

# Husky Herald

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## 'Frankenstorm' Hits Hard

Ariel Coonin

News Editor

On October 28, Hurricane Sandy blew its way up the East Coast, destroying everything in its path.

Initially unafraid and doubtful of the storm's severity, people everywhere had no idea that Hurricane Sandy would become one of the worst storms to hit the East Coast in over 100 years. As it traveled north, the storm gained strength, leaving behind a trail of destruction and despair.

While the town of Harrison was left in relatively good shape

following Hurricane Sandy, thousands experienced widespread power outages and fallen trees, leaving students in the dark and out of school for a full week. Students became so restless in their dark, freezing houses that they wished they were in school!

"The week off was so boring," says sophomore Zoe Mittman. "There was nothing else to do because the power was out and my phone and computer ran out of battery."

The majority of students and several faculty members at Harrison High School were without power for part of the storm, and some suffered over a week of darkness. People throughout the tri-state area had a difficult time getting to and from work, as fallen trees shut down public roads, and the New York City Public Transit system shut down due to flooding and power outages. In New Jersey, the Governor issued a ration on gas, ad-



Courtesy of Amy Carton

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Clarissa Karantzis

Staff Writer

It seems Mother Nature is constantly playing Halloween tricks. Last year, Halloween was postponed due to the unexpected snowstorm that wreaked havoc, leaving millions without electricity. In places like Connecticut, hard hit by that storm, kids resorted to "trunk-or-treating," whereby they did their trick-or-treating out of trunks of cars in parking lots. This year, instead of a blizzard creating a white Halloween, Hurricane Sandy (also known as "Frankenstorm") created an ominous, dark and stormy "Frankenween"!

Students were ecstatic when receiving the call on Sunday saying that school would be closed the next day. However, while they were basking in excitement, people still continued their preparations for this monster storm. The warnings started early in the week, with forecasters cautioning to be prepared for anything. With elements of both a hurricane and winter storm, many described it as the most cata-

strophic event of our lifetimes. Sandy's storm surge damage



Courtesy of Julia McManus

was given 5.7 out of 6, making it even greater than the Category 5 Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Meteorologists warned about the danger in flooding, power outages, and possibly even snowstorms. Airports cancelled over 14,000 flights, preventing people from leaving the area.

"We tried to get my cousins out on Sunday because of the storm, but all flights were

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# NEWS & FEATURES

## MoCo Takes Washington

Ben Adler

Staff Writer

Last month the Harrison High School Model Congress team headed to Washington, D.C., to take part in the annual Princeton Model Congress Conference. Over four days, 24 students from Harrison High School assumed the roles of United States senators, debating bills that covered controversial issues of current politics. Divided into different committees specializing in areas such as foreign relations, judiciary, and banking housing and urban affairs, each delegate spent the months preceding the conference specializing in their respective area, learning important facts as well as speaking techniques.

Senior Rajan Mehra wrote

was even more impressed by the caliber of debate in my committee."

On Friday, the team had the rare opportunity to visit the White House.

"I really enjoyed seeing the students' genuine awe when visiting the White House," said club advisor Ms. Orban. "I felt the exact same way. It was a very special experience."

In addition to participating in smaller committee sessions, delegates took part in full session, a larger group of about 100 people that met to debate the most controversial bills from committee sessions.

"Full session is always an intimidating experience," said



The White House. agrees with you."

*Courtesy of Lauren Jacobowitz*

Outside of committee and full sessions, delegates enjoyed a long Saturday break by taking a trip to Georgetown. There, students had an opportunity to get away from the tiring sessions and relax with their friends.

Junior Hunter Sable enjoyed the day off.

"The trip to Georgetown is a great way to bond as a team," he said. "We always have fun going into all the cool shops and eating at some delicious restaurants."

On Sunday, the conference ended with a closing ceremony where awards were distributed to the best delegates in both committee and full sessions. This year, seven Harrison delegates received honorable mentions (Harrison Steins, Daniel Maldonado, Sam Colangelo, Ben Adler, Aaron Kaplan, Liliane Lindsay, and Tom Lovinger), and three won gavels for best delegate in committee session

(Rajan Mehra, Hunter Sable, and Tom Lovinger).

Freshman Catie DiRe had her Act to Abolish Drone Attacks passed in committee, in full session, and signed into law by the President of the Princeton Model Congress 2012.

"It was a magical moment," said Hunter Sable. "I really felt that, as a delegation, we blew the competition out of the water."

As a public school competing against mostly private schools, this was an incredible showing from all of the participating students from Harrison High School.

The exuberant feeling was summed up well by club advisor Ms. Makarczuk.

"I am proud that Model Congress has continued to grow and flourish with each successive generation of Harrison High Schools students," she said.



Model Congress winners.

*Courtesy of Ms. Makarczuk*

his bill on Chinese currency manipulation.

"It was great to have people argue for and against my bill in committee," he said. "I am very pleased that it passed, but

sophomore Marielle Sheck. "It takes a lot of courage to stand up in front of over one hundred people and speak about your opinions on a bill, knowing that half the audience most likely dis-



# The Ones With All The Answers

Amy Carton

Editor-in-Chief

Harrison High School's own MSG Varsity "The Challenge" team competed for the first time this year, showcasing their knowledge and innate talent as they battled the girls of The Ursuline School. "The Challenge," currently in its 16<sup>th</sup> season, is an academic

televised game show that quizzes students' knowledge of math and science, history, arts and literature, and current events. Hosted by former American Idol contestant Jared Cotter, "The Challenge" is recorded at the MSG Varsity studios in New York City, and features a live audience.

Made up of six talented upperclassmen, the HHS Challenge team is certainly a force

to be reckoned with. Under the guidance of coaches Ms. Voss and Mr. Kaplan, Senior Tyler Hart



leads the team as Captain. Fellow Seniors Jake Coonin, Lauren Jacobowitz and Rajan Mehra, as well as Juniors Ben Adler and Danny DuBois, join Hart.

Harrison's first round of the challenge will be aired on MSG Varsity on January 23. This reporter talked with the team's members about their "Challenge" experience thus far.



**1. Fireside chats are associated with. . .**

- A. James Garfield
- B. Woodrow Wilson
- C. Franklin Roosevelt

**2. Who was primarily a poet?**

- A. Honore Balzac
- B. Emily Dickinson
- C. Tennessee Williams

**3. Heat is transferred through radiation, conduction, and . .**

- A. Convection
- B. Projection
- C. Deflection

**4. About how many muscles are in the body?**

- A. Almost 700
- B. 1,066
- C. Between 300 and 350

Answers:  
(1) C (2) B (3) A (4) A

## Get to Know The Challenge Team

### Which topic is your forte?

**Ben Adler:** I usually do well in the weird categories. I also love seeing food categories every once in a while.

**Jake Coonin:** Math.

**Danny DuBois:** Chemistry, but I know math too.

**Tyler Hart:** Math is my strength.

**Lauren Jacobowitz:** Geography.

**Rajan Mehra:** Politics, history, and current affairs.

### What is the most exciting part of "The Challenge" for you?

**Ben Adler:** Walking out onto the set and seeing the audience is pretty cool. Getting a question right when the camera is rolling makes you feel pretty great as well.

**Jake Coonin:** The initial multiple choice round because that's where the topics are the most applicable for me.

**Danny DuBois:** When the team works together and answers the questions correctly.

**Tyler Hart:** The short answer round because a team can really turn their game around and cement a big lead in that section.

**Lauren Jacobowitz:** The lightning round because the questions are all very specific and you can answer as many questions as you can without the stress of the buzzer.

**Rajan Mehra:** I love the feeling of competing on TV, working with my team, and having an incredible fan support that shows up to our competitions.

### If you could have one teacher compete in "The Challenge" with you, who would it be and why?

**Ben Adler:** I think that Ms. Milne would be great at the show, but Mr. C belongs on the team.

**Jake Coonin:** Mr. C, enough said.

**Danny DuBois:** Mr. C, because he comes to all of our practices anyway and is really good at math.

**Tyler Hart:** Mr C, because he has a wide range of knowledge and also would guarantee that we got most of the math and science questions right. And he would keep our team relaxed.

**Lauren Jacobowitz:** Mr. McRae.

**Rajan Mehra:** Probably Mr. C. I feel like we would complement each other really well since he's a beast at math and science.

# Debaters Win Awards At All Levels

Sydney Mueller

Staff Writer

Harrison High School's Debate Team has been nationally recognized several times over the past few years, lead by varsity debaters Patty Jane Geller and Danny DeBois. The varsity debaters have competed in a countless number of tournaments around the country, including the New York City National Invitational, the Vassar Round Robin, the Greenhill Fall Classic, and the Apple Valley Tournament in Minnesota. Danny and Patty Jane have both been debating since their freshmen year under the advisory tutelage of Mr. Hertzog, who has traveled with the debaters around the country for every tournament. Last year, DeBois traveled to the Tournament of Champions in Kentucky, competing against the top 80 debaters in the country for one of the most prestigious titles.

The two varsity debaters recently traveled to Texas to participate in the Greenhill Round Robin, which was an invitation-only tournament that selected the top 16 debaters in the country. Patty Jane won her first two rounds while Danny placed third in the overall tournament and was named the second speaker in the tournament. Both of the debaters were very proud of their past achievements and were ecstatic to be starting the year off with these achievements.

"I'm very grateful for how well I've been competing and I'm extremely glad that my hard work is paying off for something that I love doing," says junior Danny DeBois.

The Debate Team is one of the most devoted extra-curricular activities that Harrison offers. Danny and Patty Jane both attended Debate Camp at the University of North Texas this past summer and had the opportunity to meet and practice with many other debaters from around the country.

"Debate camp was a great experience for me because I got to be surrounded by people who have the same interests as me

and I could learn from them," said senior Patty Jane Geller. "It's amazing because when I go to the national tournaments, I know a lot of the kids there and get to reconnect with them."

Danny and Patty Jane are great role models for Harrison as a community because they represent how hard work and dedication pay off with recognition not only locally, but on a national basis. These varsity debaters set a model example for the new novices who have recently joined the school's Debate Team. With such experienced debaters, along with Tory Tiburzi, Amy Geller, Peri Mendelsohn and Hayley Kronthal, the debate novices have great leadership to show them the way to success.

The Harrison Debate Team had an incredibly successful competitive experience at the Princeton University tournament. Harrison claimed the tournament championship in the novice division, with the third place debater and the top speaker. In varsity, the team fielded a tournament quarterfinalist, and seven of the nine students reached elimination rounds.

The tournament's novice division featured 102 first-year competitors from several states, while the varsity division had 128 debaters. In the novice division, freshman Sarah Ryan was named the novice tournament champion. She had a 5-1 record in prelims and proceeded to win her double-octofinal, octofinal, and quarterfinal rounds. In semifinals, she was paired against a teammate, and advanced because she was the higher seed. She then won the final round on a 3-0 decision. She was also named the tournament's fourth place novice speaker.

Freshman Elyssa Alfieri reached the semifinal round, where she was "coached over" by Sarah. Elyssa also had a 5-1 record in preliminary rounds, and won her double-octofinal, octofinal, and

quarterfinal rounds as well. Freshman Ella Eisinger reached the octofinal round, having also been 5-1 in preliminary rounds. Speakers are rated on a 30-point scale, and Ella's speaker points were straight 29s, 29.5s, and 30s; she was named the tournament's top novice speaker.

Freshmen Bea Almeida and Kathryn Kenny reached the double-octofinal round, and Bea was named the tournament's fifth place novice speaker. Both were 4-2 in preliminary rounds.

