



The Official Newspaper of Fairfield College Prep



FP

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Controversial construction

By Connor Ryan

Sixty trees were recently cut down on the Fairfield University campus to make more parking spaces, because a 200-car lot has been cleared and is set to be turned into village apartments. With this has come outraged students and faculty members of Fairfield University, resulting in massive protest.

Eleven faculty members have written a joint letter to the President of the university, deeming his actions are "going against the Jesuit tradition".

Martha F. Milcarek, a university spokeswoman, has assured the public that this issue is being heard and changes are being made to incorporate more environmentally sound policies.

Among one of the angry protestors picketing Alumni Hall, was Alexandra Roem, who heads the Green Campus Initiative. The Connecticut Post reports her saying: "This is one battle that we lost, but we hope that it won't happen again."

Parking will be added across from the Quick Center and work has already begun on the apartment complex (see above), which is expected to finish in August of 2011.



An Evening of Stars

By Connor Ryan

The Inn at Longshore was packed and everyone felt the energy, last Thursday night.

The event was headed by the Bellarmine Guild and featured Fr. Hanwell S.J. who not only led the group in prayer, but also sported a casual look on the runway.

The approximate twenty pairs of moms and sons were dressed in the newest spring collections from Mitchell's of Westport and designer, Helen Ainson.

The event brought together the Prep community, with a special emphasis on the mother and son bond.

From the cocktail hour, to the actual show, from the dinner, to the raffle — it was certainly an enchanted evening to remember.





Halloween '10

By Connor Ryan

Mr. John Brennan, Dean of Students, recently confirmed that the regular traditions of Halloween, most likely, will not be completely banned, but will have seriously changed policies.

Because seniors from previous years have taken advantage of the freedom allotted to them on the holiday, the administration feels forced to act on the many complaints of faculty members. One solution being discussed is: students come to school in regular attire, dress up only during lunch time (where they compete) and then back in the regular dress code for the rest of the day.

It's true that one has the power to ruin it for the rest, and the Fairfield Prep community is certainly seeing just that with the fun tradition and senior privilege of Halloween quickly changing for the worse. The specifics are still unclear in terms of next year, but it is certain that changes will be made.

Kyle Ryan '13 wins

By Matthew Kingsbury

Freshman, Kyle Ryan, has won multiple awards in the Connecticut State Science Fair.

His project *Cut the Cord* was based on the topic of Wireless Power, his goal was to be able to power electronics wirelessly but also be sufficient in powering them. Kyle was able to achieve a 50% to 60% power transfer efficiency rate.

"You have probably seen Powermat in Target which is sold for about \$99. My circuit uses the same technology as Powermat and I was able to do this in only about 6 months time," Ryan said in an email interview.

Baby Boomers

By Zack Creta

A handful of faculty members at Prep have recently welcomed new children into their lives, that is, besides the ones who fill their classrooms each day.

Since the start of the school year Western Civ teacher Mr. Alteri, Speech & Theatre teacher Mrs. Hoover, and Biology teacher Mr. Dotolo have each welcomed a daughter into this world, while Guidance Counselor Mrs. Tokarski gave birth to a son. Curious to learn what it has been like for them juggling Prep and parenthood, I asked some teachers about their experience.

Recently returned after a maternity leave following her daughter's birth in November, Mrs. Hoover explained, "I am happy to be back at Prep after my maternity leave, but juggling work with being a new mother has its challenges. I want to make sure that I am devoting the time to my students that they deserve, but I also want to get home to my daughter at the end of the day. I am working to find a new balance in my life." Indeed, one of the challenges of parenthood is to discover that equality between one's job and caring for children at home.

Mr. Dotolo, who welcomed his second daughter on Valentine's Day, had similar thoughts when he mentioned, "The critical skill for me these days is determining the appropriate balance between competing interests. This year I have often had to put off grading a set of tests because my daughter (or maybe both) is having a hard time sleeping. Similarly, I have found it hard to get involved with Kairos and other retreats with so much going on at home. As long as you have your priorities straight, and you are surrounded by loving, compassionate people - everything seems to work out."

These statements from Mrs. Hoover and Mr. Dotolo have given me some insight of what Prep and parenthood has been like for them and I am very grateful to them both for sharing that with me. They have made me see the challenge of balancing one's job and kids but they have also shown me that at the end of the day, when you get to spend that precious time with your children, it is all worth it.

