

Debate Team Rolls To Eleven Tournament Wins

Sara Bove

Staff Writer

The Harrison High School Debate Team has quietly been rolling along, rolling to one of the most successful years they've ever had. As they win more and more tournaments, the team grows stronger with each passing week. Since early September, the debaters have won two national championships, a national round robin invitational, three regional tournaments, as well as four novice championships. All told, the team has won an incredible 11 tournaments this season to date. Students have placed in the top four in five other tournaments and team members have held the top speaker at two national championships.

Senior Raffi Piliero is a strong force in the national debate community. He started his debate career as a freshman on the team and has since advanced himself to become well known for his debating skills on a national scale. He currently is ranked the #1 Lincoln-Douglas debater by the National Speech and Debate Association, and has the largest number of bids to the Tournament of Champions – eight thus far – of any Lincoln-Douglas debaters in the country.

Piliero has been the top seed and top speaker in many events since early this school year, winning the Byram Hills championship after being top seed and top speaker, the Greenhill Round Robin, Greenhill National Championship, the Princeton Debate tournament, Scarsdale, and Newark. The Greenhill Round Robin was an invitational for the top

16 debaters nationwide, and Piliero won it with a 13-1 ballot and was undefeated in the Greenhill National Championship in a field of 102 Lincoln-Douglas debaters. Raffi also placed fourth overall at the Valley Round Robin and third at the Valley Tournament in Iowa, where he was the top seed. He also was the top speaker at the Bronx High School of Science's New York City Invitational and at the MinneApple Invitational in Minnesota, as well as Newark's

round robin's pods after preliminary rounds, and placed second after losing a close final round on a 2-1 decision. He also did extremely well at the Greenhill National Championship, where Zinman received his first bid to the Tournament of Champions. He has gone on to receive TOC bids at Princeton and Newark.

O'Reilly placed in the top 16 at Yale's National Championship and also reached elimination rounds at Scarsdale.

In the Byram Hills championship, junior Carl Spana reached quarterfinals and elimination rounds alongside junior Brian Siegel at Yale's National Championship. Carl Spana also has reached elimination rounds at Byram Hills, Yale, Apple Valley, Princeton, and Newark.

Brian Siegel has reached elimination rounds at Yale, Bronx, Princeton, and Newark.

Sophomores Caroline Wong and Matt Wilson reached JV elimi-

four) of both the Valley Round Robin in Iowa and the Glenbrooks Tournament in Chicago. Lapkin was invited to the Valley Sophomore Throw-down in West Des Moines, Iowa, as one of the top sophomores in the country and placed in the top four.

The Harrison freshman debaters are also advancing quickly as they learn the dynamics of debate. At the Regis First-Timers' Tournament, the novices took seven of the top ten places. Ava Zinman placed first, and Matthew Repecki, Eva Rogers, Diana Djangaracheva, Ethan Voskoff, Victoria Lendino, and Logan Wasserman all placed in the top ten. The novices have gone on to win three subsequent tournaments: Scarsdale, Stuyvesant, and Newark. Ava Zinman won Scarsdale and Stuyvesant, and Matthew Repecki and Ethan Voskoff closed out Newark. The older members of the team expressed their excitement in seeing the rapid development of these beginner debaters.

The team owes its thanks to their dedicated coach, Mr. Chetan Hertzig, who shares the same passion for debate as his students and works ardently to prepare the debaters to perform to the best of their abilities.

"The team continues to attract a large and diverse array of talent from the Harrison student body, and I look forward to seeing new members join in the coming years as our team keeps growing," Mr. Hertzig said. He is excited to see the current team's rapid progress.

The Harrison students and community congratulate the debate team for their tremendous success so far and wishes them well for the remainder of their season and the upcoming Tournament of Champions.



The great debate. This year's debate club continues to impress, winning tournament after tournament. Pictured here at a recent tournament, are: (left to right) Justin Wilson, Matt Zinman, Carl Spana, Raffi Piliero, Caroline Wong, Lauren Cole, and Mr. Chetan Hertzig. Joyful life, photographing and experiencing critical moments in history. The HHS debate team leads the nation in Lincoln-Douglas debate Tournament of Champion bids.

Courtesy of Mr. Chetan Hertzig

Tournament.

The team is also fortunate to have seniors Matt Zinman and Sammi O'Reilly, who also are advancing very well in the high school debate world. In the Byram Hills Round Robin, an invitation-only event, Zinman was runner-up, and was the top-placing debater in both of the

Junior and sophomore debaters have also had a tremendous start to the season.

Junior Lauren Cole is now TOC-qualified. She won the Ridge Tournament, reached quarterfinals at Newark, and has been in elimination rounds at Scarsdale, Apple Valley, and Princeton.

nation rounds. Caroline was in JV elimination rounds at Yale and Apple Valley.

Matt Wilson cleared through to JV elimination rounds at Yale, while Justin Wilson reached JV elimination rounds at the Glenbrooks Tournament in Chicago, and sophomore Eli Lapkin was in JV semifinals (top

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NEWS & FEATURES

Gavels Galore For MoCo On Princeton Trip

Jack Roshco

Co-Managing Editor

The Harrison Model Congress team returned home on November 20 with nine awards from the Princeton Model Congress in Washington, D.C. The trip was definitely one to remember for everyone, with a lot of newcomers who made strong impressions on both the Harrison delegation and their committee chairs.

Club Secretary Samara Lipman, in the official press release put out by the delegation, described the group as "A combination of big personalities and differing opinions made up our team this conference," and, in spite of these differences, "ultimately become a close knit group of students who supported and encouraged their teammates the entire weekend."

The newcomers definitely had to step up, with board members and experienced debaters Christian Steins and Lauren LaManna unable to attend the conference.

"A little political diversity should always be encouraged," said junior Mark Rossi, "made us a better group this trip."

Rossi, on his first trip, received an Honorable Mention for his work in the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs committee, which he described as a perfect match.

Rossi wasn't the only new delegate who found a niche in his committee; junior Keon Azar won a Gavel as outstanding delegate in the

Senate Judiciary Committee, sophomore Matthew Griff won an Honorable Mention in the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee, and junior Ethan Evans won an Honorable Mention in the House

Science and Technology Committee.

In addition to the newcomers, senior Leslie An won an Honorable Mention for her work in the Full Senate sessions.

Not to be outdone however,

multiple members of the club's board brought home hardware as well. For the second consecutive trip, senior co-President Spencer Korek won a Gavel in the House Government Reform Committee, along with fellow

co-President Jess Hart, winning an Honorable Mention in the House Education and Workforce Committee. Junior Secretary Samara Lipman won her second consecutive Gavel in the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

The final Gavel from the delegation was also a consecutive one, with Matthew Schwartz bringing home another one in the Senate Appropriations Committee. Schwartz, who has taken the club by storm since his arrival in 2015, received a broken Gavel, but a MoCo source confirmed to the Husky Herald that he will be receiving a new one in the mail after reaching out to the Executive Directors of Princeton Model Congress to request one.

In addition to the award wins, the club exemplified that every member is an extremely strong debater, with 22 out of 23 bills presented in committee sessions being passed, including two Constitutional Amendments, proposed by Spencer Korek and Jack Roshco.

The trip was definitely not all work, however, as the group used the eight hours of free time on Saturday November 19 to take advantage of the sights of Washington, including Georgetown University, the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum, the National Mall, the World War II Memorial, and the legendary Washington institutions, *Shake Shack* and *J. Crew*.



Going for the Gavels. Harrison's Model Congress Club went down to D.C. and returned with nine awards. Pictured here (Left to right) are (Bottom Row), Leslie An, Rachel Schmaier, Samara Lipman, Jess Hart, Julia Appelbaum, Sara Bove, Amelia Fisher, (Middle Row) Matt Griff, Brian Aslanian, Thomas Zink, Joey Tiburzi, Chris DiRusso, (Top Row) Ethan Evans, Spencer Korek, Alex Kaplan, Ben Stein, Matthew Schwartz, Keon Azar, Ari Heilbrunn, Jonah Gellert, Mark Rossi, Jake Coloccia, and Jack Roshco. The next conference will take place from March 30 to April 2 at the University of Pennsylvania.

Courtesy of Ms. Meghan Orban

DECA Club Has Record Wins At Regionals

Ally Platte

Proofreading Editor

DECA, the business club at Harrison High School, participated at the Regional Competition at Rockland Community College and finished with a record-breaking amount of wins. With 33 qualifications for the State competition out of the 41 students that competed, all students competed to their best abilities and succeeded academically, personally, and professionally.

In order to compete at the Regional Level, students are required to complete a written exam as well as a role-play. These scores are then added up at the conclusion of the role-play and are averaged to make a final score. Those students who qualify in the top four at the Regional competition are eligible to move on to the State competition on March 8, 9, and 10 in Rochester, NY, for the New York State DECA Conference.

All students that qualified for States placed between first and

fourth places in their individual competition.

Students that came in first place in their individual competition:

Brett Silber (Restaurant and

terview), Krizia Franciosa (Sales Demonstration), Erin Nelson (Visual Advertising), Grant Muller and Lauren Nielsen (Business Law and Ethics), Adam Eljamal and Matthew

Schnapp (Travel and Tourism).

Students that came in second place in their individual competition: Matthew Griff (Personal Financial Literacy), Ally Huhne (Retail Merchandising), Anisa Naddschar (Food Marketing), Kevin Allegretti (Apparel and Accessories Marketing), Matt Cooper (Principles of Business Management and Zach Greif (Principles of Finance).

Students that came in third place in their individual competition:

Isabella Tosto (Quick Serve Restaurant Management), Nahuel Aguirre (Business Finance), David Choi (Principles of Marketing), Reese Ptashnik (Principles of Hospitality and Tourism), Jeannine Eljamal (Principles of Business Management and Administration), and Thomas Gresham (Public Speaking).

Students that came in fourth place in their individual competition:

Thiago Meneses (Hotel and Lodging Management), Adriana Iolascon (Human Resource Management), Ally Platte (Marketing Communication), Max Scoli (Sports and Entertainment Marketing), Ben Goldman (Business Services Marketing), Jeanniviv Bansah (Principles of Hospitality and Tourism), and Ryan Homem (Decision Making).

Congratulations to all of the students that placed in the Regional competition! Cheer on DECA as they advance to the State level Conference in March!



Regional Success. Of the 41 students that competed, 33 qualified to advance to the State competition.

Courtesy of Mr. Joe Santo

Food Service Management), Spencer Danzig (Accounting Applications), Josh Cooper (Principles of Marketing), Will Marriott (Job In-

Schwartz (Buying and Merchandising), Alex and Sammy Kaplan (Sports and Entertainment Marketing), and Darin Iraj and Jarred

Administration), and Zach Greif (Principles of Finance).

Students that came in third place in their individual competition:

Peer-to-Peer Tutoring Thrives

Ari Heilbrunn and Paige Zeidel
Proofreading Editor and Staff Writer

September 2016 marked the resurrection of one of the best programs to ever touch Harrison High School students, the free, peer-to-peer tutoring service. Originally started by senior Spencer Korek in 2014, the reigns of the program have been passed along to current juniors Paige Zeidel and Ari Heilbrunn (Program Directors). The collaborative effort has made the effective team take the program from its initiation to becoming one of the premier offerings for students at HHS.

