

The Herald

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One Bad Apple?

By KYLE ZIEMNICK
Copy Editor

Is Big Brother in our pockets? On our desks? In our ears? And if so, what should we do about it?

The Millennium Society invited two speakers to PHC on Monday night to

discuss these issues and more in a debate on the question: "Is Big Tech Big Brother?" Franklin Foer, former editor of the New Republic, took the affirmative side, while Adam Thierer, a Research Fellow with the Mercatus Center at George Mason, took the negative.

"How many of you sleep with your phones?" Foer asked the audience. He went on to say that smartphones are so important to us that they've become appendages of our bodies.

About 70 people attended the debate, which centered around a couple

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of key issues. Both speakers agreed that technology does bring dangers with it, but they disagreed on how to respond. Foer believed that the government should put "reasonable limits" in place to restrict the power of big tech companies like Apple and Google.

"The regulations are dangerous," Thierer said in rebuttal. "We don't want to follow the path to excessive control."

Dr. Frank Guliuzza, Dean of Academic Affairs, moderated the debate. After initial speeches from both men, Guliuzza asked the speakers some of his own questions and some submitted by the audience during the debate.

Foer closed his arguments by asking the audience another question: "Why wouldn't you want to make things better?"

Thierer responded in his own closing, saying, "Things are better than ever. And there is no Goldilocks formula to make it perfect."

Before the event started, the Millennium Society displayed a text message poll on the screen for the audience, and the original vote was 70 percent to 30 percent in favor of Foer's side. But afterwards, two-thirds of voters were on the other side supporting

Thierer's position.

"I believe [Thierer] won. He did a really good job at bringing up thought-provoking points and used a pretty rational viewpoint for it all," freshman Kayla Schleining said.

Senior Christian McGuire, though, was not convinced by either speaker. "I don't think that the topic was nearly focused enough," he said. "Potential solutions were also left unsatisfyingly vague by both speakers."

"I think that too much of the debate was centered around the influence of tech companies and not our individual temperance," sophomore John Southards said. "The real debate ought to be to what degree a temperate person will engage the technology produced by these companies."

Schleining said she'd like to see more debates on these "controversial but relatable topics" in the future.

"We deal with technology every day, and whether we know it or not we're giving our information about ourselves online all the time," Schleining said. "It's important to understand how that works so that we can grasp the consequences and benefits and weigh them accordingly." ♦



THIERER



FOER

Meet the Candidates

BY VIENNA JACOBSON
EDITOR

The Herald introduces you to the two tickets running for Student Body President and Vice President: Esther Katz/ Josh Trepiccione and Olivia Bowers/ Kara Brown. Voting begins on April 16.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

VJ: Why did you choose your running mate?

Esther Katz: I chose Josh as my running mate for both personal and professional reasons. As most everyone on this campus knows, Josh is extremely humble, extremely smart, and extremely caring. He is truly a valuable friend (with a great sense of humor!). Josh also provides professional skills in areas where I lack them. He is practical and has a knack for noticing and following through on the details. He does not mind doing the hard, taxing work of explaining his policy ideas to fellow senators and garnering their support. I am always so impressed by Josh's grit! As a senator for two years now, Josh is 100% qualified for the position of Student Body Vice President.

Olivia Bowers: Kara was a no-brainer. When I think about someone who lives and breathes what our campaign is all about—Thriving Together—it's Kara. She is really gifted at loving and serving others well. I wanted someone who would also really want to pursue Jesus in all of this together and really surround the campaign with prayer and intentionality. We also balance each other out super well—we've worked together in the past and we make a really solid team.

VJ: How do you define the role of Student Body President?

EK: The first is identifying constructive changes that can be made in academics and student life and relay-

ing these ideas on to the administration. In order to succeed in this area, the president must have a listening ear for students and a humble heart before professors. Relationships with both are absolutely key, as is creativity.

The second is setting an example of character and integrity before the student body and college community as a whole. While neither the executive branch nor any form of government should legislate morality, leaders are subject to a moral imperative. The behavior of the head sets the expectation for its constituent parts. Only when its holder is a person of integrity can the office of SBP command any meaningful influence.

The third role is functioning as the face of Patrick Henry College to the outside community and prospective students. The SBP is responsible for timely speeches that may influence the decision-making of future students. Aware of this burden, the SBP should be able to clearly, succinctly, and persuasively articulate the College's ethos. The SBP should prioritize speaking truth in grace.

