



**Meet Marine Corps Officer Candidate and  
Blue White Scholar, David Choi**

**Happy 250th Birthday to the United States  
Navy & Marine Corps— Oo-Rah !**

We are proud to announce our 2025-2026 scholars. We have highlighted the first 3 seniors in this issue including one student who is in the Reserve Officer

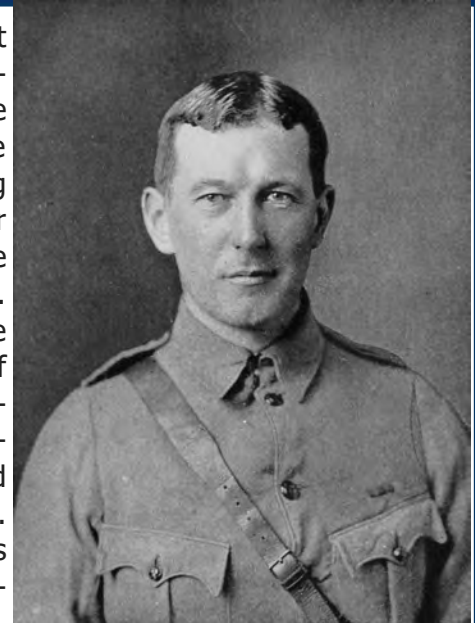


**Executive Director  
Kate Cellucci.**

Training Corps (ROTC) program. We are honored that our 25 years of gifting scholarships coincides with the 250th anniversary of our country and our military. The bravery of the men who fought in the colonial army and colonial navy and the women who spied for General George

Washington, and who cooked and nursed the wounds of the fallen army and navy prisoners can never be truly appreciated, or their sacrifices ever fully understood. In the tradition of service and to keep the doors open during World War II, Villanova became a training school for the military or a Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC). In the past 75 years there have been 46 Villanova graduates who have been promoted to Flag Officers, which is the military term given for an officer who achieves the highest rank of office in their service. For the Navy, it is the rank of Admiral. For the Marines,

Air Force and Army it is the rank of General. Officers above the rank of O-6 are entitled to fly a flag symbolizing their rank, hence they are called flag officers. October marks the 250th Anniversary of the United State Navy and 250th Anniversary of the United States Marine Corps. Many of the donors to Blue White Scholarship have served our country. This issue is dedicated



Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae was a soldier, physician and poet.

to the men and women who have served our country in uniform. The most recent graduates are listed below. The full list starts on page 15 to page 19. God Bless them.

*Kate*



**venmo**



**Robert Loughran '94  
RADM, USN**

Will be assigned as deputy director for Resources & Acquisitions, J-8, Joint Staff, Wash., DC. Loughran is currently serving as branch head, Carrier Strike Aircraft and Weapons, N98, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, DC.

Callsign: "Rooster"



**Adrian Spain '94  
GEN, USAF**

General Spain is a command pilot with more than 2150 hours in multiple aircraft, primarily the F-22A and F-15 C/D, with more than 220 combat hours. His current Flag assignment is as Commander, Air Combat Command. Prior Flag billets include Deputy Chief of Staff for USAF Operations.



**Todd Camicata '95  
RADM, USN**

In 2024 was assigned as Commander, Logistics Group Western Pacific / Task Force 73 in Singapore. As a Naval Aviator he flew for 10 years and then was selected to be Aide-de-Camp. & Legislative Affairs before serving as Chief of Staff of Commander, Naval Air Station North Island.



**Kevin Kennedy '96  
RADM, USN**

Currently assigned as Commander, Carrier Strike Group Fifteen, his prior Flag billets included Strategic Director in the Strategic Warfighting Innovation Cell (SWIC), OPNAV DCNO N7 and Director Surface Warfare Distribution (PERS-41).

## In Flanders Fields

John McCrae (1875 - 1918)

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

Literary Paradise

At the age of 41, McCrae enrolled with the Canadian Expeditionary Force following the outbreak of the First World War. He had the option of joining the medical corps because of his training and age but he volunteered instead to join a fighting unit as a gunner and medical officer. It was his second tour of duty in the Canadian military; he had previously fought with a volunteer force in the Second Boer War.<sup>[5]</sup> He considered himself a soldier first; his father was a military leader in Guelph and McCrae grew up believing in the duty of fighting for his country and empire.<sup>[6]</sup>

McCrae fought in the Second Battle of Ypres in the Flanders region of Belgium, where the German army launched one of the first chemical attacks in the history of war. They attacked French positions north of the Canadians with chlorine gas on April 22, 1915, but were unable to break through the Canadian line, which held for over two weeks. In a letter written to his mother,

McCrae described the battle as a "nightmare",

*For seventeen days and seventeen nights none of us have had our clothes off, nor our boots even, except occasionally. In all that time while I was awake, gunfire and rifle fire never ceased for sixty seconds ... And behind it all was the constant background of the sights of the dead, the wounded, the maimed, and a terrible anxiety lest the line should give way.— McCrae*

Alexis Helmer, a close friend, was killed during the battle on May 2. McCrae performed the burial service himself, where he noticed how poppies quickly grew around the graves of those who died at Ypres. The next day, he composed the poem while sitting in the back of an ambulance at an Advanced Dressing Station outside Ypres.<sup>[8]</sup> This place has since become known as the John McCrae Memorial Site.



**Jason Christman '98**  
**BGEN, USAF Reserve**

Serves as the Assistant Adjutant General-Air and Commander of the Delaware Air National Guard. 2002, he joined the Delaware Air National Guard. In 2008, he co-founded the 166th Network Warfare Squadron, the first of its kind in the Air National Guard and was subsequently mobilized for two years in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM as Chief of Cyber Operations for U.S. Special Operations Command. In that role, he led a transnational cyber operations and intelligence team credited with significant counterterrorism successes.



