

Soundings

"Men for Others, Delivering News to Others"



October 2012 Issue

Welcome

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Dear Readers,

I hope you've had a great summer and year so far! The weather is getting colder and fall quickly approached us.

Since early September, Soundings has been working hard to improve the newspaper. Our ultimate goal is to make the newspaper more appealing to the reader and as a result, major changes have been made. For the first time in Soundings Newspaper history, we will be printing our newspaper. At the release date, we will be distributing paper copies to students as well as uploading our paper to the Fairfield Prep website. We have also created a Facebook page to keep readers up to date about papers and to give the reader the opportunity to give feedback. These changes and more to come will be implemented into the newspaper as the year progresses.

From the beginning of school to the release of this first issue, we have been brainstorming and improving the appearance and quality of the articles. With the help of our new, eager writers, new topics are being covered and more exciting articles are being written.

If you have any interest in joining Soundings, please contact Brandon Yep at p13byep@fairfieldprep.org.

Thanks and enjoy,

Soundings

Prep's Official School Newspaper

Campus Life

Extracurricular clubs at Fairfield Prep

Are you looking to get involved in extracurricular activities at Fairfield Prep? If so, you have a wide range of options to choose from. Being involved in at least one club will allow you to discover new skills. Before choosing a club to be involved in, the first question you must ask yourself is what are my interests? Whatever interests you may have, there will most likely be a club that will captivate your interests. If there is not one that captures your interest, then there is always the opportunity for you to begin a new club. To name a few of the many clubs that prep has to offer there is the debate club, the stock market club and the ski club. The debate club works on improving students communication skills and encouraging intellectual thought about current events. The debate club will also prepare you for debate competitions between schools. The stock market club was created so student could be involved in Stock Market Simulation as sponsored by the Connecticut Post newspaper. The team starts off the game with a credit of \$100,000 which is used to invest in stock markets. They pay interests and commissions as if they were trading in the real market. In the end, the team whose stocks are worth the most money is the winner. The idea behind the game is to have fun but to also learn about investing in the stock market. The ski club provides students with many opportunities to ski in the New England area and abroad elsewhere. During the winter vacation every year the club travels to a more distant resort. Some examples of these resorts are Whistler-Blackcomb in British Columbia and Jackson Hole in the western U.S. These are just a few of the clubs out of the many clubs that Fairfield Prep has to offer. What I encourage you to do is to go to the Fairfield Prep website and look into some clubs that interest you so that you can get involved in them.

By: Liam O'Reilly'14

Arts

That's the Problem

Music is in the air at Fairfield Prep as we reach our second month of school. With the release of *Mumford and Son's* new album "Babel" and the upcoming release of *Swedish House Mafia's* "Until Now" the school is buzzing with the sound of music. While famous singers and bands are out in the world making music we have our very own Prep students sharing their musical talent. Chris Conway, a senior is the lead vocalist to the band *That's the Problem*. He released his first album "Under These Frozen Skies" on September 23. There are five members in the band including Chris. Spencer Bebon, Jad Quaddourah, Will Corona, and Ryan Fedak together make an amazing alternative rock band. Their music is a combination of alternative and blues-rock, which combines to make the album interesting with a new surprise at every turn. I spoke to Chris over email and he answered a few questions about the band.

Why did your band take the name *That's the Problem*?

In 8th grade, we couldn't think of a good name for our band, so every time someone would ask our band name, we'd say, "That's the problem, we don't know yet." So after doing that for long enough, we just decided to make that the band name.

Who are the other members of the band and how did you all come together to form the band *That's the Problem*?

Spencer Bebon and Jad Qaddourah are both on electric guitar, Will Corona's on bass, and Ryan Fedak's on drums. We all met at the Fairfield School of Rock, (except Will who came in 2 years later), and Spencer asked us to play with him for his Dad's birthday party. By the time we had practiced enough together for the party, we decided we should form a band.

By: Paul Cashman'15



Why did you decide to name the album "Under These Frozen Skies"?

It was actually the name of a song originally, but the whole image the name portrays really corresponds well with the themes on the album. There are a lot of references to night, skies, stars, etc. in the album's lyrics.

Are you currently writing any songs?

I'm always writing songs. Right now I'm working on a new R&B project. It's been really exciting to do something in a different genre than what I'm used to.