OB: I think SBPs have important goals to fulfill. (1) Define the ethos for the school, as well as really be the face of/represent the school to incoming students. (2) Foster opportunities for building community and spiritual growth. (3) Institute practical policies that are meaningful but also doable.

VJ: What are two of the main things you would like to accomplish as SBP?

EK: Two main things I will accomplish as Student Body President are Josh and my two first policies. These revolve around the precious concept of community. The first fosters the college's relationship with the outside community and the second fosters relationships between students and professors.

1. The Food Conservation Outreach

Ministry will create conscientiousness for the student body concerning food waste... for a bigger reason than just "going green," I promise! After each meal, the dining hall staff will weigh the garbage cans with a scale they already have downstairs. Mrs. Del Mundo will total these numbers up monthly and, if the student body meets the set waste goal, Mrs. Del Mundo and her staff will cook a steak dinner! (They've already agreed to this!) That's what I call incentive! The kicker? The saved food will go STRAIGHT to Leesburg's local homeless shelter. Mrs. Del Mundo already transports leftovers whenever she has them—the Food Conservation Outreach Ministry will ensure that she has as much food as possible! It'll further reveal the heart of Patrick Henry students for our surrounding community.

2. The Mental Health Academic Accommodation will extend the already-present (and successful!) work of the College to aid students with their mental health. It will provide a link between it and academics. After speaking with some students and judging from our own personal experiences, Josh and I noticed that approaching professors about mental health can be difficult. Fears about being dubbed "weak" or "dramatic," or of just inappropriately violating a professional relationship prevent students from requesting relevant accommodations. After speaking with several professors and hearing their hearts on mental health issues, Josh and I want to eliminate this perceived stigma. Professors take mental health seriously and are eager to help students protect themselves. Josh and I want to draft a paragraph that communicates this sentiment and can be added to every syllabus. This policy will grow the character of the student body by encouraging transparent, meaningful relationships with our professors.

OB: I think two main ideas I'd like to accomplish are helping grow the school

and empowering students. There are a lot of ways a SBP and VP can help with the Admissions process and we are excited about the opportunity to interact with prospectives in a new way. There are also a lot of clubs, events, and trips which students would like to participate in, but funding can be problematic. Student Senate has a limited budget and we are developing a way for the Senate to maintain a constant stream of revenue. This will empower students to make the ideas they are passionate about happen!

VJ: Who do you look up to (mentor/friend) and whom you would like to emulate as SBP?

EK: I look up to Dr. Favelo. He has such extensive knowledge in his field yet emanates humility and grace. He doesn't show off his knowledge out of context or offer insight unless invited. He also sacrifices his nights to get to know students better through board games. I want to be like Dr. Favelo as Student Body President: equipped with information, working behind the scenes to better the campus, building relationships with peers and faculty alike, and able to step up to the plate when called before the public eye.

OB: There are a lot of people in my life whom I admire and respect. My mom has been an incredible spiritual mentor to me, and familiar faces, like Julianne Owens, Kendra Olson, and Olivia Monroe, have been awesome examples and friends in my life. President Haye is someone whose leadership, tenderheartedness, and vision I hope to emulate.

VJ: What do you hope to be the impact you leave on the school if you are elected?

EK: The impact I hope to leave on Patrick Henry College is wrapped up in one word: *faithful*. I want to be faithful in befriending students. I want to be faithful in representing the ethos. I want to be faithful in crafting new policy initiatives. I want to be faithful in following up with the administration. I want to be faithful in supporting my

Vice President. I want to be faithful in serving my God.

OB: I really think our slogan says it all—Thriving Together. If I have learned anything during my time at PHC, it's that we are made for community and we are called to grow alongside one another. We can't do it all on our own; we need each other. Thriving necessitates spiritual growth and loving others well. I'm definitely not perfect at "thriving", but I'd love to see PHC really flourish communally and spiritually.

VJ: What is your coffee order?

EK: My favorite coffee is a Starbucks cream-based caramel mocha frappuccino. The more cream and sugar and the less coffee the better.

OB: This is hard, because I really love all coffee. But if you go out to coffee with me (which you should!), I'll probably order a vanilla latte or white mocha.

VJ: What is your favorite class?

EK: Currently my favorite class is a tie between History of Islam with Dr. Wemlinger and Comparative Politics with Dr. Baskerville!

