

Annual Tree Lighting a Success!

By Ethan Doerger '13

The Christmas Tree Lighting and Mass took place on Sunday night, December 4th. The Mass took place at the Egan Chapel, and was nearly filled, and according to Mr. Gualtiere it was the highest turnout of any Tree Lighting in the past 5 years at Fairfield Prep. The Mass was followed by the lighting itself. People were handed out candles and held them in silence as carols were sung and the tree was lit. The tree was brilliant, as you can see below, and you could feel the spirit of Christmas in the air. A reception in the Prep cafeteria with music from the Jazzuits brought to an end a wonderful night for the Prep Community.



A Thank You to Fairfield Prep

I wanted to follow up on last month's clothing drive. There was tremendous support from all of the Prep community donating over fifty full bags of winter jackets, pants, sweaters, hats, gloves, boots, etc. It was truly an amazing gift to the people of the Ludlow, VT area who lost so much in Hurricane Irene. These donations are being distributed through the Black River Good Neighbor Services to those in greatest need. The bags were accepted with big smiles and happy hearts and it truly showed Prep to be Men for Others!

Thanks,

Michael Osborne '12

Welcome!

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Dear Readers,

I apologize for not warning you beforehand that we here at Soundings decided to do a joint November-December issue to hopefully give us more time to balance putting together this issue and preparing for our upcoming midterms. This issue contains anything that occurred, both in Prep and anywhere else at the end of the last issue until the first week of December

This time of year, the Christmas lights go out, the gingerbread cookies are baked, the Christmas trees bought, and Prep students and teachers scramble to ready themselves for the mid-year exams. For our freshmen, it certainly is a stressful time. I and many of my junior and senior classmates have found themselves thrust into action as a peer tutor for many underclassmen as a member of the National Honor Society. It's definitely an eventful time of year here at Prep.

One thing we should all be anticipating as a Catholic community is the coming of Jesus Christ on Christmas Day. The word "Christ" is in Christmas for a reason! Not only should we be patient in waiting for Christmas, but also thankful. We have a God so great that he let his only Son come and bring us the good news. In a way, that's what Thanksgiving means to me, being thankful for Jesus.

I hope everyone has a safe and blessed holiday,

Ethan Doerger '13

Sports

Prep Soccer: *The Most Successful Season in School History*

By Timmy Attolino '13

The 2011 Fairfield Prep soccer season was the greatest season in school history. They finished the regular season 9-0-7, the first undefeated season in the history of Fairfield Prep. After the regular season came the SCC Championship tournament. As the number 2 seed, Prep defeated both Shelton and Guilford and earned a berth in the finals, against rival Notre Dame- West Haven. In a back and forth game, Prep won their 2nd SCC championship 1-0, on a game-winning snipe from junior tri-captain Davie Bruton. The Jesuits were the ninth seed in the Class LL state



tournament. In their first round game against Crosby, Prep won 2-0, on second half goals from junior Kieran Bracken and sophomore Austin Sims. The Jesuits would then travel to Newtown to face the number eight seeded Hawks. This was a game for the ages. It was truly a back and forth contest. As the scoreless game was nearing penalty kicks, junior tri-captain goalkeeper Will Steiner was injured. Steiner, who had allowed only five goals in the previous seventeen games, was carted off in an ambulance. Senior Jack

Grella came into goal and filled Will's shoes greatly. In the penalty kick shootout, Grella saved three of five shots. Senior tri-captain Mike Matera and sophomores Stephen Tortora and Luis Zamora netted goals in the shootout to send Prep to the Class LL quarterfinals, to take on number one overall seed Pomperaug. After a valiant effort, Prep lost 1-0 in a game for the ages. Senior Jack Grella filled the shoes of Will Steiner very remarkably, making seven saves in the losing effort. That was their only defeat of the season.

The future for the Prep soccer program is very bright. The core of next season's team will be intact from this team, with Davie Bruton, Pat Connolly, Will Steiner, Tim Frassetto, Kieran Bracken, Blake Roberts, Ryan Orvis, Grayson Barlow, David Bigley, Jordan Visosky, Matt Rahtelli, Jean-Claude Le Meur, Alex Pinkus, Austin Sims, Stephen Tortora, Luis Zamora, Darragh Kelly, and Nick Dosky all returning. Watch out for the Jesuits next season, as they will have high expectations, with State Championship aspirations in their heads.