Together, in order to keep the program running smoothly and to ensure that students at the high school can get the necessary help they need, the Program Directors carefully match students who request help with tutors who have specialties in a multitude of specific subject classes.

The program is especially effective because it is founded on the idea of true "peer-tutoring." The efficacy of peer-to-peer tutoring over traditional teacher-to-student tutoring is that in the former, both parties can feel comfortable with each other, and likely will share more commonalities than that of a teacher-student tutoring. Additionally, the students are best apt to become tutors for others

because they took the same course and were in the exact same shoes as these students are in now, making it easier for tutors to create bonds with

have reached out to get help, which widened the variety of students that the service touches within the greater Harrison community.



Tutoring their own horn. The free service started last year by senior Spencer Korek, is now carried on by this article's authors. Peer-to-peer tutoring is available to everyone at the high school from student tutors specializing in a multitude of subjects.

Courtesy of Ms. Monica Miles

students and truly provide the best service possible.

The majority of the program includes upperclassmen tutoring the lowerclassmen, in classes they have already taken in past years, have excelled in, and thoroughly enjoyed. Even some middle school students

So far, the program has been a great success. With over 70 student-pairs so far this school year, many students are benefiting from the extra help. The students are learning and are improving in their classes. Additionally, the tutors are learning just much if not more than

the students through the program. For young adults to get experience adapting their methods of learning to help others and to become the teacher is teaching the student-tutors how to work collaboratively with others as well as reinforcing their own understanding of material, which will help them later down the road.

The keystone principle of this program is that the service provides benefits to both parties, which ensures, maintains, and upholds the continued success of the program.

A HHS student after receiving tutoring noted, "The tutoring program has helped me tremendously in my core classes this year so far. Once I was made aware of the program I knew that it would be in my best interest to take advantage of the opportunity and use this incredible resource to develop my understanding in my classes. Not only has the tutoring reinforced my learning, but it has also taught me great study tools and methods that I will be sure to use in the future."

In addition to students sharing positive feelings in regards to the program, the faculty is seeing great improvement among their students with grades as well. For example,

the geometry department is particularly fond of the program as it helps incoming freshmen adapt to the new atmosphere of high school, both in the math-specific content, but also through the peer-to-peer mentoring aspect, as tutors provide great insight for freshmen to address all of their needs as incoming HHS students.

The guidance department and high school administration have also voiced their high praise for the program. Ms. Marshal, a counselor at the school, said, "The HHS peer tutoring program is truly a very valuable asset to our students and community as a whole. The efficiency of the process and the quality of the support is unbelievable. Many of my students have greatly improved their grades after just a few sessions. I know and hope the program will continue to grow to new heights."

If you know anyone in need of academic support, or in need of additional insight into Harrison High School, give them a small nudge to look into this beneficial service.

No-Shave Initiative Raises Funds, Questionable Beards

Ari Heilbrunn
Proofreading Editor

In November of 2007, the Hill family from Chicago had their lives shaken like never before. Soon after being diagnosed with colon cancer, Matthew Hill, father of 8, passed away. After years of grieving, the Hill family decided to turn one of their favorite traditions into a memorial for their father.

The idea behind "No-Shave November" can be traced back years, most notably to pro sports. In late October, as the World Series winds down each year, the monstrous beards atop most of the players' faces are sometimes more interesting and appealing than the game itself. Those who participated in the event upon its creation could not shave for a month, and the idea was to see who could grow the longest, and most beautiful beard.

Many members of the Hill family had participated in the festivities before, but in 2009, they decided to use the traditional game as a fundraiser for cancer

while, the once local tradition became world famous. Since its inception, No-Shave November and other notable facial hair fundraisers in November have raised millions of dollars and has stretched to all corners of the world, including South Africa, the Czech Republic, Denmark, and Australia.

In Harrison this November, Executive Board Member Samara Lipman headed the event alongside Board President, Andie Steinberg. Before the commencement of the event, Lipman



Sideburns and more. Mr. Digiola shows off his new power look.

At the end of the month, the Executive Board Sponsored an event held after school to commemorate the month, but most of all, to shave the teachers! Many students and faculty attended, and there were lots of laughs alongside the "warm-embarrassment" from the somewhat-cleanly shaven teachers.

Some of the most notable beard designs included Vice-Principal Larry Mastrotta featuring "Mutton-Chops," and English teacher Jacob Brill



Mad Max: Kaplan Road. Mr. Kaplan heads out into the new facial hair frontier.



The Hairful Eight. A motley lineup of participants in this past year's charitable No Shave November initiative. Pictured (left to right) are Mr. Roberts, Mr. Digiola, Mr. Zappala, Mr. Mastrotta, Mr. Napolitano, Mr. Kaplan, Mr. Brill, and Mr. Martindale. Their hirsute histrionics raised more than \$450. Students and faculty had a great time.

Photos courtesy of Samara Lipman



Wolverine. Mr. Roberts shows his wilder side to accompany his super math powers.

research and awareness. After a short

said, "This month should be really great. Not only will it raise money for a great cause, but it will strengthen the camaraderie between students and faculty alike." She later added: "I can't wait to see all my teachers with comically striking designs on

their faces!" In this Lipman was referring to the fundraiser-side of the event, as alongside having participants grow their beards out, HHS community members could pay and donate to vote on designs that they wanted to be shaved onto their teachers.

showcasing his mix of "handlebars" and a "Tony Stark" goatee.

In the end however, this event was truly designed to raise money for cancer research and awareness. Through the voting and donations, over \$450 was raised. The sponsor-

most all of the teachers being berated with photos the following day, the event was truly a great success, and students and faculty alike are certainly looking forward to it in years to come.

ing Executive Board chaired the event alongside the board of Harrison's "Relay for Life" team, which allowed the event's allocated donations to be donated directly to the American Cancer Society.

Despite al-

Getting Ready for *Relay*

Samara Lipman
Staff Writer

Have you noticed an increasing abundance of the color purple in the school hallways? Well, there's a reason. The third annual *Relay For Life* of Harrison is quickly approaching, and we want you to help us paint our world purple!

Just three years ago, a group of eight high school students took action in starting a *Relay For Life* of Harrison. *Relay For Life* is the signature fundraising event of the American Cancer Society. The money raised goes towards research and various forms of support for patients and family. For one night, participants come together to walk the track, not only with the goal of raising money for the American Cancer Society, but also to stand as a support to all those in the community affected by cancer in some way. The event lasts approximately twelve hours. Participants are encouraged to stay up for as long as possible – signifying that cancer never sleeps, so nei-

ther do we.

Over the past three years, the event has grown immensely and has become something that touches each member of the community in a unique way. Last year, *Relay For Life* raised \$117,000 with over 600 participants, making it the most highly attended event at the high school.

This year, the Event Leadership Committee has announced their goal to be \$120,000. In addition to this monetary goal, the committee is promoting *Relay's* slogan, "Paint your World Purple," in order to publicize the event. But why purple? Why does *Relay* even have a color? Of course, there is a reason for everything. In the fight against cancer, there are no barriers. The event has been able to grow at such speed because

the fight against cancer is, unfortunately, a shared obstacle in a world where finding a common ground has become seemingly impossible. We are all working towards one goal: to

find a cure. The color purple denotes that, in this war, we all share one true color.

The entire high school is encouraged to think about the question: "Why do you *Relay*?"

Event Group Lead Andie Steinberg says, "I *Relay* for my Grandma, one of the strongest women I know. I *Relay* for all those who won their

battle, I *Relay* for those who are still fighting, and I *Relay* for those who cannot fight themselves."

Christian Steins, a junior on the committee, said, "I *Relay* for my grandfathers who were both diagnosed with cancer, one taken in the '90s and the other taken in the 2000s. I also *Relay* for my former babysitter, Nancy Defonce, one of the strongest women I knew, who fought a strong battle against breast cancer."

Like Andie and Christian, we all have a reason to get involved with *Relay For Life* and to join the movement.

The *Relay For Life* Kick-Off Event, originally scheduled for February 9, will now be happening on March 21, starting at 7p.m. in the Student Union. That night will be

filled with food, information about the event, people from all demographics of the community...and a lot of purple! Any and all are welcome to attend!!

The actual *Relay* event will be taking place on June 3, on the high school's track and baseball field. Interested in how to get involved? It's super easy! Just go to the *Relay For Life* of Harrison website and start your own team. Get your friends together and create a goal. All contributions go a long way, no matter the size. There are so many ways to get involved, so please reach out with any further questions to the Event Leadership Committee.

Relay For Life: Each lap gets us closer to more birthdays, each penny raised gets us closer to finding the answer, and each stroke of purple gives us a sign of hope. Don't miss out on this amazing event and opportunity!



Courtesy of Relay for Life

A Moving Experience x 2

Margaux Ducasse and Amelia Fischer
Staff Writers

Change is never easy, and often it is out of our control. Switching schools is fairly common and, for many, so are the anxious feelings which accompany the transfer. From new classes, to new hallways, to new people, relocating schools can be very intimidating, especially when the incoming student is coming from another state, or in some cases, another country.

Here are the personal stories of two recent additions to Harrison's student body.

Junior Margaux Ducasse, recently returned with her family after living in France.

"I had lived in Harrison my whole life," Margaux said. "I had all my friends here and had grown up American. When I found out I was moving to France, I was excited but devastated. I had never experienced a big change until now. I did not want to leave my friends and the life I had created behind."

Yet her family moved, and so did Margaux.

"The two years I lived in France were an unforgettable experience,"

she said. "When I found out I was moving back to Harrison though, I was even more excited, but nervous. I had heard from my friends here, how much everything had changed, and was nervous because while they all transitioned to the high school together, I would be making the change later."

It was going to be a big transition.

"To make the change a little easier into the high school, I decided to go to orientations and had several different meetings to meet the teachers," she said. "While at orientation, I also met many new people and realized the transition wouldn't be as intimidating as I thought."

Margaux is now happily back in Harrison, reunited with old friends.

"Having had these two very different experiences has prepared me for different obstacles that I could face in the future," she said. "I now have lived through two different cultures and realize how lucky I am to be able to have these experiences. I have kept in touch with my friends from France, but also have rekin-

dled many old friendships in Harrison. Moving can be hard and a difficult time, but with the right people guiding you, it can make it easier

and worth the experience."

It was a concern for Amelia Fischer, who had never been to Harrison before.

"Although I did not relocate to Harrison from another country, I did move from a different state," she said. "Prior to moving to Harrison, I lived in St. Louis, Missouri. Upon finding out that I'd be moving to a new state and a new school midway through high school, I was devastated. I too did not want to move away from all my friends and family in St. Louis."

It is a lot to go through for anyone. Amelia felt apprehensive about being "the new kid." In an attempt, to feel more at home, she joined the soccer team.

"Despite the fact that I've switched schools before, I was still apprehensive about the hardships," Amelia said. "Joining the soccer team proved a great decision. The girls on the team were so welcoming and inclusive. Overall, they eased my nervousness about the start of school. When the first day of school eventually rolled around, I wasn't as

nervous as I had expected to be."

Now that half of the school year is behind her, Amelia reflects on the change.

