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USE YOUR HEAD



Brian Kapur/The Current

Washington International School earned some revenge against St. Albans by defeating the Bulldogs 1-0 in a rematch of last year's state title game. The tightly contested match was in doubt until the final moments when the Red Devils emerged victorious. See story, page 9.

Tweak to flight path wins few fans

■ **Noise:** Area residents seek more drastic FAA proposal

By **BRADY HOLT**
Current Staff Writer

The Federal Aviation Administration's proposed tweaks to flight paths over Northwest D.C. have not impressed affected residents, who say the changes are too minor to significantly improve an

unpleasant situation in their riverside communities.

The FAA discussed its "LAZIR B" route plan in an open-house meeting last Wednesday at the Georgetown Library, where officials showed a new flight path that crosses over the edge of Rosslyn rather than passing directly over southern Foxhall Village. Farther northwest, the proposal also shifts the flight path over the Potomac River instead of flying over the

Virginia side of the river.

Officials said the new route was chosen by a working group with representatives of the FAA, Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority and affected communities on both sides of the Potomac. But residents in several Northwest D.C. neighborhoods have been seeking more drastic relief: a return to the relative quiet they'd enjoyed before spring 2015, when

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Sibley set to dedicate expanded hospital

By **MARK LIEBERMAN**
Current Staff Writer

Jerry Price wants patients at Sibley Memorial Hospital to have "an experience" when they walk in the front door. Price, Sibley's senior vice president for real estate and construction, led the design team for the hospital's new building with an emphasis on comfort, aesthetics and modernity — the intangibles that shape a patient's emotions during their stay.

"We want people to say after they walk through here, 'Wow, this doesn't even seem like a hospital,'" Price said during a private tour of the new facility on Friday. "It's friendly; it's engaging; it's not intimidating. It's familiar."

Three years after construction began and nearly a decade after planning began, the \$242 million facility is just about open for business at 5255 Loughboro Road NW, with a dedication event featuring Mayor



Brian Kapur/The Current

An event this Friday will dedicate the new Sibley Memorial Hospital building.

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Decades in the making, museum ready to open

By **MARK LONGAKER**
Current Correspondent

More than 100 years after it was first conceived, the National Museum of African American History and Culture will finally open Saturday on the National Mall, amid a celebratory three-day festival on the grounds of the Washington Monument.

Due to extreme interest in the museum, no admission tickets remain until November, and even those are only available for weekdays. However, admission to the festival, "Freedom Sounds: A Community Celebration," is open to everyone, with 100,000 expected to attend.

Highlights of the festival include evening concerts Saturday and Sunday with Living Colour, Public Enemy, The Roots, Experience Unlimited and Meshell Ndegeocello. The daytime roster features



Photo by Alan Karchmer

The National Museum of African American History and Culture stands between the National Museum of American History and the Washington Monument.

music, dance and storytelling.

A dedication ceremony, featuring a speech by President Barack Obama, will take place Saturday at 10 a.m. on an outdoor stage facing the Washington Monument. The public can only view the ceremony from the monument's grounds, where there will be

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Agency eyes safety upgrades along Reno Road corridor

■ **Chevy Chase:** Stretch of 39th Street could be one-way

By **BRADY HOLT**
Current Staff Writer

The Reno Road NW corridor in the Chevy Chase area is on track to receive safety upgrades at three troublesome intersections. However, the D.C. Department of Transportation's plans don't include the four-way stops or traffic signals that some neighbors have encouraged.

A bustling commuter thoroughfare that wanders its way through

the grid pattern of neighborhood streets, Reno Road presents numerous challenges to drivers, pedestrians and cyclists alike who try to cross or turn onto it. The angles of most intersections, coupled with sight-obscuring vegetation and Reno Road's curves, make it hard to spot oncoming traffic. Drivers who exceed Reno Road's speed limit add to the difficulty. Meanwhile, several streets cross Reno very close to other intersections.

The Transportation Department spelled out its planned upgrades to residents at a community meeting

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Race with a cause

Chevy Chase family helps lead benefit for Children's National Medical Center / Page 13

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Presidential precedent

Obama family's planned move to Sheridan-Kalorama is a familiar choice for neighborhood / Page RE1



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Ready to pounce

Visitation's volleyball team hopes mix of talented veterans and newcomers can win title / Page 9

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Forza WIS: Red Devils topple St. Albans 1-0 in heated rematch

By **BRIAN KAPUR**
Current Staff Writer

While the calendar and temperatures were par for September, the atmosphere at the Washington International and St. Albans boys soccer clash felt like November.