Sports

Cross Country Wins States, Second in New England

By Liam Mason '14

The Prep Cross Country team finished off its most successful season ever winning the Class LL state championship. Connor Rog came in first for the Jesuits, at a snowy race at Wickham State Park in Manchester. Then the Prep runners went on to the New England Championships. Prep finished in 2nd place behind a tough Bishop Hendrickson team from Rhode Island. Despite running a very fast 15:27, Connor Rog came in second place, the first time all year that he did not finish the race in first place. However, second place in all of New England is a feat that all of the runners should be very proud of and realize how amazing it is. These two races helped to put the cherry on top of the best season the cross-country team has ever had.

Winter Sports Preview

By Timmy Attolino '13

Varsity Hockey

Key players- Senior forward AJ Unker, Senior forward Matt Brophy, Senior defenseman Tom Worsfold, Senior goaltender Riley Wikman, Junior forward David White, Junior defenseman Kevin Brown.

Prediction- Prep looks to defend their CIAC Division 1 State championship with another one this season. They will have big shoes to fill in net, with the loss of John Galiani, as well as replacing senior forward Brian Puffer and Don Carnicky. Prep will be up to the task, with many sophomores and juniors filling those holes. More likely than not, Prep will be returning to the Whale, in search of another state championship.



Sports



Varsity Basketball

Key players- Senior forward Terry Tarpey, Junior forward Tim Butala, Senior guard Mike Matera.

Prediction- Coming off one of the most successful basketball seasons in recent memory at Fairfield Prep, the Jesuits look to build on that great season. Terry Tarpey, committed to William and Mary, will be the focus of the offense, utilizing his explosiveness and stellar mid-range game. Tim Butala will play a bigger role on this team this year, as a dual threat, both in the post and from deep. Don't be surprised if you see Prep at Mohegan Sun again, vying for a state championship.

Varsity Swimming and Diving

Key players- Seniors Rob Valdes-Rodriguez, Bryan Dougherty, Matt Connelly, Juniors Bradley Helt, Tommy Turner and Dan Passarelli, Sophomores Bjorn Davis, Brandon Cole and Nick Wargo

Prediction- With their 7th consecutive SCC championship achieved last season, this year marks the quest for number 8. After finishing 2nd in the Class LL state championship last season as well, this season has state championship aspirations as well. All SCC Bradley Helt looks to lead Prep into the pool this year.



Varsity Wrestling

Key players- Seniors Jake Pesci, Shane Dempsey, Joey Roberts and Tom Voreyer, Juniors Conor Ward and Matt Barnett, Sophomore Nick Crowle

Prediction- Look for Prep wrestling to take a step up this season. With great senior leadership, the Jesuits have a plan for greatness. This team will put wrestling at Prep back on the map.

Arts

How It Went: A Director's Perspective

By Jake Cogguilo '12

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare, Abridged, Prep's most recent fall production, was met with universal acclaim. Called "hilarious" by many, the show was performed in front of full houses on all four performance nights. The Prep Players definitely delivered, and deserve all of the praise that the show has earned. But, of course, they are not the only ones to congratulate on the hit. For what would a show be without its director?

I recently contacted "Shakespeare" director, Mrs. Hoover, to hear what she had to say about the play and her cast.

How did you think the Play went? Was it everything you expected?

MH: The show went incredibly well. I certainly expected it to go well, but you never really know what is going to happen when you add an audience, especially when the show requires audience participation. I think the coolest part of the run was watching the way that different audiences reacted to and interacted with the performers.

How did you feel about the play being performed in front of full houses every night?

MH: The energy created by a live audience is the reason we do theatre – it is an awesome feeling. When the house is full, it just charges the performers that much more. But the coolest part of a full house is seeing the support that these actors are getting from the students, faculty and their families. This is a growing program and I am excited to see so many people being able to experience the work that the Players do.

Were there any memorable moments during the play practices? During the performances?

MH: There are always memorable moments during the process. This cast makes me, and each other, laugh – it is part of what makes them so great in a comedy. But truthfully, it is all "you had to be there" stuff. That's what happens when you spend two months working on a project with a group of people. It is what bonds you together, and ultimately make you a tighter ensemble.

Congratulations again to Mrs. Hoover, the Prep Players, and the Fairfield Prep stage crew on another successful fall play!

Arts

Fairfield Prep Christmas Concert A Hit!

By Jake Cogguilo '12

With memorable performances from every band, choir, acapella group, and jazz ensemble, it is easy to say that the 2011 Fairfield Prep Christmas Concert was undoubtedly a hit! Led by Ms. Christine Dominguez, the hour-and-a-half concert had the audience on the edge of their seats from the first curtain rise to the last curtain fall. The show began with tremendous vocals from the talented Concert and Select Choirs and accompanying pianists before transitioning to some outstanding performances by the up and coming Fairfield Prep Encords. After intermission, the show picked up with more voluminous sounds from the always impressive Concert and Symphonic Bands, and closed on a high note with a stellar medley performance by the Jazzuits.