OB: I absolutely loved Freedom's Foundations and I'm currently really enjoying my Conflict and Theological Typography class.

VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

VJ: Why did you decide to partner with your running mate?

JT: I approached Esther about running because I also wanted a leader who was more concerned about service than about her own ambition. Any political qualifications only tell you so much about a person, although Esther is certainly more than qualified in that area as well. Most importantly, I chose her because of her character, and so should you. There are many things that distinguish Esther from others. Perhaps her greatest quality is her genuine kindness, which is something that is hard to find among aspiring politicians. Although I have not always

agreed with Esther on every policy issue that has gone through student government, I appreciate her candor and intellectual consistency. Esther truly wants to help improve the lives of others around her and does not want any praise for it. In fact, she helped to start a program where leftover food from the dining hall goes to a homeless shelter. So far, she has not been thanked or had her story shared beyond a few close friends. But Esther did not want any of that. She saw the opportunity to fulfill the need and did it. And that is how she will be as Student Body President as well. Even at PHC, in a place where we try to emulate Christ, we can sometimes get caught up in boosting our resumes. It would be refreshing to truly elect a servant-leader who did not necessarily want the job.

KB: Olivia is my best friend. I trust her more than anyone else in the world. I know that she has a good heart and genuinely cares about those around her. We've already worked on so many projects together, and we work so well together; she just seemed like an obvious choice.

VJ: How do you define the role of VP?

JT: The student body code defines the role as the Vice President as the presiding officer over the student body government. That being said, the official duties of the Vice President vary in each administration. It is very easy for the Vice President to drop out of view and have almost no official duties. Our administration does not share that view. I see my role as Vice President as if I were co-president. The role of President should be primarily concerned with maintaining good relations and representing the student body to the administration; this alone is a nearly impossible task. In order to fulfill the necessary obligations to the student body, a ticket must not only work well together but surround themselves with the right people in their administration as well. My role will be to assemble and manage a strong cabinet to accomplish

these goals. My job will be to communicate our goals to the student body. These roles are valuable in providing distinction, but do not provide exclusivity to the areas where we can best serve the student body.

KB: Normally the VP's role has been limited to the election and then after that they're never heard from again. That doesn't sound appealing to me at all. I think the SBP and VP can team together to set the ethos and implement the ideas. I would love to see the VP be just as involved as the SBP in the community.

VJ: As the VP, you will be in a supporting role; how will that look for your campaign?

JT: I believe that Esther and I have an incredible amount of chemistry in performing our roles that is working well with our campaign and will transition well into our administration. Esther exudes passion and energy and loves to focus on big ideas, while I tend to be more reserved but also focus on the more particular details and logistical matters. This combination works very well in a professional relationship. It has also allowed us to take initiative.

KB: I am a very big picture person, so I normally run into Liv's room every other week or so saying, "Okay, idea. What do you think of this?" and then spew out a lengthily complex notion, and Liv with her incredibly practicable brain says, "Okay, so here's how we could do that." Liv and I are a team and we balance each other out well. So, as

much as Liv will be working on ideas, I will be too.

VJ: What is the impact you hope to have on the school if your ticket is elected?

JT: Our campaign focuses on extending the ethos of the school. This mentality means that we are not looking to make any radical changes; instead we are just trying to improve the daily lives of students with simple yet effective solutions. We are not trying to make any lofty promises that we will not be able to keep. Moreover, we are not trying to change the ethos of the school from any student-government mandated programs. We do, however, expect to maintain good relations with the administration and continue to work with the existing structures of student government to accomplish our goals.

KB: I would love to see the school flourish and for students to know they can come to Liv and me with their ideas. Honestly, I love this school and I want to see us continue to grow, whether that be in size or in closing the gaps within our community.

VJ: What is your coffee order?

JT: Nothing beats a good cup of espresso. I may add a little sugar, but I also may have up to three cups at a time.

KB: So, I actually don't drink much coffee because I try to avoid caffeine. But I do like a nice iced coffee here and there.

VJ: What is your favorite class?