In the varsity division, junior Danny DeBois continued his amazing season by reaching the

quarterfinal round and placing fifth overall. Danny was named the tournament's third place varsity speaker; he was 5-1 in preliminary rounds, and won his double-octofinal and octofinal rounds.

Senior Patty-Jane Geller reached elimination rounds as well, placing in the top 35 competitors after going 4-2 in preliminary rounds. Sophomore Amy Geller and freshman Evan Burger also had strong performances, while sophomore Tory Tiburzi was on hand to help work with the novices.

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

*The Husky Herald* is published by the journalism classes at Harrison High School. Editorial content of *The Husky Herald* 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.

# Wool Wins Service Award

Melanie Singer

Managing Editor

Superintendent Louis Wool of the Harrison Central School District recently received the 2012 Distinguished Service Award from the Lower Hudson Council of School (LHCSS). The award was given to Mr. Wool as an acknowledgement of his commitment to supporting public education, as well as state and national organizations.

The LHCSS is a non-profit educational corporation that represents 76 schools districts, including Dutchess, Putnam, Rockland, and Westchester counties. The organization looks to create high quality education and professional collaboration in public schools.

Raymond Gerson, the executive director of the organization for 17 years, credits Mr. Wool with creating an agenda that has strengthened the voices of school leaders in the Lower

Hudson Valley.

"Lou has reached out directly to colleagues increasing member participation across our four countries," said Gerson, speaking fondly of Wool. "Under his leadership last year, the LHCSS produced important financial analyses on the tax cap levy and the Race to the Top, engaged legislators, and produced a widely read white paper on mandate reform."

Mr. Wool has worked to create a district of public schools that advance academically throughout the years, and receiving this honorable award is simply a reflection of his dedication and hard work. Harrison was recently accepted into the International Baccalaureate Program, another step toward improving the public school system.

"It is particularly gratifying

to receive recognition from my colleague superintendents, but of significance to me is that this award emphasizes the importance of school superintendents committing to principles that advance public education for all students," says Wool.

"I believe profoundly that providing a sound basic public education for all of the children in our society is a fundamental commitment necessary to sustain a thriving democracy. My work as president of the Lower Hudson Council of School Superintendents is to advance that ideal and that cause."

Wool has made a tremendous impact on the Harrison educational community and has continued to work toward improving the quality of public education

across the state, as he has done here in Harrison.

"Although I don't know the details of this award, but I know that Mr. Wool has done a lot for our district and made Harrison High School a better high school," says Haya Nesheiwat, regarding Mr. Wool's actions towards the school district, and many students and faculty would agree to that.



Mr. Wool. Courtesy of Melanie Singer

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# You Should Get Involved

Brittany Wolfe

Staff Writer

Community Service: it's all you hear about these days. When most students think of community service, they think putting their best effort into helping others who are in need, lending a hand, and making a positive contribution. *Youth Volunteers of Harrison* is a student-run club and plans and initiates events that benefit organizations requesting help. It is an opportunity for students to stay involved and impact others in more ways than one.

Community Service projects contribute to those who need their efforts, but also help the student volunteer. In their research attempts on student volunteer efforts, researchers at the University of Michigan determined that most students in high school lack motivation and can't seem to "connect the dots" between school curriculum and everyday experiences and realistic events.

How many times have

you asked yourself: "Why do I need to know this? How can I apply lessons from trigonometry if I don't want to be an accountant?" That's exactly what most students ask themselves. Through community service acts, students have the opportunity to use the knowledge learned in the classroom in real-life scenarios. It is critical that students apply and integrate their thinking in outside situations and not just forget what they have learned one day and move onto the next day. Though we would want to think like that and "study just to pass the test," that is not realistic or reliable. Our future depends on the knowledge that we can pass it forward, in ways such as community service. Community service is a process of social development, engagement, and new perspective. Service offers that positive feeling that most teenagers need; it sparks an increase in mental health, while essentially decreasing stress.

It is important to a teenager's development, to understand social responsibility. This type of social responsibility encourages trust and citizenship, while it discourages defiance and poor attitude and outlooks. Aside from personal development, there is also a further development of social awareness and opens students to alternate ways of thinking. It is necessary for students to achieve and recognize an alternate perspective especially since schools continue to diversify and often students take opportunities to visit other countries or take advantage of study abroad programs in college. In our own school, there are various opportunities for students to engage in community service.

Between Youth Volunteers of Harrison, ROTOY, and REEF Club, community service projects remain diverse and provide interest in different topics and ways of "giving back." Community service isn't just

giving back to citizens of our community, but also to other aspects such as the environment and also by helping with animal shelters. Community service allows for students to express themselves in a positive manner and achieve a sense of self fulfillment.

Junior Erica Dattero said, "I think that community service is very humbling. It shows us that people are less fortunate in our area and that we can make an impact in our communities through taking just a little time to give back. Sometimes you just have to put yourself in someone else's shoes to understand how much a little giving back can help. Often it is your giving back that starts a domino effect and will influence others to do the same. One of the most important parts of community service is doing it with a group of friends because it makes the experience even more enjoyable and memorable."

# Wall O' Kindness

Callie Fried

Staff Writer

Many students in the high school perform acts of kindness throughout the year. The Friends

they will be inspired to perform acts of kindness of their own.

Some examples of random acts of kindness posted include: holding the door for another student, helping pick up someone else's books, lending a pencil or sheet of paper to a peer, etc. Everyone should be contributing acts of kindness, not just because they have to, but because it's the right thing to do.

The wall has expanded over the past few weeks. Paw prints now can be found all over the wall. If you get a chance to stop and read them, you should. You can always walk by the library entrance and let the student or faculty member there know of anything that should be put up.

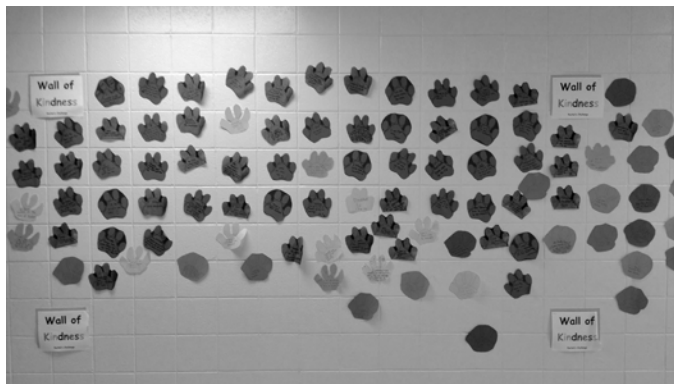
Some of the quotes already on the wall are: "I see people compliment others' costumes," "I donated to the victims of Hurricane Sandy," "I helped a friend with homework," "My friend gave me a ride home when my parents were out of town," "A friend let me borrow money to buy lunch," and "Someone opened my locker for me that I didn't know."

As the wall grows, our school grows with it. The importance of this wall is really to show that even though you may not realize it, you can make a world of difference with one simple kind action.



Courtesy of Amy Carton

of Rachel Club has discovered a way to exhibit and share those acts of kindness for the entire school to see. The "Wall of Kindness" is a display in the main hallway, where these acts of kindness currently are posted. Starting in November, a member of the Friends of Rachel Club has been stationed by the wall, soliciting participation, asking students to report if they have seen, heard of, or done any acts of kindness. When such an act is reported, a small description is then put on a paw print and promptly posted on the Wall of Kindness. This wall really encourages students to maintain a positive attitude throughout the school year. By reading about others' examples,



The Wall grows daily as kindness spreads. Courtesy of Amy Carton

# West Bank Conflict

Ariel Coonin

News Editor

There has been conflict on the West Bank of Israel for decades.

With a country the size of New Jersey that is also the holy place for three different religions, there is bound to be conflict. The country is not big enough to support different cultures that will not live together in peace.

Israel, founded in 1948, is an openly Jewish country. Although the national religion is Judaism, the country is tolerant of any other religions that will peacefully co-exist with its own. However, when Israel is threatened, it is the government's first priority to protect its citizens and its land. The tiny country is constantly attacked from all sides as a result of its sacred value to Christianity and Islam in addition to Judaism.

Palestinian Muslims and Christians whose roots also derive from this land, believe that they have as much right to claim the land, or part of the land of Israel to be their own country of Palestine. Palestinians are currently in control of the West Bank of Israel and a strip of land called the Gaza Strip. While the Palestinian leaders of the West Bank are willing to recognize Israel and establish a Palestinian country alongside it, the Palestinian leaders in control of the Gaza Strip are from an extremist political group called Hamas, which seeks the destruction of Israel. Hamas has been designated a terrorist organization by the United States government and continues to use violence to try to gain control of the region.

The media recently reported Israeli military strikes on Gaza. In fact, there were attacks coming from both directions following a flurry of rocket attacks from Gaza on Israeli population centers throughout the year. Innocent people have been wounded and killed on both sides. Even though the fight has taken place halfway across the world, it still has a large effect on many people in Harrison.

"My sister has lived in Tel Aviv for the past year and for the most part has been completely

safe," says sophomore Cori Pitiger. "However, a couple weeks ago while she was walking home, she heard a siren that is used to warn citizens of a bomb. Confused and worried, she and other citizens nearby had to drop to the floor to take cover." Pitiger's sister has since safely returned home to the United States.

"It's difficult to say which side I stand on," says Spanish teacher Ms. Columbus. "I've spent time in Israel and on the West Bank, and I've learned that the situation is really messy. I've learned that the news in the United States is very one-sided and in Israel it is also very one-sided. People need to be able to see both sides in order to understand what really is going on."

Ms. Columbus has family members in Israel that have lived their entire lives defending themselves against Palestinian rocket attacks. They have become accustomed to sirens and bombings. The idea that people have become so used to this type of danger disrupting their daily routines is a bit unsettling. It is not something that Americans can easily understand, given that most of us have never experienced anything like what is going on in Israel and Gaza.

With both Israel and Gaza firing at each other, peace between the two sides does not seem a likely outcome anytime soon. However, on the day before the Americans were devouring turkey and expressing thanks, a ceasefire went into effect between Gaza and Israel.

The conflict is not resolved, but the ceasefire is a start. Instances of violence have been reduced. Meanwhile, the Palestinian leadership in the West Bank, which was not involved in the recent violence, obtained further recognition by the United Nations. It is hopeful that efforts from both sides in maintaining the ceasefire and that these new political developments on the West Bank will eventually lead to peaceful co-existence for Israel and Gaza.

# By Any Other Name

Meghan Molloy

Staff Writer



As fall rolls in and leaves change colors, the Facebook names of eager and expectant high school seniors change as well. With the shift in nature's appearance come college applications, excitement, and anxiety. As the seniors submit their applications and await their decisions, some find themselves caught up in the content of their social media profiles. While the college essay and transcript reflect the seniors' academic success and

Upon realizing that their Facebook profiles may not be acceptable in the eyes of an admissions committee, seniors take it upon themselves to become inconspicuous.

Despite the reason for the change in names, seniors at Harrison High School opt for a clever play on words that incorporates either their first or last name. For example, senior Erika Gunderson changed her Facebook name to Miss Amerika. This creative and original

senior name is a play on the popular beauty pageant Miss America. Similar to Erika, Jacob, or Jake, Coonin, chose to make his name Corn OnTha Jacob. This unique and witty name is taken from the food, corn on the cob.

In addition to senior names with clever play on words, some students choose their names after famous athletes, singers, or other celebrities. Take Mikie

Edd N- Eddy, the popular cartoon on Cartoon Network. "My real name is Edward, and I am the third," explains Trey. "Ed Edd and Eddy has 3 names. Plus it was my favorite cartoon."

In today's technology-driven society, teens' lives revolve around social media. Sites like Facebook, Twitter and Instagram have made it impossible to escape the almost immediate status updates and shared pictures. While the name change began as a way to hide from colleges, it has evolved into more of a popular trend over the past few years. Still, not all seniors change



kind, pun-filled names.