Have you ever released an album before?

No, we've recorded some demos, but this is the first full album I've ever done. Albums take a lot of time and work; ours took over two years.



Arts

Sinister Movie Review

Sinister, directed by Scott Derrickson and starring Ethan Hawke and Juliet Rylance, had a lot of hype leading up to Friday night. Luckily it delivered, proving to be the scariest release yet and maybe one of the best movies of the year.

Sinister starts off incredibly fast, with the Oswald family moving into a house we learn almost right off the bat was the scene of a horrible crime not even a year before. Ellison Oswald is a true crime writer who is trying to resurrect his previous popularity by uncovering the details of what really went on in the house.

Not even ten minutes into the movie we get our first taste of *Sinister*'s unique scare tactics. Through old film reels found inside the house Ellison views several different videos of horrible murders committed in various different places. The gruesomeness of these scenes are enough to leave anyone cringing on the edge of their seat in fright. Other than these scenes the film doesn't do much more than bumping noises and pop up frights. That's where the movie fails the most. It's almost too predictable at points and if you've seen the trailers you'll know exactly what's going to happen at more than a few parts.

Sinister has its light moments too. In between the dark and frightening nighttime treks through the house are beautifully written scenes with dialogue that does just enough to get a few laughs and still keep us afraid of whatever's going to happen next. With that said Ethan Hawke does a brilliant job of playing the writer who's fallen so far he'd do anything for another hit, even move his family into a haunted house with a bunch of filmed murders in a box. It does what many horror movies fail to do. It explains why the character hasn't just gotten up and left.

Lastly the demon Baghul, who haunts Ellison throughout the movie, was put in with a brilliant back story. He was identified early enough for me not to think maybe Ellison's just gone out of his mind and explained so that I can believe that maybe someday a long time ago people actually did believe in him. Sadly, I didn't think he was fully realized until the end of the movie. By the time the credits rolled I found myself wanting to see more of him.

But in the end *Sinister* proved to be one of the best films of the year and a must see for any fan of horror or someone just looking for a good scare.

By: Stephen Demakos'15



Arts

The Dark Knight Rises Movie Review

This past summer, the most hyped movie event of the summer went down in the books. The newest Batman thriller “The Dark Knight Rises” hit theatres in late July. The most anticipated movie of the year was met with extremely high reviews. Its predecessor, “The Dark Knight” was surpassed by Christopher Nolan’s masterpiece. Christian Bale returned as Bruce Wayne, washed up billionaire who makes a final comeback as the “Caped Crusader.” The movie brings back the dark, depressing theme that The Dark Knight excelled at. Christopher Nolan created this as a movie that showed how one person can indeed create hope in an entire city. An unfamiliar villain, “Bane” is played by Tom Hardy. Hardy does an outstanding job portraying a British physical beast and genius mastermind. Although nothing could surpass the late Heath Ledger’s performance of The Joker, Tom Hardy is phenomenal in his role. The seventh highest grossing film of all time has the twists and turns of any superhero movie anybody could think of. The intensity has never been higher in a superhero flick, and in a way, The Dark Knight Rises is more than a superhero film. Easily one of my favorite movies of all time, it will soon be yours as well.



By: Brent Kaiserman'14

Politics

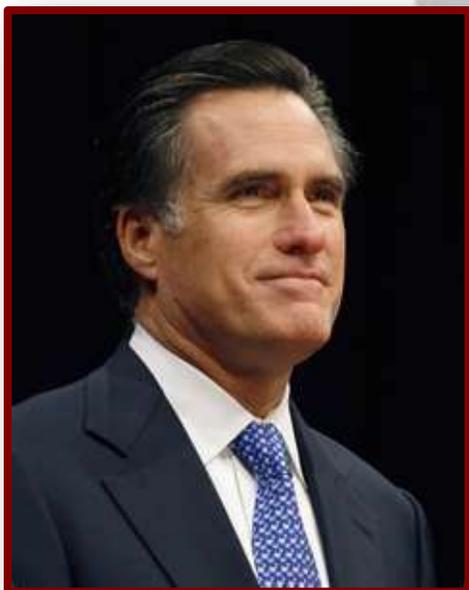
2012 Presidential Election

The 2012 election is up and coming, and many throughout the country are unsure on their voting decision concerning our leader for the next four years. Many have been pleading for Governor Mitt Romney as our new leader and others will be voting President Barack Obama. After the presidential debate on October 3rd, thoughts concerning the two candidates have been diverse and mixed. Mitt Romney has been attacked for lying and falsifying ideas. Others have concluded that Mr. Obama has not yet brought about "change" nor created wealth among our country through employment and a strong economy.