I would like to wrap things up by saying congrats and good luck to all the new parents at Prep! And, just as you have given me some insight of what it's like to hold a job and kids, I hope that we students have given a little flavor of what you have to look forward to in about fifteen years from now!



‘Joseph’ draws a crowd

By Connor Ryan

“Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat” is the spring musical this year and rehearsals have been underway, preparing for the May performances.

Mrs. Megan Hoover, the director, has recently returned from maternity leave and is excited to be directing the largest cast she has ever had to work with (33 members). “I am thrilled to have so many people participating in this production. New people bring new energy, which is always needed,” Hoover wrote in an email interview. She accredits the growth of the program, to the fact that, in the spring, students have fewer commitments and therefore have more availability for extracurricular activities.



Originally, there were concerns for the program not being able to survive after a few key seniors plan to exit the program after this season, but Hoover replies on the contrary, “We have a really strong group of underclassman right now with a lot of talent...Prep Players is poised to do some great things in the next couple of years.”

In terms of casting, veteran seniors Alex Tortora, Joe Burgess, Quinn Rooney and Dan O’Rourke will be seen leaving the Prep Players stage after performing in numerous productions throughout the last few years.

Junior, Max Rein, has stepped in off the athletic field, to star in this musical, as Joseph. Rein was last seen in the ’08 production of “Guys & Dolls” (as Nicely-Nicely Johnson), unfortunately, suffering from “head cold symptoms” that nearly affected his vocal performance.

Aside from the largest cast to date, Prep Players is instituting its first rock opera, meaning there is no spoken dialogue, only singing. This puts the spotlight on musical director, Ms. Christine Dominguez, and the importance of strategy when it comes to rehearsals. It has been rumored, that because of the nature of the show, Hoover will cut it down to only one act (roughly 80 minutes). While the length is still uncertain, be prepared for a lot of singing.

The Prep community waits in anticipation as the cast and directors continue to work tirelessly preparing this production. The cast will be challenged to work together as one, while holding on to their voices. Early impressions: it should be a great spring for the theatre department.

More information about specific show times will come next month.

MGMT’s *Congratulations* Reviewed

By Quinn Myers

On April 13, musical group, MGMT is set to release their second studio album, *Congratulations*. The band’s first album, *Oracular Spectacular* was one of the most popular albums of 2008, and sold over a million copies. Because of this immediate success, *Congratulations* is set to be one of the most purchased albums of year.

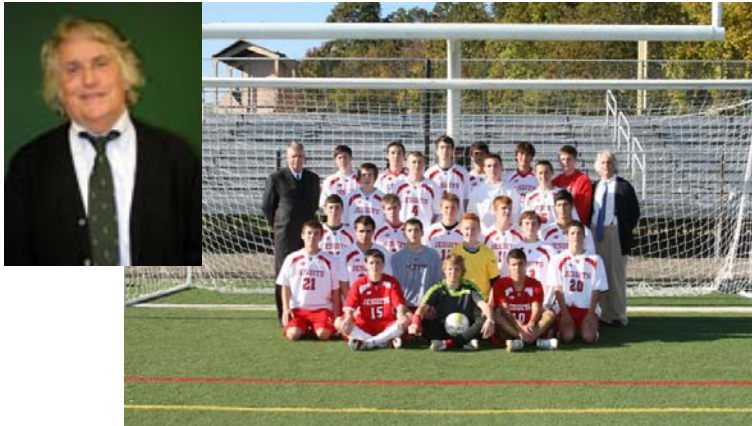
Most fans will be expecting the same kind of electric pop feel that was displayed on their first album; however, the second album is much darker and experimental. In fact, most casual listeners will probably dislike it. On the other hand, there will still be the many hard-core fans that after a few listens will learn to love *Congratulations*.



Jaffe leaves because of health

By Connor Ryan

It may come as a shock to many as Mr. Bruce Jaffe, the founder and head coach of the soccer program at Prep, has decided to leave after acting as gatekeeper for more than three decades. The teacher has decided he will focus solely on American History and his other passion, swimming.



“I have been the head coach for thirty-two years, and actually founded the program, and now I’m up to a point where I think it’s time, not from a lack of interest, but more from a question of my physical health,” Jaffe stated in an interview.

Physical health has always been a concern of his and it seems that being involved with sports from the end of August until late March just played out to be too much. “Doing two sports back to back, I get

incredibly tired, and so, I relinquish my head coaching position.”

The soccer team would seem to be empty-handed, but Prep alum and freshman head coach, Ryan Lyddy, has come to the rescue as Mr. Jaffe’s successor.

“I think the soccer program is in very good shape. We have a freshman, a J.V. and a Varsity team and I leave it at a very good point”. The “good point” is quite good as the Varsity team had a closing record of 13-3 last season and more and more kids are seen to be interested in the now thriving program.

While Jaffe will remain loyal to swimming, he certainly will miss the soccer atmosphere as a whole. “You can’t do something for thirty-two years and not miss it...I’ll miss it a great deal. The interaction with the players and fellow coaches, but it’s a question that it’s time, for me physically, to have to say, ‘that’s enough’”.

Rugby grows in size

By Timmy Attolino

The sport of Rugby has been around since the mid 18th century. For those who don’t know, the primary goal in rugby is to carry or kick the ball towards the opponent's goal line where grounding the ball can score points; this is called a *try*. After scoring a try, the team is allowed the chance to *try at goal* with a conversion - a kick for further points. The opposing team will attempt to stop the attacking side gaining points by preventing their progress up the field by tackling the player carrying the ball. Rugby is making strides from being just a “prep school sport”, to now being incorporated in the athletic programs of public schools.

Rugby has evolved greatly here at Prep. Coach Frank Decker always has his team ready to compete. During his time at Prep thus far, Coach Decker’s teams have been invited to the National Championships twice, won four New England championships and produced six high school All-Americans. This year’s team is ready, willing and able to go all the way.



Hockey Championship...so close

By Alex Schroder

Prep's hockey season came to a close with the Jesuits on the short end of a 6-5 loss to Hamden in an emotional thrill-ride that doubled as the CIAC Division 1 state championship game.

Fairfield Prep trailed by a goal five different times, only to battle back and tie it. Time ran out, however, before the Jesuits could score goal No. 6 and Hamden earned the state championship.



The Power of the BOMB SQUAD

By Connor Ryan

A fundamental of Fairfield Prep, and arguably one of the leading reasons why the hockey team got so far this season, is the Bomb Squad.

"The Bomb Squad is the embodiment of school spirit at Fairfield Prep," said Mr. Matt Sather (head Varsity Hockey coach), "The Bomb Squad is the emotional backbone of Prep."

Mr. Sather summarizes, that it's not about the size in number of the group, but rather about the spirit and the energy that the Bomb Squad brings to the players. Specifically talking about the hockey program, Sather mentioned that he often finds the hockey team gets a lot of encouragement from their fellow classmates, while also intimidating their opponents.

A longstanding problem with this notoriously loud group has been negative chanting or derogatory behavior against opponents. While Sather did not mention any particular incidents, many faculty members have come forward in the past with complaints regarding the behavior of the cheering section. Mr. Brennan and Mr. Magdon remain strict while enforcing the rules of the school, but the adrenaline that a game can have is said to be uncontrollable.

Going forward, students are encouraged to be a part of the school tradition of the Bomb Squad — but remember to cheer for Prep, and not against our opponents.



TEMA tells all

By Connor Ryan

Mrs. Tema is an art teacher and the yearbook advisor, here at Prep.

FOOD *Oh so many, let's see, roast suckling pig served at Ibiza in New Haven.*

DRINK *Coffee...of course.*

U.S. PRESIDENT *F.D.R. because he pushed Congress for Social Security.*

ACADEMIC SUBJECT (besides art) *English, literature especially.*

MOVIE *"The Russians are Coming".*

TELEVISION SHOW *"The Good Wife" very few TV shows focus on a woman as main character.*

ACTOR *George Clooney.*

ACTRESS *Angela Lansbury.*

BOOK *That's way too hard for an English major, but I enjoy a good mystery to read on the beach in the summer.*

BOOK GENRE *Historical novel.*

CANDY *Twix.*

DAY OF THE WEEK *Saturday, because no alarms are going off.*

MAC OR PC *Mac, of course; the artists' choice.*

COKE OR PEPSI *Neither...Starbucks!*

SPORT TO WATCH *Tennis.*

SPORT TO PLAY *None, but I work out regularly at a gym.*

BROADWAY PLAY *"Our Town".
(doesn't have to be current)*

Man in the Quad:

How were you and your family affected by the recent storm?

Compiled by Zack Creta

"I was in New York City at the time. It was rainy and windy there as well. The wind actually broke my umbrella causing me to get all wet. By the time I arrived back in Connecticut I could see how bad things were with trees down and power outages."

-MRS. TEMA, art teacher

"Nothing really major happened. I was home and did not lose power or anything. I have a sump pump which worked the whole time."

-DR. MILLER, theology teacher

"I wasn't affected by the storm at all"

-JOHN FORMICHELLA '11 of Bridgeport

"We were without power from Saturday to Wednesday. It was a struggle doing homework as I had to make sure it was all complete before it got dark out."

-TONY SANFILIPPO '13 of Stamford

"We never lost power but one of our trees was blown down across the driveway"

-ALEC CRETA '13 of Fairfield



iPad: NOT WORTH IT

By Conor Lahiff

The newest product that is about to hit markets is the iPad, Apple's first tablet computer.

Apple first began experimenting with tablet computers in 1993 with the release of Newton MessagePad 100, and continued to experiment with tablet computers for five years until the products were discontinued in 1998. The Newton MessagePad and other products didn't fare too well in the markets, and received mostly negative reviews. Here we are, twelve years later and the question is being asked: will the iPad sell in a slumping economic market?

Apple's chief argument behind creating the iPad is to combine all products into one. However, the iPad falls short in numerous areas, arguably the most noticeable is the price. The starting price for the tablet computer is \$499.00, but there are several more expensive versions; the highest is priced at \$899.00. Who would want to spend so much money on "computer" that does the same as an iPod Touch, but has a larger screen and maybe a few more features? The MacBook notebook is

priced at a near \$999, if you really wanted a computer, it wouldn't be so bad to spend a little extra on real device that will get the job done faster.

Second, the iPad has no flash player, the software used to run videos (other than Youtube videos) and applications on social sites such as, Facebook. All you are left with is YouTube, which is fine for watching funny videos, but forget being able to play your favorite online games or going on Facebook and using any of their applications.

Finally, if you enjoy transferring files from computers, iPad to iPad, or maybe using plug and play devices that use USB, you can throw it in the trash. The iPad is just like the iPod Touch, no USB, which means you can't plug it into your camera to import pictures, or use the device with any standard Apple accessories.

The iPad is Apple's newest tablet computer, but has been the butt of many jokes because of its lack of numerous features. My advice to you would be not to buy it; wait until something truly revolutionary comes along.

"The iPad is Apple's newest tablet computer, but has been the butt of many jokes because of its lack of numerous features."

XBOX or PlayStation3

By Peter Riley

James Yu from GameSpot writes "You'd think that the PS3 versions would be exactly the same or slightly superior to the Xbox 360 versions, since many of these games appeared on the 360 months ago, but it seems like developers didn't use the extra time to polish up the graphics for the PS3. We found that the Xbox 360 actually had better graphics in the majority of the games we compared."

The Xbox is said to have better lighting compared to the Play Station, but it makes up for it in texture. Online game play has been important to gaming since the Play Station 2 was released. Now Xbox has an online system as well called Xbox Live. However Xbox Live costs fifty dollars a year to use, but the PlayStation Network is free. The Xbox does break down more easily than The PlayStation 3. When an Xbox 360 is about to break down, no fault from damage, an early indication is the "Red Ring" because you will see a red ring around your Xbox. The PlayStation and Xbox is practically the same thing when you come down to it. It is difficult to declare a said winner of the two, so it is up for you to decide what you think would be best to have. In the end it's just a game.



Mango Salad

- 1 medium mangos, thinly sliced
- 6 cups baby spinach leaves
- ¼ cup dried cranberries
- ¼ cup feta cheese, crumbled
- ¼ cup walnuts, chopped

Preparation:

- Wash spinach in cold water and dry completely.
- Transfer 1 ½ cups of spinach to 4 plates and sprinkle 1 tablespoon of cranberries, feta cheese, and walnuts per dish.
- Divide mango slices among plates equally in the center of each salad.

Strawberry Sorbet

- 6 cups frozen strawberries, cut into chunks
- 1 cup organic unsweetened soy milk, plus more if needed
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- ½ tsp lemon extract
- 1-2 tbsp raw sugar (brown sugar)
- 1 cup whipped topping
- fresh mint leaves or cinnamon sticks for garnish

Preparation:

- Put the strawberries, vanilla extract, lemon extract, and sugar into a food processor with ½ cup of soymilk. Adding more milk gradually as needed until all the ingredients bind together. Mixture should be thick and smooth.
- When done, divide the sorbet evenly amongst 4 glasses. Top each one with ¼ cup whipped topping.
- Garnish desserts with either fresh mint leaves or cinnamon.



Grilled Pineapple & Chicken

- Extra-virgin olive oil
- Salt
- Freshly cracked black pepper
- 2 cups cold water
- 1 garlic clove
- 1 cup white jasmine rice
- 4 medium boneless skinless chicken breasts, pounded flat
- 1 fresh pineapple, peeled cut into 1 inch slices
- 2 scallions, sliced

Preparation:

- Bring water to a boil with the garlic clove and 1 teaspoon of extra-virgin olive oil over medium-high heat. Season with a pinch of salt, then stir in the rice. Let the water reduce until it's at the same level as the rice. Reduce to low heat and cover pot tightly with lid. Simmer for 18-20 minutes.
- Heat a coat of extra-virgin olive oil in a grill pan over medium-high heat. Season chicken breasts with salt and pepper on both sides and place on the grill. After 6 minutes turn them over and allow continuous cooking for another 6 minutes. Remove from heat and place on a plate with an aluminum foil tent to keep the chicken warm.
- Reduce the burner to medium heat and put 4 pineapple slices on the grill (store the rest in the refrigerator for snacking). Cook them for 5 minutes or until they begin to caramelize and form grill marks. Then flip the pineapples and repeat. When done remove from heat.
- Uncover the rice, fluff with a fork, and mix in the chopped scallions.
- Plate a slice of pineapple, a serving spoon of rice and a chicken breast.
- Garnish with flat leaf parsley.



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LOOKING FOR WRITERS

SOUNDINGS

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COLLEGE FAIR

Tuesday, April 6 at 6:30pm
 Fairfield Ludlowe High School

Over 150 Colleges and Universities
 will be there.

Have something to say?

Write a letter to the Prep community through Soundings!

Send your letter to: P11CRyan@fairfieldprep.org

How the healthcare reform affects Prep

By Tom Gaudett '10

- The age group with the most uninsured happens to the 18-34 year old group. The reason for this is that many young people who are in college or starting work do not have enough money to be able to afford health insurance coverage, thus they go without it. Under this plan, Prep students who are going into college and entering the working environment will be protected under their parent's plan until the age of 26.
- For all of those people like Mr. Szablewicz who have a pre-existing condition, they will no longer be denied the coverage they need. No longer will people with pre-existing conditions have to fear that they will lose coverage if they change jobs. And people with such conditions who are unemployed will no longer have to face the pain of being unemployable because of the risk they pose to the company.
- For all those Prep parents and students who currently do not have coverage, they will have the opportunity to afford their own health insurance with credits from the federal government on a sliding scale based on their income. And, they will be able to choose their coverage from a competitive insurance exchange.
- For all of the older members of the Prep community, they will be able to afford the medication they need by receiving subsidies to pay the cost for their medication that Medicare Part D currently does not cover.
- Prep families will no longer have to decide between paying for food, tuition, utilities, etc. and their health insurance. Prep families will never face the threat of bankruptcy as a result of their premiums.
- The Prep community will benefit when the cost of the average premium for Americans goes down, or goes up less than what is currently projected without the healthcare bill, thus saving Fairfield University and faculty members money. People will now be able to contribute to their own healthcare and will no longer leave hospitals, insurance companies, and those with coverage to pay for them. When this happens, the cost will no longer be passed on to the American people through higher premiums. Also, a more competitive market through insurance exchanges will slow the rapid rise in insurance premiums. Surely, some new taxes will be placed on tanning salons and those making more than \$250,000 a year. But this is what will help the average middle class family now be able to afford coverage.