**Benjamin Baran 2002**  
**RADM, USNR**

Currently serves as Deputy Commander, Navy Personnel Command. A plank-owner aboard USS Preble (DDG 88), Baran served an extended tour as electrical officer and assistant chief engineer in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He subsequently transferred to the Selected Reserve and served in various unit leadership roles before his transfer to the Human Resources Community in 2009 and subsequent assignment to Navy Reserve (NR) Navy Personnel Command (NPC). Mobilized in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Baran advised the Afghan National Police with NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan/Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan from December 2012 to December 2013. He then served in leadership roles with NR units supporting U.S. Forces Japan & Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

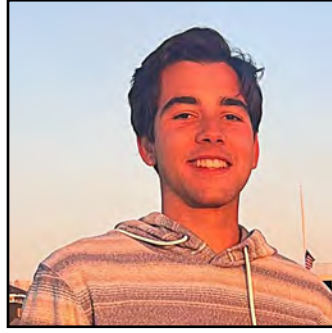


# Congratulations!!!

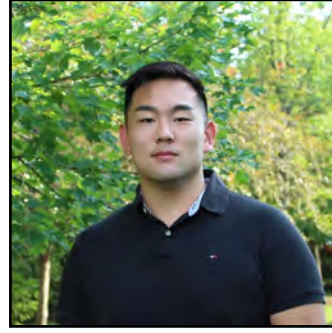
## 2025-2026 Scholars



**Sophia Adams '26**  
Environmental Studies  
& English



**TJ Baylock '26**  
Finance & Economics  
(Repeat)



**David Choi '26**  
History



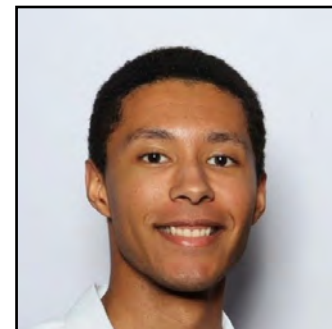
**Angela Choi '27**  
Political Science



**Aaron Cook '26**  
Management Information  
Systems  
(Repeat)



**Ejay De Leon '26**  
Management Information  
Systems & Accounting



**Matt Dickerson '26**  
Electrical Engineering  
(Repeat)



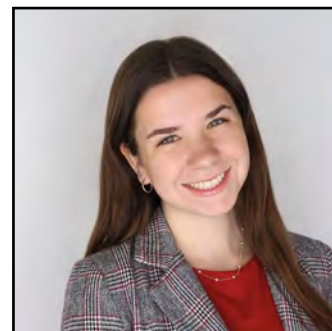
**Tiffany Ellsworth '26**  
Nursing



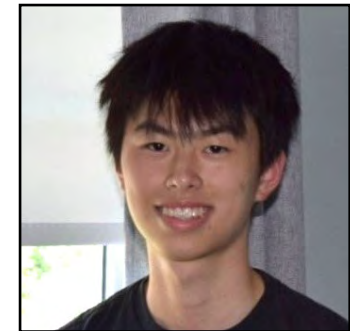
**Jack Ferry '27**  
Finance & Accounting



**George Georgelis '26**  
Applied Quantitative  
Finance



**Abigail (Abby )  
Golembiewski '27**  
Biochemistry



**Jarvis Li '26**  
Finance  
(Repeat)

# Welcome Into The Blue White Family



**Jack Orendac '27**  
Computer Engineering



**Owen Niles '27**  
Finance



**Carlos Morales-Portalatin '26**  
Computer Science



**Hannah Rongo '26**  
Nursing  
(Repeat0)



**Aidan Shay '26**  
Economics



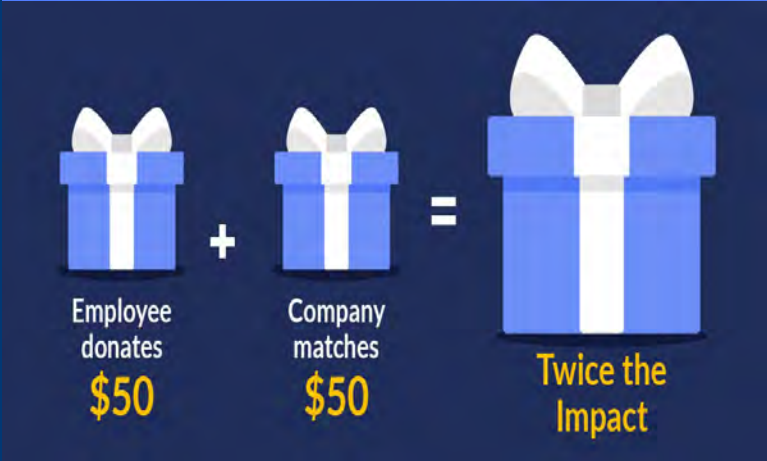
**Andrew Wierzchon '26**  
Chemical Engineering

## Blue White Scholarship Values

Outstanding Work Ethic

Superior Academic Ability & A Commitment to Pay It Forward





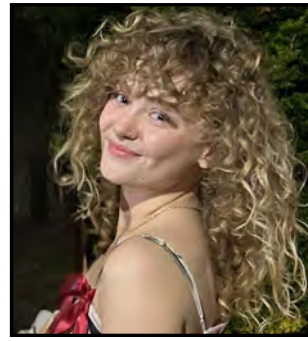
## Year End December 31 is fast approaching!

To: Blue White Scholars 2000-2025

- ◆ Double your impact by asking your employer if they will match your gift.



- ◆ Donate Appreciated Stock!! This eliminates the capital gains tax. Your gift is 20% larger than if you had sold the stock & donated the cash.



## Sophia Adams '26

**Hometown**  
Vineland NJ

**Major**  
Environmental Studies & English

### School Activities:

- Villanova Student Theatre –Actress  
Performed in multiple theatrical productions ( Twelfth Night, Amadeus, The Outsiders, Alice in Wonderland )
- Department of Geography & Environmental Student Association– Secretary 2022-2025

### Career Aspirations:

To work in public service in the environmental field or to continue my education to one day become a professor and /or teacher.

### Favorite Quote:

“And all the lives we ever lived and all the lives to be are full of trees and changing leaves” - Virginia Wolf– To the Lighthouse

### How the Blue-White Scholarship helped me:

This scholarship is helping to ease the financial burden of my education for both myself and my family. As a first generation college student, this means the world!