"Looking back, despite my devastation upon first finding out I would be switching schools, if I had the opportunity to change my predicament, I wouldn't," she said. "Moving to a new place can be intimidating; however, the outcome is worth it. I still am friends with all the people from my old school, and my transfer to Harrison has allowed me to make new friends as well. I'm someone who enjoys meeting new people and if I had not switched schools, I never would have gotten the chance to meet the people I now know. Moving to a new area also has allowed me to experience a different community and overall, broaden my horizons. With college in the near future, I recognize that learning to adapt to a new environment is essential and, to an extent, I am grateful I got the opportunity to experience the challenges inherent in moving to a new place prior to college."



Welcome to HHS. Amelia Fischer and Margaux Ducasse look happy and well-adjusted to their new environs.
Courtesy of Jane Abi-Habib

Friends of Rachel Club Works to Keep Things Positive at HHS

Olivia Naioti
Staff Writer

The Friends of Rachel Club at Harrison High School, with advisor Ms. Cathy Roger-Ganns, is an organization created in memory of Rachel Joy Scott, the first person who died in the Columbine High School shooting on April 20, 1999. Harrison High School's club is a connection to help continue Rachel's challenge.

According to Rachel's Challenge, after her death, many students that Rachel reached out to shared stories with the Scotts about the profound impact her simple acts of kindness had on their lives; even preventing one young man from taking his own life. They soon realized the transformational effect of Ra-

chel's story and started the non-profit organization that is Rachel's Challenge today.

According to Harrison Central School District, Rachel's Challenge provides a framework for students to create a positive atmosphere and culture in their own school by making students feel more connected as well as creating a connection with their communities. As Rachel Scott wrote in her final school essay, "I have this theory that if one person can go out of their way to show compassion, then it will start a chain reaction of the same. People will never know how far a little kindness can go."

Members of the Harrison High

School Friends of Rachel Club guided two donation drives this fall. The first drive was having the club collect Halloween candy from students around the school. The second drive had students and other peers donate warm socks to be given away for donation.

For the first drive, the Halloween candy was collected and sent to veterans overseas through the American Legion's program Operation Gratitude.

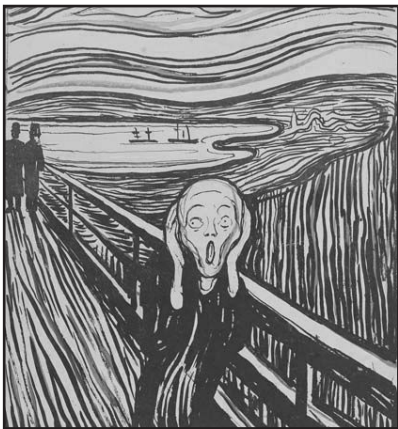
According to Operation Gratitude, more than 200,000 care packages are annually sent to Veterans, First Responders, Wounded Heroes, New Recruits, their Caregivers and

to individually named U.S. service members deployed overseas and their families waiting at home. Each package contains food, entertainment, hygiene, and man-made items, as well as personal letter for support. The goal is to help lift the spirits and meet the needs of the Veterans and their communities. Also, to help provide volunteer opportunities for people all over the country to express their appreciation for those who fight for our country.

Secondly, the Friends of Rachel Club collected cozy socks to be donated to a local homeless shelter in regards to the upcoming cold winter. The donations were collected and

sorted by the members of the club to be shipped to the charities.

According to the Co-President, junior Sara Barbieri, "I feel very appreciative and privileged to have a big part in this club. I feel so happy that we have the opportunity to do so much for other people. For the upcoming holiday, the club is trying organize and promote a donation where students in the school can bring in toys for children. We will then donate the toys to the needy and those who don't have a chance to receive gifts on the holiday. The Friends of Rachel Club is a great opportunity to help volunteer and brighten the lives of others."



Munch's The Scream Courtesy of The National Museum

10 Tips To Help Reduce Study Stress

Kendall Gaynes and Richa Mehra
Editor-in-Chief and Co-Managing Editor

Tests are inevitable. They are nothing more or less than a basic part of school. Nevertheless, testing is stressful, and is probably one of the most stressful aspects of school. So, we thought a couple of tips for studying stress-free are necessary to make your high school experience just a little better.

1. Stay Organized

Yes, it's hard. But when you are stuck in a situation with back-to-back tests, organization is necessary. Some suggestions for this include color coding your notes, using post-it's to mark important material, and creating lists/schedules to make sure you study what you're supposed to study.

2. Start Studying Early

When your teacher tells you to study throughout the unit you're learning, it often sounds unnecessary. The weeks ahead don't cry out with urgency; however, it's important to take this advice seriously. Reviewing a little bit of each subject every

day can really help as you get closer to your inevitable test. You will feel much more prepared and be happier with yourself if you start studying early instead of trying to cram a whole unit's worth of learning into one night.

3. Create a Productive Atmosphere

One of the worst things you can do when studying is get distracted. First things first, put your phone in another room so you aren't tempted to use it. Some things to help you stay focused are listening to soothing or classical music, lighting a candle, and organizing your notes by subject. A more relaxed atmosphere can lead to more productive studying.

4. Get Exercise or Take a Walk

You may know that exercise can improve your physical health, but did you know it can also stimulate your brain? It's important to get 60 minutes of exercise each day, so

you might as well kill two birds with one stone and take a study break to get some exercise or go on a long walk. You'll be able to refresh as well as clear your mind and go on a quick getaway from schoolwork.

5. Sleep

If you're planning on pulling an all-nighter the night before a test, think again. The key to efficient studying and feeling healthy is to get a lot of sleep. According to The National Sleep Foundation, teenagers need around 8-10 hours of sleep per night in order to function properly. A good night's sleep will go a long way in the study process.

6. Eat Right

Ever heard the term "you are what you eat?" Well, by eating brain-boosting foods, you can make sure you turn into a healthy, studious student. Avocados, blueberries, dark chocolate, and celery are just a few of many foods you can eat that will give you energy for an efficient study session. Maybe this healthy eating

for your next test can even turn into a new lifestyle!

7. Stay Hydrated

The amount of water in the human body ranges from 50-75%. That's a lot. Drinking water can relieve fatigue, improve mood, treat headaches/migraines, flush out toxins, and more. All of these things help with the focus and retention necessary during studying. Water is clearly pretty awesome, so make sure to stay hydrated and drink up!

8. Play With Puppies

Animal therapy is a real remedy for stress. Yes, it's amazing, I know. During midterms and finals, Stanford University actually creates a place for students to play with puppies to help relieve their stress. So, whether this is going downstairs and giving your dog some love or heading out to a pet store, this is one fun, easy, and very cute remedy to stay stress free.

9. Take a Breath

Although you may think you breathe all the time, taking concentrated breaths or working through breathing exercises is extremely effective at clearing your mind and lessening your stress levels. Whenever feeling stressed, just take a few long breaths in and out and you'll be surprised by how much better you soon feel.

10. Create a Routine

Creating a schedule and sticking to it can make life a lot easier. When you have a basic routine to slip into, you don't have to worry about what to do and when to do to it. Although this can get boring, when it comes to studying, having a schedule is often the best way to stay both focused and organized.

School and studying in general is hard. But, hopefully, with these tips we can help make the process a bit more bearable.

Trump Bans News Media From Briefings

Andrew Alper
Staff Writer

On February 24, the White House announced the banning of several news sources from White House press briefings. These news sources include *CNN*, *The New York Times*, *Politico*, *The Los Angeles Times* and *BuzzFeed*. These sources have been the most critical of the Trump administration in the past month.

According to Paul Farhi of *The Washington Post*, "The White House said the decision was not made to exclude journalists from organizations that have been the most critical of Trump in their reporting in favor of those who are more favorable."

This comes as a controversial decision as the White House has invited *Fox News*, *Breitbart News*, and *The Washington Times*, all of which have been sympathetic to Trump

and have looked on the Trump Presidency in a positive light. Trump has been known to be at war with the media, even calling them "fake news."

Out of all of the approved news sources, perhaps the most controversial is *Breitbart News*, due to its past and its recent dealings. Founded by Andrew Breitbart in 2007, the strictly far-right venue was later led by current Trump aide Steve Bannon, who's been known to have expressed racist and anti-Semitic views in the past, and most recently was led by Milo Yiannopoulos who in fact resigned after footage was revealed of him condoning paedophilia. He also has been in the news recently for being seen as a racist. When he was supposed to speak at California Berkeley, riots ensued and



Fake news or not? President Trump is now choosing which reporters can attend White House press briefings. The move is unprecedented.

Courtesy of CBS

the show had to be cancelled. *Simon & Schuster* cancelled publication of his forthcoming book.

The Associated Press and *Time Magazine* reporters refused to attend the briefing in protest of the exclusion of other news outlets.

National Press Club President

Jeffrey Ballou said that the decision was "deeply disturbing and completely unacceptable that the White House is actively running a campaign against a constitutionally enshrined free and independent

of the United States Constitution, so famously part of the Bill of Rights. The Trump Presidency has already been surrounded in controversy throughout its short tenure, and has not seen any harsh repercussions.,

Sophomore Joe Reilly believes that the Trump Presidency is a "a mess and a fiasco."

"The Trump Presidency so far has been able to basically get away with murder," he said. "Think about it. Russia talked with Trump aides during the election, and there was no punishment. The things Trump has done in his first month are mind-bogglingly stupid. What makes it even more stupid is that he hasn't been impeached in situations where, were it any other person, they would be impeached by now. So they will likely get away with this as well."

Trump Business Conflicts Worry Ethics Watchdogs

Alex Kaplan
News Editor

Since the election, there has been a common ground for confusion pertaining to the extent to which Donald Trump would still be involved with his business entities. Making the jump from real estate entrepreneur to president has led to great conflicts of interest in the "political-sphere" of the world.

Trump went on record saying that he would place his business assets into a trust and put his older sons in charge of the family business. During his presidency, the business will say "no" to foreign

business deals. Despite this, Trump will still own the business. There is much scrutiny over the ethics of this action, as top government ethics officials are denouncing this business plan. Trump's plan to retain his financial interest in his global real-estate and branding empire is being attacked by a wave of ethics "watchdogs."

"The plan the president has announced doesn't meet the standards that every president in the past four decades has met," Walter Shaub, the head of the *Office of Govern-*

ment Ethics, told reporters at a recent news conference.

Trump was advised to follow what other presidents have done by stashing his holdings in a blind trust or a bland mix of diversified mutual funds and Treasury bonds. That would avoid the conflicts that could arise between his official duties and his family's sprawling array of licensing, real estate, and property-management firms.

Trump, not surprisingly, has done the opposite. He made it clear that he won't give up his ownership

stake in the Trump Organization. Instead, he will move his business assets into a trust that his adult sons, Donald Trump Jr. and Eric Trump, and a *Trump Organization* executive will manage. Even though the President will not participate in the running of the company, the whole plan seems a bit suspect.

Further, it is unsettling to hear Trump claim, "I could actually run my business and run government at the same time,"

Trump is already setting a poor example as he neglected to inform

Government Ethics Summit Officials about his plan.

John Wonderlich, who oversees the pro-transparency *Sunlight Foundation*, said, "Trump's approach to "governance and ethics repudiates decades of accepted norms for modern democratic accountability. His presidency likely will be mired in litigation, doubt, scandal, and crisis as a result."

opinions & editorials

Reflections About Rejection

Staff Editorial

Picture this: you check your email and see that you're finding out about your dream school on Friday at 3 o'clock. The anxiety immediately sets in. You're afraid to refresh the page. You arrange your whole day around it - nerves kicking in by second period. The reality is enormous - your worst fear may actually come true, that you might get rejected.