The two candidates have been creating a competitive and brutal showdown in the past months. Mitt Romney is always reciting that he will create wealth from the top down, but will this really create a sturdy middle class? Romney is currently 47th in job creation as the governor of Massachusetts, but does this compare to the slump Obama has left us in? When Obama took office in 2008, America was already trillions in the red from George Bush's faulty presidency. When a country is this far behind on spending, there is no simple way to fix the system. Romney has shown that he can be an avid representative for America. President Obama is slowly creating jobs and has proven to be a complex decision maker for our country. And yet, one candidate, whether its Obama or Romney will be leading our country's future in the years to come.

What candidate will you and your family be voting for on November 6th? We all have responsibility to play a role in our government. After all, Abraham Lincoln said in the Gettysburg Address that our government is "of the people, by the people, for the people." And we are the people.

By: Chris Forgette'14



Technology



App of the month: Bad Piggies

This month's app is the Bad Piggies App. Bad Piggies is a app based off of the Angry Bird app, where the piggies are the enemy so to speak. In this game though the piggies are on your side and you must assist them in getting to their objective, this usually involved constructing a car or something that can fly. The app is a lot of fun and has many levels which can be very challenging at times to complete. The app overall is great fun and will keep you entertained while you are passing time or chatting with friends in the cafeteria.



By: Matt Kingsbury' 13

Technology

FIFA 13 Game Review

FIFA is one of the highest selling game franchises around the world. It is a well-known fact that soccer is the most popular sport in the world, and that attributes to the worldwide sales of the game. The game is available on a range of devices from the hand held smart phone, to the computer, and then of course the gaming consoles. However, FIFA doesn't limit itself simply to game play; it also has a lot of customizable features. FIFA's web application allows you to import pictures of yourself to recreate your own image and model in a game. It also allows for the creation of fictional players, fictional teams, and tournaments. Also included in the web app is the FIFA Ultimate Team market place which allows for interaction with the FIFA game from any device.

FIFA itself has many features as well. A newly added feature would be the more realistic "First Touch Control", which allows the ball to take more wild and random hops, adding more excitement and less repetitiveness to the gaming experience. There are the traditional quick matches where you can face any of the teams from all around the globe against each other. Added to this portion of the game is the "match day" feature, which updates a players stats based on their last game's performance. There is also career mode in which you can either manager a team, or play as a player. In manager mode, your goal is to choose a team and to make them as successful as you possibly can, and to avoid getting fired.



On the online portion of FIFA, there is most notable the Pro Clubs and Pro Ranked Match game modes. Both game modes allow you to play as a created character and to develop that character's skill in cooperation with other online players. The Clubs mode allows for you to team up with friends and other skilled players. FIFA's most popular game mode is known as Ultimate Team. Ultimate Team is a game mode in which players attempt to collect the cards of more valuable players in order to develop their team to a higher skill level. There are 3 levels of players (Bronze, Silver, and Gold) which indicate a player's skill. The goal is to win matches with the starting players and then to progress into buying more talented players so that you can continue to win.

All of these game modes, features, and extras help keep FIFA fresh and fun. Because of the fact that FIFA keeps you coming back to play more, I would give it a rating of a 4/5.

By: Ray Kingsbury'13

Sports

9 Prep Oarsmen Gear Up to Row the Charles

The fall season has been a splendid one so far for the Fairfield Prep Rowing team. The Varsity Eight had been accepted at the beginning of the season to compete in the Head of the Charles. The Head of the Charles is the most prestigious fall race in the world and is going to be held the weekend of October 20th and 21st. There are 9,000 competitors from 37 States and 22 countries that come to row down the racecourse. The last time Prep has competed in the Head of The Charles was back in 2009. The Varsity Eight this year looks to finish in the top 42 out of 85 boats to gain a spot to race next year. The Crew team has been working hard trying to secure a spot in the Varsity Eight that will row down the Charles. In the end Coach Feldheim decided that the boat made up of James Defelice '13, Nick Martucci '13, Wade Dodge '14, Joe Grosso '13, Stephen Cadoux '14, Chris Meyer '13, Dan Hamar '14, Scott Ghavidel '14, and Chris Bayer '13 would be the oarsmen who represent Prep at this world renowned regatta.