### Jobs I've worked to help pay for school:

- Holy Grounds Café– Barista
- New Jersey Audubon Society– Seasonal Nature Camp Senior Counselor
- Across The Way– Retail Associate
- Outlaw's Burger Barn & Creamery– Server

### How do you want to “Pay It Forward?”

Receiving financial support from the Blue White Scholarship Foundation would not only be an honor, but a responsibility I would be proud to carry. I've learned the importance of budgeting at a young age, so setting aside funds specifically with BWSF in mind would be more of a gift than a task. This Foundation creates such wonderful opportunities, and to give that to another student like myself would be a dream come true..



## TJ Baylock '26

**Hometown**  
Scotch Plains NJ

**Major**  
Finance & Economics

### School Activities:

- Villanova Wildcat Fund– Analyst, Macro Sector (Proactively pitched fixed income investment products through yield curve positioning strategies and examinations of monetary policy & business cycle trends)
- Student Government Association– Senator
- VU School of Business– Ambassador
- VU Pickleball– Team Member
- Special Olympics– Volunteer
- American Legion Jersey Boys State– Delegate & Assemblyman

### Career Aspirations:

I aspire to succeed as a career professional in the world of business, specifically to be an Investment Banker.

### Favorite Quote:

“And now that you don’t have to be perfect, you can be good.”- John Steinbeck

### How the Blue White Scholarship helped me:

I am paying for my college tuition predominantly through student loans. I have taken out loans to cover each semester’s expenses, including tuition, housing, and textbooks. The Blue White Scholarship supports me in my efforts to pay for college myself.

### Jobs I have Worked to help pay for school: I

- VU School of Business– Worker in the Marketing & Communications Department
- Township of Scotch Plains-Financial Intern
- ShopRite– Employee
- Baseball Scorekeeper
- Local Lawn Mower

### How do you want to “Pay It Forward?”

First, I will make recurring donations to the Foundation as a working citizen which will last my entire life. Second, I will advocate for others, especially other Villanova alums, to join me in my support of BWSF. I will message my college friends and inform others on social media to encourage them to donate and spread the word about BWSF.



## David Choi '26

**Hometown**  
Pennington, NJ

**Major**  
History

### School Activities:

- Villanova Club Water Polo– Captain
- Villanova Club Swim– Member
- US Naval Sea Cadet Corps–  
- Auxiliary Instructor for 50 cadets at John T. Dempster Division on physical training and military knowledge  
- Leading Petty Officer

### Career Aspirations:

To be selected into the Marine Judge Advocate General Corps upon entering the Marines when I graduate in May

### Favorite Quote:

“God gives his toughest battles to his silliest geeses.”

### How the Blue White Scholarship helped me:

My family has suffered financial burdens due to unforeseen medical issues and this scholarship is a huge relief to this problem. My Father works extremely long and difficult hours to support our family, and he is an inspiration to me every day.

### I have Worked to help pay for school:

- Aquatics Supervisor, Swim Team Coach, Swim Instructor and Life Guard

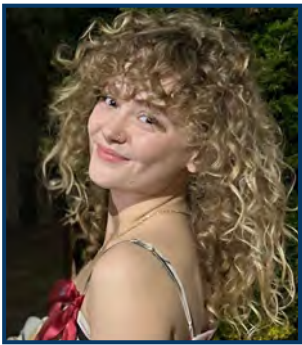
### Extraordinary Circumstances:

My family has faced financial hardship ever since my Father’s aneurysm. As a result of his medical condition, he lost his job and has remained underemployed. The financial strain leaves us barely managing to stay a float.

### How do you want to “Pay It Forward?”

I will be serving my country as a United States Marine upon graduation. I will also continue to uphold my commitment to Blue White and other organizations that supported me. A mentor once told me that success is most meaningful when it enables you to uplift others. Through continued education and personal growth, I aspire to be in a position where I can make a lasting positive impact on the lives of others-just as BW has done.

# Student Spotlight— Sophia Adams '26 – Student Theatre



Upon first arriving to Villanova, I was incredibly shy. Anxious to meet new people and make friends, I signed up for many clubs, but none seemed to be the right fit. That was until I came across Villanova Student Theatre, or VST. I had never done theatre before, but I was a huge fan, and everyone was so warm and welcoming. So, I figured, if not now, when? Stepping into the world of theatre for the first time was daunting, but so incredibly worth it—it felt like I had found my people. Since then, VST has become my favorite part of my Villanova experience. I've been in every production since I joined, serve on the executive board and consider myself a proud lifetime member!

Non-musical theatre is often overlooked since musicals are so much more popular. But I've found that through performing in plays I have become a better reader and speaker, and it has really taught me the value of the artform. There is so much that goes into memorizing lines, finding your character, and on-stage choreography just to name a few. Non-musical theatre demands nuance, stillness, and a kind of presence that has challenged and pushed me in unexpected ways—including dying on stage! I've also had the opportunity to bring so many beloved stories to life! Like Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton, and *Alice in Wonderland*! (See me as Johnny from *The Outsiders*. Third person from left!)

Not only have I had the privilege of performing in VST productions, but I've also served on the club's executive board as Director of Publicity! Since the club is a relatively small one, it was an uphill battle to make sure people knew of our productions. Being able to create promotional materials and see them posted around campus was extremely rewarding. I also increased our social media presence to try and connect

with many people as possible. Nearly every performance of our last show *Alice in Wonderland* was sold out! I feel really lucky to have been able to give back to a club I care so much about.

I feel very fortunate to attend a school where the arts are valued and supported. There's been multiple times where I've been rehearsing in the Mullen Center and ran into Father Peter himself! Having such beautiful facilities and creative resources has been a blessing. The Mullen Center has really become a home for my friends and I, and now I could probably find my way around that place with my eyes closed! Being able to express myself in this way has not only shaped my Villanova experience but has also gone a long way in helping me shape myself as well.