For many students, this response may be their first true experience with rejection. For 17 years, the vast majority of kids generally get what they ask for - call it the "curse of the millennials." However, it's not until the moment that they see the word "rejected" across their computer screen that students truly experience that first real refusal.

The college process is so challenging because often it is the first time that students face something beyond their control. Once applications are submitted, most kids are relegated to the uncomfortable and powerless position of waiting for the decision. Even with the help of teachers, guidance counselors, parents, friends, and the wonders of Naviance, there is no way to accurately predict the eventual response.

Online social media and chat boards devoted to admissions discussions are flooded with students requesting to be "chanced" at an elite school by their peers, based upon extracurricular activities, SAT/ACT scores, and grades. With an increasingly qualitative and "holistic" admissions process, rejections are oftentimes perceived as a condemnation of the student as a whole rather than a statistical anomaly of falling just a few digits short of acceptance. The matter is further complicated by the flurry of early decisions -- peer pressure becomes an additional factor.

With the population of college-educated Americans in the workforce too large to be considered a minority, simply receiving a four year Bachelor's degree from any school is no longer seen as "enough"- students and parents push for coveted spots at elite schools. Pressure to be plucked from the lottery of the overly-qualified pool of competing students at schools around the country now mounts to an illogical degree. Geography is a challenge as well. So many qualified (and over-qualified) students from surrounding schools are applying to the same places in seemingly larger numbers.

The most impactful part of college rejections is how students interpret them. Many students see getting rejected as a mandate for self-reflection and can feel like they have failed themselves or that all their hard work was for nothing. Many also believe that said rejection is a direct attack towards them as a person and they feel they are not seen as "good enough" by schools.

The reality is that any rejection is not necessarily a personal matter. The process that goes into these college decisions is complicated, decisions are decided upon from a multitude of reasons, and your best strategy is to move on and accept that, for whatever reason, you are not meant to be at that particular school.

In the end, success does not come from which college you attend, but from the effort and work you put into reaching your goals. It is extremely important to keep that in mind throughout the entirety of the college process, particularly if one of these institutions for higher learning sends you a rejection along the way.



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Mission Statement

Our mission is to be the voice of all of Harrison High School by professionally representing and informing our school with an accurate and entertaining newspaper. Our newspaper strives to uphold the tenets of journalistic integrity.

Editorial Policy

The Husky Herald is published by the journalism classes at Harrison High School, along with the volunteers who attend the weekly meetings. Editorial content of *The Husky Herald* is determined by the editorial staff and reflects the opinions of the editors and staff, not necessarily that of the Harrison High School faculty and administration. The staff of *The Husky Herald* encourages students to get involved and have their opinions heard. If you have any questions, comments, or would like to respond to an article, please write to us. Letters containing the writer's name (and that are in good taste) will be printed. We reserve the right to edit such responses for grammar usage, clarity, punctuation, and length.

Electoral College Provides Needed Safeguards

Jack Roshco
Co-Managing Editor

Dear Democrats,
No. Please no. Don't be sore losers. In reality, you're probably right. The Electoral College is undoubtedly an outdated system designed to get the Southerners of the 1780's to stop whining. It absolutely whittles the election down to six or seven states that are really contested. What we need to do is acknowledge everything that's wrong with our election system, and then address why it's all completely necessary for the sake of our Republic (not democracy).

In 1787, Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and Thomas Jefferson met in New York to hash out a plan to ratify the documents that would become the United States Constitution. They proposed a bi-

cameral legislature and an Electoral College in order to ensure the sparsely populated South would not lose its say in Elections to a more densely populated North. The Electoral College was intended to grant each state proportional representation in elections in a time period where people identified with their state arguably more than their country.

What the Founding Fathers vividly saw was a way to ensure that uneducated people could be overruled if they "voted wrongly," essentially. The Electoral College was designed to be a check on a politically uneducated public. However, it also gave each political party a clear-cut map to the Presidency. Federalists and Whigs—"Hamiltonians"—would take

the North handily, Democratic-Republicans—"Jeffersonians"—would take the South, and those key central swing states, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and in some cases North Carolina, would decide the election. California has 55 electoral votes and Pennsylvania has 20. Why should a vote in Pennsylvania matter more than one in California? Because California will go for the Democrats until the end of days, but Pennsylvania voted for George Bush in 1989 and then Bill Clinton twice in '93 and '97. Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton spent half a second in California, but both were in Pennsylvania three times each between November 1-8.

Voter manipulation clearly goes back all the way to roots of this country. However, that's precisely the rea-

son it's such a challenge to get rid of. Every time the Electoral College winner does not win a majority, the losing party decides the whole system is an abomination and it needs to be scrapped for a popular vote. It's not as infrequent as you might think. Since 1876, the popular vote winner has lost 10 times. Each time the reaction has been the same: no reforms, for a reason.

The reality is the Electoral College is fundamental to this country, precisely because this is not a democracy, and the entire reason everyone is so whiny about the whole process is they are sorely misconstrued about the form of government we live under. It's a republic. We elect people to represent us, and we have never once voted on laws

themselves, as we've never actually directly elected the President of the United States.

Unless you would like to scrap Article 2.2 of the Constitution (how we elect people) and completely make this a direct democratic system, which will drastically decrease the powers of elected officials and drastically increase the power of stupid and uninformed people all over this country, you're going to want to keep this system in place.

Always remember: the Electoral College is a safeguard for stupidity, and Electors are allowed by the Constitutional systems of checks and balances to vote against the winner of their state if they see fit. Clearly, they have yet to see fit.

Learning Languages Matters

Marisol Hansen
Staff Writer

As the cultural variety in America changes and grows, more and more people are taking up new languages to broaden their horizons. In middle school and high school, students usually have the option between two or three different languages to choose from. The concept itself is brilliant, however the way it is conveyed often is not so brilliant.

A lot of times, when students take Spanish in high school, it's purely because they need the credit to graduate. There's no real passion for learning the actual language. In classrooms, students are drilled with vocabulary and dialogues from textbooks, though there is really no skill being acquired.

What Teachers Should Do:

Teachers should use elements other than the textbook to get students immersed in the language, find things to get them fired up. Music, food, films, and books in the language are a great way to start.

Instead of giving students a list of words to memorize, teachers should have them look through books and song lyrics to pick out words that they would be curious about learning. Let students take the reins for once. Silly dialogue projects don't do anything.

Teachers should spend a good amount of time on the alphabet of

the language, then encourage the students to try and read things like news articles. A good way to learn a language is to learn how to fluently read and recognize the letters and consonants before learning what each word means. It adds to the mystery and curiosity of it all.

Slowly ease students into the language, then begin to add phrases in the language into daily lessons. By the end of the year, students will most likely be able to understand.

What Schools Should Do:

Add a larger variety of languages. Not everyone wants to learn Spanish and French. There

are schools that offer American Sign Language (ASL) and Chinese as well as basic Spanish and French.

If students limit themselves to romance languages, perhaps they should consider adding Latin as an option. Latin, offered here at HHS, is the root of all romance languages.

Allow for other outlets to be used, such as guest speakers and field trips. These steps could make learning fun.

What Students Should Do:

For one, students need to take it seriously, as it might be crucial and necessary later in life. As of right now, the most beneficial language to

know is Spanish; take advantage of being able to learn it in school.

If a certain language isn't offered, take it up individually. Maybe start a club?

Try communication with pen pals. That isn't really a common thing anymore, but it really should be. The closest thing to pen pals now would be internet friends. Being friends with people who are fluent in the language is often a great way to pick it up.

In the long run, learning a language will pay off. Sitting through a class is the easy part, but retaining the knowledge is what really counts.

"Fake News" Is Real, And That's A Problem

Lauren Barbulescu
Staff Writer

All throughout this past election year and following into 2017, "fake news" has taken its toll on society. Many people have fallen victim to the fabricated tales pushed by fake news on websites. News is a report of a recent event, conveyed objectively with intelligence and information.

With this in mind, one would think that events reported on a daily basis would be true. However, many websites, some miniscule and some large, have been releasing news that is to every extent incorrect, at worst, and at best, unverified rumor. Some journalists have become fixated on being the first to release a fresh story, the first to be read, but what they don't take into consideration is the content of the article, and whether or not the report is actually true. Instead, in an effort to be the first with a "scoop" they often report what someone "said" without verification of the truth— and these unfounded rumors reported as facts can have serious repercussions on today's society.

Journalistic ethics, articles relating to current events are supposed to be supported, based on facts, and unbiased. The only type

of article that should have an opinion from the writer is in an editorial, such as this one. Many factors contribute to this. The diction that the writer uses to present an article reveals the writer's point of view. Writing about something for which there is a passion inspires feelings and a personal point-of-view. Small tweaks in language emphasize a writer's personal feelings: *New Information Released on Trump* versus *Bombshell Accusations Dropped on Trump*. These headlines express drastically different tones, and many people only read the headlines. In the first example, people think that they are reading unbiased facts in order to then form their own opinions on a topic. In the second, readers should understand that they are reading allegations—not something verified.

"Fake news" has been grabbing the attention of many innocent victims recently. Certain TV news networks have a long history of trying to report the news objectively and without opinion. However, outlets like *Fox News*, *CNN*, *MSNBC*, etc., that are dedicated to reporting the news, also have opinion shows, like Anderson Cooper, Sean Hannity, or

Rachel Maddow, with hosts promoting a certain vision or viewpoint that is subjective. Other outlets, such as *Snapchat*, *Twitter*, *Facebook*, *Buzzfeed*, and other social media apps are not fully vetted, and don't adhere to any journalistic ethical standards—yet many readers don't realize this, and think they are an outlet for reliable facts. Additionally, many people today get their news from comedy shows, like *The Daily Show*, *Last Week Tonight*, and *Full Frontal with Samantha Bee*. These are comedy shows, and represent the opinion of the stars and their writing staff, but many people actually get their news from these shows, without questioning the source.

Throughout the election year, Republicans and Democrats became pitted against one another with partisan and opposing views on topics that these "news stories" reported on Facebook. Some of them were fabricated, while others were highly opinionated—shining a spotlight on facts that supported the opinion of the writer, while ignoring ones that represented opposing viewpoints. To read and trust these outlets on facts relating to current events is danger-

ous. This goes far more beyond just a tilt to the left or right; to paint a picture without any facts as evidence is completely outrageous.

Recently, *Buzzfeed* went out of their way to publish something seemingly unsupported by facts and unsubstantiated. According to *The New York Times*, "*BuzzFeed News* became the center of a swirling debate over journalistic ethics on Tuesday after its decision to publish a 35-page document carrying explosive, but unverified, allegations about ties between the Russian government and President-elect Donald J. Trump. The document, a dossier prepared by a former British intelligence officer hired by Mr. Trump's political opponents, had been circulating among high-ranking politicians and some journalists since the fall. Intelligence officials recently presented a two-page summary of the allegations to Mr. Trump and President Obama, *CNN* reported on Tuesday."

In the wake of *Buzzfeed's* rush to print, *Facebook* has decided to take action by attempting to eradicate most, if not all, "fake news" stories from its site. This is a positive sign, given that *The New York*

Times, once the most revered and trusted newspaper in the nation, has recently been accused of being more and more polarized and opinionated.

