

# FOCUS

## Humans of FCS

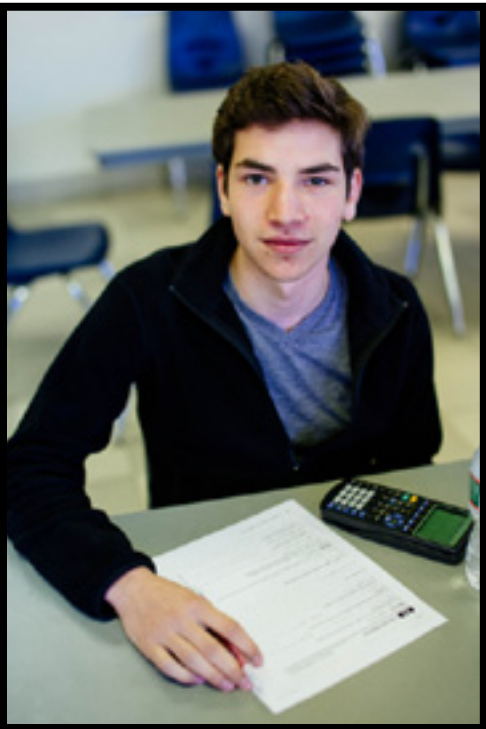
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As we were brainstorming ideas for this issue, we figured it was time to celebrate the students. Instead of writing a whole bunch of different articles, we chose to use almost entirely pictures. Cameras in tow, we took to the cafeteria, the oval, and the classrooms photographing whoever we found. We had also comprised a list of potential questions to ask our subjects ranging from "What is something nobody knows about you?" to "What piece of advice would you give to a younger student?" Our inspiration for this issue came from the very popular Humans of New York, which follows one man as he asks questions and takes pictures of the various people he sees on the streets of New York. We would like to take a moment to send a special thanks to Jess Miller, Julia Barr, Stefan Sultan, Noah Silvestry, and Amelia Orzech-Boscov for helping us gather these images. We hope you enjoy the issue!

**"You can take a picture of me doing my math homework."**



**Alyssa Holt:**  
"I like how the FCS campus is so open. You can just come and be with your friends in the warmth."  
**Madeleine Coss:**  
"I play guitar and sing."



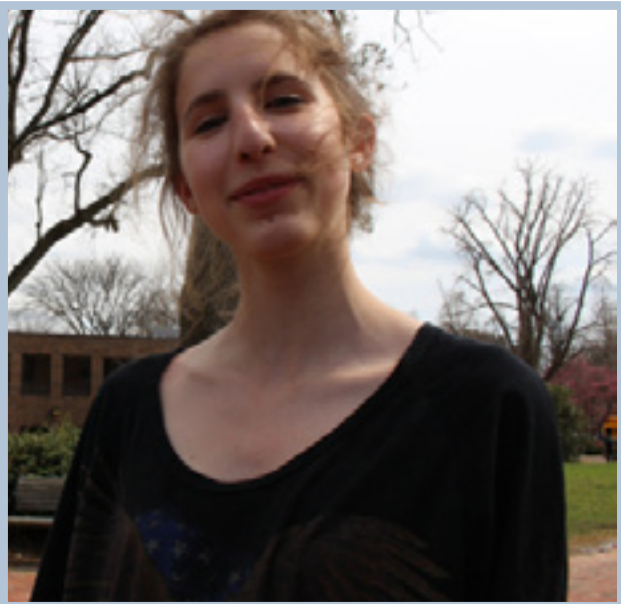
**"Today I filled out my job application."**  
**"Where do you want to work?"**  
**"At Swarthmore College."**



**"What's your favorite thing about your friendship?"**  
**Caroline Bartholomew:**  
"We're really similar and this is weird but we..."  
**Emma Rutenberg:**  
"finish each other's sentences"  
**Caroline and Emma:**  
"and we say the same things at the same time. We're always thinking the same thing."