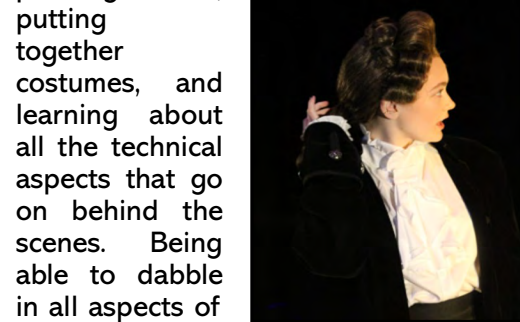
One thing I find so incredible about the club is the "student" aspect of Villanova Student Theatre. All of our productions are entirely student-run! From the directors to the costume designers to the props you



see on stage, it's all done by students. This has made for such a lovely environment where everyone in the club is incredibly close due to how much time we spend together, and how much we are able to



accomplish. We're able to put on these productions because everyone is so empowered by the work that we do. Though acting is where I devote most of my time, I've helped with painting sets, putting together costumes, and learning about all the technical aspects that go on behind the scenes. Being able to dabble in all aspects of theatre has been such a treat, and a tremendous learning experience I don't think I would have gotten anywhere (And I get to wear really cool stuff, like this fancy wig in *Amadeus*!).



But what I have to thank VST the most for are the people. I've learned firsthand how theatre can bring people together. Because of this club, I have friends across all years, majors, and walks of life. We've laughed through late-night rehearsals, supported each other during stressful tech weeks, and celebrated every opening night like it was our first. Through VST is how I found my best friends, current roommates, and made connections that will last me a lifetime. Looking back, it's hard to believe I almost didn't join. I used to second-guess myself constantly, unsure if I was talented enough or outgoing enough to belong in a performance space like this. VST showed me that theatre isn't just for the loudest voices or the most experienced performers. It's for anyone who is willing to show up, try something new, and be part of something bigger than themselves. Each role, each rehearsal, and even each backstage mishap has helped me grow into not just a better performer, but a better person. I'm no longer the shy freshman who hesitated to audition. I've become someone who takes creative risks, trusts herself, and feels confident in speaking for herself. That kind of growth has shaped who I am in ways I never expected. VST gave me more than just a stage, it gave me a true home at Villanova.

# 5 Things You Might Not Know About Me

## 1. The only one...

I'm an only child! My family unit has only been my parents and I (as well as a few pets along the way). But lucky for me, I have tons of cousins that I spent time with growing up.



## 2. I have debuted.... original writings

I was invited to read some of my original writing at Grace Kelly's childhood home in Philadelphia! It was hosted by the Seamus Heaney Writing Center and Villanova's Creative Writing department. I was able to meet so many talented writers.

## 3. HUGE Philly sports fan!

My favorites to watch are the Eagles and Sixers, but I'll never say no to a Phillies game! Here's a picture of my friends and I (as well as some other random Villanovans who decided to join) on the night of the Super Bowl about to head into the city.



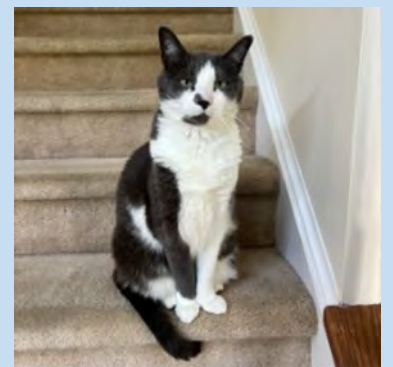
## 4. Music rocks.....

Seeing live music is probably my favorite hobby. I went to my first concert when I was 12 years old with my Dad and I've been hooked ever since! I've now gone to more shows than I can even remember. Here's a picture from one of my favorite venues in Philadelphia, the First Unitarian Church!



## 5. Meow.....

I have a pet cat named Charlie (short for Charlotte). We got her when she was only a few weeks old back in 2018. She is now very well-fed and very spoiled!



# Student Spotlight– David Choi '26 – Water Polo Captain



Water Polo is a sport that I would not have been introduced to if it were not for my cousins.



They recommended me to try out the sport as I was not very athletic on the land, but was a great swimmer, or so I thought. I spoke with my parents and joined a local 12 and Under team called the Lawrenceville Stingrays. At first I was very disheartened. I thought that I was a proficient swimmer, until I

have been in the 14 Under group. The coaches of this team were made up of a star-studded cast. My head coach was a former Olympian and helped train the national team. He was supported by assistant coaches, one who was also a former Olympian, and the other, the current head coach for the Princeton University Women's team. Acclimation to this team was difficult as the coaches were extremely tough on me, but I could not be more appreciative as I look back. I greatly improved the next few years by losing weight and training outside of practice times, and earned the captain title. I led the team to the National Junior Olympics in 2017 and 2018 where we competed against teams throughout the United States.

After high school, I was a part of the United States Air Force Water Polo team and as I transferred to Villanova, I knew that I wanted to play water polo here. I was

welcomed by the group of players and developed a strong rapport with our coach. I received a lot of guidance that helped me become a better player and mentor to the rookies. When I first joined the team, I noticed that many other club teams were very close with one another, however I didn't feel that team bond and wanted to change that. After planning a couple of events with one another, we developed as friends and as better players as well. Our performance throughout the season was better than our expectations as we placed 2nd in the CWPA tournament and in the Mainline League. I am proud and grateful for the opportunity to have been selected as the Captain for the 2025-2026 season.



played against athletes my age who were more experienced and were destroying me. The first year of me participating in the sport was learning the basic fundamentals and conditioning to be a stronger swimmer. The following year, I started to improve significantly and played in tournaments throughout the region. I was the leading scorer on my team and started to see improvements in my performance. Unfortunately, my team was disbanded the following off-season and I had to transfer to our rival team, the Princeton Tigers.

The Tigers is where I spent the majority of my water polo career. As it turned out, this team made me into a successful athlete I could not have imagined to be. I first was not accepted into the team as the members were very cliquy and knew that I was from their rival team. I also trained with older players, who were in the 16 Under group, although I should



# 5 Things You Might Not Know About Me

## I'm the Water Polo Team Captain....

Water Polo has been a major aspect of my life since I started the sport back in 2012. I was the captain for the Princeton Tiger's Water Polo Club during my high school years where we played in tournaments and competed in the National Junior Olympics. After a short stint of playing in college, I joined Villanova's Club team and am now the Captain for the 2025-2026 year.