The spread of fake election news escalated the conversation about misinformation on *Facebook*. Some blamed the social network for the election's outcome, but *Facebook* CEO Mark Zuckerberg said it was "extremely unlikely" that phony stories posted on Facebook influenced President-elect Donald Trump's win. Nearly half of Americans get their news from *Facebook*, according to the *Pew Research Center*. In contrast, just two in 10 U.S. adults get news from print newspapers.

With the proliferation of news sites that don't adhere to time honored journalistic standards, it is more important than ever for the populous to do its homework before believing something that they "read somewhere." No matter what political party you follow, that if you want to make any sort of claim on a current event or significant political figure, that you inform yourself before doing so. Make sure that you're not just reading some bogus story with no factual evidence.



HHS Senior Teacher Day



Once again, on the day before Winter Break, the annual HHS tradition of Senior Teacher Day occurred. Seniors magically transformed themselves into members of the faculty and administration, teaching classes and strolling the halls en masse. Here are just a few of the many teacher and senior teacher pairings. It was another fun and informative day!



ARTS & entertainment

The Crucible: Surprisingly Still Relevant

Miwa Goble and Anne-Marie Dillon
Staff Writer and Graphics/Design Editor

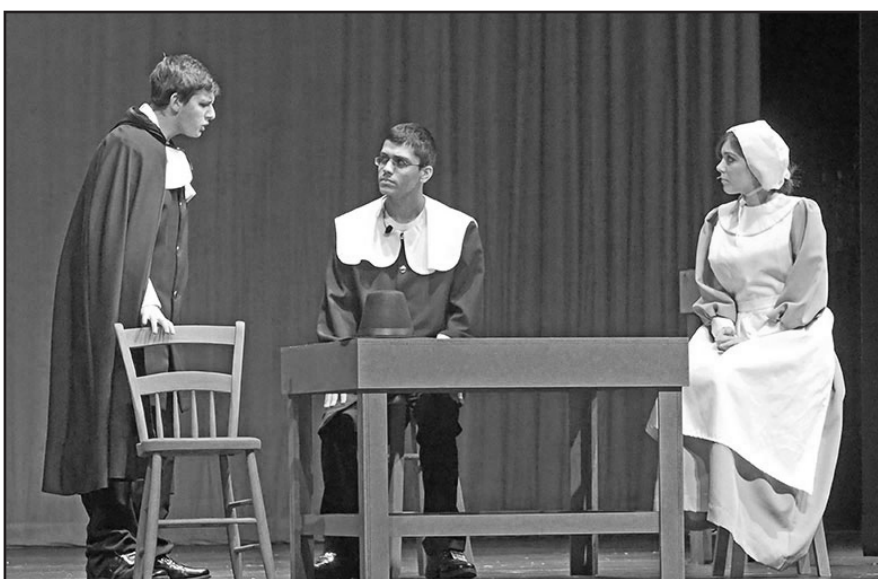
After months of hard work and rehearsal, The Harrison High School Playhouse came together on the weekend of November 18-20 to deliver a truly bewitching performance of Arthur Miller's classic play *The Crucible*.

Set during the Salem Witch Trials of 1692, the drama serves as a multi-layered allegory for the McCarthyism and Red Scare of the 1950s.

The play follows a small colonial Massachusetts town's descent into hysteria as accusations of witchcraft fall to several local women. Though its setting and time of composition appear antiquated, its core cautionary message of the dangers of excessive paranoia and surrendering to mob mentality is one that truly stands the test of time.

Senior Madeline Rawson, who plays Elizabeth Proctor, discussed the story: "This is an incredibly powerful play, not only because of the heartbreaking events that take place, but because of its application to the modern day.

The revenge of a teenage girl snowballs into mass hysteria that



Do you know your commandments? Reverend Hale (Timothy Morris) pays a visit to John Proctor (Christian Collazo) and his wife (Madeline Rawson), in order to investigate rumors heard earlier that day.

lecting a play to produce, like many people, I was being bombarded with news about the upcoming election," she said. "Alarming headlines – from both ends of the political spectrum – would pop up in my newsfeed. It was hard to avoid the contention, the arguments, and the animosity.

Two words kept popping out to me: fear and lies. *The Crucible* deals with both. It shows us, quite clearly, what can happen if we blindly trust sources of information without examining them more closely. It shows us what can happen in a society divided by unfounded

Amidst the fear and persecution of those accused and wrongly convicted of witchcraft, the true nature of the townspeople and the spirit of vengeance are revealed.

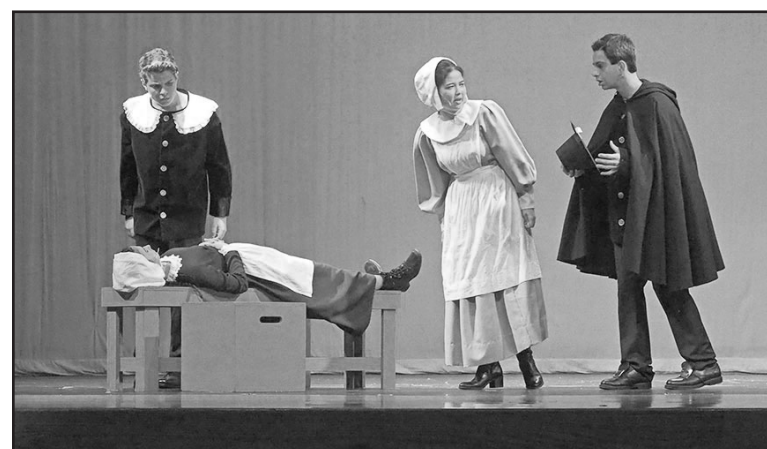
The riveting rendition presented by Harrison's many talented thespians greatly succeeded in passionately conveying those crucial themes, and the depth of the performance left audience members thinking for long after the curtain's close.

Notably exceptional presentations were given by the play's leads, junior Christian Collazo as John Proctor, senior Madeline Rawson as Elizabeth Proctor, sophomore Temia Innamorato as Abigail Williams, as well as fine turns from Spencer Barich as Reverend Samuel Parris and Timothy Morris as Reverend John Hale.



Mass hysteria. The young women of Salem all follow Abigail's lead. Pictured (left to right) are: Nicole Detlefs, Ariane Guyonnet, Penelope Zenhausern, Jessie Alfieri, Laura Nikolla, Temia Innamorato, Lily Reichenbaum, Lianne Davidoff, and Zogie Ighobor.

Photos courtesy of Ms. Monica Miles



Is Betty witched? Reverend Parris (Spencer Barich) is concerned about the trance state of his daughter Betty (Lianne Davidoff), while Mr. Putnam (Nick Erb) and his wife Ann (Miwa Goble) relate a similar tale with their own daughter.

targets everyone from town drunks to established and respected church members. The mass panic and immediate belief of the accusers rings true in today's society, because it demonstrates the effects of scapegoating people for events outside of their control. Because of this,

the play becomes scary on a whole new level. It isn't just the characters on the stage that are convicted of a crime they didn't commit; it could be anyone."

This was reiterated by director Ms. Nina Haberli, in a statement included in the playbill.

"This summer, when I was se-

accusations. It shows us what can happen if we let our fears overpower our reason."

The themes of hysteria, reputation, and self-interest unravel as Abigail Williams leads a group of young girls in falsely accusing members of the town of practicing witchcraft.

High expectations are held for future productions by the HHS Playhouse, including an upcoming production of "Servant of Two Masters" this spring.

HEY HUSKIES!

What did you do over December break?



"I went to South Carolina to visit my grandparents and went golfing. It was really fun!"
-Charlie Sheffield
Freshman



"I went to South Carolina and hung out on the beach."
-Ashley Brouillard
Sophomore



"I went to Newport, Rhode Island. We toured mansions that were decorated really nicely."
-Thomas Zink
Junior



"I went to Puerto Rico with my dad. I went snorkeling and walked into Old San Juan."
-Theresa Shanahan
Senior

Arts & Culture Column

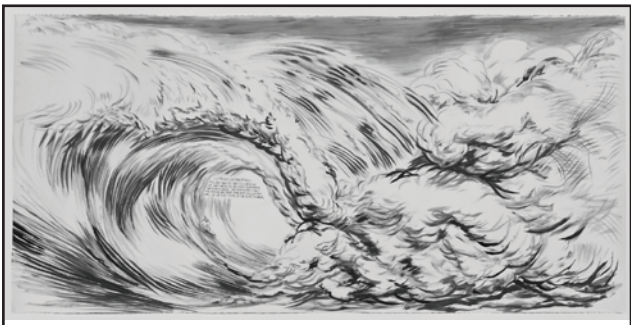
Anne-Marie Dillon
Graphics/Design Editor

A selection of some of the many accessible and enriching New York City cultural happenings for the months of March and April.

Raymond Pettibon: A Pen Of All Work
New Museum
2/08/17 - 4/09/17

Though possessing a uniquely wry examination of Americana themes and serving as a counter-cultural mainstay, the work of American artist Raymond Pettibon had yet to be surveyed in a significant way prior to the artist's expansive New Museum solo exhibition. Encompassing three floors of the Bowery area Manhattan building, remnants from every distinct epoch of Pettibon's extensive 20th century oeuvre are presented, from early zines to later commissioned graphic work for advertisements and album covers. Pettibon's muses span from Charles Manson to Gumby, utilizing quintessential American glyphs to piece together nuanced narratives critiquing Western idealism and the military-industrial complex. Pettibon offers a voice in his work that only heightens in relevance with age, proving especially telling when applied to the current socio-political climate. Admission to the New Museum is free for all under 18 with a student ID.

Artist Residency: Laboratory For Freedoms
MoMA PS1



Raymond Pettibon. This is an untitled work (Let me Say) from 2012, ink and goache on paper. For over 30 years, Pettibon has been chronicling the history, mythology, and culture of America through his drawings' signature interplay between image and text.
Courtesy of New Museum

On view January 20–April 29, 2017

Join activist-artists Hank Willis Thomas and Eric Gottesman in their evolving workshop exploring the first 100 days of Donald Trump's presidency. Not disclosing or adhering to any specific political bias, Gottesman and Willis Thomas aim to pose art as a tool for the uninhibited exploration of democracy's various caveats. In addition to inviting full participation in the workshop, remnants from previous community-forged political projects created by Willis Thomas and Gottesman are on display. All may partake in the workshop until April 29, 2017. The MoMA PS1 is located

in Long Island City in Queens and admission to the museum is free to all students with a valid ID.



For Freedoms. This billboard is on display as part of the evolving workshop at PS1. The billboard, which measures a sprawling 36 by 10.5 feet, will be officially on view there. It is the one that the For Freedoms super PAC, which was founded last year by artists Hank Willis Thomas and Eric Gottesman, put up last fall on Highway 80 outside Pearl, Mississippi, showing Donald Trump's phrase "Make America Great Again" against the backdrop of a famous photograph of the "Bloody Sunday" march led by Martin Luther King on the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama.