Since the concert last Tuesday, Ms. Dominguez has received numerous compliments from parents and faculty. It has been unanimously agreed that she has done wonderful things with the Fairfield Prep music department, and based on last Tuesday's performance, it appears as though things are only just getting started. Well done, Ms. Dominguez and all of the Music Department!



Entertainment

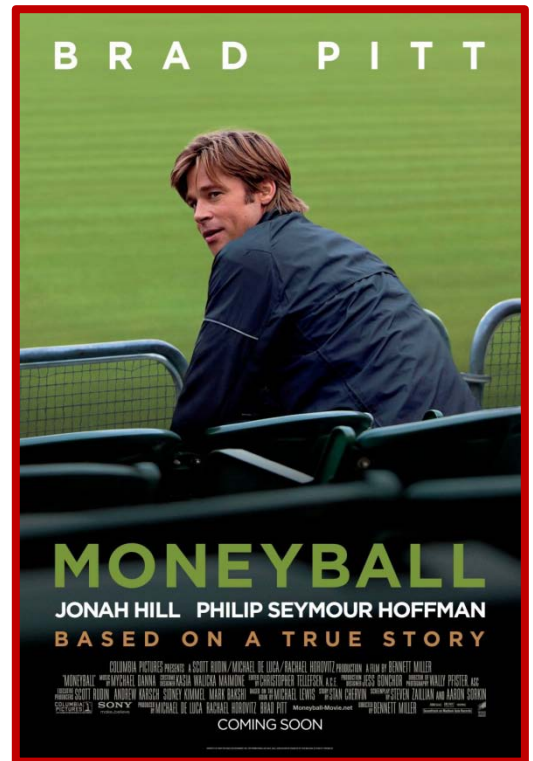
Moneyball Movie Review

By Robert Fumai '14

Moneyball is the story of the rise of the Oakland Athletics in Major League Baseball. It begins with Billy Beane; the general manager of the A's listening on his radio to the American League Division Series. It's the top of the ninth and the A's are down to their last strike. The batter strikes out and the A's lose the game, ending their dream of reaching the World Series. Then the screen shows the payroll of the A's at \$41 million, and their opponents, the Yankees, with a staggering \$125 million payroll.

The movie revolves around two main characters, Billy Beane; the General Manager of the A's played by Brad Pitt and Peter Brand, an economics graduate from Yale with radical ideas on assessing player values and is played by Jonah Hill. Brand attempts to devise a strategy to build a competitive team for the 2002 season with a limited payroll. The team loses three star players to free agency- Johnny Damon, Jason Giambi, and Jason Isringhausen, due to lack of payroll to resign any of these players. However, Brand selects players based on their on base percentage (OBP) instead of their previous season's stats. Beane supports Brand's idea and assembles an undervalued team with a lot of potential. Art Howe, the manager of the team, does not start any of the new recruits. Beane, showing his superiority, trades team star Carlos Peña forcing Howe to play the recruits. At first, the A's struggle but then later in the season break baseball history by winning 20 games in a row.

The A's clinch a spot in the playoffs but lose in the first round of the postseason to the Minnesota Twins. In the closing of the film, Beane turns down the offer of being the General Manager of the Boston Red Sox which would have made him the highest paid GM. The movie was well-documented and a heart-warming story about a never-say-die group of players determined to win. **MOVIE RATING:** 9 out of 10

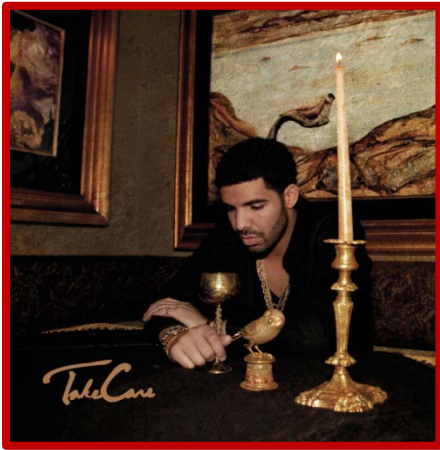


Entertainment

Drake Album Review

By Matt Craighead '12

Drake is back with his second studio album, *Take Care*. His first album, *Thank Me Later* was one of the best albums of the year when it came out in the summer of 2010. This album is no doubt going to be another chart-topper. Drake is one of the most talented rappers out there, relying on his versatile voice skills in his songs. He can rap and can actually sing and make a great song just of him using his vocals. His lead single *Headlines* was a good song to lead the album off with. *Marvin's Room*, the second song in the album, was a huge hit on urban radio stations and a number of artists made their own remix to the song.