Junior Kyle Lefkowitz agrees that the name change has

become more a tradition than a security protection, "I wouldn't change my name for the sole reason of hiding myself from colleges," she explains. "Rather, I would do it to partake in a fun se-



involvement in the community, Facebook profiles tend to reveal a more carefree, "wild" side.

Sakanaka for example. She changed her senior name to Mik Jagger, after the lead vocalist and one of the founding members of Rolling Stones.

For Trey Wasilesky however, his name has more than one meaning. For his senior name Trey chose Ed

their names. Regardless, Harrison High School students have seen their fair share of one-of-a-

nior-year experience."



Pictures courtesy of Amy Carton



# Halloweek After

Brittany Wolfe

Staff Writer

Leaving families powerless and stranded, Hurricane Sandy robbed children of a traditional Halloween celebration.

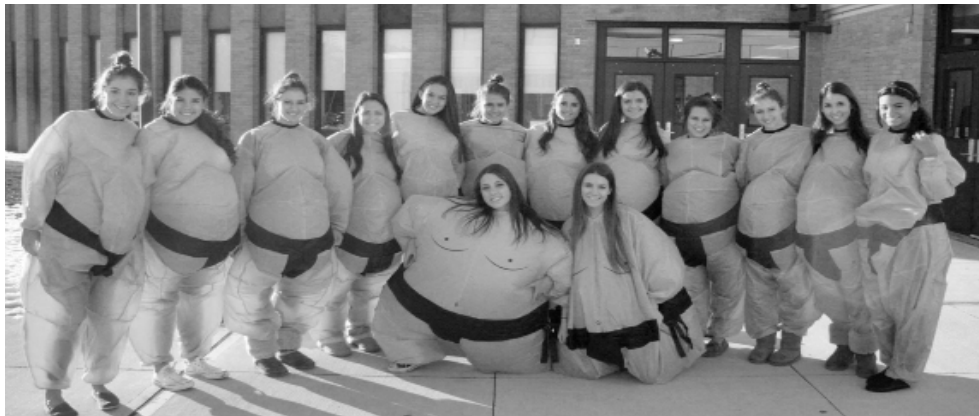
Due to fallen trees and power lines, Mayor Belmont informed the Harrison community that Halloween would be postponed to November 9 because the real date made trick-or-treating too dangerous. Students were less than enthused upon hearing the news of Halloween's postponement, and this lack of enthusiasm translated to a lack of participation on November 9. While many students came to school on November 9 wearing their creative and humorous costumes as if it were an ordinary

Halloween, others, felt uncomfortable wearing their costumes on a day other than Halloween.

It was the seniors who were most relieved, their last year in high school was their last opportunity to partake in the excitement around the holiday and it was saved and cherished even with all of the commotion caused by the storm. With snow just beginning to melt, elementary school students were able to participate in annual Halloween parades: marching with friends, showing off their costumes, and simply giving Halloween another chance. That day brought excitement to all the kids, regardless of their age, but it was at night

when things got even better.

Trick-or-treating time had finally come and residents awaited eager trick-or-treaters with bags full of candy. Even with temperatures dropping, children disregarded the weather and with their boots and jackets in hand hiked to houses around their neighborhoods. This year showed that it's important that Halloween remains an American tradition, despite the weather and any obstacles that may interfere. It's the one day of the year that it is acceptable to dress as crazy as you want and to eat as much candy as you wish. Let's be serious: is that a deal that you would pass up?



Courtesy of Amy Carton

Spooky drawings by Amna Haider



# Frankenstorm Continues

(Continued from Front Page Left)

vising people to carpool, and in many cases, to simply stay home.

After the storm, panicked students and families rushed to gas stations, hoping to stock up on gas not only for their cars, but for their generators as well. Lines of over an hour formed on the streets surrounding the gas stations, and police reinforcement were called in to control the chaos. Several gas stations in Harrison and Purchase ran out of gas, leaving families stranded in their houses. The gas crisis struck fear into the hearts of many Westchester citizens.

Although Harrison wasn't hit nearly as hard as other areas of Westchester, it suffered enough to warrant a decision by the mayor to postpone Halloween. The weather was deemed too dark and dangerous for children to walk around in costumes, many of which included masks and potentially dangerous accessories. Mayor Ron Belmont ensured Halloween would be celebrated, regardless of a delay.

"I really didn't like that Halloween was rescheduled," says sophomore Rose Marissa Salanitro. "It just felt weird

dressing up in a costume on a random day in November."

Many students agreed that dressing up in costumes on a day other than Halloween felt a bit strange. The number of students in costumes this year was noticeable lower than in past years, and many students blame their lack of enthusiasm on the postponement of the traditional celebration. Despite the date change, however, the seniors' costumes lived up to everyone's expectations ranging from animals to Chinese take out boxes and sumo wrestlers.

Though Sandy had a

massive impact on students, families, and the town of Harrison itself, the recuperation and rebuilding is in full swing. Harrison will bounce back.



*Courtesy of harrison.patch.com*

(Continued from Front Page Right)

full," said junior Alba Damaso. "They had a flight on Tuesday, which was delayed until Thursday, so we had to wait it out."

People stocked up on water, food, and batteries in response to the warnings. Those living on the coast faced the greater danger with coastal flooding. Anxious residents packed bags with sand and placed them in front of their houses to prevent water from getting in. With estimated 80 mile per hour winds, people prepared for the worst. Evacuations started over the weekend. New Jersey Governor Chris Christie and New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg ordered evacuation of people from targeted danger zones. Soon after, officials cut off most public transportation, including buses, trains, and subways, and even "The City that Never Sleeps" was "turned off," waiting for the storm to strike.

Monday came with exactly what was expected. The day started off with strong winds, traffic lights bobbing and trees bending, and got progressively worse by later in the afternoon.

"We actually didn't hear the tree fall, but saw the police lights outside," said junior Halle Mastroberardino, who lives next to a house damaged by a fallen tree. "We were evacuated because they thought there was a gas leak, which was scary, because we were outside during the hurricane. Everyone in their house was okay, but a lot of repairs are needed on

the roof. They are very lucky."

Throughout the evening, those lucky to have power watched in awe at continuous storm footage: pictures of 18-foot waves, water covering the streets and boardwalks, and trees and poles falling on and destroying buildings. The lightning that some claimed to have seen turned out to be the blowing of transformers.

Tuesday came with even more unpleasant surprises: subways and houses under water, trees uprooted and blocking the roads or crashed through the tops of houses. The East Coast woke up to a sight of disaster, the crime scene of said 'Frankenstorm.' Hurricane Sandy had completed her anticipated disaster.

As people tried to go back to their homes, many returned to no electricity, while others to homes completely destroyed. In Mamaroneck, 55% of homeowners didn't have power, and numerous shops were dark inside. Many in Harrison lost electricity or cable, or both, due to fallen trees and power lines.

"I lost electricity on Monday at around 6 p.m. I had no power for five days," said freshman Caroline Lauro. "It was very difficult because we had no heat and we had to sleep with like ten blankets. We had a generator but it only gave us three outlets to use, and we had to keep on getting gas to power it. My parents had to wait for three hours on line for gas."

Places in New York City

and New Jersey resembled war zones. Over 100 houses burned down in Breezy Point, Queens, leaving families without any trace of their homes or belongings. People searched helplessly through the rubble, debris, and burned ruins to find any remains of what used to be theirs, to save any memorabilia, but many were left without a speck of luck. Devastated families soon realized that they had nowhere to go, and didn't know where to begin. It was complete chaos.

Lower Manhattan tried to get itself running again, but certain measures had to be taken first. Subway stations were flooded, and in order to get out the water, pumps were brought in from Virginia to pump out 28,000 gallons of water per minute. Mayor Bloomberg also put a restriction on people going into New York City. He released a statement that only cars that held three or more passengers could enter, and those not following this regulation would be turned back. For many days, lower Manhattan was left in the dark, a sight many New Yorkers never experienced before.

Sandy hadn't only left houses without electricity, but gas stations too. Many gas stations were closed because they didn't have power, and the few that did had cars waiting in line for hours to fill up their tanks. This reporter's dad went at two in the morning to get gas for the car, and ended up waiting in line until

five. Six police cars were there to regulate the traffic, and people could only put in \$40 worth, so everybody would have a chance.

As of Thursday, the death toll from the storm was 109 people in the U.S., with at least 69 more in the Caribbean, according to NBC News. Sandy showed no mercy as she sent towering waves that knocked two boys out of their mother's arms, or drowned elderly people inside their own homes.

Despite the fact that HHS was closed for a whole week due to widespread power outages, hazardous road conditions, and inclement weather, students still were able to collect money and donate much needed supplies to those who didn't have homes and perhaps lost everything.

With all the damage and ongoing repairs, Halloween was the last thing on people's minds. Families got a call on Wednesday saying that Halloween for the town of Harrison was postponed until Friday, November 9. Outside conditions were deemed unsafe for kids to be walking around in, and it was important that people had time to recover from the damage.

With an estimated \$50 to \$60 billion in repair costs, the damage done by Sandy is nowhere near cleared up entirely. It will take a while for things to get up and running again.

# Early Bird Catches Admissions

Hayley Kronthal

Staff Writer

With senior year fully in progress, students are rushing to get their college apps done. The majority of the senior grade is applying to their college or university 'early decision' or 'early action.' Early decision applications are due by November first. It is a binding contract that states if you get into that college, you must enroll there. Early action applications also are due by November first, but are not binding.

There are many reasons for applying to schools by the first of November. Some people see applying early as a strategy, while others truly are in love with a particular school. A phrase that is becoming more and more common is "Don't waste your early."

In the case of early decision, some students and parents think it is easier to get into the college. For one, those applying are in a smaller applicant pool and it shows the college that the student is fully committed. There are myths, in fact, that if you don't apply to certain schools, it is next to impossible to get into them via regular decision. People think this is true because some schools accept the majority of their class early decision, so it leaves less room for regular applicants.

"I applied early action to six out of my nine schools because it will be nice to hear back in December," says senior Caroline Gaeta. "I feel by getting in my applications early a weight has been lifted off my shoulders. I don't agree with the phrase 'don't waste your early,' because I think students should only apply if they love the school."

Senior Rajan Merah was pro-early decision.

"I think it is a good idea to apply early decision," he said. "It shows the college that they are your number one choice."

Across the nation,

## THE COMMON APPLICATION

applying early is definitely a strategy that many students use. By applying early, you get the best of both worlds. It is easier to get into your top choice because you are not competing against the majority of students. Moreover, it is less likely that you will be competing against students in your own high school. For example, 15 students in the senior class could be applying to Dartmouth College; however, not all of the 15 are applying there early. Most likely only one or two are applying there early.

The college "fever" seems to be rubbing off on the school's juniors and other underclassmen. Many of them have already started their college visits and have been narrowing down the list of places they want to apply. The school's annual College Fair has done an amazing job this past year to help the underclassmen familiarize themselves with the college process. Over 150 colleges turned out in the gymnasium this year to inform Harrison students about their schools.

"The college fair made me aware of schools that I haven't heard of but seem really nice," said junior Amanda Friedman. "I never thought about leaving the Northeast because I wanted to stay close to home. However, while I was at the college fair, I saw a lot of interesting schools located in the Midwest."

Sophomore Tory Tiburzi explains, "The College Fair was awesome! It showed me all the different places I could look at when I'm a junior and senior. Plus I got a lot of cool pens!"

Overall, the students at Harrison seem to be eager to head off to college. They have done the necessary research to know what type of college environment will make them happy.