**"I work at the zoo. My favorite animal is probably the aardvark."**



**How's the pretzel? "It's mediocre at best."**



**"He makes me laugh."**  
**"There are too many good things to say about her."**



**"Don't leave your homework until the last minute."**





“There’s a lot of different people at Friends’ Central that you have to meet.”



“One day I was walking with my friend and I tripped and fell. He helped me back up.”



What’s your favorite thing about them?  
“They always cheer me up!”



What was the happiest moment you can remember?  
“When I got a bike for christmas.”



“Tell us an interesting fact about yourself”  
“My middle name is Longstreth.”



“What do you like most about each other?  
Samara Bradley: “Your sense of humor is great.”  
Ivana-Ajee Dolic: “Yeah, your sense of humor. I like that.”



“You should experiment with clubs and build relationships with your teachers.”



Brooke Averick on Noah  
Averick:  
“When he eats all the applesauce packets and leaves none for me.”  
Noah on Brooke:  
“I love everything about her. Her hair is nice.”



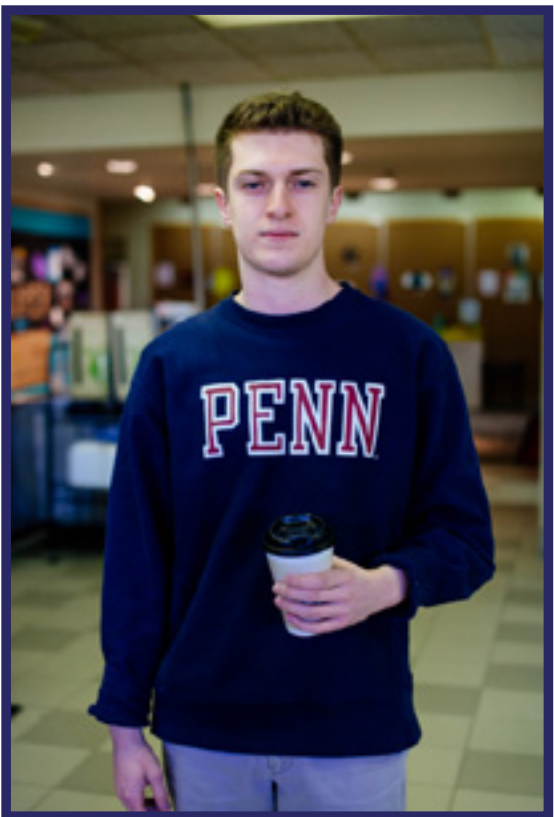
“What’s your favorite thing about being a 9th grader?”  
“These chairs.”  
“How much more freedom we have than middle school. The teachers are really welcoming and always helping us get through it because it’s our first year.”  
“And the upperclassmen are really nice. Like they aren’t bullies.”  
“Anything else?”  
“The chairs.”



“I can write in Simslish.”



“Coffee is my brain fuel.”



If you had to give advice to a large group of people, what would it be?  
“You’re in control of your own life.”



“What’s a piece of advice you have for younger students?”  
“Be yourself and be happy.”



“What’s your favorite thing about being a 9th Grader?”  
“Well it’s really fun to meet new people and just be a part of the whole high school experience.”



“One time I was playing basketball with my friend Zander and lets just say one of us fell down and it wasn’t me. And then I made the shot.”



“What’s a piece of advice you have for younger Friends’ Central students?”  
“Don’t think you can do it all by yourself. There’s plenty of help. Seek out all the resources that are here.”



# Phoenix in the Phast Lane

## Peter Bradbeer: Golf

By JOSH BENJET '16



Golf has always been a major part of Peter Bradbeer’s life - he loves the game intensely and is a very dedicated player. His passion for golf stems largely from the game’s emphasis on honor and sportsmanship, which he believes separates golf from other sports. He explained, “Out on the course, there really isn't someone watching your every move; you have to be your own official and be mature in calling yourself out on rules infractions”.