## I am a transfer student .....

I am a transfer student as I originally attended the United States Air Force Academy straight out of high school. While transferring was initially difficult, there were people such as my sister and teammates who made Villanova feel like home. The members at the Veterans office, led by Mr. Mike Brown, are always so welcoming and exemplify the type of person who I want to be.



## My sister ....

My sister also attends Villanova and is a rising junior! She and all of her friends were so kind to me, offering any help and introducing me to Villanovan life. A large component of why I attend Nova is because of all the amazing things sister has said about the school.



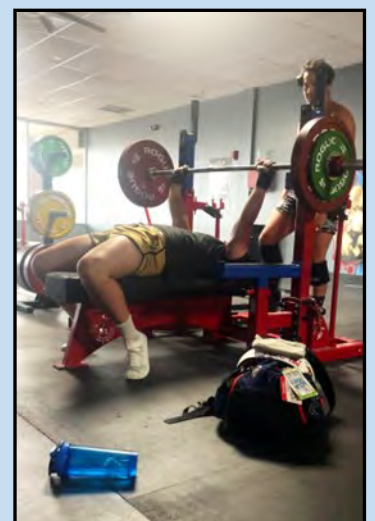
## My first job ....

My first job was at LifeTime fitness as I joined as a Kids Camp counselor, then transitioned into the aquatics department, where I am currently a supervisor but also a swim team coach, instructor and lifeguard.



## Lifting ....

Lifting has been a huge aspect of my life as I transitioned out of collegiate sports. I have had many mentors and friends give me advice and through their experience I have gained so much knowledge and pushed myself more than I thought I could. It has also allowed me to develop relationships with people at the gym and are now close friends of mine.



# Student Spotlight: TJ Baylock '26 – Economic Analysis

As a Finance and Economics double major, I know that an understanding of the economy is essential to making sound equity investment decisions. This Spotlight focus is on the state of the US economy, where it's headed, and what current economic trends mean for equity markets over the next year.

## Labor Market

The US unemployment rate has been consistently north of 4% since February 2025. This is historically low and signals overall strength in the US labor market. However, the unemployment rate stood at 3.4% in April 2025. Monthly non-farm payrolls have essentially plateaued since April 2025. This follows years of increasing non-farm payrolls, most significantly in the years following the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Federal Reserve cited a labor market weakness in its decision to begin cutting rates, as it did in September 2025 by 25 basis points.

## Inflation

There has been a notable deceleration of prices over the last year. The annual rate of inflation in the US – as reported through the CPI – was 6.41% in 2022, 3.32% in 2023, and an estimated 2.87% in 2024. Inflation continues to remain between 2% and 3%, north of the Federal Reserve's target of 2%. Although an increase in tariffs predicted that high inflation would rear its ugly head. The increase was only slight. Inflation rose from 2.33% in April 2025 to 2.94% in August 2025. The markets have rewarded the decision to impose tariffs for the most part. The Congressional Budget Office – often partisan and left-wing – was forced to admit tariffs will reduce the deficit by \$4 trillion.

## Real GDP

Aggregate economic output has shown resilience. Real GDP decreased by 0.64% in Q1 2025, then increased by 3.8% in the second quarter (April, May, and June) on an annualized basis. The increase in real GDP in the second quarter primarily reflected a decrease in imports, which are a subtraction in the calculation of GDP, and an increase in consumer spending.

## Reprioritizing U.S. Manufacturing:

Trump's administration recognizes that increasing domestic manufacturing is critical to U.S. national security.

- In 2023, U.S. manufacturing output as a share of global manufacturing output was 17.4%, down from 28.4% in 2001.
- Increased reliance on foreign producers for goods has left

the U.S. supply chain vulnerable to geopolitical disruption and supply shocks.

- This vulnerability was exposed during the COVID-19 pandemic, and later with Houthi attacks on Middle East shipping.
- From 1997 to 2024, the U.S. lost around 5 million manufacturing jobs and experienced one of the largest drops in manufacturing employment in history.
- Companies and foreign governments have pledged over \$8.7 trillion in investments into the U.S.

## The Quarter in Summary:



Global financial markets posted strong gains in Q3 2025, driven by robust artificial intelligence (AI) and technology demand, solid corporate earnings, and a well-anticipated Federal Reserve (Fed) rate cut. A weaker US dollar supported emerging markets. Credit, digital assets, and commodities — with notable, record-setting rallies in gold and silver — also performed well.

## US Equities

US shares scored strong gains in the third quarter, as the S&P 500 Index and the Nasdaq Composite both climbed to record-setting highs. The markets benefited from optimism over a rate cut by the Fed in September (with expectations of more coming before year-end), strong corporate earnings and renewed enthusiasm for AI, which helped boost the technology-heavy Nasdaq. Technology and communication services were strong performers, while healthcare and energy lagged, with the latter hindered by falling oil prices. The continued resilience of the US economy was evident from strong gross domestic product (GDP) growth, steady consumer spending and benign core inflation. A late-September revision to US GDP numbers showed the economy expanded at an annual rate of 3.8% in the second quarter of 2025. Those positive economic indicators and the possibility of peace in the Middle East also are helping to boost investor optimism about the fourth quarter even with the uneasiness of the government shutdown.

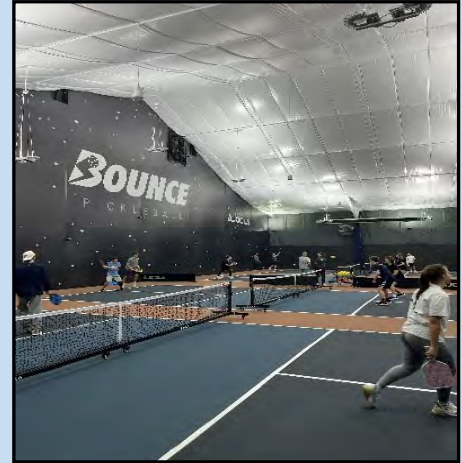
## Big Takeaways

Overall, the US economy is in a good position. The labor market appears to be the most concerning element of the economy, which signals that the Fed will likely continue to cut rates going forward. This could push equity markets up.