Finale Fiasco at the Oscars

Reese Ptashnik
Staff Writer

Lights... Camera... Action. On Sunday, February 26, the 89th edition of the Academy Awards (Oscars) took place. With much anticipation and excitement, the night proved to be a success from host Jimmy Kimmel's surprise public tour guide visit to the obvious political jokes slamming President Donald Trump. However the biggest news from the night brought a negative that impacted an otherwise successful night. It was expected that the biggest news would most likely come from who won Best Movie of the Year, with the widely popular "La La Land" as the odds-on favorite to win. The bittersweet musical stars Best Actor nominee Ryan Gosling, as well as the winner for Best Actress, Emma Stone. "La La Land" was announced as the winner; however, it was only for a brief two minutes. When presenters Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway,

who were celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of their iconic film "Bonnie & Clyde" presented it, Warren Beatty looked down at the award and hesitated, causing an unintended comical effect. Many viewers felt that he was doing it to build suspense; however, he later revealed that the card did not show who had won Best Picture, but instead was the backup card for the Best Actress award, which Emma Stone of "La La Land" had just won. This led to Faye Dunaway taking the card and announcing that "La La Land" had won, because of it being the only nominated film on the card. After a few minutes of the acceptance speech there was a scuffle as people were running across the stage, causing confusion for the audience and those on stage alike. *Forbes* reporter Kelly Phillips Erb stated, "When *La La Land* pro-

ducer Jordan Horowitz was advised of the mistake, he explained, "I'm sorry, there's a mistake. *Moonlight*, you guys won best picture." Amid the confusion, producer Marc Platt reiterated, "This is not a joke. They read the wrong thing." Jordan Horowitz was the handed the actual best movie card and showed it for the whole world to see. Then the people of "Moonlight" proceeded to come on to the stage and deliver their unexpected acceptance speech. CNN's Sandra Gonzalez reported that, "Barry Jenkins (director of "Moonlight") thanked the "La La Land" team for being "so gracious" **Sorting out the confusion.** "La La Land" producer Jordan Horowitz (left) looks on as the real card is presented to Warren Beatty (center), while host Jimmy Kimmel (right) seems to be wondering what is happening.



Courtesy of ABC News

in the moment. "I can't imagine being in their position and having to do that," he said. "We spent a lot of time together in the last six months and I can't imagine being in their position and having to do that. It's wild." He added: "I wasn't speechless because we won. I was speechless because it was so gracious for them to do that." Sophomore Charlie Rube said,, "I wasn't watching it live, but when I woke up on Monday morning it was all over social media and I thought I would watch it to see what all the fuss was about. To be completely honest, I thought it was hilarious." This incident has raised some eyebrows as to whether or not this was a publicity stunt; however, those theories have been refuted by those in charge of the envelopes, the accounting firm of Price Waterhouse Coopers.

Breakfast: How Important Is It?

Emma Berkowitz
Staff Writer

Is breakfast really as good or important as everyone says it is? According to an article by Aaron E. Carrol in *The New York Times*, "our belief in the power of breakfast is based on misinterpreted research and poor studies." The article states that there is a lot of research that shows the importance of breakfast and how it increases health, but the research is often biased and not completely true. A paper that was published in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* wrote about the correlation between skipping breakfast and how it can cause obesity. Researchers

then reviewed this paper and found a lot of flaws. Researchers found that "they improperly used causal language to describe their results." This made breakfast seem more important than it is. The language that the article used can easily make someone believe that breakfast is really important and good for you. Also, "they misleadingly cited others' results. And they also improperly used causal language in citing others' results" in an effort to make people believe that breakfast has a big effect on obesity.



Courtesy of Creattor

The same article says that a study in 2014 had people that eat breakfast, skip breakfast and people that skip breakfast, eat breakfast. The results of the article found that this "made no difference with respect to weight loss." Another trial that took place in 1992 did the same thing and found that both groups lost weight. As for metabolism, the article "Breakfast is Not The Most Important Meal" by Adam Bornstein from *Born Fitness*, says that a study was conducted where the participants ate or skipped breakfast over a period of six weeks. The study found that "there was no change in metabolic (fat loss) or cardiovascular health." This goes against the theory that breakfast helps increase your metabolism.

The same article states that another study was conducted at the *Salk Institute for Biological Studies* that tested mice (so it is not very accurate, because it wasn't done with humans, but still important to take into account). The study said that "one group of mice ate whenever they wanted, and the other could only eat for eight hours, starting in the afternoon and finishing at night." This study found that a "larger eating window was associated with more fat storage and a higher likelihood of health problems such as diabetes and liver disease." So, by eating breakfast, one possibly can be creating a larger eating window and therefore be more susceptible to these problems. Noah Malin, HHS freshman said, "In biology we learned that

food is important to provide ATP energy for us that we need to survive. So, I believe that eating breakfast is important but I don't necessarily believe that breakfast is the most important meal. I don't eat breakfast due to time in the morning and I always feel fine. But, I have been told many times and have read many articles on the importance of eating breakfast making me think harder about my choice." Although breakfast may be an important meal for people to eat because it can provide one with energy, many articles are filled with misleading information. They lead you to believe that breakfast is much more necessary for your health than it actually is.

90-Second Interviews



“90 Second Interviews” is a feature wherein we sit down with two teachers and see how many random questions they can answer in only 90 seconds. This issue we focus on administrative matters, turning to Assistant Principals Ms. Laurie Griffo and Mr. Larry Mastrotta.

Interviews coordinated by Richa Mehra and Isabel Rosenstein

Griffo



Favorite State? New York
Yankees or Mets? Mets (by marriage)
Favorite quote? “If your passion is deep enough, anything is possible.” - The Freedom Writers
Names of any pets? None
Favorite song? “Play That Song” by Train
Any siblings? Three: one brother, two sisters - all younger
Favorite movie? *Up*
Favorite beverage? Black cherry seltzer
Who is your role model? My mother
Toughest student you’ve ever dealt with (initials only)? JM
What subject did you teach? Math
Favorite vacation spot? Cape Cod
Dream job? Vice Principal :)
Favorite childhood memory? Kids day in neighborhood with family
Biggest fear? Something happening to someone I care about
Powerschool or Google Classroom? Google Classroom
Favorite Marzano Design Question? Question 2
Favorite Word in the Pledge of Allegiance? Indivisible
Favorite outfit? Anything that is bought on sale
Best meal? Meals at my mother-in-law’s house
Favorite season? Fall
Favorite rapper? Sugarhill Gang
How many scarves do you own? At least 15
Favorite POTUS? No favorite
Best High School Memory? Winning homecoming game senior year

Mastrotta



Favorite State? Connecticut
Yankees or Mets? METS !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
Favorite quote? “Don’t give up, don’t ever give up.” - Jim Valvano
Names of any pets? None
Favorite song? “Promised Land” by The Grateful Dead
Any siblings? Two older sisters and an older brother (baby of the family)
Favorite movie? *Casablanca*
Favorite beverage? Club soda with lime
Who is your role model? My father
Toughest student you’ve ever dealt with (initials only)? CC
What subject did you teach? Social Studies
Favorite vacation spot? Montauk
Dream job? Head Coach of the NY Knicks
Favorite childhood memory? Summer family gatherings
Biggest fear? Heights
Powerschool or Google Classroom? Powerschool
Favorite Marzano Design Question: Question 9
Favorite Word in the Pledge of Allegiance? Nation
Favorite outfit? T-shirt and shorts, no shoes
Best meal? Spaghetti and Meatballs
Favorite season? Summer
Favorite rapper? Run-D.M.C.
How many scarves do you own? 3
Favorite POTUS? George Washington
Best High School Memory? Hanging out in school courtyard with friends

Changes in Hip Hop and Rap

Chris Wallace
Staff Writer

Hip Hop emerged from the burning streets of the South Bronx. The mean streets filled with drugs, gangs, and violence created an art-form loved by millions all over the world. Much has changed from the Hip Hop created in the late '70s to the smaller genres in Hip Hop of the 2010s.

Hip Hop was created by manipulating R&B and Funk vinyl records by a technique called scratching and mixing. DJs would mark the breaks (part of the song that's just the beat) with crayons and keep replaying it. They would do this with two records at a time to create a distinct sound or a mix.

Local DJs would sell these mixes to people who wanted to listen to the music all the time. These tapes were called mixtapes.

MCs were the first rappers. They would rap a little rhyme, but were never the main show. In the '70s and early '80s, it was all about the DJs. The DJs would battle at block parties. Local teens would compete in dance battles at these parties instead of fighting in the street. This brought about break dancing.

Hip Hop spread like wild fire due to DJs like Grand Master Flash and Kool Herc (creator of Hip Hop).

DJs and MC groups popped up all through the five boroughs, mainly in poverty stricken neighborhoods. Due to its expansion, Hip Hop leaked

into the nightlife scene with performances and battles at night clubs all through New York City. This soon caught the eye of record labels. Hip Hop was about to go mainstream.

Hip Hop took on a new face from which it was originally created. Rappers like LL Cool J, and Kurtis Blow made party and upbeat music for the radio. There was no more grimey streets and focus on DJs. Hip Hop took over the airways and spread the new culture to the masses over the airways. Funky beats were ringing out of boom boxes everywhere to the point where police enforced volume control zones in the inner-city.

The New York style of party hip hop took a turn in the late '80s with the creation of "Reality Rap" or what is now called "Gangsta Rap." In 1988, N.W.A. went mainstream and blew up. This was not without repercussions, though. The aggressive and violent content talked about gangs, drugs, violence, and the degradation of women.

Their music came with a huge following, tons of record sales, controversy, and a split that gave birth to West Coast Rap.

When Ice Cube left N.W.A. everything went south because he wrote the majority of the lyrics on their debut album, "Straight Out Of Compton."

Soon after Cube split and cre-

ated a group called Lynch Mob, Dr. Dre left to start Death Row Records. Death Row Records featured artists such as Dr. Dre, Snoop Dogg, and Tupac. All three are considered legends. Those three artists are given the majority of the credit of making West Coast Rap popular and amping up Gangsta Rap.

While the West Coast was dominating in the early '90s, the East Coast began to revamp themselves, mostly in the New York area. New rap groups like Wu-Tang Clan, EPMD, and Bad Boy started to get the limelight as well. Many of these new artists gained publicity from MTV's program "YO! MTV RAPS." There were new rappers, with different flows and styles emerging from the cracks of rough neighborhoods.

Rap came with a price. Especially Gangsta Rap. After the deaths of Tupac and Biggie, arguably the best rappers of all time, new artists emerged to fill the void.

Artists like Slim Shady (Eminem), Jay Z, DMX, Mase, Ja Rule and The Lox quickly shot up the

charts. Coming with a fresh new style and marketing blew up their stage personalities. These new rappers were featured on local DJ's mixtapes, put out clothing lines, made movies and even video games.

Rappers started creating groups while doing their solo acts:- Jay Z had Rocafella, Ja Rule had



When Rap Was Real. Tupac Shakur was one of the original legends of Death Row Records, responsible for the popularity of West Coast Rap.

Courtesy of When Rap Was Real

Murda Ink. These new rappers and groups were very competitive which lead to *beef*. *Beef* is a heated conflict between people or parties. *Beef* sells.

This lead to 50 Cent becoming the face of Gangsta Rap for a good

number of years in the early '00s. He created G-Unit, which signed multiple successful acts, had a huge clothing line, including sneakers deals with Reebok, movies, and his own video game. Rap was turning into a mass entertainment and culture business. All the while something was brewing down South.