By: Joe Grosso '13



Prep Football Off to Roaring Start

Whether you look at the win-loss record, the gaudy rushing numbers, or the enthusiasm of the 27 seniors, the message is clear: The Fairfield Prep Jesuits are back in a big, big way. A rushing attack headlined by Co-captain Chris Golger and a stingy defense has led Prep to a 3-1 record. They've beaten Shelton, East Haven, and Wilbur Cross and gave #1 Xavier a run for their money.

This team's goal is clear: a state championship. And they've looked the sort, holding opponents to 3 points in their wins, and scoring over 40 points in each of those wins as well. Starting quarterback Strecker Backe has a potent running game behind him, with seven different players scoring rushing touchdowns this season: Golger, senior Chris Pruden, sophomore John Moten, senior Dillon Ryan, and junior Andrew Vegliante, junior Reilly Bloom, and junior Tavon-Givens Hunter. The defense is led by seniors Will Riley, Matt Montani, Anthony Dileo, and Tim Peterson, with Montani scoring an interception for a touchdown against East Haven.

Prep has upcoming big games 10/12 against Cheshire on the road and their next home game on October 19th against Hamden at 6 PM. Go out and support the 27 seniors and all the players as their final football season goes on!

By Ethan Doerger '13



Sports

The NFL Referees are back to Work

On September 27th the National Football Association reached a deal with the referees bringing an end to the debacle that was the replacement referees. After months of negotiations, where the referees argued that they deserved a pension and a pay increase while the NFL refused to budge off its stance, they finally agreed to terms of a contract.



There was a lot of pressure leading up to this moment but it climaxed at the heel of the Green Bay Packers vs. Seattle Seahawks game on Monday night football. The call in question happened on the final play of the game where 2 players MD Jennings of the Packers and Golden Tate of the Seahawks both went up for a jump ball in the end zone. Clearly MD Jennings caught the ball but the replacement referees decided to award the possession to Golden Tate which ended the game and gave the Seahawks the win.

The entire football world is breathing a huge sigh of relief. Clearly the replacement referees were not up to the same level as the real refs and along with many others were worried that this debacle would last much longer. All I can say is thank God for the real referees.

By: Tony San Filippo'13

Sports

Prep Soccer has High Expectations

Despite losing defensive juggernauts Tim Hagan and Charles Duffy to graduation, the Prep soccer team believes themselves to be better than ever, and they look the way too. A new style of play, putting out tons of midfielders and relying on ball possession to hog all the chances on goal, seems to be working. In 9 games, the Jesuits have allowed one goal, during a 1-0 loss to Daniel Hand. They rely on juniors Stephen Tortora and Austin Sims to score goals, but interchanging midfielders on the front lines has given plenty of players the chance to get involved. Seniors David Bruton, Pat Connolly, Will Steiner, David Bigley, and Blake Roberts have all scored goals for the Jesuits this season. In the 9 games combined the Jesuits have 23 goals scored. As a result, the Jesuits are high in the state rankings, and this year look to compete not just for another SCC title, but a state title after losing to Pomperaug in the state quarterfinals last season. Led by the goalie prowess of Will Steiner and the goal scoring capabilities of the midfielders and strikers, Prep may just get there.

By: Ethan Doerger'13



Cross Country Looking for More

Losing top New England runners like Connor Rog and Patrick Corona is never easy for any cross country program. But for the Jesuits, what went unnoticed last season was the depth of the squad, and this year it's showing. Led by senior Scott Ball, juniors Christian Alvarado and Alec Hilton and sophomore Andy Thane, the Jesuits again have one of the top track teams in the state. The three helped the Jesuits win the Wilton Invitational in September, and have led Prep to an undefeated record in meets so far. A big 129-128 win against top rival Amity is the highlight of the young season so far, as many teams in the SCC are trying to topple the Jesuit reign. As a result, it's never a good idea to sleep on these runners, and they very well could achieve their goal of back-to-back state championships.

By: Ethan Doerger'13



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