St. Albans hosted the game, but the stands were packed with Bulldogs fans clad in black while students from Washington International wore bright red in a scene reminiscent of the D.C. State Athletic Association championship game last fall.

That 2015 contest, which saw the Red Devils fall in overtime, fueled Washington International's thirst for revenge. And on Friday afternoon, it was quenched when the Red Devils' players jumped onto the ledge of the bleacher stands to celebrate a 1-0 win on the Bulldogs' home field.

"We came back from our loss last year and played for our seniors that left," said sophomore forward Pablo Peltier.

The game picked up right where November's title match ended. Both teams were playing a physical brand of soccer and had a slew of near goal chances in the first half. The student sections added to the intensity as St. Albans chanted "weight room" at some of the smaller Red Devils. It was something that further motivated Washington International.

"It just goes to show that it's not about



the strength from the weight room — it's about the heart that you put into it," said senior forward Nico Ubide.

With eight minutes to go in the first half, the Red Devils broke through for the only goal of the game when the St. Albans goalie got a poor kick on a ball that left it in the box. Peltier took advantage and fired the ball into the back of the net to send the red part of the stands into a frenzy with a "Forza WIS" chant — the former of which means strength.

"I didn't really know what was going on; I just took the touch, kept my composure and put it in," Peltier said.

St. Albans wouldn't go away easily. In the second half, the Bulldogs unleashed a fury of tries on goal but couldn't stick a shot. The Red Devils had to weather the storm for nearly the entire 38-minute sec-



Brian Kapur/The Current

Washington International School defeated St. Albans to score some revenge after a heartbreaking loss to the Bulldogs in overtime of last fall's DCSAA title game.

ond half.

"We have a great defense here," said senior goalie Franco Savastano. "We are so solid back there. I knew we had it in us — there was never a shadow of a doubt that we would pull it out."

But in seven minutes of stoppage time, the clock couldn't tick fast enough as St. Albans had four really good chances at goal. These included a play where the Red Devils goalie was out of position, leaving an open net, only to be stopped by senior defender Olivier Masse on a clutch game-saving header.

"It was just textbook soccer: Get placed well and make a play — it's simple. St. Albans did a really good job of pressing us and keeping us on our heels. But it was just that hope that kept us going," said Masse.

When the refs finally whistled for the end of the game, some Washington International players collapsed in sheer joy, others

embraced in hugs and some ran to their student section, leaped onto the ledge of the stands and celebrated their victory.

"We knew this was a game that we had to win for the fans that saw the game last year," said Savastano. "We knew what it felt like to lose this game, and we didn't want to feel that again."

Washington International believes this game, along with wins over Wilson and Bullis, will help set the tone as the defending Potomac Valley Athletic Conference champions look to prove they aren't to be trifled with.

"The biggest thing: Last year was our first year that we got a lot of media attention, and there were big shoes to fill," said Ubide. "I told our team that if you put in the work, it will all work itself out."

The Red Devils will look to stay on the winning track when they travel to play Maret at 4 p.m. on Friday.



Visitation volleyball aims for ISL title run

By **BRIAN KAPUR**
Current Staff Writer

When Visitation's volleyball team gathered for tryouts at the start of the school year, the Cubs' basketball star Maeve Carroll was in the gym. But she wasn't there perfecting her post moves or jump shot — she was trying to earn a spot on the team.

"I've never played volleyball," Carroll said. "I've always been asked if I was a volleyball or basketball player. I figured it was senior year, and [Colleen Morrison, a senior on the team] asked me."

Her new teammates quickly embraced her.

"She's a natural athlete, and she

just came on the court and said, 'Hey guys, I'm here to play volleyball,'" said senior libero Maddy Kogler.

Carroll has provided an immediate boost to the Cubs front line as an intimidating blocker.

"We knew she could jump," Kogler said. "Ever since, she has been going up and hitting the ball down. She's blocking, and that's something we were missing."

While the senior addition bolsters the lineup, the Cubs return stars Morrison and Kogler, who are stepping into leadership roles as the team's captains. During their four years at the school, they have seen the program grow and feel they are on the verge of a breakthrough.

"I've been on varsity for four years," said Kogler. "We have come a long way since my freshman year. We made a lot of improvements last year, and we have the potential to be very good."

So far this season, the Cubs have a 1-2 record with a win over Holton-Arms.

With Carroll's front-line boost and the talented senior captains, the Cubs will try to become the team that dethrones Flint Hill, the four-time defending Independent School League champion.

"We have a lot of potential," said Morrison. "There is a lot of dedication at practice on the court. I think we're going to do some serious damage this year."



Brian Kapur/The Current

With a mix of returning veterans and some new players, the Cubs believe they have the formula for a deep playoff run.