# GSA Explained

Sara Purinton

Staff Writer

Many people in Harrison High School are familiar with the club Gay Straight Alliance (GSA), but not many know exactly what the name means. It is not only a club for gay students, but also one for those who are passionate about making our school a place of acceptance and encouragement.

"I've always liked being part of GSA because the people in the club really care about others," said senior Mariana Galeano. "We want to make everyone in the school feel like they have a place where they can belong."

On October 11, GSA and Friends of Rachel teamed up to help Harrison participate in National Coming Out Day, marking the anniversary of the October 1987 March on Washington D.C. for the recognition of Gay and Lesbian rights. Teachers and students sported handmade rainbow ribbons to celebrate diversity, acceptance, tolerance and equality. The following week was Ally Week, a week designated to reach out to and celebrate Allies against anti-LGBTQ (lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgendered,

and questioning) language, bullying, and harassment. Set in the cafeteria, students from Friends of Rachel and GSA gave out lollipops and stickers after peers signed the Ally Pledge. (See insert for Pledge)

"Ally Week was such a big success because it made students in the school understand how their decisions affected others," said senior Allie Fuerst, member of GSA. "The number of people who signed the Ally Pledge showed just how successful the week turned out to be."

Looking to the future, GSA will be observing many other LGBTQ days, including the annual Day of Silence. This year, the club's membership has risen considerably, with many new underclassmen joining the ranks. The club hopes to continue to grow as more people get excited about making Harrison an open and accepting environment. If you're thinking about joining the club, just remember that whether you're straight, bisexual, gay, transgendered, or anything in-between, there is a place for you in GSA.

## The Ally Pledge

*I believe all students, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression, deserve to feel safe and supported. That means I pledge to:*

- 1. Not use anti-LGBT language and slurs;*
- 2. Intervene, if I safely can, in situations where other students are being harassed;*
- 3. Support efforts to end bullying and harassment*

2012-13 EARLY DECISION AGREEMENT

# opinions & editorials

## Is She *Actually* Wearing That?

Rose Stokoe

Staff Writer

Midriff hanging out, a little too much cleavage, some serious butt crack, and you'd never guess it was the middle of a frigid winter. Too many times while walking down the hall, students get a little too much of a look at some girls' bra. It can be worse than just a bit of cheetah peeking through their stark white tank top, sometimes there is a girl wearing what can only be described as a bandeau posing as a shirt. Don't worry. All the money spent on those thin pieces of fabric won't go to waste; they can still be worn, perhaps under something, but not to school.

Harrison High School has a dress code, and while even though it seems not to be strictly enforced, it's still there, so abide by it. A lot of girls find the dress code annoying, but guess what, ladies? Students find your stomach hanging out somewhat annoying. This may come as a shock, but even if you are sporting a model body, students **still** don't want to see it. There is no fine line between what is appro-

priate or not. If you have to think, "Would I get in trouble for wearing this?" then you shouldn't wear it.

While there seems to be some slack in the dress code's enforcement, it is not something to abuse. Just because you can get away with looking like a floozy, doesn't mean you should.

It seems that Halloween and Spirit Week bring out something in girls: the undeniable desire to wear nothing or close to it. Halloween especially seems the time for girls to lose the 'ol' moral compass' and start dressing like streetwalkers. Fishnets and spandex are in no way appropriate for school. When at the store, if the costume you're buying says "Sexy," chances are it's five inches too short and ten times too tight (and probably see-through too).

Obviously the dirty glares from others won't make people suddenly dress in sweat pants, but that's what school is for. Most of the time it seems girls are getting away with breaking the dress code scot-free. So it begs

the question, if it bothers some, why doesn't it bother the school? Admittedly, the school has bigger things to worry about than a couple girls in clothing most wouldn't even wear to the beach.

"I don't even know where the dress code is," says sophomore Oriana Flecha. "I'm never really sure if I'm breaking it or not because I've never even read it."

When in doubt about anything you're wearing, check the yearbook. If you lost your yearbook, no fear – all the dress code rules can be found on the Harrison Central School District's website.

Boys may think they have no rules on what they can and cannot wear, but just like the girls, there are rules restricting them too. One rule that seems to be overlooked by the male population of the school is rule number four in the dress code:

**Ensure that undergarments are completely covered with outer clothing while standing or sitting.**

Every boy who walks around with the majority of his boxers hanging out is in fact breaking the dress code. If the girls have to follow the rules, sorry, but you guys do too. The underwear may seem harmless, agreed, but it's still a rule that should be enforced. Rule number four also applies to girls. A lace shirt that **COMPLETELY** exposes your bra also breaks the sacred code.

"I think breaking the dress code in little ways is alright," sophomore Emily Diselvestro said. "As long as it's not like all of your body is hanging out."

As of right now, it seems like students can get away with pretty much anything clothing-wise. As such, it doesn't seem to matter very much until these codes are more strictly enforced.

## *How many snow days do you think we will have this year and why?*



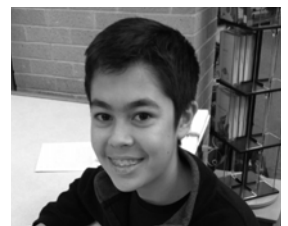
"Two. It's been pretty warm lately."  
- Senior Josh Guzman



"Zero because of Sandy."  
- Junior Jyothi Dolinak



"No more than two because we lost so many days with Sandy!"  
- Sophomore Andi Rella



"Zero. It's been warm."  
- Freshman Philip Milana



# Tweet Musings on an Election

Rajan Mehra

Staff Writer

After 14 months of campaigning, 30 debates, thousands of advertisements, and upwards of six billion dollars spent, a divided America went to the ballot box and largely voted for the status quo. President Obama was reelected by 51% of the vote, becoming the first Democrat to do so since Franklin Delano Roosevelt, while Mitt Romney received just 47%.

The election was extremely close and hard-fought, raising passions on both sides of the ideological spectrum. In the days leading up to the election, both sides grew increasingly heated in their rhetoric. Democrats began insinuating that Romney was a heartless vulture-like plutocrat who was willing to throw middle-America under the bus on the altar of tax-breaks for the wealthy. He was attacked, sometimes unfairly for being too rich and too disconnected from the problems of everyday Americans. On the other hand, Republicans decried the President as foreign, a socialist, and illegitimate. They created false rumors concerning Obama's religion, his place of birth, and his political motivations.

This rhetoric carried over to Twitter, where millions of people expressed their political convictions. This included Donald Trump's now infamous (and later deleted) tweet calling for revolution after Obama's decisive victory, stating, "We can't let this happen. We should march on Washington and stop this travesty. Our nation is totally divided!" An anonymous liberal was equally irresponsible in a

tweet that threatened to shoot all who would vote for Romney on Election Day.

It seems Twitter represented every American spouting off about an emotionally charged election without a filter. This time-honored American

preexisting conditions have difficulty getting insured, for example your own wife has MS which is a preexisting condition #comeon."

This can be contrasted with Harrison alum and famed DJ Matthew Shaffer, who tweeted,

so stagnant, and so partisan that instead of people honestly debating the issues, they just yell right past each other. Americans have begun to view politics as a sport, either their side wins or loses, there is a right position and wrong position, leaving no room

for compromise or a middle ground. This attitude, more than the election of any one person, is destructive toward the ideal of American democracy.

As the recent Steven Spielberg movie "Lincoln" demonstrates (in a screenplay by noted playwright Tony Kushner), the political system as envisioned by the founding fathers, depends on compromise, persuasion, and flexibility, traits that are rapidly being lost in the hyper-partisan echo chambers that define American politics today.

It is the challenge of our generation to redefine the political debate. This country faces huge challenges from a faltering economy, a crises-filled world, and huge budget deficits as far as the eye can see. No matter what

your political affiliation, ideology, race, religion, or ethnicity is, it is important to remember that what brings us together as Americans is greater than what pulls us apart. We must learn to respect the opinions of others and to disagree without being disagreeable. If we talk to each other instead of talking past each other, then perhaps the challenges this country faces will become a little easier to deal with and we can move one step closer to a brighter future.



Political cartoon by Amna Haider

tradition carried over to Harrison High School, among students and alumni. Those who had demonstrated seemingly zero interest in politics just two months before were now fired up and rooting for their candidate. Tweets ranged from the intellectual to the asinine, with a whole spectrum in the middle.

Senior Jennifer Blum, provided one of the more educated tweets on the subject when she critiqued Romney's healthcare plan. She tweeted, "Romney, citizens with

"This result was not in God's plan; I truly fear for America." Mr. Shaffer appears to suggest that he alone is privy to God's innermost thoughts and that the world's actions actually contradicted what he and God thought was the necessary course of action.

Unfortunately, thoughts posted in Twitter simply reflect what is going on throughout much of the United States: people screaming at each other. The political discourse in this country has become so calcified,

# Superstition Ain't the Way

Amy Carton

Editor-In-Chief

We've all heard of the stress associated with the college process. While seniors spend the first few months of school finalizing college lists and submitting Early Decision and Early Action applications, juniors begin looking into schools of interest, taking tours, and getting a feel of the



*Courtesy of bkstr.com*

process as a whole. As I have observed over the past year and a half, applying to and hearing back from colleges is not only exciting and stressful, but often controversial as well. From touring and dissecting schools' websites to applying and receiving admissions decisions, the college process is full of superstitions.

To buy or not to buy. There are many different opinions and approaches to buying college

apparel while visiting schools. For some, buying college apparel at each school is a must, while for others, it is used as a way to summarize their visit and reflect on their impression of the school.

Many think that buying and

wearing college clothing becomes a way to expose your interest in schools without having to face the infamous "college talk" from family and friends. This is not the case, however. In fact, I have learned firsthand that wearing college clothing as junior year progresses into senior year only leads to further interrogation. College conversations are inevitable, and junior and senior years are automatically associated with college. Wearing college

apparel simply cannot change this reality, which brings me to my next controversial topic: Wearing college clothing after submitting applications.

Though only relevant to seniors, this superstition brings forth many different opinions. Many students are under the impression that wearing a school's clothing after submitting its application will bring bad luck in the reading and decision pro-

cess. Never a strong believer in superstitions, I refuse to believe that a t-shirt or pair of sweatpants can make or break getting accepted into a school. Regardless of my personal opinion, there are several students who refuse to wear school apparel as they wait for admissions decisions.

Can it be that secrets are no fun? Another pressing superstition of the college process is sharing where you applied Early Decision. As with wearing college apparel after submitting applications, people seem to think that talking about where they applied Early will hinder their decision. While I understand that people may not be willing to share their first choice schools in attempt to avoid embarrassment if the decision does not go their way, I cannot come to terms with keeping your first choice school private to avoid bad luck. With Facebook and Twitter consuming our every thought and exposing our constant feed of updates, the college process has become increasingly socially oriented. Seconds after receiving admissions decisions, Facebook explodes with celebratory statuses, and tweets flood our newsfeeds. While our obsession with social media is great in times of excitement and

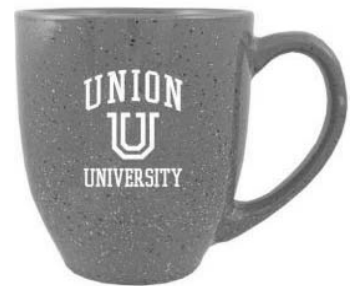
celebration, it becomes torturous



*Courtesy of bkstr.com*

with a flash of bad news.

While posting a status celebrating an acceptance to your first choice school is appropriate and expected, a status for each acceptance is a bit disrespectful in my opinion. No doubt, the college process can be overwhelming and nerve-racking at times, but it is also an incredibly exciting time. Have fun, don't stress yourself out over little details, and it will all work out.