# 4 Things You Might Not Know About Me

## I am an avid pickleball player.

I started playing pickleball during the summer of 2023 and had a knack for the game early on. I had always liked watching tennis, but I never learned how to play; pickleball enabled me to apply tennis skills in a way of which I was capable. Playing during summer 2023 encouraged me to try out for Villanova's Club Pickleball Team during the fall semester, and I became a member at the end of September. I have had a great experience on the club pickleball team. I have made great friendships and gotten the opportunity to travel for tournaments at different universities.



## I love to read novels

Though a Business student, I love to read novels and keep up my skills in the liberal arts. I thoroughly enjoy sitting down and reading books outside of the classroom. I find that it is a good way to de-stress from my academics and extracurriculars. Some of my favorite novels include classics like Jane Austen's *Persuasion*, George Orwell's *Animal Farm*, Lois Lowry's *The Giver*, Leo Tolstoy's *The Death of Ivan Ilyich*, and Charles Dickens's *A Tale of Two Cities*. Some modern novels that I love include Madeline Miller's *The Song of Achilles*, Kazuo Ishiguro's *The Remains of the Day*, and Hanya Yanagihara's *A Little Life*.



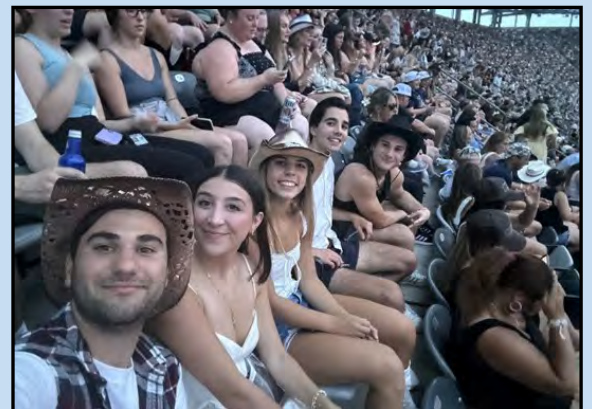
## I am obsessed with photography

I loved taking pictures of landscapes when I was younger and got many compliments on my ability to capture authentic moments with my friends and family. Last summer, I started an Instagram account specifically for sharing my photos; I wanted a way to share my pictures and not have them simply sit in my camera roll. What started out as a passion project grew into something bigger. Today, photography motivates me to be more creative and allows me to see life's innate beauty more clearly. I am eager to continue posting new content and exploring the world through landscapes and profiles. (Picture: Photo I took of Villanova's West Campus)



## I started running because of COVID

I started running during the pandemic lockdown in 2020. I was couped up indoors for much longer than I had wanted to be, and I forced myself to run to get much needed exercise. Over five years later, running is still an integral part of who I am. For the past two years of college, I have woken up every morning to get in a two-mile run before my classes. Running has made me the healthiest I have ever been physically and starts my day off right – which encourages me to be more productive which helps me study .



# Military War Cries-HUA, Hoorah, Hooah, Hooyah, and Oorah Breakdown

## HUA

Used almost exclusively by the United States Air Force. It is an acronym used for the term-**H**eard, **U**nderstood, **A**cknowledged or a chant used when a team member completes a task well for morale and spirit of camaraderie.



Source: [pics.me.me](https://pics.me.me)

- Pronounced 'who-rah'
- Almost exclusively used by the Army
- Commonly used as a battle cry It's unknown where the term 'hoorah' originated, but it's understood to be a variation of the more common "hooah."

## Oorah

Used almost exclusively by the United States Marine Corps.

Coined as a type of battle cry to be yelled during training or actual operations, can also be used as a term of agreement with a statement made by someone.



## Hooah

Used by the United States Army, and Hooah is used as a term for spirit and morale, generally meant to say anything and everything but "no." It's also used, conversely, as a way to express excitement, approval, and even pleasure.

Used very frequently in Army Basic training as a way of acknowledging an order or instruction given by a drill instructor.



## Hoorah

You'll never hear an Army soldier uttering the phrase "Oorah," unless he wanted his a\$\$ kicked.

## Hooyah

Used in the United States Navy. Like the others, it's typically used as a term of acknowledgment or spirit of the Armed forces, the term is shared with the United States Coast Guard, which works in many different situations.

The term is very heavily used in Navy SEAL training (BUD/S), and if you ever make it to BUD/S, expect to say it about 500 times a day.



Source: flicker

Author; Rob V is the founder of Military Kid.org.

## What's The History Of Hooyah?

Hooyah may originate with the Underwater Demolition Teams (UDT) of World War 2. It was actually originally pronounced "Ooyah," as in an affirmative "Ohhh yeeeahh!" in response to an order from a Master Chief or other ranked individual.



## We Salute our Flag Officers Who are Graduates of Villanova



**Paul X Kelly '50  
GEN, USMC**

In 1983 he was appointed Commandant of the Marine Corps. Initially deployed to Vietnam in 1965 as a Combat Intelligence officer; in 1970 he commanded the 1st Marine Regiment, and in 1974, the 4th Marine Division. In 1981 he became youngest Marine to achieve the rank of General.



**George Crist '52  
GEN, USMC**

Crist was the first Marine to be designated as a Unified Commander, serving as Commander of the US Central Command (CENTCOM) from 1985-1988. His other Flag billets included Vice Director Joint Staff, and Chief of Staff HQMC.



**G. Richard Omrod '58  
MGEN, USMC**

Nominated by the US President for Major General USMC in 1989. Veteran of Vietnam War; No other Biographical Information found.



**Hazel Johnson-Brown '59 (Nursing)**

**Brigadier General - Army Nurse and educator** who served for 28 years. In 1979 she became the first African American female general in the US Army and the first Black chief of the US Army Nurse Corps.