Drake has collaborations with The Weekend, Rihanna, Stevie Wonder, Nicki Minaj, Lil Wayne, Rick Ross, and Andre 3000, a star-studded and well-rounded crew of singers. Nicki's verse on *Make Me Proud*, Rihanna's well-fitting vocals on *Take Care*, and The Weekends beautiful vocals on *Crew Love* are among the notable features in the album. Not to forget, the amazing contribution of Stevie Wonder and his harmonica skills on *Doing It Wrong* highlight that song.

In a recent interview with VEVO News, Aubrey "Drake" Graham talked about how fast rap is not that popular at the moment. He said, "The artists who give you a chance to breathe and digest their words and use melody are on top right now." He closed the interview with this line, "I think that the rapper nowadays has to come with something more than 'I can rap'; has to be." This is a perfect way to describe Drake. Drake is different from all other rappers. He is Jewish Canadian (from his mother), and African-American (from his father). He had an acting career before this. He played the character Jimmy Brooks on the show *Degrassi: The Next Generation*. Just based on these two things, he is a very unique rapper and is no doubt one of the most talented in the game right now.

Drake's peers in the music industry endorse this album as one of the best. I completely agree, this is an amazing album. **Album Rating: 9.5/10 stars.**

National News

Penn State Scandal Rocks College Football

By Joseph A Sanfilippo '13

On the fateful day of Saturday, November 5th, the investigation into former Penn State defensive coordinator Jerry Sandusky went public. The prosecutors accused Sandusky of making inappropriate sexual advances or assaults on 8 boys from 1994-2009. This accusation has rattled the entire nation, but most notably the community of State College, Pennsylvania. A major person of interest in this case is current Penn State assistant football coach Mike McQueary. McQueary claimed in a grand jury testimony that he witnessed Sandusky showering with a 10 year old boy in the Penn State locker room in 2002. Since that claim numerous other children (now adults) have come forward and have claimed that Sandusky had molested them. Sandusky is now in police custody and is awaiting trial. Sandusky and his attorney have maintained that he is innocent of the charges, with the former coaching assistant saying he did shower with the boys, but didn't make sexual advances on them.

The Penn State abuse scandal has affected many other people other than Sandusky and the alleged victims. Penn State president Graham Spanier was fired on Nov. 9, four days after the scandal became public. Athletic director Tim Curley and a vice president, Gary Schultz, are accused of perjury and failing to report suspected child abuse in the grand jury's report. As a result, both have stepped down from their posts. But possibly the biggest result of the scandal was the firing of Joe Paterno, the legendary head football coach at the university. While Paterno may not have done anything illegal, many people have criticized him for his moral judgment which stems from the incident with McQueary. After witnessing the abuse McQueary allegedly told Paterno of the events that unfolded with Sandusky and the boy. However instead of calling the police, Paterno notified his boss the athletic director but did not call the police. The student body at Penn State has also been hit hard by the scandal. Students have protested in the streets and have gone as far as to tip vehicles over. Riot police were summoned to quell the chaos, but many are still saddened and humiliated. The school has since rallied around the football team, which has gone 1-2 since these events under interim coach Thom Bradley.

Despite the shocking allegations and the wrongdoing of so many prominent Penn State officials, we should all keep this university in our prayers as they continue to pick through what will be a long and painful investigation.

National News

Returning in 2014: The Troops of The United States

By Brent Kaiserman '14

It took 8 and half years, but the United States of America military is finally coming home. President Barack Obama announced that all troops will be home by the end of 2014. This brutal and tragic war has caused over 90,000 deaths, the bloodiest war in the world this decade. It is crucial that we acknowledge the timeline of the events taken place leading up to and during the war. This timeline should be known throughout the country, to show appreciation for the soldiers who have risked their lives, and to respect the ones who were killed:

October 2002-President Bush is authorized by U.S. Congress to use military forces against Iraq.

August 2003- United Nations envoy Sergio Vieira de Mello and 22 others were murdered by a truck bomb in Iraq.

December 2003- Saddam Hussein is found and captured near Tikrit.

April 2005-Newly found democracy in Iraq elects Ibrahim al- Jaafari as temporary prime minister.

February 2006- Shiite "Golden Mosque" destroyed by bomb attack in Samarra.

June 2006- Abu Musab al Zargawi, a leader of terrorist group Al Qaeda, is killed.

December 2006- Saddam Hussein is executed for crimes against humanity.