*Courtesy of bkstr.com*

Happy and healthy  
holiday season  
from the staff of  
The Husky Herald!



*Courtesy of bkstr.com*

# ARTS & entertainment

## Beatlemania Rocks The HPAC

Clarissa Karantzis

Staff Writer

On October 13, 2012, students and music enthusiasts alike teamed up to perform in "Beatlemania – The Tribute." Members of the Harrison High School chorus, orchestra, and dance programs lit up the stage with former members of the casts of Broadway shows *Rain* and *Beatlemania* in the fundraising concert. During the concert, the audience was transported back to the '60s while listening to the legendary music of The Beatles.

The goal of the four members of Beatlemania was to try and recreate the experience that swooning fans felt years ago when seeing The Beatles live in concert. Ricky Vacca (Paul McCartney), Lucien Nocelli (John Lennon), John Korba (George Harrison), and Joe Nocco (Ringo Starr) captivated the audience's hearts for two hours as they retold the story of The Beatles through song. Behind the band was a backdrop which showed pictures and videos that went along with

the songs they sang and the time period they were representing.

The fundraising money was given to the Orchestra and Chorus to supply financial aid to students who will be participating in this year's Heritage Music Festival. Members of each of the arts programs were ecstatic to take part in such an exhilarating event.

"It was really fun!" said freshman Mihoko Sakanaka, who performed with the Chorus. "It was a unique experience, and I would like to do something like it again because it was a good way to bring the community together."

The dancers performed to the song "She Loves You," followed by rousing performances of "Eleanor Rigby" and "Yesterday" by the orchestra. Both groups were accompanied with vocals from the members of the band. The chorus took part in the concert as well, singing, "Across the Universe" and "Hey Jude" with the band. While members of Harrison High School weren't

taking part in the festivities, the band thrilled the audience with their authentic costumes, incredible voices, and stage presence. Wearing black suits to represent when the Beatles first formed in the early '60s, the band delighted the audience with early classics such as "Please Please Me" and "I Want to Hold Your Hand." After a 20-minute intermission, the band reappeared with the colorful military outfits that The Beatles sported while recording their 1967 "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" album. The band sang songs such as "Nowhere Man," "With a Little Help from my Friends," "In My Life," and "Penny Lane." The last segment of the concert featured music of the band in their final years before their shocking break-up in 1970. Paul, John, Ringo, and George entertained the audience with songs like "Something," "Back in the U.S.S.R.," "Revolution," and "Come Together." The band performed "Twist and Shout" as

an encore to the appreciative audience and, during this time, students got up from their seats to dance between the aisles.

"I thought it was a really fun idea for a fundraiser," commented HHS junior and audience member Erica Dattero. "Everyone was singing along to all of the popular Beatles' songs, and it was exciting that our friends were performing side by side with professional performers."

After the show, people couldn't wait for the band members to join everybody in the lobby and sign autographs, capping the end to an already amazing night. Whether attending as part of the audience or performing with Beatlemania, everybody enjoyed the wonderful music and performances. Perhaps the Beatlemania concert could become an annual tradition at the high school.

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## *Busy Chorus Constantly Humming*

Brittany Wolfe

Staff Writer

The Harrison High School Chorus has no time to spare, with numerous events scattered throughout the months of October, November, and December. Students have set high expectations for this year, anticipating various fundraising events that will fund their competition this upcoming spring. Aside from fundraising, the crowd of diverse singers is focused on proving themselves as a balanced and

devoted group of performers.

"I expect the Chorus to be as interesting as it always has been," said senior Yvonne Duah. "I'm so excited to learn different styles of music."

The chorus expected and received a large turnout for their first event, Beatlemania. The event not only raised money for the Chorus, but for the Orchestra as well. They performed an assortment of tribute songs to The

Beatles before a full house of enthusiastic fans.

The next annual event for the Chorus is Interfaith Night, where a group of volunteer chorus members prepare a few songs to sing at The Greek Orthodox Church in front of various religious groups. The JCC (Jewish Community Center) along with the St. Anthony and St. Gregory Churches are a few of the other religious organizations that join

in the night of festivities and celebration. Interfaith Night has proven successful in the past few years, bringing together a variety of citizens in our community to not only share their religious beliefs, but share joy and find similarities in their cultures while enjoying music and refreshments.

Another invigorating event is the Cabaret. The Cabaret is a night of self-expression for students who choose to partake in  
(Continued on Page 17)



# Who Doesn't Love Doctor Who?

Rob Sperduto

Entertainment Editor

The Doctor is in - that is, the time traveling alien that patrols the universe in his blue police box with two companions, and seems to be more popular than ever. At first glance, this description may sound silly; however, the hit British TV series *Doctor Who* has encountered record breaking ratings on BBC America with 1.6 million viewers tuning into the premier of the ongoing seventh season.

Throughout Harrison High School, *Doctor Who*'s popularity has been growing steadily among the students. A junior, John Vize, has been watching the show for the past couple of years.

"Doctor Who is my favorite show and it keeps getting better and better each year," he said. "The latest Doctor, Matt Smith, is my favorite because every line he says is hilarious."

*Doctor Who* is a science fiction show about a human-like alien named The Doctor, who travels through time and space

with his companions to battle monsters hell-bent on destroying the world. He travels the universe with his human apprentices, known as companions, who help him make the decisions necessary to save the world. Often comical and exciting, the series takes very dramatic, suspenseful turns that leave the audience frustrated yet enthralled. Summing up a show that has been around for nearly fifty years is very difficult, but luckily the cult classic has been chronicled by its followers since the very beginning. Created back in 1963, *Doctor Who* has been a pop-culture success in both Europe and the USA. Many skeptics unfamiliar with the series ask the same question over and over again: How has *Doctor Who* been able to survive for nearly 50 years?

When the Doctor gets seriously injured, he changes bodies or "regenerates" into a brand new person with a different personality. What makes

this show so unique is that it thrives on change, and is not afraid to take the "left turn" that completely alters the course of the series. The character of The Doctor has been portrayed by 11 different actors, and hundreds of supporting characters have played companions during the 49 years of the show. The most notable actors to play this role include fourth Doctor Tom Baker (1974-1981), tenth Doctor David Tennant (2006-2010) and the current eleventh Doctor, Matt Smith.

Although 50 years of history may seem imposing to watch, new viewers need not fret about catching up on five decades of the program. *Doctor Who* went through a decade-long hiatus during the '90s, but returned to rave reviews when the revival series began in 2005.

New to *Who* as of this year, junior Trent Lefkowitz has become addicted to the show. Starting the series toward the end of the summer, he said, "I

loved Doctor Who so much that I watched all six seasons so fast just so I could catch up to the new episodes!"

This season has seen the heartbreaking departures of companions Karen Gillan and Arthur Darvill, who have played their roles since Season 5. After their final five episodes, the show returns in December for its traditional Christmas special, introducing Jenna-Louise Coleman, the newest addition to the stable of companions.

*Doctor Who* fans around the world are in for big surprises as the fiftieth anniversary nears. With unfathomable secrets yet to be released, next November's highly anticipated Anniversary Special will most likely pay homage to both the original and revived series. Newcomers to the series should be excited, as current showrunner Steven Moffat promises that, "this is the best time to be a fan of *Doctor Who*."

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## Carly Repping the 914

Sarah Mazza

Staff Writer

Mamaroneck native Carly Rose Sonenclar was just a regular seventh grade student three months ago, but one audition for *The X-Factor* changed her life. Carly Rose lives with her mom, a graphic designer, and her father, a copywriter. Yet little Carly has a dream even bigger than both of those careers -- she wants to be a superstar!

"Sonenclar has always been interested in singing," according to an article by Peter D. Kramer at LoHud.com. "She has been singing since age two, took numerous singing, dancing, and acting classes which later led her to be a star on *The X-Factor*. Carly also has been on Broadway and made her debut playing Young Castle in *Les Misérables*. She has also performed the national anthem for the New York Knicks, the Los Angeles

Dodgers, and for the U.S Open Tennis Tournament."

Needless to say, this little girl has some experience in the music industry.

Carly auditioned for the *X-Factor* in Providence, Rhode Island, singing "Feeling Good" by Nina Simone. Her performance left the judges speechless. Carly was the only contestant to get a standing ovation from all four judges, including Simon Cowell, L.A Reid, Demi Lovato, and Brit-tany Spears.

"Remember this day everybody, a star has just been born," said judge Simon Cowell.

*The X-Factor* was split up into four categories with four different judges advising the contestants. Brittany Spears is Carly's individual mentor in her specific category.

Throughout her journey so

far on *The X-Factor*, Carly has been an instant hit, having the second highest amount of votes during the second week of the show. She consistently wows judges week after week, getting comments on her performance such as "heartfelt," "honest," and "incredible."

"I've been a Carly fan from the moment she started singing in her audition!, said Harrison High School junior Angelica Bogdany. "I love *The X-Factor* and I love Carly's voice and presence on stage."

"Carly's audition was really awesome, but I really love her because she is from my hometown," said sophomore Emily Giorgi. "It's really cool to talk to my friends from Rye-Neck, where Carly goes to school, and talk to them about how they know her personally."

"I vote for Carly every

single week because I want her to stay in the competition," said junior Zack Smolev. "It would be so cool if someone who lives so close to my hometown won such a big prize."

As we near press time for this issue, Carly is one of the final four contestants on the show. If you want Carly to keep representing the 914 and singing on *The X-Factor*, please vote for Carly.

*The X-Factor* can be seen on the Fox Television Network on Wednesdays at 8 p.m. (when the contestants compete and sing and viewers vote), and again on Thursdays at the same time, when results are revealed and someone gets voted off. Everyone #VOTEFORCARLY.

# Red Hot Music

Sarah Camillone and Callie Fried  
Staff Writers

On October 22, 2012, Taylor Swift released her fourth album, *Red*, almost two years after the release of her last album, *Speak Now*. Her new album includes 16 songs, and features collaborations with Gary Lightbody and Ed Sheeran. The album has an impressive tracklist that showcases Swift's variety as an artist, featuring everything from slow country songs to up-beat and energetic songs.

"I really like the album 'Red'. It is one of her best albums so far, all her songs are relatable," said junior Meghan Molloy. "I like how Taylor Swift tried new things with this album and stepped out of her comfort zone. Also, I really like how she collaborated with Ed Sheeran."

After just one week, *Red* sold 1.21 million album, breaking the 2002 record for the number of albums sold in a single week. *Red* is now the second biggest-selling album release of the year, falling second to Adele's breakthrough album 21.

"Taylor Swift is so talented and down to earth. She is literally able to sum up the life of a teenager and is so easy to relate to. Her songs are inspiring to teens," said Freshmen Emily Dugoff. "Her new album teaches many lessons and has a way to it that makes teens realize everything will be okay and to keep striving for the best, similar to how she has in her past."

As in her previous albums,

*Red* draws upon Swift's personal experiences and dramatic relationships. Written by Swift herself, each song features descriptive

simplicistic."

Why *Red*? In an interview with *People Magazine*, Swift revealed, "the relationship

Swift shared in the interview that the color red represented both the positive and negative aspects of her past relationships. "You have the great part of red, like the red emotions that are daring and bold, and represent passion, love and affection. And then you have on the other side of the spectrum, jealousy, anger and frustration."

"The album is very inspiring. It inspires me to be myself," said sophomore Samantha Carpino, "the song 'Everything Has Changed' featuring Ed Sheeran is my favorite because it shows Taylor and Ed's ability to write great songs."

Swift recently announced her tour schedule for *Red*, which will begin on March 13 and visit cities across the country.

"The lyrics of Taylor's songs describe the feelings that I, and other teenage girls have, but can't put into words," says Freshmen Kelly Brabant. "She's a great role model for us all and her new album proves this as each of her albums have in the past."