As Peter became more invested in the game as a high schooler, he decided to start to play in tournaments. He felt that his potential as a golfer far surpassed his abilities in other sports and he was right. As a ninth grader, he played in the 3rd position on the Varsity Golf team at Friends’ Central. As the season went on he improved dramatically, calming his nerves on the course and consistently shooting low scores for the team. At last year’s Friends’ School League golf championship, his worked payed off as he took the individual title by 3 strokes, shooting an impressive 78. What makes his victory remarkable is the recovery he staged on the back nine. After putting a ball in the water on the 9th hole, he motivated himself to play spectacularly consistent golf on the back nine, shooting 36 in comparison to his 42 on the front nine. After the season, Peter was then named to the first team of the Friends School League, a high honor for any 9th grade golfer.

Peter hopes to continue his success in the Friends School League, and other tournaments that he plays in around the US. Peter also hopes to pursue a college career in golf and potentially even further. We wish him the best in his journey!

## Emily Burd: Track

By SAOIRSE HAHN '15



Emily Burd, class of 2017, is currently making big waves in FCS track. Emily got into running at age eight when her mom would go for runs in the summer and she would ask to tag along. After that she began running in her neighborhood 5k’s and joined her elementary and middle school track and cross country teams. During her time so far at FCS, Emily has participated in soccer, winter track, and spring track and field. In the winter Emily qualified for states in the mile, half mile, and distance medley relay (along with Hannah Szapary, Claire Szapary, and Matayia Mapp).

Emily came in first for the mile and currently stands as the #1 freshman in the state for the mile. She then went to the New Balance Nationals in New York City where she finished fourth, missing third by 0.2 seconds. She is currently the fourth best freshman in the country with a mile time of 5:08.17. Emily runs between 10-12 hours a week, and says that she really enjoys running because it is a great way to relieve stress and stay in shape.

# Plans for Next Year

By PETER DISSINGER '14 AND EMILIA WEINBERG '14

## Jess Miller and Julia Barr

After one full year, seven issues, and plenty of editing, our time as Focus Editors-in-Chief has come to an end. While running the newspaper has been at times challenging and exhausting, we have both learned so many lessons about being leaders, editors and writers. We are so proud of interesting and meaningful articles we were able to publish and hope that other people were as excited by Focus this year as we were. We both hope to continue our writing careers in college (potentially even getting to work together again!) and know that we have left Focus in particularly good hands. We are incredibly excited to announce that Jess Miller and Julia Barr will be the next Editors-in-Chief! Both girls have been on the Focus staff since ninth grade and have been dedicated and hard-working members of our staff, constantly putting out interesting and well-written articles.

Jess and Julias’ first task as editors is leading Focus’s collaboration with The Phoenix Inquirer, the middle school newspaper. This is an especially hard task as it involves coordinating both the high school and middle school writers and ensuring that each article reflects the work and interests of everyone involved. They will also be publishing a major issue at the end of the year. They won’t be doing this alone though. We are excited to welcome a whole new team of Senior Editors whose job it will be to help Jess and Julia make sure each issue has interesting content and is published without much hassle. Next year’s Senior Editors are News Edtiors Caroline Bartholomew and Hannah Kaminsky, Sports Editor Sophie MacFarlane, Diversity Editor Saoirse Hahn, Arts and Entertainment Editors’ Anna Sorensen and Rose Gendelman and Editorials and Politics Editor Stefan Sultan (a new position at Focus for the coming year). We think this will be one of the strongest teams in Focus history.

While Jess and Julia have many great ideas for next year, one of the biggest developments will be increasing the newspaper’s online presence. This includes creating a Focus Twitter feed where they can post more “breaking news”, an online forum where they can archive old issues, and even a news-cast! We are excited for these new changes, and wish to welcome Josh Weisgrau as Focus’ online media advisor. Josh will oversee whatever path Focus decides to take with multi-media development. While we are sad to see this year come to a close, we’re thrilled for what will come next! Good luck to Julia, Jess, and the entire Focus staff!

# FOCUS

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GOOD LUCK TO THE CLASS  
OF 2014!