JT: My favorite class at this school is Historiography. This class has not only been a blessing academically but has also helped me make decisions about my spiritual life as well. As Dr. Spinney would say, the class is less about history than it is about good intellectual hygiene. Although I thought that this phrasing was somewhat odd at first, I believe that there is no better way to summarize the importance of the class. If anything, this class perfectly summarizes my time here at PHC, in that it has helped me to reflect not only on the facts of history but also on how I interpret those facts as a human being. Although this point is simple, it is easy for me at least to get lost in academics and to see it as an end in itself at times. However, when I approach it holistically, as I learned in historiography, I learn to see things in new ways that I can utilize for my calling in all areas of life. This class was especially encouraging in a time at PHC where I had become lost in academics and overwhelmed with my own expectations of who I should be or my own self-worth. Having a class like Historiography, particularly with such a godly man as Dr. Spinney, helped me to re-prioritize my thoughts and to approach the world in a more intellectually sound Christian mindset.

KB: PBR with Dr. Newman, hands down. It was an exciting mix of a practical understanding of Christianity and healthy diving into some of the deepest questions of humanity. ♦



Consequential Things

Senior Sarah Jacob on independence, self-discovery, and becoming a Real Housewife

BY CARRIE DURNING
Backpage Editor

"Sarah Ann Jacob," Dr. Mitchell called, taking attendance during Freedom's Foundations II her sophomore year. Jacob looked up to see two of Mitchell, confusedly raised her hand to show that she was present, and then made a sassy, out of character remark. Throughout the beginning of class, Jacob continued to feel strange and see two of everything—the kind of strange one feels when feverish or lacking sleep. But the only thing Jacob was lacking that afternoon was a proper lunch—she had chugged a bottle of her mother's home-brewed kombucha before class as a replacement.

By the time class ended, Jacob had processed what had happened. She approached Mitchell and explained to him why she had acted so out of character. "I was tipsy," Jacob said, "off of my mother's home-brewed kombucha that had been fermenting in my room for a month."

Currently a senior SI major, Jacob had not originally intended on coming to PHC. In high school, she had been interested in other state schools and Christian universities. After a suggestion from her parents that she look into PHC, Jacob applied. "Once I found the SI program, I knew this is where I had to be," Jacob said.

Upon arriving on campus her freshman year, Jacob blew off her first semester. She slowly turned into a person she didn't like, a person who didn't care about consequences and cared too much about inconsequential things. "That semester changed me. I was way out of my element and diverged from my driven high-school self," Jacob said. "I needed that semester to know that I didn't need to 'find myself in college'—I know who I am and needed to return to that."

In her first semester, Jacob struggled to be herself—the part of herself that

liked to do well and could be somewhat puritan. "I think this school as a community looks down on those kinds of people," Jacob said. "The people who break the rules and act out generally tend to be the popular ones." Being in the PHC environment strengthened Jacob, teaching her that beliefs such as not drinking or following the honor code don't need to be hidden. "I've had to re-learn what I believe and why I believe it," Jacob said. "I am slowly regaining those parts of me that I lost along the way, but it is a slow process."

In the spring of her sophomore year after applying to a few internships, Jacob received a call from the Department of Homeland Security. She accepted the internship and began an opportunity that has become one of the most growing and defining times of her life. The first week in the office, Jacob attended a meeting where she mentioned she was interning from Patrick Henry College. Following the meeting, a few of Jacob's coworkers explained that they were PHC alums. Jacob is still interning for the DHS 40 hours a week.

When reflecting back on her four years at PHC, Jacob realizes she has become more independent. "When I came in, I had never held a job and was

completely dependent on my parents," Jacob said. Her parents made a deal with her before coming to PHC: they would pay for the first two years of college and she would be responsible for the last two.

"Having to juggle paying those bills, 40-hour work weeks, 18-credit semesters, and personal relationships has been so incredibly draining but also changed me into a completely different person," Jacob said. She completed her last school payment last week, and finished without loans. "I don't think I would be who I am today without this place," Jacob said.

"The only thing that has kept me going here is the people," Jacob said. "I'm not just talking about my friends, because I will make them a part of my life forever. I'm super needy. I'm talking about the professors. We have an incredible faculty, every single one of them." Jacob gives credit to each professor, especially the SI professors and Colonel Middleton. "I will miss their kindness, their wit, and just who they are. I love all of them," Jacob said.

Jacob is currently still interning for the Department of Homeland Security and plans to stay and work full time in the immediate future after graduation. Jacob's ultimate dream is to live on a horse ranch somewhere out in Texas "Pioneer Women-style" with her kids, some of whom would be adopted. "I firmly believe in the power of the adoption process and would love to have the privilege of adopting a few children of my own someday," Jacob said. "If none of that happens, I'll take marrying rich and becoming a Real Housewife."