All in all, Taylor Swift's *Red* is the ultimate relationship album. From break-ups to new love, these songs are truly about emotions to which so many can relate.



Drawing by Amna Haider

accounts of her emotional experiences, inviting the public to relate to her past.

"The songs are really easy to connect to," said junior Sarah Crozier, "and the actual music is more complex and not so

that I had was, like, the worst thing ever and the best thing ever at the same time. I was writing this song and I was thinking about correlating the colors to the different feelings that I went through." As for the color red,

# Chorus Abuzz

(Continued from Page 14)

it. Students who are enrolled in Chorus have the opportunity to sign up and essentially perform any song they feel comfortable with in front of peers and family. This year, the first Cabaret took place in November at the Westchester Burger Company in Rye Ridge. The Cabaret serves as an important fundraiser for the chorus, as there's always an extensive turnout. The cover fee of ten dollars to actually get into the restaurant that night is more than worth it as an affordable and great entertainment value. This is less than has been charged in the past.

"I think that the new price of the Cabaret will attract more students to come," said junior Halle Mastroberadino. "It will be so much fun to perform for our peers as well as our parents!"

A significant amount of students participated, rehearsing for weeks to learn their notes, memorize lyrics, and perfect their public performing strategies to engage the audience. While the Cabaret, Interfaith Night, and Beatlemania are all opportunities to perform and entertain, students have also been encouraged to attend an "Audition Workshop," wherein they can receive feedback and learn strategies to help them while on auditions. This is not only helpful when auditioning for a part in a show, but essentially helps students who plan on studying music or dance as part of their college education. The event is beneficial in more ways than one and provides opportunities that otherwise would not exist for many. Not only are Chorus students encouraged to partake in the event, but any student who is interested in becoming a performer. The Chorus has plenty going on this first semester, as well as throughout the year. They are excited to share it with the rest of the community.

# MGK's *Lace Up*: Best Rap Album of 2012?

Rob Sperduto

Entertainment Editor

It's finally here. The up and coming Cleveland rapper, Machine Gun Kelly, has released his debut album, *Lace Up*. As any loyal MGK fan knows, it's been a long and bumpy road getting to where he is today. Excitement for the album has been growing around Harrison High School.

"I've been waiting for *Lace Up* to come out for a long time now and I can't stop listening to it," says senior Danny Hurley.

Does the "Wild Boy" rapper live up to what he has stated is "the greatest album of the decade?"

While making a name for himself through social networking sites such as YouTube (machinegunkellyak) and Twitter (@machinegunkelly), MGK really came into the scene when his third mixtape, *100 Words and Running*, gained popularity. He is most notorious for his skill at rapping very fast.

At just 22 years old, this rapper has seen many hardships in his life such as his father disowning him and his mother abandoning him; this is clearly shown in his music. Feeling like an outcast himself, Machine Gun Kelly is known to rap for the underdog and inspire ones who feel like they may not fit in. He's released many free mixtapes on the Internet and toured across the U.S. at small venues. Gradually gaining popularity, his luck finally turned around when Diddy signed him to his label, Bad Boy Records, and also the well known music label, Interscope Records.

Not to be confused with one of his previous mixtapes that holds the same name, *Lace Up* contains a wide range of legendary featuring artists. From the heavy metal band, Avenged Sevenfold, to hardcore rappers like DMX, Tech N9ne, Young Jeezy, Lil Jon, and many more, *Lace Up* has a song for everyone. Machine Gun Kelly isn't prone to sticking to one set genre and

frequently experiments with his sound. Looking at his appearance and attitude on stage, he holds a very rock star image while also rapping at the same time.

Listening to the first track on the album, "Save Me" (featuring Avenged Sevenfold), an angrier tone can easily be recognized due to all of the bad cards he says he's been dealt. However, the album ranges from a dark tone to wild and then to inspiring. Some of the darker songs include "Save Me," "D3MONS," and "Edge of Destruction," while some of the more upbeat songs are his gold-certified hit, "Wild Boy," "Lace Up," and "Hold On (Shut Up)." Finally, some inspi-



Courtesy of First Covers

ration songs from the album are "Invincible," "End of the Road," and "All We Have." The song that stands out the most in *Lace Up* has to be "All We Have," because it truly describes the path he's taken. The emotion is strongest in this track.

Boasting an additional four songs with 17 tracks in total, there's no reason not to buy the deluxe version of the album. What might come off disappointing to die-hard fans of *Lace Up* is that at least seven songs have been recycled from his mixtapes. This takes away the freshness of the album, especially after fans have been waiting at least a year due to delay and promotion issues. However, to newcomers who aren't familiar with MGK's previous work, the recycled songs present some of his best work to date.

What makes MGK so

unique amongst other rap artists of today is that he is so invested in his fans; he doesn't want to be looked at as somebody more important than them. Also, his stage performance is very important to him and always promises a wild and crazy concert.

Junior Brian Spiconardi saw MGK at Warped Tour 2012.

"MGK was the last performance I saw of the night," he said. "I wasn't expecting much from it, but by the end of his set, it was one of the best performances I've seen!"

MGK rewards his supporters with new content through day-in-the-life videos on YouTube and talking to fans through Twitter. In the beginning of October, the month that *Lace Up* was released, he promised that each week something new would be released for fans to enjoy. So far, two music videos have premiered on the Internet and he has been releasing his "Making of *Lace Up*" documentary in divided segments. Furthermore, before the album was released, he promised a yearbook in which he would put his favorite moments of 2012. A section of this yearbook is dedicated to every person who submitted their picture of them pre-ordering *Lace Up*. Not many artists of today are that thankful to their fan base.

So, is *Lace Up* the greatest album of the decade? No, it isn't. Some people may find his attitude and explicit lyrics offensive and others just might not like his style. However, it's arguable that *Lace Up* is the best rap album of 2012 and MGK is here to stay. It's exciting to think about his career down the line as he's only 22 and has time to improve and perfect his skills. Machine Gun Kelly and his debut album, *Lace Up*, are definitely a breath of fresh air from rappers of today such as Lil Wayne, Drake, or anybody on the Young Money record label.



# Kendrick Lamar releases *good kid, m.a.a.d city*

Rob Sperduto

Entertainment Editor

The rap genre has introduced a much needed new generation of artists over the course of 2012. Kendrick Lamar, Dr. Dre's latest signee recently released his major label debut album, *good kid, m.a.a.d city* (pronounced Good Kid, Mad City). After his exclusive iTunes released studio album, *Section.80*, received critical praise in 2011 and the announcement that Dr. Dre took him under his wing, Lamar's album was possibly the most anticipated rap album of 2012. Produced as a concept album in which Lamar describes it as "a short film" on the album cover, this Compton rapper doesn't fail to deliver. When asked about the quality of the album, long time fan of Lamar, Coby Lefkowitz said, "I thought it was very good because it told a story which most rap albums don't do."

"Sherane" opens up the album with a mellow beat that describes life in Compton and Kendrick's relationship with a woman. It ends with a skit of his

parents scolding him to think about the choices in his life; the rest of the album follows the same trend of skits at the end of each song. These skits usually pertain to an important moment in Kendrick's life which enhances the album being more like a story.

One of the strongest songs in *good kid m.a.a.d city* is track 3, "Backseat Freestyle." Judging from Lamar's previous freestyles such as his spot on Tim Westwood's radio show, it's clear that once Lamar speaks over a beat, he grabs hold of it and doesn't let go. "Backstreet Freestyle" is no exception, and it's a much lighter and cheerier tone from the two previous songs.

The freestyle beautifully transitions into another highlight on the album, "The Art of Peer Pressure." This song defines why Lamar is so unique from other rappers nowadays: he succeeds in starting a song with one beat and then completely switches the tempo and sounds midway into the song. It's a bold move that many artists can't pull

off because it can make one wish for two separate songs. However, Lamar utilizes this technique to make everything completely relevant into one individual track. Also, this track is a great lesson aimed at our generation about how making stupid decisions can affect a person. Lamar goes on to use this technique in other songs on the album as seen in "Good Kid" and its following track, "Mad City."

Lamar teams up with his mentor/producer, Dr. Dre, to reminisce about their hometown in the track, "Compton." There's a fantastic feeling of chemistry between the two and it's clear that both artists were very passionate in the creation of this album. Also, it's always a treat to hear something new from Dre, as the rap legend is so busy with numerous projects.

From Mary J. Blige to Drake to Dr. Dre, this album contains complementary artists that never seem out of place on the album or like they shouldn't belong. Not being a huge fan of

Drake, this reporter must admit that even he delivers in "Poetic Justice."

If you're looking for a CD to party and rock out to, you're not going to find it here. Instead, you'll discover some of Lamar's past in this well-paced concept album. *Good kid m.a.a.d city* is a great album to sit down, relax and chill to and proves that rap still has meaning while never slapping the listener with ridiculous lyrics. Judging from the rave reviews that *good kid m.a.a.d city* has been getting from major music news sources such as Allmusic (4.5/5), Rolling Stone (4/5), and XXL (5/5), Lamar has a high probability of winning many awards in the upcoming year, and it's rightly deserved. 2012 has seen some impressive major label debuts in the rap genre from super group Slaughterhouse to the Midwest rapper, Machine Gun Kelly; add Kendrick Lamar to that list and the future of rap and hip-hop seems very promising to say the least.

## Green Day's Musical Return Is Easy as 1-2-3

Jamie DeRosa

Staff Writer

Green Day is finally back with their brand new album, *Uno*. Released in late September, *Uno* is the first in what is promised to be a trilogy of albums, all set to be released by early 2013. *Uno* is more of a return to form for the band after a brief foray into politics with their last album *21<sup>st</sup> Century Breakdown*.

Green Day has always been a very popular band. Records such as *American Idiot* and *Dookie* hold a very special place in the hearts of many. *American Idiot* was so loved that it even got its own Broadway show based off of it. Still, with as many fans as the band has, it's pretty clear that they have somewhat fallen from grace. While still important in the music industry, they definitely have dipped in popularity. It's not just them -- punk rock, and the genre of rock as a whole has been replaced with the likes of today's house music and pop stars like Justin Bieber. While this is bound to happen in the music industry, people should

remember all types of music generally come back. Just look at last year and the Boy Band rush that popped up, with groups like One Direction becoming huge sensations in a very short time. Rock is due for a comeback and that is exactly what Green Day is fighting for with this new album.

Boasting 12 songs, *Uno* is, for the most, part punk rock to its core. It's back to basics for the band, and while that's generally considered a bad idea as it shows a band trying to recapture their past glory in a wave of nostalgia, it's exactly what Green Day needs. Even though it was well received, many people feel the band got a little off focus in their last album with its very political feel. That's not the case with *Uno*, as only one of the songs, "Kill the DJ" has a political backbone. It just so happens that "Kill the DJ" is the most unique song on the album and people are either going to love it or hate it. It shows the band experimenting with some new ideas. Besides

that, it's the typical punk rock affair. There are many songs about teen angst and sexual tension.

There are many memorable songs on the album. Songs like "Let Yourself Go" and "Loss of Control" are going to be very popular live, as they're full of energy and are definitely going to get the crowd pumped. Songs like lead single, "Oh Love," will definitely get stuck in your head and have you humming the beat.

"I really like 'Nuclear Family,'" said junior Daniel Son. "It's one of the most traditional songs they've made in years."

*Uno* is a very solid album and it offers up nostalgia in spades for fans of the genre. Green Day still has two more albums set to come out by early '13, entitled *Dos* and *Tre*, respectively. It's clear that the band will be a topic of discussion in the music industry over the next few months. Perhaps this will mark the start of a rock renaissance. While there still are traditional rock bands making good mu-

sic like Muse and Linkin Park, that type of music isn't widely consumed anymore. Music has changed and while some might argue it's for the better, others say it's for the worse.