The South had some notoriety from acts like the Hot Boyz, Master P, and UGK. That didn't compare to the explosion of Southern Rap Artists in the mid to late '00s. Artists like T.I., Young Jeezy, and Lil Wayne were how the South dominated the rap industry and the airwaves with their unique beats, styles, and dances. Next to hit was the Midwest.

Chicago is known for its gang violence. But now it has become known for the new sub-genre Drill, which offers lots of drums, bass, and aggressive content. This became popular in the early 2010s with the emergence of Chief Keef. He opened the flood gates for many gang members turned entertainers from Chicago.

The past couple of years has been filled with a lot of different sounds, from horrible rappers with good beats to political rappers that are overshadowed by Gangsta Rap. Everyone wants to know: what's next for Hip Hop?

The Weeknd Drops Studio Album

Sam Zucker
Staff Writer

Abel Tesfaye, also known as The Weeknd, dropped his third studio album, "Starboy", toward the end of 2016. This is his most recent album since "Beauty Behind the Madness" which released in August of 2015. That album went double platinum and Abel has only been increasing in popularity since then. According to the *International Federation of the Phonographic Industry*, "Beauty Behind the Madness" has sold 3,682,000 copies worldwide.

Prior to the full album release of *Starboy*, Abel released the single "Starboy" which is the lead song on the album. Along with the release of the single, The Weeknd posted the music video for the song on YouTube. As of November 30, it had reached 287 million views. Ac-

cording to *Billboard*, it was as high as number two on the Billboard Hot 100. He also released a single and music video for "False Alarm." As of November 30, it had 49 million views.

The song "Starboy" contains vocals from Abel and is heavily produced by the French electronic duo "Daft Punk." The song itself has a lot of meaning to Abel's new personality as an artist in the music industry. According to *Rap Genius*, "Starboy" is The Weeknd's realization of his mega-stardom. Transforming from mysterious Canadian act to Billboard mainstay. 'Starboy'



Third time's the charm. The Weeknd's third studio album has propelled him into the popular music mainstream.

Courtesy of Republic Records

featuring Daft Punk was ranked third on the Hot 100. His next closest song comes at rank 39, which is "Party Monster." Not much further from that

is "I Feel it Coming" yet again featuring Daft Punk, ranked at 48.

Abel should be extremely proud of this album. Working with the French duo, Daft Punk, goes to show how much of a signature artist Abel is. Daft Punk have worked with likes of artists such as Pharrell Williams and Kanye West. It is completely accurate to place The Weeknd in the same category.

The album "Starboy" is currently swiftly rising in the album sales chart and looks to reach the number one position.

The Weeknd has also dropped hints at releasing a collaboration album with fellow Toronto native and rapper Drake.

In an interview with Zane Lowe, Abel spoke about a possible collabo-

ration album with Drake.

"Maybe," he said. "Why not? It's cool to have both monsters work together as opposed to one monster and one little guy coming in. It's dope, like Kanye and Jay Z. (Watch the Throne)"

Drake has been destroying the competition with his release of "Views" in late April last year. He also had "More Life" arriving sometime in December. Drake has called it a "playlist," rather than an album.

The two artists have very similar styles in the manner that they tend to discuss their struggles with love in an R&B style so this could work out quite well if it were to happen.

If the collaboration were to happen, it would likely not be released until late 2017 or early 2018.

Dear Evan Hansen Is The Broadway Show To See

Natalia Galeano
Staff Writer

Broadway's world was turned upside down when *Dear Evan Hansen* came to light. This musical recently just opened and has created an uproar in the Broadway community. Celebrities after celebrities keep coming back to see the most anticipated musical of the season.

Starring Ben Platt, Jennifer Laura Thompson, Rachel Bay Jones, John Dossett, Mike Faist, Laura Dreyfuss, Kristolyn Lloyd and Will Roland, *Dear Evan Hansen* is a musical about Connor's parents,

Cynthia and Larry (Jennifer Laura Thompson and John Dossett), who find a note apparently from Connor (Mike Faist) to Evan Hansen (Ben Platt), both seniors at the same high school, after Connor passes away.

The note actually was written by Evan himself in an exercise suggested by his therapist to help Evan overcome his socially awkward personality and anxiety.

Evan's mother Heidi (Rachel Bay Jones) works long hours as a nurse and also attends school, and

his father left the family years ago. Although the two young men were not friends, Evan decides to attempt to help Connor's parents in their grief by pretending to have been a close friend of his and writing fake emails to reinforce his claim.

Zoe (Laura Dreyfuss), Connor's sister, and Evan's "dream girl," is grateful to Evan for helping her parents.

The show has already impacted many people's lives during the short amount of time it has been on

Broadway. Many people have found a sort of comfort in it because of its familiarity to real people problems like anxiety.

"I love the show, I've seen it five times and there hasn't been a time where I haven't cried," said Laura J Brown, enthusiastic theatre fan. "The show is so amazing, with Jennifer Laura Thompson, who is one of my favorite Broadway actresses. Seeing her play that emotional part of a mother who is grieving and dealing with her son's death just always

brings me to tears. There is nothing like this show, so do yourself a favor and go watch it."

Whether you want to go see a random show while you're in the city or if you're a big theatre fan and have been wanting to go see this show, it is totally worth every penny.

The show will make you cry, laugh and smile like you haven't before. If you have the option to see this show, please do, as it is something you do not want to miss.

SPORTS

Girls' Varsity Hoops

Sarina Iraj
Co-Sports Editor

The Harrison Girls' Varsity Basketball Team is off to a strong start of this winter season with a 3-2 record. Coach Louis Kail returns as the head coach for his sixth season. The girls are also fortunate to have Jay Ciraco move up from the JV Girls' Basketball Team as the new assistant varsity coach this year.

The Team captains Avery LaBarbera, Kendall Lefkowitz and Megan Clow hope that this team will be successful.

The Huskies Girls' Basketball Team graduated three starters last year, but the players are not concerned since they know they have great talent that will step up. The season opened on the road at Carmel with the Huskies winning 58-41.

This was followed by a close loss to New Rochelle 55-53, and wins against Saunders (56-23) and Brewster (47-37).

The winning streak ended with a tough face off with Nyack. The Huskies were up 21-19 at halftime and continued to play tough in a tense game. With 10 seconds left in the game, the Huskies were up 44-43, only to lose by one point when Nyack scored a basket with six seconds left. The Huskies could not regain possession after an inbound

play when the ball was turned over.

The biggest highlight of the season thus far has been the annual Winter Classic Tournament at Harrison High School, where the team placed third overall. This tournament was held in honor of the late Mr. Chiarella. The Husky Girls faced Hendrick Hudson the first night of the tournament and trailed 29-13 at halftime, despite a tough defensive approach and quick steals.

Harrison picked up momentum in the fourth quarter when junior guard Avery LaBarbera scored 16 of her 25 points for this game. But it was too late for Harrison to come back and the team ultimately lost, 71-59.

The consolation

game was played on Sunday against Carmel and the team pulled together, up 38-13 at the half and winning by a final score of 60-33.

Avery LaBarbera was nominated as All-Tournament team player for Harrison at the end of this tournament.

As the girls' season advances, they will continue to fight in hope of winning the league this year.

League games begin right after Winter Break. This year with the addition of Ardsley to the league, there is no doubt as to the toughness of the competition in every league game played.

On February 8-10, both the Harrison Girls and Boys Varsity Basketball teams participated in the annual Dapper McDonald Classic.

This tournament hosts girls and boys teams from Woodlands, Harrison, Port Chester, and Fox Lane in an effort to raise awareness and money

for ALS.

In this year's tournament, both the girls and boys opened up playing away at Woodlands.

Avery LaBarbera lead the way for the girls with 28 points in the 71-58 point victory. The boys played a tough game, losing 68-65.

In the championship game the girls played a tough Fox Lane team who came to Harrison in the hopes of defending their championship title.

The Lady Huskies started slow,, trailing 31-16 at the half. In a second half push, the Huskies were able to cut the lead to just 6 points in the fourth quarter.

However this push came a little too late as the Foxes were able to hold on to win the championship 65-55.

For the boys, Woodlands was able to defeat Fox Lane in a 49-44 game to win the title. In an exciting consolation game, the Husky boys were able to fend off Port Chester in a 63-59 overtime victory.

Seniors Kendall Lefkowitz for the girls and Matt McLaughlin for the boys took home All-Tournament team selections. Lefkowitz had 20 points in both games.



Driving hard. Junior Avery LaBarbera shows what an All-Tournament player is all about, driving past the competition en route to another high-scoring game.

Courtesy of Avery LaBarbera

Seasons Change, Huskies Keep Running

Lauren Nielsen
Staff Writer

It was another successful season for the boys and girls Harrison Varsity Cross Country Teams. A mix of new freshmen and seasoned upperclassmen, the team is incredibly diverse in talent, age, and experience. The running Huskies did not score as well as they would have liked, but it was a fun and productive season nonetheless.

Senior Ellery Rajagopal commented, "Our League really improved and some of our returning seniors had rough patches."

Ellery was injured for half of the racing season due to a medical incident in the early stages of the season.

He added, "We had some really

enthusiastic freshmen and more than half our team was newcomers, so I think it was a fresh start in the end!"

The four senior captains (Romy Pein, Nadia Gonzalez, Ellery Rajagopal, and Peter Burkhardt) have been participating in cross country since middle school and did a fantastic job leading the team this year. Burkhardt feels as if he made a genuine impact on the younger runners this year, and is "glad to have been given the opportunity to lead drills and offer advice to [his] teammates."



Showing off the hardware. The Huskies relax after a strong performance at the Suffern Invitational.

Photos courtesy of Coach Dom Zanot



League Champs. The Boys took first place, and the Girls took second at Leagues.

Many of the seniors felt that the 2016 cross country season was one of their favorites thus far; the team atmosphere was welcoming and positive despite the scoring roadblocks.

The runners received continuous support

and guidance from their coaches Charlie Bennett and Tim Poole. The coaches are excited about the team's results, and look forward to success and increased participation in the seasons to come.

In the interim, many cross country runners are gearing up to run winter track. The transition from the fall to winter sports seasons brings along new excitement and challenges. Indoor track coaches Dominic Zanot, Charlie Bennett, and Michael Pellet are excited for another successful and productive season of

running, jumping, and throwing.

Both the girls and boys track teams are eager to capture the League Championship title for the seventh consecutive year. Each year, the track and field program undergoes change as contributing seniors graduate and new freshmen arrive, bringing with them new potential and skills. This year's boys and girls teams are shaping up to be promising.

Training for winter track can be especially challenging with school breaks and inclement weather. In

addition, there are only two indoor tracks in close proximity to Harrison: Rockland Community College and the Armory in Washington Heights, Manhattan. For this reason, the track and field program could benefit from increasing school and community support.

Boys' Varsity Basketball Team Caps Turnaround With Playoff Berth

Luke McCarthy and Sammy Kaplan
Staff Writer and Co-Sports Editor

Boys' Basketball hit the court for the 2016-2017 season searching for the first championship in school history.

"There's something missing on the wall of the gym," guard, Alex Siapanides said. "This is the year we change that, this is the year we raise the program's first banner."

This year's team has some big shoes to fill, as the Huskies graduated nine seniors from last year's group that made it all the way to the section quarterfinals.

"The seniors from last year really paved the way for the guys coming up the ranks," forward Austin Evans said. "They have instilled a winning tradition in this program that we will carry on for years to come."