**Raymond Walsh '61  
RADM, USN**

Surface Line Officer, CO of USS Ticonderoga (CG-47) during combat operations against Libya in 1986. Flag assignments as Asst. SECNAV (Financial Management & Comptroller); Office of CNO OPNAV 09B.



**Harold Blot '62  
Lt. GEN - USMC  
Former Test Pilot**

He rode some of the same experimental rocket powered aircraft into space as legendary aviator Chuck Yeager. Service Years 1962-1996. Final billet- Deputy Chief of Staff for Aviation. Previously: Assistant Deputy and Commander, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing.



**Robert M. Gallen '63  
RDML, USN**

Leader in the Navy's Mobile Construction Battalions (Seabees) No other biography information found.



**Arthur Blades '64  
Lt. GEN - USMC**

Served in Vietnam first as an Infantry Platoon Commander, earning the Silver Star in combat, and, on his second tour in Vietnam as a Marine Corps aviator, the Distinguished Flying Cross. His Flag Billets included Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans Policy and Operations, and Deputy Chief of Staff for Aviation.

## We Salute our Flag Officers Who are Graduates of Villanova



**Arthur Cebrowski '64**  
**Vice Admiral USN**

Naval aviator and commanded Fighter Squadron 41 and Carrier Air Wing 8; the assault ship USS Guam, the aircraft carrier USS Midway. As a Rear Admiral Dec. 1993, Carrier Group 6, whose flagship was USS America. Final billet: Naval War College



**Frank M. Dirren '64**  
**RADM, USN**

A leader in the Helicopter Aviation community, he continued his service in naval aviation as the skipper of the amphibious assault ship USS Nassau, rescuing survivors in the Persian Gulf Region.

As a flag officer, he was Commander of Helicopter Wings Atlantic: Naval Aviation Activities Jacksonville, and Naval Base, Jacksonville.



**Anthony Zinni '65**  
**GEN, USMC**

Vietnam 1965-1978. In 1981 served as Head of Special Operations and Terrorism and rose in 1991 to Deputy of Operations at the US European Command. His final billet: Commander of US CENTCOM. From 2001-2003 : Special Envoy for US to Israel and Palestine. From 2017-2019: Special envoy to Qatar.



**Walter Doran '67**  
**ADM, USN**

A Surface Line Officer with multiple command sea tours and Flag billets including Commander United States Pacific Fleet, Commander, Seventh Fleet, Deputy Commander, US Southern Command, Commander Amphibious Group One, and Commander, Amphibious Forces US Seventh Fleet. Following his retirement, he was Raytheon's president of Asia operations.



**William Fallon '67**  
**ADM, USN**

Following completion of Flight training, he served as a Naval Flight Officer in combat operations in Vietnam. He was the first Navy officer to head US CENTCOM. During his long and distinguished career, he completed multiple deployments in Carrier Battle Groups engaged in Combat Operations around the world. Flag billets included Theodore Roosevelt Battle Group; Commander, Second Fleet; Vice Chief of Naval Operations; US Fleet Forces Command; US Pacific Command, and finally, US CENTCOM from March 2007 to March 2008. Currently: Chairman of Counter Tack, Inc. a cybersecurity company.



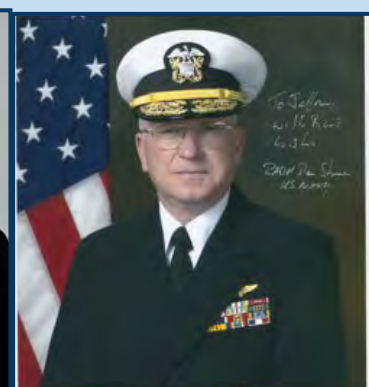
**James Eastwood '68**  
**RADM, USNR**

Served on destroyers during the Vietnam war and then served in the Navy Reserve for more than 30 years. Flag billets included Deputy Commander US Atlantic Fleet, Deputy OPNAV N86, and Commander NR REDCOM Four.



**Thomas Richards '69**  
**RADM USN**

Commanded the Naval Special Warfare Command from 1996-1999, Known as "The Hulk". After becoming a SEAL he was first deployed to Vietnam where he was wounded in combat and was awarded the Silver Star as well as the Purple Heart. In the 1970's he served in the Persian Gulf and in 1983 he served in El Salvador.



**Daniel Stone '71**  
**RADM, USN**

Renowned for this leadership in naval supply and logistics, serving as Commander of the Naval Supply Systems Command and in 2004 the 43rd Chief of the Supply Corps supervising 24,000 military and civilian personal. Post-military: V.P. of Unmanned Aircraft Systems

## We Salute our Flag Officers Who are Graduates of Villanova



**Joseph Hare '72 , JD '75  
RADM, USNR**

Surface Line Officer Atlantic Fleet Destroyers. Flag assignments: Commander Military Sealift Command Atlantic and Europe; Commander, Naval Reserve Readiness Command Region Four; Deputy Commander, Naval Surface Force, Atlantic; Deputy Commander, Naval Education & Training Command.



**William Marshall '72  
RDML, USN**

A Surface Line Officer with multiple sea tours in the Navy's surface combat ships. Flag assignments included: OPNAV N85B, Commander, Navy Region Northwest & Commander, Amphibious Group 3.



**Christine Bruzek-Kohler '74  
RADM, USN**

Served as the 21st Director of the Navy Nurse Corps and held the position of Chief of Staff, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Wash., DC from 2005-2009. She is currently an Executive Director for the Joint Medical Task Force National Capital Region.



**Joseph McMenemy '74  
BGEN, USMC**

Served as the Assistant Commander for the 2nd Marine Division in Iraq 2004-2006. Previous Flag billets included: Sixth Marine Corps District; Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, and Director Iraq Survey Group, Bagdad, Iraq.



**Charles Dunlap Esq. '75  
MGEN USAF**

Served as the Deputy Judge Advocate General at Air Force Headquarters in Washington, DC. He oversaw 2,200 judge advocates, 350 civilian attorneys, 1,400 enlisted paralegals and 550 civilians assigned worldwide.