"I know it sounds hipsterish, but I think the main stream music industry these days is absolutely terrible," says junior Brian Spiconardi. "Turn on the radio and go to the most popular radio station and you will very likely hear some very poorly auto-tuned mess of a song that will only be popular for a few weeks until the next catchy beat comes out and replaces it."

Music will always change, and different genres will always come back in and out of popularity (unless it's disco, which likely is never coming back). Green Day is back, however, and it doesn't look like they're going anywhere for a while. Most people would agree that this is a good thing.



In "The Sweet Life of Ben and Coby," food-loving juniors Ben Adler and Coby Lefkowitz invite you to join them as they sample the best fare the tri-state area has to offer! In this installment, the duo provides food for thought regarding New York City's Chelsea Market!



Few foodie adventures rival a trip to New York's famous Chelsea Market. Settled among the hip and revitalized neighborhood of Chelsea, Chelsea Market offers a wide array of options ranging from classic deli favorites to vegan delicacies. It is almost impossible to walk through the wide, granite walkways of this crowded market without purchasing bags of produce and enough specialty food items to last more than a week. On our latest trip to the Chelsea Market, Coby and I visited many food vendors, getting a taste of the best of food experiences in the city.

**Dickinson's Farm Stand Meats:** Walking into this "old style" butchers' shop felt like going back in time 50 years ago to the heart of the New York City meatpacking district. House-roasted meats and cuts are displayed in clean glass display cases, asking to be taken home for a sure-to-impress barbecue dinner. It is always refreshing to enter a classic butchers' shop, as you do not have to worry about eating heavily processed meats. Rather, you can focus on the deliciousness of the local, organic meats.

**Friedman's Lunch:** The true exemplar of what all walk-in lunch spots should aspire to be. Nothing can compare to the seasonal menu of this comfort food hotspot, serving up the perfect lunch. For those more health-conscious eaters have no fear. Friedman's Lunch offers healthier alternatives to the grease-filled sandwiches. For example, their fresh fish tacos are spectacular, and their

wide array of salads will put any Chop't combo to shame. Our favorites included the Pastrami Reuben, filled with house made roasted pastrami and a perfectly tart sauerkraut mixed wonderfully with the strong accents of a local Swiss cheese.

**Jacques Torres Chocolate:** Whether a sweltering summer day or a crisp fall afternoon, no food item is sure to put a smile on your face more than a classic ice cream sandwich. While this chocolate shop prides itself in hand made chocolate fudge blocks displayed like diamonds in display cases, the true gem resides in a more modest freezer in one of the back corners. The hand spun ice cream (ours being salted caramel and pecan) is generously scooped and sandwiched between two gooey chocolate chip cookies. The mix of salty and sweet could not be more defined and perfected. Even better, there is nothing more satisfying than seeing the face of your friend as they redefine what their favorite frozen treat is. Other flavor options include strawberry, chocolate, vanilla, and cookies and cream.

**The Lobster Place:** If the name didn't give it away, this half food court, half seafood emporium specializes in lobster. Looking into the large glass windows of this bustling lunch spot barely hints at the chaos that exists inside. Among walking in, you are directed either to the left side for fresh seafood, or the right (more popularly) to wait online to pick your lobster. Choosing what to eat could never be taken so literally, as you actually can choose which lobster you want. Find-

ing a spot to sit down and enjoy the lobster meal is as much of a challenge as was picking the perfect lobster. Don't take this as a bad thing, as this spot is all about the experience; a bunch of New Yorker, lobster fanatics sitting down together to feast on the steak of the sea.

In addition to travelling across the tri state area in attempts to find the perfect bite, Ben and I also enjoy taking in the beautiful sights of the big apple; what better way to do this than explore it from a unique, new angle? Extending from Gansevoort Street (14<sup>th</sup> street) to 34<sup>th</sup> street along the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> avenues of Westside Manhattan, the High Line is an experience that must go on the to do list for all visitors of New York; right next to Times Square, The Empire State Building and Central Park. The High Line, a historic freight line turned park, is elevated multiple stories above the streets of New York. To put simply, there is nothing like this in our country, and beyond that the world. Littered with eclectic food stands, (which are all very modern, organic food everywhere you look) any craving that you might have can be satisfied very easily.

Located in the Upper Chelsea Market Passage (yes right above the Chelsea Market, convenient, we know) stand Bark and L'Arte Del Gelato among a dozen other vendors. These two stands stood out to us immediately for their artistic designs, and quite honestly delicacies that we were in want of. L'arte Del Gelato automatically captured the attention of my fellow writer and I because the

water ice sold there was shaved right before our eyes; off of a 50 pound slab of ice! The simple snack of water ice, which is nostalgic to many of us, is taken with a whole new spin here. But hey, this is the High Line, where everything and anything that could potentially be simple is not and is given an ultra modern spin to it. What else were we to expect? As Ben gnawed on his frozen treat, I treated myself to the hot dogs and sausages at Bark located directly next to L'Arte Del Gelato. Be forewarned, the wait for these delectable dogs is agonizing but like most good things in life, waiting ultimately yields better results. I introduced Sweet Peppers with Ketchup to the perfect combination of beef and pork, and there is no other way to describe this taste other than the culmination of chow in perfect unison. The snap and slight bite of the hot dog was complimented very nicely by the sweet taste of peppers. We enjoyed these as we continued our walking journey above the streets of lower Manhattan, taking in some of the most beautiful views of the city!

Following careful analysis, our final review is as follows:

Taste:   
Value:   
Ambiance: 

# “Teen Trend Straight Talk”

Amanda Friedman

Staff Writer

Autumn is a spectacular time of year- one filled with crimson painted leaves, gusts of chilled winds, raw, rosy cheeks, and the majestic scent of cinnamon spice mixed with that of grandma's pumpkin pie. However, it is hard to ignore the ever so apparent fact that as Autumn rolls in, we are forced to give up our beach towels in exchange for a pad, pencil, (and if truly unlucky,) even a uniform. Although our summer fun is abruptly put to an end and we are suddenly forced to wake up at the crack of dawn to receive that ever so important education come that start of September, there is one thing that can always be counted on to make the pain worth while. What could possibly be better than fall fashion? The only thing that could even compete would be being able to show off that style down the catwalk of the school hallway. It's time to get your "model" on.

**Boot Camp:** There is no other effective way to show you rule the school than by putting on a show-stopping pair of boots. With so many styles, material variations, and brands, you can achieve absolutely any look your high-school heart desires.



This year's biggest trend, for those who feel like pulling off a preppy, high-society look, is the swade, brown, zippered boot. It is usually "under the knee" length and hugs the calf rather tightly. With these classy boots,

it will become hard to tell whether you are a 16 year-old student or a world-renowned jockey. Paired with faded denim jeans and pale polo shirt, these boots put you on top of the world. Then, for those risk takers, another trend to follow for this season would be the knee-high black leather boots. They are edgy, mysterious, and become even snazzier with the edition of studs. If worn with navy or deep colored jeans and a long, statement-making shirt, these boots tell people who's in charge. Finally, a trend slowly but surely pushing its way to the top of my list would be the ankle-cut boots. I personally think that with a two-inch heel attached and some fringe here and there, these boots successfully combine cowgirl and urban hipster into one look. Some nicely cuffed, tight-fitting pants and an irresistible woolen sweater make these boots to die for when all harmoniously sported together. Remember, there is no wrong that can be done by wearing a "loud" boot this year...there is only something wrong with you denying your ability to work it!

## **Backpacks and knapsacks and totes, oh my:**

Sure, carrying your books around may be necessary, but lugging around a sad little zippered creation to hold them is most definitely not! This year, make it your job to go out and find your own awesome book bag. Lets have no more of this single colored, rough textured, bulky stuff. Instead, lets put some personality into them and treat these bags not just as useful products, but the perfect accessory! If you're into the two straps over the shoulder, comfortable type of backpack, I would suggest getting something brilliantly colored or maybe even personalized with a monogram of your initials. Kipling's, "Challenger Backpack" would be the ultimate example of this style done right, (coming in vibrant hues such as "luminous orange" and "bright turquoise." If the "throw over the shoulder" tote is

your preference, go for metallic, printed, or uniquely fabricated ones. Totes have a sad tendency to look like big, blank canvasses drooping from your side, (due to their lack of zippers, pockets, key-chains, etc...) In order to make sure your tote is not a bland sack, but instead a glamorous book chauffer, follow the tips above and maybe even get a little wild. Marc Jacob's, "Pretty Nylon Tate," is the ideal example of a tote done right- combining



an intriguing pattern with neutral colors that compliment any outfit on any day. It's time to stop taking your knapsack for granted, see its underlying potential, and spice up you your bag life!

## **Fall In Love With Sweaters:**

Sweaters are like those old friends that have always been by your side. They were there when you were shivering as a toddler, craving comfort as a kid, and now, are here when you wish to be on top of the fashion food change. They have evolved over the years into not just items of necessity, but MUST HAVES that turn a plain old schoolgirl into an icon. Now a day, if one were to wander in to a store, the traditional, beloved, Bill Cosby woolen sweater with a turtle-neck attached would be hidden in the shadows of grand, "Teen

Vogue" styled ones embellished with sparkles, jewels, and even sequined elbow pads. There are so many glamorous variations- all successfully transforming the common sweater's image from one of old and smelly to either elegant or edgy. If desiring a more of a standout look, you should go for a sweater complete with cutouts and drenched in a vibrant color. Though something bright pink may not be what one associates with fall, the fact that

it's seen on a sweater adds that sense of comfort that one would associate with the season, and therefore, is perfectly acceptable. If you're the kind that wishes to hold on to every last wispy thread of summer, incorporate that need in your sweater selection! Crop-top sweaters such as the "Ombre" one from LF stores masterfully combine that cool "beachy" look with the warmth needed to survive the often-chilly month of September. Then of course, if you're that typical granny-knitted cat sweater-loving girl, there's no need for you to go mod. However, this fall's

fashion forecast calls for heavily knitted, textured sweaters which combine acceptable style and that heart-warming-ness that you get from Nana's- making them a perfect substitution! Basically, this fall, there's nothing better than a cozy sweater.

Fall fashion is some of the best there is. (Period.) One can go light, dark, rough, smooth, tight, oversized, offbeat, mainstream, flashy, low-key, or even, my favorite: absolutely untamed. There are no limitations to your trendy imagination during the season of all seasons, and if smart, you will take advantage of such socially acceptable creative freedoms. Remember, though style is a serious matter, it can only be truly appreciated if you have fun with it. All I ask is that you follow the three E's: explore, experiment, and enjoy.



# SPORTS

## Coaching Chemistry Brings Soccer Success

Sara Purinton

Staff Writer

Coming into the 2012 season, Harrison's Boys' Soccer Team featured two new coaches, Mathew Pringle and assistant coach Chris Houlihan. This meant there was a new coaching style and routine to which to adjust. The team quickly found ways to relate to the new coaches, who seemed much more organized than coaches had been in the past. The new efficiency and friendship that the coaches brought helped the team.

"They created great chemistry throughout the team," said senior captain Frankie Antolino.

Though early in the season the team's chances looked



The team in action.

*Courtesy of Ryo Inkyo*

grim, the Huskies were able to break their five-game losing streak when they played Westlake High School. After that, the team seemed unstoppable, going on to an 11-game winning streak, and beating arch-rival Rye!

"We definitely set a precedent this year for future generations," noted senior captain Erik Johansen.