Like any team with inexperience, the boys have encountered growing pains, opening the season 1-5 through the first six games.

With only three returning players, a lot of new faces are getting their first taste of the Varsity level, and are logging key minutes for the Huskies.

"We have played some tough, experienced teams," Huskies guard

Luke McCarthy said. "A lot of the opponents we are seeing are filled with talented, experienced players who have adapted to and dominate the speed of varsity basketball. It's a big difference from JV and our Junior-filled team has to learn to play at this speed to allow ourselves to compete

and win."

It's not always about basketball. Over the weekend of December 16, the Huskies hosted the Fifth Annual Harrison Basketball Holiday Classic Tournament. This year's event was more than just a regular tournament.

Head coach Gary Chiarella,

and the whole Harrison community, endured a tragic loss this past summer as coach Chiarella's father, Corrado Chiarella, passed away. Better known as Mr. C, Corrado was a lifelong resident of Harrison and was a Harrison basketball fanatic. He was a strong presence at every game

and always brought a positive attitude.

Harrison basketball was proud to honor Mr. C on this special day and start a scholarship fund in his name that will be awarded to both a girl and a boy at the completion of each holiday tournament for years to

come.

As a result, each game carried great importance and emotion for the coaches, players, and fans. It reminded everyone in attendance why the game of basketball is so meaningful.

Although the boys did not succeed in winning the championship, they played hard to honor and demonstrate great remembrance for Mr. C.

"This event showed how close the Harrison basketball family is," said Huskies guard Tyler Menniti. "It was truly a special weekend, one that will stick with us throughout the season."

Day in and day out, the Huskies work toward improving as a team and competing. The boys have a lot to build off of going forward and are excited to turn things around in the near future.

"For the next couple of months, we're more than a team, we're a family," Harrison high school guard Christian Murphy added.



Holiday Classic Remembers Mr. C. The Chiarella family poses at the Fifth Annual Holiday Classic at Harrison High School on December 18. This year's tournament was held in honor of Coach Chiarella's father, Mr. C.

Photo courtesy of Harrison Athletics

Sports Editorial

NFL Pro Bowl Must Go

Jack Roshco

Co-Managing Editor

If you watched the 2017 Pro Bowl, the NFL owes you a huge apology. The only people who were more upset by the Pro Bowl than the fans were the players, who didn't want to be there at all. We have fans pissed off with the product on the field, and players who don't want to play. So, what's the solution?

First thing's first: the Pro Bowl is supposed to be this kind of precursor to the Super Bowl, so it would only be logical to move the event to the

city where the Super Bowl is being played. The NFL is all about PR and money, bad as they are at the former. So wouldn't it make more sense to centralize your product in one location? No one's going to Orlando just for the Pro Bowl, but plenty of people could spend an extra day in Houston to see the NFL's biggest stars.

The bigger problem is what those stars are actually putting on the field. The current rules prevent the teams from rushing the pass-

er with more than four players, you basically can't hit anyone with any real force, and the offensive and defensive linemen don't even bother trying. The NFL treats their players like complete and utter garbage, so you know they won't incentivize the game with any real money. As it stands now, every player gets money for playing the game, with the winners getting \$30,000 more. The reality is that kind of money is chump change to players like these guys.

An extra \$30,000 isn't incentivizing a thing for them.

The NFL should really just get rid of the game altogether. Every player values the honor of being a Pro-Bowler; they just don't want to actually play the game as their "reward" for being so great. So get rid of the game, and just have a big fancy show (think in the mold of the College Football Awards Show) in a conference room at the Super Bowl stadium.

These players just want the prestige. If you aren't preparing for the Super Bowl, you don't really want to be playing football. So just fly them all in to Minneapolis next year, give them fancy food, get them a little drunk, roll the cameras, and tell them how great they are at what they do. People will watch that like they watch the Oscars. But no one is watching the Pro Bowl like they watch any other All-Star Game.

Sports Editorial

An Open Letter to College Football Fans

Jack Roshco

Co-Managing Editor

Dear College Football Fans,

Much like the NFL's Patriots, unless you're an Alabama fan, you probably hate Alabama.

Quite frankly, it's out of jealousy and you know it. They have no history of cheating or lying; they don't carry themselves with that smug sense of elitism or superiority that has drawn the ire of non-Pats' fans. Their head coach is, by all accounts, a nice guy who cares about his players like a father, and he just so happens to be the best who's ever put on a headset.

Hating Alabama is a perfectly rational thing; they've probably wiped the floor with your school at one time

or another... They seem to be doing it to just about everyone lately. On the other hand, the issue college football has run into is why we hate them: because we want to be them. Therein lies the problem.

Alabama should not be the goal. Winning four titles in eight seasons is incredible, and my god please never let it happen again. The brilliance of college football is in its parity.

In 2016 alone, PJ Fleck took a Western Michigan squad that was on no one's radar to a perfect 13-0 regular season, and almost pulled off a miraculous upset of Big Ten blue-blood Wisconsin in the Cotton Bowl, and unheard-of sophomore quarterback Lamar Jackson led Lou-

isville out of their expected place in the bowels of the ACC and hurdled through everybody en route to being the youngest player ever to win the Heisman Trophy.

Those two things sound like



Courtesy of University of Alabama

they have a tinge of spontaneity about them, markedly inconsistent from the forgone conclusion of Nick Saban's team playing in three straight College Football Playoffs.

The point is this: stop hating Alabama because you aren't them. Stop wanting to become them. The goal isn't to win the title every year; it takes the fun out of watching the game. Everyone should still want to beat Alabama when they play, but it should be different teams playing for a title every year, as opposed to the other 120+ teams in FBS trying to play "King of the Court" against the Tide.

Now it's Clemson's turn. They lose Deshaun Watson, so it's prob-

ably a moot point, but don't "hate Clemson because you ain't Clemson" either. Just hope your team beats them. They probably won't repeat, and we should really hope they don't. Alabama and Clemson have slowly become everything we hate about the Warriors and Cavaliers: they're predetermined to be contenders. Remember 2014 when preseason No.5 USC didn't make a bowl game? That's what makes college football so great: we never know who's going to surprise us next. So next year, let's all hope and dream we see a new four teams in the playoff... and then watch as Alabama smashes our hopes and dreams.

Mayors Cup Helps Benefit Disabled Wishing to Compete

Sammy Kaplan
Co-Sports Editor

The Rye Town Harrison Titans partnered with the New York Wheelchair Sports Federation for the inaugural Mayors Cup.

The Wheelchair Sports Federation is a non-profit organization that provides opportunities for people with physical disabilities to compete in adaptive sports recreationally and competitively. They offer a wide array of adaptive sports programs to people of all ages, according to wheelchairsportsfederation.org.

The event took place on January 21 at Playland Ice Casino and featured three games including a Modified game, a Varsity game, and a Sled Hockey game.

The Modified and Varsity games were between Rye Town Harrison and White Plains, and the Sled Hockey game showcased the NY Rangers Sled Hockey team against the CT Wolfpack.

The Varsity team had faced White Plains prior, defeating the Tigers 7-2 in their first meeting at the Coach Matthews Thanksgiving Tournament, as reported at RTHTitans.com.

"We have built a strong rivalry with White Plains over the past couple years and they were perfect for this type of event," Titans' goalie

Sam Smith said. "A lot of us play club hockey with guys on their (White

Plains) team. It was a fun night and a great way to promote a fantastic

group of organizations." The Titans capped off a truly

special night by capturing the inaugural Mayors Cup with a 7-5 victory.

Freshman Anthony Cipollone led the way with his first varsity hat trick, according to *LoHud Hockey*.

It was about more than the hockey on this day. Playland Ice Casino graciously offered to donate all ticket sales to the Wheelchair Sports Federation and The New York Rangers Sled Hockey team. The event also featured a chuck-a-puck fundraiser, a silent auction, and a very special guest appearance from New York Rangers legend Adam Graves. All proceeds from these fundraisers benefited the great cause.

"This was a great cause for the whole program to get involved in," Titans' defenseman Mark Hlushko said. "It really shows why hockey is a game for everyone."

The Titans plan to continue this tradition and partner with the Wheelchair Sports Federation by making the Mayor's Cup an annual event.



Get ready to play for the Mayors Cup. Harrison Mayor Ron Belmont drops the puck during the ceremonial face off at the inaugural Mayors Cup, at Playland Ice Casino on January 21, 2017. (From left to right, James Garnet, Ron Belmont, Jackson Schultz.)

Courtesy of Tommy McAdam

Harrison Squash Team Advances

Sarina Iraj
Co-Sports Editor

The Harrison Squash Team was founded three years ago as part of the FairWest Public School League for middle school and high school-aged players attending public schools in both Fairfield and Westchester Counties. It has now expanded to NYC and New Haven as well.

The goal of the league with the help of U.S. Squash is to expand the sport in each region of the country. There are currently three divisions in the girls and boys mixed leagues. The Harrison team is placed in the A division and home matches are played at Lifetime Athletics and Chelsea Piers.

As of last year a mixed boys and girls middle school team also was formed and this team competes in local jamborees during the winter season and acts as a feeder team to the high school.

Seniors and founding players, Elisa Pettinato and Grant Muller, felt it was finally time for the formation of a team where other students could come together to compete against neighboring towns and pursue their passion for squash.

"I really enjoyed competing individually in squash; however, I always felt as if something was missing in comparison to the other sports I've played in the past," said senior Elisa Pettinato. "It's difficult to travel far away with only your parent and maybe a coach. I knew that the missing component was a team, which prompted me to create the Harrison Squash Team. Now I get to travel near and far with other kids my age

and some of my closest friends. There's nothing better than having a teammate to cheer you on."

Although, the team is not a recognized Varsity Sport, it has attracted many talented players that are willing to put their own time and energy into

making this team a success.

The team is lead by captains Elisa Pettinato and Grant Muller and comprised of returning freshmen Jessica Saviano and Sydney Saviano, sophomore Luke Saviano, juniors Sarina Iraj and Russell Scharf

of Rye Brook, and new senior player Lauren Nielsen.

Last year, this competitive team made it to tenth place in the High School Nationals after a season record of 8-2. However, this year the team lost their strongest play-

er, Tucker Martino, just prior to the season's start and resultingly had a tough start to the season, facing one of the most challenging opponents, Bronxville.

Despite a team loss, players Sydney Saviano and Elisa Pettinato fought hard and went to four long games.

Senior Grant Muller states the key to victory is teamwork.

"The team only succeeds when we work together as a cohesive whole," he said. "We must cheer for each other, coach each other, and be supportive of one another."

This philosophy has helped this team on and off the courts. These players have even organized a service around squash club where they engage in community service activities such as collecting racquets and volunteering at the organization City Squash to tutor and play squash with underserved New York City children during the school year and summer.

In addition, Harrison has representation on the the FairWest Executive Board and is currently developing their new website which will be published shortly.

The team has practiced hard and hopes to progress during the season and make another statement at Nationals that Harrison Squash is a team to be reckoned with.



Meet Harrison's Squash Team. Pictured here are the members of the Harrison Squash Team, left to right: Luke Saviano, Russell Scharf, Lauren Nielsen, Elisa Pettinato, Sarina Iraj, Grant Muller, Jessica Saviano, and Sydney Saviano. They hope to expand awareness of the sport.

Courtesy of Ms. Gena Pettinato