After graduating from PHC, Jacob is looking forward to forging her way in a world that does not consist of tests and papers and laundry that costs \$3.00. "Joking aside, I'm just excited to live," Jacob said. "I feel like my story is about to really start, and I have no idea what it will look like." ♦



PHOTO COURTESY OF JACOB [CENTER]

Teenagers and Trusting God

Teen camp leadership discusses what it takes to be a counselor

BY MARJORIE PRATT
Assistant Editor

Despite the distraction of people passing by her new seat behind the kiosk on BHC's second floor, alumna Grace Richardson has been busy as the new Teen Camps Coordinator. In her position since December, she's been planning camps, reaching out to high schoolers, and advertising for the camps. Applications for Teen Camp counselors closed just before spring break, and now Richardson, along with head counselors Josh Webb and Sarah Geesaman, are finishing up the counselor team.

When sorting through applications, Richardson was looking for people who were willing and ready to be used by God. The most important thing she learned as a counselor last year was the importance of being able to trust the Lord in situations when she had no control. "You have all these kids for a week," she explained, "which is just long enough to learn their problems, but not long enough to do anything about it." The counselors can't be "spiritual superheroes", but no one is expecting them to be. She said what comes from the week is all because of God.

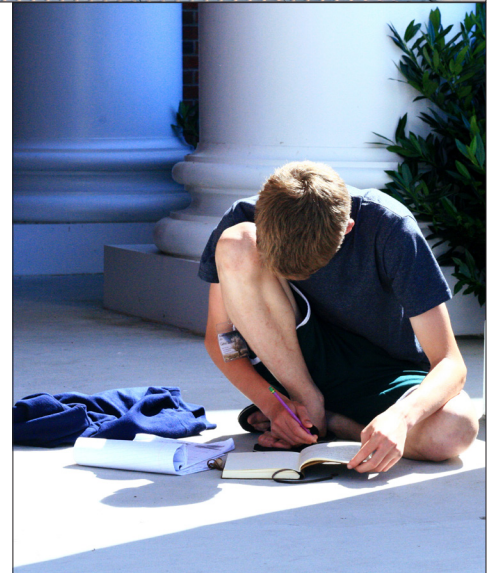
Geesaman cited 2 Corinthians 1:8-9 which says, "We were under great



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PHC COMMUNICATIONS

pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt we had received the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead." She went into her first year as a counselor last year feeling unprepared to help the campers. "It's not my strength that I should be relying upon," she realized. "God was constantly telling me that I needed to step out in faith and say that I was going to do this, even though I didn't feel qualified."

Counselors often find themselves approaching crying campers and don't know what to expect from the conversation. "You have no idea why they're hurting," Geesaman said. "A lot of times, there are very, very deep hurts that these kids are dealing with." She often found herself unsure of what to do or say to the campers who opened up to her, knowing she had never been through the situations they were dealing with, and thinking she had no good advice to give them. They often went back to her to tell her how she'd impacted them.



"For like forty-five minutes or an hour, someone just listened to them, and that's what they needed," she said. Though she to be able to help them, she knew she really couldn't; that it was in God's hands.

"College is a very selfish time of life," Geesaman said, adding that everyone is focused on their own grades, their own futures, and their own social lives. She is glad for the opportunity to take six weeks and set it aside solely for the service of others. ♦





ANN GAUGER, DISCOVERY INSTITUTE



BARBARA DUGUID, EXTRAVAGANT GRACE



BEN BARTON, U. OF TENN.

Meet the Newsmakers

Dr. Marvin Olasky of WORLD Magazine starts annual interview series

BY LEAH GREENWOOD
Staff Writer

James Whitford, who serves the poor in Joplin, Mo., and author Nancy Pearcey opened the Spring 2018 Newsmakers interview series, which began on Thursday. This year's batch of interviewees includes a lineup of fascinating people such as Kay Coles James, Jeff Myers, and Mez McConnell.

Dr. Marvin Olasky, editor in chief of WORLD magazine and overseer of the Newsmakers interviews, provided a behind-the-scenes look at the process of choosing interviewees for the series.

"WORLD's mission is to provide biblically objective journalism that informs, educates, and inspires," Olasky said. He keeps these criteria in mind

when choosing interviewees. "I choose people that I find interesting, that I think PHC students will find interesting, and that I think WORLD readers will find interesting," he said. "I pick people who will inform, educate, and inspire." Olasky finds different people interesting for various reasons – often times, he will choose people because of their careers, books they have written, their experiences, or their life stories.

Once he has people of interest, Olasky will send out emails, often appealing to their desire of getting their views in WORLD. However, not everyone that Olasky wants is willing and/or able to accept the invitation. WORLD neither pays people to participate in interviews, nor reimburses their trav-

el expenses. Olasky said that there are even "some Republican conservatives who expect WORLD to be a public relations vehicle for them" and are not always willing to put up with the hard questions that he asks.

Interns at WORLD conduct background research on the speakers and then hand their findings over to Olasky. From that information, Olasky formulates his questions, sometimes including questions that the interns may have as well. Olasky is genuinely curious about people's backgrounds, so he usually starts an interview there, and then asks questions of progressing intensity. "I try to keep the questions short and let the person talk," he said. "I try to move [the interview] along, keep it in-



JOHN FREEMAN, HARVEST USA



KAY COLES JAMES, HERITAGE FOUNDATION



MEZ MCCONNELL, POVERTY FIGHTER



JAMES WHITFORD, WATERED GARDENS



JEFF MEYERS, SUMMIT MINISTRIES



STEPHEN BASKERVILLE, PHC

teresting, and not bore everyone.”

Olasky is very interested in anti-poverty efforts and frequently invites people who have founded or developed innovative programs. The list of Newsmakers this year includes Peter Cove, who has been involved in fighting poverty for 50 years. Olasky’s interest flows from the Scriptural emphasis on caring for the poor, he said, and a “biblically objective” journalist should find important the same things that the Bible emphasizes, he said.

Those on the political left often receive credit for caring more about the poor than conservatives, he noted. “When I was a Communist, I would have said that a big reason [for that] was to help the poor.” Looking back, however, he now thinks that was mostly virtue-signaling, and he is extremely skeptical of big-government attempts

to address poverty. But, he added, conservatives have not paid enough attention to poverty-related issues: “Compassion is not a left-wing word.”

Author Min Jin Lee caught Olasky’s attention with her novels. He highly recommends her books to WORLD readers, as well as to PHC students. “I get pushback from some [WORLD readers] because there’s a bit of sex... and some bad language sometimes in them, but she’s a very realistic novelist,” Olasky said. Students interested in being a writer should be sure to attend her interview.

Ben Barton, a law professor at the University of Tennessee, is an interviewee that students interested in law school shouldn’t miss. Barton will also provide some insight into what it means to be just and compassionate to criminals.

“For the most part, these [interviewees] are people who are good thinkers—some are within the conservative mainstream, others are not—but I think that most of them will be serving up steak marinated in a biblical worldview,” Olasky said. “They are all different; it’s a variety show.”

The Newsmakers interviews provide chances for PHC students to learn about certain topics and to grow their networks by connecting with the interviewees, which may result in internship opportunities. “I am all in favor of any professional help we can offer,” Olasky said. He encourages students to attend the interviews, and to keep in mind that sometimes the people who are the most interesting to hear are often the people who are not as well-known.

Check the posters around campus for times and dates. ♦



MIN JIN LEE, NOVELIST



NANCY PEARCEY, LOVE THY BODY



PETER COVE, AMERICA WORKS



Moot with the Master

Dr. Farris returns to practice against former students

BY KYLE ZIEMNICK
Copy Editor

The master became the apprentice for a day, as Dr. Michael Farris returned to PHC on Saturday to face a panel of alumni in preparation for his appearance in the Supreme Court this week. He represented the petitioners in the case of *NIFLA v. Becerra* on Tuesday in his second time arguing before the highest court in the land.

"I'm so proud of you," Farris said after an hour and a half of verbal battle with his former proteges.

The NIFLA case deals with new requirements on pregnancy centers in California. The state legislature passed a bill forcing licensed centers to display signs telling women how to get other forms of medical attention, including morning-after pills and abortions.

It also forced unlicensed centers to add disclaimers saying that they were unlicensed—but the signs had to be in several different languages and in the same font as the actual message.

"Our country made a decision a long time ago to prioritize freedom over government efficiency," Farris said during the practice round.

Jordan Lorence, senior counsel with Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF), introduced the alumni who would question Farris. He said that the alumni on the bench symbolized the enormous return of Farris's investment in each of them.

"[The alums] represent the blessing of God on Mike Farris's life," Lorence said.