Compared to last year's season when the Huskies only had two wins, the 2012 team was stronger both in skill and unity. Every player was fully dedicated

to the team, and senior Ryo Inkyo attributed this improvement to the changes that the new coaches made to their playing style, as well as a stronger sense of teamwork between the players.

"Everyone put the team before themselves, and I think that kind of attitude really showed on the field," explained senior David Polakoff. "I don't think we would have had half as good a season if that teamwork wasn't there."

There were quite a few sprains and bruises throughout the season, but that didn't stop the players from always giving their all on the field. This year's team was dominated by seniors, which means that next year's squad will be filled with many new junior varsity players moving up. Though the Huskies will lose several key seniors, the team is confident that the new crop of varsity players will do their best to uphold the Harrison Huskies' prized reputation.

The season was so successful for the Huskies that many of its members never stopped playing. Many are already members of club teams, but now they want to form a team together to enter into tournaments. Looking toward next year, a few players have been scouted and are talking to college coaches, while others know they will be going to open tryouts at the colleges they are attending.

## Record not indicative of Girls in the Swim

Sarah Camillone

Staff Writer

This season was a success for the Girls' Varsity Swim Team. Although they faced many conflicts throughout the season, they pulled through it and grew together as a team.

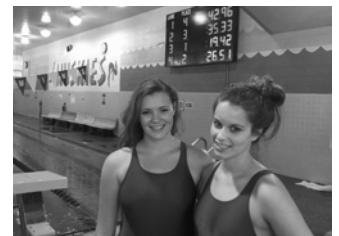
The team lost eight seniors last year, and 15 over the past two years, so they had a relatively new team this past season. With five girls in band, and six meets on Fridays that conflicted with football games, the team lost those five girls for those meets, which was tough.

As a result, the girls feel like their record this year does not reflect their true ability as swimmers. The team lost three meets by less than four points, the equivalent to another team taking second place over Harrison in just one race.

"The overall year was, in my opinion, a success," said sophomore Sarah Hodes. "Our record does not show the amount of hard work and effort that our team put in each practice. We lost a number of meets by a very small margin. Although our overall record hindered us, our team unity improved, and that's the part that in ten years or so, we will all remember."

It is clear that the girls put a lot of hard work into this season, and even though their record wasn't perfect, the bond between teammates grew.

"We don't consider people on this team as teammates, we consider them sisters," said junior Nicolette Mitil. "We all share a bond together that you



Captains Caird and Cacchione. don't necessarily find on most teams."

Sophomore Sarah Hodes competed in the NYSPHSAA State Swimming and Diving Championships at Ithaca College on Friday, November 16. She finished twentieth out of 37 in the 500-yard freestyle, and finished twenty-eighth out of 41 in the 200-yard freestyle. Sarah also broke two school records that had been standing since 1991, the 200 yard IM (Individual Medley), and the 500-yard freestyle.

"States was a great overall experience," said sophomore Sarah Hodes, "I am happy to have been a part of it."

Looking ahead to next season, the team is looking to expand and keep building. In the past five years, the team has had around 25 people, but this year's squad consisted of 18 girls. Even girls that are new to the team are accepted into the swimming 'family.'

"This was my first year doing varsity swimming and it was really challenging, but fun at the same time," said senior Amanda Araujo. "All the girls were so supportive."

With a bond this strong, who wouldn't want to join? The swim team is looking to expand its roster next season, so it is the perfect time to join.

*Photo courtesy of Mr. Dearstyne*

# You Had To Be There

Ariel Coonin

News Editor

After two months of excitement and fierce competition, the United States walked away from the London 2012 Olympics on top with a total of 104 medals: 46 Gold, 29 Silver, and 29 Bronze. I was one of the people lucky enough to witness the Olympics firsthand.

In the months leading to the Opening Ceremonies on July 24, people around the world prepared for the worst. Rumored plans of terrorist attacks were leaked, London's infamous dreary weather sparked fear, and locals worried that the local transit systems would become overly claustrophobic and full of tourists. Despite the concerns, nothing blew up, the weather was beautiful, and the London Underground system moved as smoothly as ever, making it hard to believe there was a worldwide celebration taking place nearby.

Going to the London 2012 Summer Olympics was an experience of a lifetime, an opportunity that I may never have again. In the seven days I spent in London, I met people from all around the world, learned about their lifestyles, and heard languages



Big Ben says it's time for the Olympics.

that I'd never heard before. The support for each country was breathtaking, and the sense of national pride was incredible.

Watching the Olympics, whether live or from the couch of your living room on TV, is watching history in the making. The Olympics brings the world together, and for a short

period of time, political tensions and racism are forgotten.

On my first day in London, I went to Wembley Stadium, the most famous soccer stadium in England, to watch Japan take on Mexico in the men's semifinals game. I sat way up in the bleachers, hardly able to make out the numbers on the players' jerseys, but it didn't matter. The soccer being played was just beautiful and it was really interesting to see all of the fans from all different countries. The Mexican fans were a sight to be seen, wearing sombreros and ponchos, waving their Mexican flags proudly. Just a few days later, Mexico beat Brazil in the Gold Medal Match.

On August 9, I returned to Wembley Stadium to watch the U.S. Women's National Soccer team play Japan in the Gold Medal match. The game was an unofficial rematch of the Women's World Cup in 2011, where Japan stole the title from the Americans in penalty kicks. The U.S. team won their well-deserved Gold Medal, reclaiming the title from the Japanese.

Before the game, I stopped in a pub with my family for an early pregame dinner. The inside of the pub was plastered with American flags – a site I did not expect to see in London. We sat down and had dinner, meeting people from all over the country.

Face paint and all, we left dinner and followed the crowd to the stadium. Walking up to the stadium and seeing a sea of red white and blue was truly amazing.

Into the stadium we went – after a short security line, of course – and sat down in our seats: Row 17 up from the field. I had never been seated this close to the field at a sporting event in my entire life.

The game began and the U.S. women's national team

started off strong with a goal in the eighth minute scored by midfielder Carli Lloyd. The U.S. kept the lead by Lloyd scoring again in minute 54. It looked like smooth sailing from there, but the end of the second half was closer than ever. It seemed as if Japan was going to comeback in the end and steal the Gold, just as they

cheering and applause. It took a moment for the players on the field to realize that they had won. "We are the Champions" played over the loudspeaker, and fans swayed back and forth, singing at the top of their lungs. As the song played, the U.S. team ran around the field, hugging each other and flying American flags.



The Tower of London welcomes the Olympics.

After a bit of celebrating, the U.S. team left the field and went to change into their clothes for the medal ceremony. A group of Olympic staff workers ran out onto the field carrying the pieces of the medal stands and setting them up in the middle of the field. The fans waited with to cheer on the medalists.

did in the World Cup title game.

In the end, Japan's efforts were of no use. The U.S. was determined to claim their victory, locking out Japan with a final winning score of 2-1.

Being there to witness my country win a Gold Medal was one of the coolest experiences of my life, especially as I am soccer player myself. The clock timed out and the USA fans erupted into

Finally the players came out from the locker rooms, first Canada, the Bronze medalists, next Japan with the Silver, and finally our home country winning the Gold. The players held hands as they stepped up onto the medal stands. Each player from every team had their name called and a medal placed around their necks. The crowd erupted in cheers for every single person – it was unbelievable.

I had the chance to see it live and, as good as it must have been watching it on TV, you had to be there to get the full experience.



Russia's team following a game. All photos courtesy of A.Coonin

# Girls' Soccer Has Memorable Season

Sarah Mazza

Staff Writer

The Harrison Girls Varsity Soccer Team's season came to a sad ending as they lost their elimination round during Sectional play against Pearl River. Harrison was seeded #15; Pearl River was seeded #2.

"We played really well," said senior captain Sarah Beriman. "Even though they were the #2 seed, we took on the challenge and our girls played with 40 minutes of intensity and giving 100% effort."

The girls started off their season with a beautiful victory over Valhalla, but after that things started to shift. Soon the Girls' Soccer Team was tying more games than winning. In the high school soccer league, teams are only allowed to play two, 10-minute halves to try and score, but after that the end result is a tie, something the Harrison Varsity Soccer Team knows everything about.

"Tying our big games like Rye was very hard for our team, especially when we fought so hard to try to get the victory," said senior captain Kate Faxon. "Tying also made us realize as a team

that we maybe have to get a little more intense in our playing and really want the win."

The girls play in a very tough league against such teams as Horace Greeley, Rye, Byram Hills, and Fox Lane. All of those schools have very well put together soccer programs that just keep getting bigger and bigger, similar to the one here at Harrison.

"Our team always brings it when playing Rye because it is our rivalry team," explained freshman Emma Smolev. "When we play Rye, it's a totally different atmosphere. No other school can understand this, because the Harrison-Rye rivalry is so big, especially during football season. It's really something special to be a part of this team, because even though all of us may not be best friends, when we walk on the field and it's game time, we all come together to play."

The Harrison Varsity Girls' Soccer Team ended its season with a respectable 6-7-5 record.

Varsity Girls' Soccer Coach, Mr. Jon-Erik Zapalla, added his input on the season.

"The Girls' Varsity Soccer

Team was a very talented team and our record does not reflect how well we played throughout the season," he said. "We tied very competitive teams! We had a great defense and two talented goalies. We controlled the level of play in many of our games especially in the midfield and in the games that we tied."

"If we had better luck finishing and our ties were wins, then our record would have justified our true potential. The fact that we tied so many games against quality teams goes to show The Huskies were very talented."

"I would say our toughest games this past season were against Mamaroneck, Ursuline, Byram Hills, Horace Greeley, and Rye," Coach Zappala continued. "The other teams we played against were obviously solid teams, but I truthfully believe we played better and just had no luck finishing. We were a young team and I believe the seniors did a great job guiding the team."

"Many players stepped up and helped the younger athletes feel at ease and part of a cohe-

sive family. I was psyched that the athletes got together out of school for team outings, dinners, and bonded very well. I think we did a good job running a 4-3-3. With the little amount of time we had together, we played well in the formation. We will be losing our midfield, so that will be a new task to overcome. I believe we will be successful with the talent we have in our program. I think everyone will adjust smoothly with the veteran players and the new varsity members come 2013. We will probably play a 4-4-2, depending how tryouts go next year."

While losing seniors could dramatically affect the team moving forward, Zappala remains confident, urging potential player interested in playing for next year's team to practice, prepare, and stay in shape.

"I look forward to the challenges we must overcome for next year," he said, "but I am positive that we will adjust with them gone and be a successful team."

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# Cross Country Team: Young and Popular

Sara Purinton

Staff Writer

Beginning another season of Harrison cross country, the team is the largest it has been in school history. Cross Country's popularity is on the rise, and all the young talent provides a promising, bright future for the team. At the first meet of the season at Byram Hills, the freshmen girls made themselves known to the other teams in the section by finishing first.

"This year we have a fantastic younger team," captain and senior Erika Gunderson explained. "Most of our team consists of eighth graders and freshmen, and there are only a couple upper classmen. I think it's great that younger kids are taking an interest in running, and running competitively. With the raw talent that they have already shown, by the time they're upperclassmen, Harrison will have

a team to reckon with."

Freshman Brianna Pertak finished first overall, with a time of 12:18.6, while eighth grader Romy Pein stole second with a time of 12:21.9. This was an incredible accomplishment for the girls, who were participating in their first JV/Varsity meet. In the boys' race, freshman Ricky Harris finished third overall with a time of 9:14.7, while fellow freshman Zach Struhl took fourth with a time of 9:37.0. Given that this was the first meet of the season, the team's potential seems endless.

Though fewer injuries have been suffered so far this season as compared to last year, health problems have been critical to the team this season. Regrettably, head coach Mr. Simon had to resign last week due to health problems. Mr. