career is far from over. Jacobson received a scholarship to attend Queens University of Charlotte in North Carolina, where he will be playing baseball and majoring in business. Queens is a member of the NCAA's Division II program nationally and competes in the South Atlantic Conference regionally.

Queens recently hired a new coach, Jack McDowell, who is a retired MLB pitcher. He played on the Chicago White Sox and had a career earned run average of 3.85. It is great for any young player to get coaching from someone with that amount of baseball experience.

Jacobson's little brother, Troy is supportive. "Even though the Allerdice season this year wasn't that great, you get to go down south and play for Jack McDowell at Queens University. Can't ask for anything better. Good luck in Charlotte," said the freshman.

Jacobson is a remarkable person and an athlete who is sure to leave a lasting impact on Allerdice baseball. His abilities to embrace leadership, mentor his younger peers, and never shy away from a challenge guarantees a bright future ahead of him.

Fencing Team Stays on Top, Wins 3rd Straight Year

By GUY BERESTEANU

As the winter sports season come to an end, Allerdice once again has had a successful season. One of the many teams that was able to defend its city championship title was the Allerdice Boys Fencing Team, leading to its third consecutive year on top.

The fencing team went undefeated throughout the whole season finishing with a 14-0 record! Varsity starters finished the season with the following records: Joey Breslau (23-4), Ariel Holstein (24-3), and Captain Guy Beresteanu (28-0). This continues the varsity starters' extraordinary multi-season records of: Joey Breslau (34-12), Ariel Holstein (64-10), and Captain Guy Beresteanu (72-0).

The Boy's Fencing Team went into the playoffs ranked first and went up against Fox Chapel. Allerdice beat Fox Chapel handedly with a 5-0 record in the semi-finals to advance to the finals against Peters Township. Peters Township went down equally easily with another 5-0 record and Allerdice took the 2018 Pittsburgh City Championships for the third year running!

When Captain Guy Beresteanu was asked about the championships, he said, "We were unstoppable! All starters went undefeated in the playoffs which enabled the team to win for the third year straight. The ability of

our three starters (Beresteanu, Breslau, and Holstein) to help each other either by coaching or by motivating one another during the championships is a huge reason why we won."

When varsity starter Joey Breslau was asked about the team spirit and atmosphere of the team, he said, "Although Fencing may

not seem like a team sport, the accomplishments of the fencing team this year can be attributed completely to the friendly competition between fencers at practice and the camaraderie formed by it. Not only did we perform extremely well in the circuit, but we all came out of the experience with new friends and a greater ap-

preciation for the sport itself."

Even though the high school season has ended, all three stars are working hard to ensure that next season is just as big of a success. Next year all three of them will be seniors, making it their last year to compete on the Allerdice team. When Breslau was asked about what he expects for next season he said, "It was especially wonderful to see so many new faces on the team, and it makes me even more excited to see what

happens next year."

Likewise, when Holstein was asked about his predictions for next year he responded positively saying, "Nothing can stop us, we're all the way up! This year we reached a 3-peat and next year there is no reason why we can't have another city championship title. I will bet you on that!"

If Allerdice wins its fourth city championship next year, it will become the best franchise in the City League's history.



Fencers, from left: Joey Breslau, Guy Beresteanu, and Ariel Holstein. // John Carroll

Tennis Coach Goldman

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to his team. During that time, "I'll tell them things that I see, like, 'Are you aware that that person hasn't used their backhand yet?' or, 'Let's hit some short balls to pull them closer to the net.'"

Clearly, this is where Goldman's expertise helps separate this team from the rest. Mitchell said, "I've learned so much from him. He's really into the team, sometimes he doesn't sleep the night before a big match. That dedication kinda' sets the bar for us players."

Since the day Goldman came to Allerdice as a PE and Health teacher, he has been the tennis coach. Six years ago, the tennis team began competing in the WPIAL, which is rare for a city school to do. Under Goldman's watchful eye, the team has made

the playoffs every year it has been in the WPIAL, which makes them the only city sports team to do so. Furthermore, they are the only city school sports team to advance to the semi-finals in the WPIAL playoffs.

Unfortunately, that's where it ended for the Dragons tennis team this season. They were defeated by Shady Side Academy 3-2, but in the grand scheme of things, Coach "G" and his troops were victorious.

If you've ever met Mr. Goldman, you know he is a very humble guy. Through all the success, he shines the light on his players. Some would say he is a "players' coach". After the season ended in the semifinals, Coach Goldman and his troops held their heads high. Everyone in the Allerdice building is proud of what this tennis team accomplished.