**Gerard Mauer '76  
RADM, USN**

His first assignment was in a Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron in 1976. By 1996 he assumed command of the HS Fleet Replacement Squadron, a Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron. His last billet: Commandant, Industrial College of the Armed Forces, National Defense .



**Steven Kantrowitz Esq '77  
RADM, USNR**

Served as the Assistant Deputy Judge Advocate General of the Navy & Deputy Commander, Naval legal Service Command. His leadership during operation ENDURING FREEDOM and Operation IRAQI FREEDOM was noteworthy, in the recall of over 15% of the Naval Reserve Law Program.



**Mark Handley '81  
RADM, USN**

Commander of the First Naval Construction Division (Seabees) for 11 years. Flag billets included: Vice Commander, Naval Installations Command, Director, Shore Readiness for DCNO (Logistics), and Commander, Naval Engineering Command, Mid-Atlantic.

## We Salute our Flag Officers Who are Graduates of Villanova



**Patricia Wolfe '81**  
**RADM, USN**

Wolfe completed her final assignment as the acting commander of Defense Logistics Agency Troop Support, Philadelphia, PA & director, Joint Reserve Force (J9), DLA, Fort Belvoir, VA during Operation Desert Storm.



**Nannette DeRenzi '83**  
**VADM, USN**

Served as the 42nd Judge Advocate General (JAG) of the US Navy 2012-2015. Prior to that, she served as Deputy Judge Advocate General of the Navy 2009-2012.



**Tom Kearney '84**  
**RADM, USN**

Commanded two nuclear submarines. Final billet: Vice Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command, when he created the Acquisition, Commonality / Expeditionary Warfare Directorate (SEA 06), a new directorate in NAVSEA to streamline acquisition & shipbuilding.



**Kirk Foster Esq. '85**  
**RADM USN**

Served in the Judge Advocate General's Corps. Kirk is currently Assistant General Counsel and Director of Compliance and Privacy for Hill Mission Technologies, a division of Huntington Ingalls Industries.



**James Scanlon '85**  
**MGEN USAF Reserve**

Mobilization Assistant to the Commander, Air Education and Training Command, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas. The command operates 1,400 trainer, fighter and mobility aircraft, 23 wings, 10 bases in 5 geographies. AETC trains more than 293,000 students per year & 60,000 active duty Reserve, Guard, civilian and contractor personnel. Civilian Job—Pilot for American Airlines 17 years.



**Samuel Paparo '87**  
**ADM, USN**

Currently Commander, US Indo-Pacific Command, the nation's largest combatant command. ADM Paparo has had a long and distinguished career as a Naval Aviator in afloat as well as ground deployments. Flag billets have included Commander, Pacific Fleet, Commander US Naval Forces CENTCOM/US Fifth Fleet/Combined Maritime Forces, and Director of Operations J3, US CENTCOM.



**Mark Fung '88**  
**RADM, USNR**

Commanded a SEABEE Battalion Deployed in support of Operation Desert Storm and the Global War on Terrorism. Flag Billets: Deputy for Naval Construction Forces, Navy Expeditionary Combat Command U.S. Navy Deputy of Civil Engineers. Currently: Project Manager in pharma industry.



**Katherine McCabe '88**  
**RADM, USNR**

Flag assignments: support the Navy's Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Education as director, OPNAV N13, reserve director OPNAV N13A, and acting director, 21st Century Sailor Office, OPNAV N17.

## We Salute our Flag Officers Who are Graduates of Villanova



**Patrick Donahoe '89  
MGEN, USA**

As the Maneuver Center of Excellence commander, Donahoe was responsible for the command and administration of the Army's branch specialty academies. He previously served as deputy commanding general for operations of the Eighth U.S. Army.



**Michael Donnelly '89  
RADM, USN**

Naval Aviator who most recently served as Navy's Director of Air Warfare (N98)2023-25. Prior Flag billets include Commander, Task Force 70/Carrier Strike Group 5, Commander, US Naval Forces Korea, and Commander, Navy Region Korea.



**Michael Curran '91  
RADM, USNR**

Served in Fleet Supply, Logistics, and Ordnance, U.S. Naval Forces Europe/Africa/Sixth Fleet. Command tours : NR Fleet & Industrial Supply Center; NR Assistant SECNAV Acquisition & Procurement, and NR US Fleet Forces Logistics Support Unit.



**Theodore LeClaire '91  
RADM, USNR**

In 2018, appointed Reserve Deputy Commander, U.S. 7th Fleet. He has operational experience in the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans, as well as the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf including deployments in Operations Northern / Southern Watch, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.



**Joaquin Martinez De Pinillos '91  
RADM, USNR**

Currently Reserve Vice Commander, US Seventh Fleet. In 2008 he deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom as the Senior Naval Officer in Western Afghanistan. In 2019, he mobilized to Bahrain to serve as deputy Commander – Blue Task Force 51/5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade.



**Michael Wegscheider '92  
MGEN  
US Army National Guard**

Member of the PA National Guard, in 2024 he was promoted to Major General and assigned to command the 28th Infantry Division. He is a veteran of the Kosovo Force mission and the Iraq War.



**Christopher French Esq.  
'93**

**RADM, USN**  
Deputy Judge Advocate General of the Navy 2021-2024 and Judge Advocate General 2024-2025. At sea he has been fleet judge advocate to Commander, U.S. Seventh Fleet staff judge advocate to Commander, Carrier Strike Group FIVE and legal officer aboard USS Nimitz (CVN-68).



**Frank Schlereth '95  
RADM, USN**

A senior Defense Intelligence Agency official with extensive worldwide experience. Currently Senior Defense official/Defense Attache Israel. Previously Defense Attache' Athen, Greece; DIA Directorate of Operations-East Asia; Defense Attaché Service – Chief of Operations; Executive Officer to Director of Defense Intelligence Agency.



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"My report is about music from the 1960's,  
but my spell-checker made me leave out  
The Beatles, Monkees, and Byrds!"

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