Lindsay See (class of '08) presided over the moot court practice round in Town Hall, heading a group of eight other alums with graduation dates between 2008 and 2014.

Before an audience of donors, students, other alumni, staff, and faculty, the panel fired question after question at Farris for an hour and a half, and every alum asked at least two questions. They covered legal topics from compelled

speech to strict scrutiny to a hypothetical situation involving grape-flavored Powerade.

"As someone who has mooted for him countless times, it was certainly bizarre to hear him on the other side of the podium," junior Chris Baldacci said. "But he still mixes his arguments with his lovable Farris-y wit and conviction about the things that matter most."

At the real arguments on Tuesday, Farris had both the first and last word, saying in his rebuttal, "Doctors who advise to deliver and doctors who advise to get abortions are going to be swept into this requirement. And the political ramifications of that are enormous. We should not politicize the practice of medicine in that way."

Farris hadn't argued before the Supreme Court since his only other appearance in the 1985 case of *Witters v. Washington Department of Services for the Blind*. He represented the petitioner, a blind Christian student seeking financial assistance, and won that case in a 9-0 decision.

Early reviews of the NIFLA case are positive for Farris. The SCOTUSblog, which recaps most oral arguments, wrote an article entitled, "Justices skeptical of abortion speech law." The piece said in its final paragraph, "By the time the oral argument ended this morning, California's law seemed like it could be in real trouble."

A decision, however, is not expected until the court's session is almost over, possibly sometime in June. The Masterpiece Cakeshop case, another decision with important ramifications for Christians in America, could be decided at around the same time.

"[The NIFLA case] isn't getting as much media attention [the Masterpiece case], but it is no less important," Baldacci said. "It concerns the fundamental right of organizations to choose when to speak and when not to speak, and of course in this case it means the right to refuse to refer pregnant women to abortions." ♦

Heard, but Not Seen

PHC's distance learning students work from the comfort of their homes

BY LOVIE CHURCHILL
Contributing Writer

It's Tuesday, and 19-year-old Nathan Hillanbrand has just spent the last hour and fifteen minutes in class, discussing American history and Christian worldview with Dr. Robert Spinney. In another hour, he'll be washing dishes and waiting tables at a local retirement home.

Hillanbrand is just one of many students who have been attracted to Patrick Henry College for its Christ-centered and rigorous academics—but rather than living on campus, he lives in Skippack, Pennsylvania. He is one of those creatures known as “a distance learning student.”

“I almost wouldn't have it any other way,” Hillanbrand said. “I'm very happy that I'm able to help my grandparents and help my mom. I like that I can still work the jobs I was already at.”

For sophomore Kelly Freestone, there's not much time for extra-curricular activities between four online classes and a two-hour drive to attend Latin IV in person.

“School is my week,” she laughed. “I try to view the drive as a break.”

Dual enrollment student Elizabeth White juggles debate, moot court, two HSLDA classes, bluegrass band practice, and takes US History with Hillanbrand and Freestone. All three agree that they feel very connected with their online classmates.

“I wish I could meet everybody in person,” White said. “I really feel like I know [them]. It was so sad last semester when Christmas break came!”

“I think one of the reasons we feel connected is there's a core group of students that take the same courses,” Freestone noted.

“I love everything about PHC,” White said. “Distance learning has given me a way to get the education and the level of academic excellence that I want, while not having to leave my home, my mountains.”

“Before, because everything was unknown, I didn't want to leave everything and start my life somewhere else. Now



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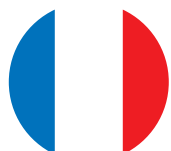
it's like continuing my life, not an abrupt transition,” Hillanbrand said.

Hillanbrand and Freestone look forward to attending classes in person and meeting their on-campus classmates, but as Freestone pointed out, life is going to be pretty different: “I'm going to have to get dressed every day!” ♦





things you should know



Thousands of civil servants protest in France over Macron's planned reforms

Austin serial bomber blows self up just before he is about to be arrested



6 dead, 2 injured in Czech chemical factory explosion

“WHO SAID WHAT

quotes from campus

[Seth Mitchell]

"How do you try out to be a librarian?"

[Cooper Millhouse]

"If your beard isn't getting tangled in your belly button, are you even Christian?"

[Mikael Good]

"I understand now why political theory is the way it is. It's about men!"

[Professor Lee]

"It's more like survival of the sexiest, if you ask me."

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