September 2007- Sunni leader Abdul Sattar Abu Risha is executed in Iraq only 10 days after meeting with George Bush.

January 2009- United States turns over control of air space and Green Zone to Iraq.

November 2011- President Obama vows to have all U.S. troops out of Iraq by 2014.



National News

Macy's Thanksgiving Parade: An Annual Extravaganza

By Ray Kingsbury '13

The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade is an annual parade, founded in 1920, that takes place in New York City. As of this past Thanksgiving the Macy's Day Parade celebrates its 85th annual running. From the beginning the parade boasted live bands and large floats and continues to use the same type of props today. Today the parade consists of highly commended high school marching bands as well as cultural bands. What have made the parade famous are the large balloons of characters such as Mickey Mouse and SpongeBob Square Pants. By tradition the parade always ends with Santa Clause going past to signify the beginning of the Christmas season.

This past Thanksgiving Day I had the privilege of attending the Macy's Day Parade in New York City and it is an experience I will never forget. Though the parade starts at 9 A.M.



people arrive at the city streets as early as 5 A.M. to get a front row seat on

the curb of the street. After 4 hours of waiting the parade begins and floats and balloons pass by. This year the floats transported celebrities through the parade. Neil Diamond (left), Ceelo Green, and Scott McCreery were the celebrities that were present. The parade displays American *icons from* the past and today whether they are cartoons, singers, or even cultural groups. And ultimately what makes this parade so memorable is that it is a parade for the American way of life and the American culture.



World News

The Death of Gaddafi

By Joseph Sanfilippo '13

Muammar Gaddafi, leader of Libya for 42 years from 1969 to 2011, was killed by rebels fighting against the Libyan government in late October of 2011. Gaddafi was captured alive after warplanes as his hometown, Sirte, fell on October 20th. At the time of his death, Gaddafi was 69 years old.



Libya for 42 years from 1969 to 2011, his convoy was attacked by NATO on October 20th. At the time of his

At around 8:30 am local time, Jabr, his security chief Mansour Dhao, escape in a convoy of 75 vehicles. A satellite phone call made by Gaddafi. vehicles, destroying one. A U.S.

Gaddafi, his army chief Abu-Bakr Yunis and a group of loyalists attempted to Royal Air Force reconnaissance aircraft speed, after NATO forces intercepted a NATO aircraft then fired on 11 of the Predator drone operated from a base

near Las Vegas fired the first missiles at the convoy, hitting its target about 3 kilometers (2 mi) west of Sirte. Moments later, French Air Force fighter jets continued the bombing. The NATO bombing immobilized much of the convoy and killed dozens of loyalist fighters. However Gaddafi survived the strikes and took refuge in a large drainage pipe with several bodyguards. A nearby group of NTC fighters opened fire, wounding Gaddafi with gunshots to his leg and back. According to one NTC fighter, one of Gaddafi's own men also shot him, in order to spare him from being arrested. It is unclear if NATO aircraft were involved in helping secure Gaddafi's capture by Libyan forces on the ground.

Gaddafi survived but was shortly afterwards captured by a rebel militia who claimed he had taken refuge with several of his bodyguards in a drain underneath the road west of the city. Later reports suggest he may have actually been deliberately forced inside in a symbolic reference to his "threat to kill the rats who opposed him." Around noon NTC fighters found the group and took Gaddafi prisoner. Shortly afterward, he was shot dead, and thus brought an end to his reign as the Libyan leader.

Campus Life

Mother-Son Night a Huge Success!

By Will Coupe '13

On Monday, October 24th, Prep held a Mother-Son night. A couple upperclassmen and I didn't really want to go to the event, we thought there wouldn't be too many kids from our grades and it wouldn't be a fun time, but we were wrong. The entertainment from Tony Spanato the Hypnotist, along with a thrilling raffle allowed this event to be a success.

This year, the night started with a raffle in which everyone was given a ticket at the beginning of the night. There were ten dollar gift cards to "The Country Cow," ten dollar gift cards to "Shake Shack" and two gift baskets. I was disappointed when the person kept calling numbers that were so close to my ticket. Finally, my ticket was called and I earned a trip to the Shake Shack, my favorite restaurant with the best burger in the world. After the raffle, Father Hanwell said a prayer and we then ate dinner.

Spanato started by getting his subjects into a relaxed and concentrated state. He told the kids to put their heads down and sleep, and they all fell into hypnosis. He had one kid become the laugh cop. Spanato told him to get mad when the audience started laughing, and the more laughing the audience did the madder he would become. Another thing Spanato did was that he told them when they woke up their dream date would be in the audience. A few people "that were in the audience" were Jennifer Lopez, Jennifer Aniston, Megan Fox and Nicole Kidman. He would introduce the kids to whoever they thought were their favorite movie stars etc. were. The subjects would get very excited and it was funny how they thought the random person in the audience was actually the "dream date" they were picturing. By the end he had chosen a song for each one of the participants and told them to start dancing to it when certain music was played. One guy's role was to be a body builder while the song "Party Rock Anthem" played. Another was to do his best impression of Michael Jackson to Billie Jean. One kid also started dancing like a cowboy when a country song came on and another person started dancing to YMCA. The entire audience was getting a kick out of the whole show.

The show was hilarious. Some of the things the kids were doing were crazy and in some cases it was really out of character. Nevertheless, it was quite a show, and I had a great time with my mom and my friends. The mystery of it is whether the kids were really hypnotized or not. The next day I asked a kid who I had class with if he was really hypnotized and if he could remember it. He said he could remember it briefly and said it felt like he was on stage for about 5 minutes, when in reality they were up there for more than an hour. The show definitely added some life to my Monday night.

Campus Life

Father-Son Night – Mike D’Antoni!

By Will Coupe ‘13

Fairfield Prep Sports Night was an amazing night, especially for me. When I heard that Bob Costas was doing it a month ago I was skeptical and could not put a face to the name. When I heard that Mike D’Antoni was coming I was pumped! I am a die-hard Knicks fan and I was extremely excited to be in the presence of the coach of the New York Knicks. I was lucky enough to get to talk to Coach D’Antoni on sports night and ask him a few questions. One question to Coach D’Antoni was about how players like Carmelo Anthony and



A’mare Stoudemire can mesh better and play more as a team. He gave me an answer, but then said it was off the record because the NBA is currently is in a lockout and he is not allowed to talk about players.

Me: What strengths do you bring to the Knicks organization?

Coach D’Antoni: I create an atmosphere where the players like to play and where they can have the best years they can have, both mentally and physically, and that’s our goal.

Me: When did you become involved with basketball, at what age, and did you play basketball in High School?

Coach D’Antoni: At age 8, I was on a 3rd grade team, and then I kept playing all the way through.

Me: You played in Europe right?

Coach D’Antoni: Yeah well first I was drafted and played in the NBA for a few years, then the ABA and then I played 13 seasons in Europe.

Me: What’s the difference between playing in Europe and playing in the NBA?

Campus Life

Coach D'Antoni: Well Europe's not as good; it's just two different games. A lot of the NBA players can't play in Europe. We see them go over and sit in the back. There's not a lot of 1 on 1's, it's a little bit more like playing in college. Its good basketball, just a great way to make a living.

The rest of my questions were about things that he said he could be fired for if they were put in print. I assured him that they would not be, because I want the best for him and the Knicks in the future. Mike D'Antoni was very friendly and definitely a genuine guy. I really hope we can have an NBA season as soon as possible, because I can't wait to root for Coach D'Antoni and my Knicks!

What's the Point of a Class Ring?

By Nick Martinez '13

It's big. It's heavy. It's either too loose or too tight (I can't tell for the life of me), and it cost my parents more than I feel comfortable admitting. Yet here it is—my class ring. When first observing my ring, I noticed the following: It's a small piece of metal with some nice decorative inscriptions on one side, a Fairfield Prep logo on its front and the year of my graduation (2013) on the other, supposedly designed to fit comfortably around my ring finger. Upon devoting some time to deep thought about the object, I arrived at the conclusion that it is just—a ring with some nice decorations. So, my question was, of course, "What am I missing? What is the profundity that so many adults, from Father Ryan to Mr. Whiteman to my parents, find in their own class rings?" Listening to Father Ryan's reminisces on his class ring during the Junior Ring Mass led me to the answer for both of those questions: *experience*. When people such as Father Ryan or my parents stumble across their class ring, which often happens, they are instantly transported back to a different time in their lives. When they pick their rings up after all these years, they are overcome with vivid memories of their formative high school years—images of their friends and teachers, stories from their classes that still make them chuckle. To them, the ring isn't just a ring; it's the symbol of their experiences, a little enduring token of the years they spent in high school, the years they made their own. It is those years that I am now living out for myself, those memories that I, although I am not conscious of it, am making every day. Yes, my ring is still big and heavy and awkward to wear. And as far as I can tell, it's still just a ring. And it will still just be a ring ten, twenty, thirty years from now, but then it will be *my* ring, bearing with it all the emotional gravity that now accompanies Father Ryan's ring. Yes, then it will be *my* class ring.

Campus Life

Where is Prep going this Christmas break?



Where is Prep going this Christmas break?

By: Brandon Yep '13

Christmas break is always full of joy, anticipation, excitement, and family fun. With the holiday for a lot of families, comes the reality of facing heavy travel to get to their various destinations. While some Prep students may choose to stay locally this holiday, many others are traveling all over the country. Whether it's taking a train, plane, or car, one thing is for certain; there are indeed many who will be a part of this holiday tradition of traveling as expressed throughout the four Prep classes.

*A member from each class that was traveling this holiday was asked questions about their destination.

Class	Where are you going this holiday?	Who are you going with?	What are you going to do?	How long are you staying there?
2015	Tampa, FL <i>Plane Ride: 3-4 hours</i>	My older sister	Visit my grandparents	3 Days
2014	Cape Cod, MA <i>Driving time: 3 hours</i>	My family	Relax and go to a Patriots game	8 Days
2013	Park City, Utah <i>Plane Ride: 4 hours</i>	My family and close friends	Ski around the ski resorts in the park city area	7 Days
2012	Okemo Ski Resort <i>Driving time: 2-3 hours</i>	My family and close friends	Visit family, friends, and ski.	6 Days

Science

New, better iPhone Battery?

By: Brandon Yep'13

The iPhone is one of the most popular phones and portable devices today. Since its unveiling by Steve Jobs, the iPhone has significantly grown in consumer usage and has become a leader in the mobile phone market. The wide range of new technology innovations introduced at its unveiling changed the way consumers viewed mobile devices. One example of the new innovation at the time of the initial launch was the iPhone's touch screen interface that you control with the movement of your fingers! As Steve Jobs said, "who needs a stylus?" Even though the iPhone is advanced and its features are more innovative every year, one feature that continues to be lacking is the infamous iPhone battery life. When comparing the older cell phone batteries to the iPhone, one quickly realizes that the older phones carried a longer charge that could last up to a few days. An iPhone user is lucky to get a full day of usage out of his/her battery. As an owner of an iPhone myself, I find myself surprised that the battery symbol on my iPhone reads 50% by the time I eat lunch! . We can only hope that Apple will release an iPhone battery that is much more efficient allowing users a longer lasting charged iPhone. .



Luckily, there's a possible resolution to the inefficient iPhone battery. There are researchers who are currently studying a new potential battery that will hopefully relieve iPhone users of their "stress and pains" when they see that red battery logo on the top right of their screen. Researchers like the ones at Northwestern University claim that they have discovered a better, more efficient replacement battery. Their newly developed battery for the iPhone has ten times the power storage and a faster charging time that's ten times faster than the current iPhone batteries in use today. Their trick to developing a battery with such enormous capabilities comes with a lot of research and a redesign of the current battery.

Science

iPhone batteries today consist of a graphene sheet which is basically thick layers of carbon that store ions for the battery. On each end of the battery are areas called the anode and the cathode. The anode stores the energy/power while the cathode is the area where the energy is spent for the usage of the phone. As a person uses their phone, energy from the anode travels along the graphene sheets to the cathode. As the phone charges, the opposite affect happens as energy from the cathode goes into the anode for storage.

The researchers at Northwestern University first addressed the battery life. The current graphene sheets hold very little energy storage as they hold one ion for every six carbon atoms. The low battery storage is directly linked to the low battery life on the iPhone. To resolve this problem, researchers looked for substitutes that can hold more lithium ions therefore increasing the battery life on the iPhone. The result was a new graphene sheet that had silicon sandwiched in between the layers of graphene. This new design allows for more ions to rest in the anode for storage and as a result, the battery life is ten times longer than the current iPhone batteries.

The team then moved onto the topic of battery charging rate. The reason the iPhone batteries today take as long as they do to charge is due to the shape of the graphene sheets. Graphene sheets are skinny but very long which explains the slow charging rate. The ions from the cathode need to get to the anode by traveling along the edges of the long graphene sheets which causes the possibility of traffic jams and slow charging rates. Researchers have looked for a more direct route from the cathode to the anode and found that drilling small holes into the graphene sheets accomplishes this goal. The holes allow the ions to make that direct trip to the anode therefore increasing the charging time by ten times. It's like driving a car where a person can either go around town to get to the other side or go straight through it on the main road to reach the other side. Going around the outside of the town to get to the other side takes a lot more time and is a lot less efficient. Going directly straight through the town on the main road is a much faster route which is much more efficient.

This phase of research is only based on the anode end of the battery. The next step for researchers will be to move onto the cathode to take a deeper look at the efficiency and effectiveness of the battery. Researchers predict that a new enhanced battery could hit the markets in three to five years. Imagine not having to worry as much about using and charging your iPhone. What a difference a new enhanced battery would make for consumers.

iPinion

App of the Month: Double Edition

By Will Coupe '13

Hanging with Friends: November

Many people who have an iPhone or iPod have probably have played Word's with Friends, the addictive app similar to Scrabble. The creator of this game has created a new game called "Hanging with Friends" and in my opinion this application is better than their old app. This app brings a new twist to hangman. You play against your friends and other random opponents and try to guess their word. If you guess right then nothing happens and if you guess wrong you lose a balloon. You have five wrong guesses (balloons) before you lose and fall into the lava. Your goal is to stay up and make your opponent fall. You also have three lifelines that can help you at any point throughout the game. This app is definitely addictive and once you're tired of words with friends this is the one to get. This app is free in the app store, and definitely worth a look.



Spotify (The iTunes Killer): December

Spotify has been a popular source of music for people in Europe over the past few years. It just recently has come to the USA a few months ago and the craze has already begun. Many people have installed the desktop to their computer, enabling them to listen to their favorite music for *free*. There are over 15 million songs to browse from in Spotify's catalog from the newest hits to your favorite 1970's band. The Spotify premium application will allow you to get Spotify for your iPhone, iPad or Android. Spotify Premium costs 9.99\$ per month and also gets rid of advertisements. You can add songs you like to your favorites and then sync them to the Spotify app on your phone. Once they have been synced to the app you can go on offline mode and will not need service to listen to these songs. If you don't do this and do not have cell phone service the songs may come in a little spotty. I know I used to purchase songs on iTunes. I felt like this was a waste of money. Now with Spotify I can download an unlimited amount of songs. Spotify has broadened my music listening horizons and I am listening to all sorts of music from Skrillex to Jay-Z to U2. I would recommend Spotify to all people who love music, and it would make a great Christmas purchase.



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Battlefield 3 Review

By Matt Kingsbury '13

Battlefield 3 can be described as one of the biggest breakthroughs in all video games. Its use of the Frostbite 2



engine allows for stunning images of weapons causing mass destruction by blowing up buildings or ripping apart trees. The online character class system is well balanced and in general, no class excels above another except in its distinct purpose. The use of vehicles on vehicle enabled maps is very well planned out, but the downside is that the jets are well under armed until you unlock its flares and missiles. The multiplayer maps are all well

balanced and there are maps for every type of player.

The Campaign in Battlefield 3 is very good and has a clear plot once you get the understanding of it. The campaign is very action packed, addicting, and allows you play a variety of roles, including a tank driver and a jet co-pilot. The campaign although fun, seems too short and can easily be finished in a span of 2 days of on and off playing. There is a way to lengthen up your campaign by doing the co-op missions with someone online, but these missions are pretty bland and have no real clear sense of a storyline between them. Overall Battlefield 3 is a great game and appears to be mainly focused on the online portion of the game.

Food

Baked Ziti

By Matt Contino '13

Ingredients

1 pound of dried ziti pasta

Salt

Marinara sauce (see below)

1 cup of grated Parmesan

1/4 cup of grated pecorino romano

1 pound of fresh mozzarella, shaved on a grater into strings

2 lbs. of ricotta

Freshly ground black pepper

Pinch of crushed red pepper

Marinara Sauce

4-6 tablespoons olive oil--enough to cover bottom of pan

6 cloves garlic, sliced very thinly (feel free to get opinionated with the quantity here)

1 28 OZ CAN whole, peeled, canned tomatoes. Break up with hands until well mashed.

(Aim for imported Italian tomatoes – like Progresso or Scalfini.)

Teaspoon of dry oregano

1/2 teaspoon of sugar

1/2 teaspoon of salt

Heat the oil in a medium saucepan over medium-high heat.

Sauté garlic, stirring, until lightly browned—maybe 2 to 3 minutes.

Add the tomatoes and the oregano, salt and sugar.

Bring to a boil. Lower heat, put lid on and simmer for 25-30 minutes.

Directions

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F. Bring a large pot of water to a boil.

Salt generously, and boil the pasta until al dente, tender but still slightly firm.

Drain.

Mix ricotta with a little sauce so it

Layer in baking dish as follows:

FIRST LAYER: sauce, pasta, mozzarella, ricotta and then grated cheese.

SECOND LAYER: sauce, pasta, mozzarella, ricotta and then grated cheese.

THIRD LAYER: sauce, pasta, mozzarella, ricotta and then grated cheese and then a light topping of sauce.

Bake with tinfoil over the top for about 20 minutes.

Uncover and bake for another 10 minutes.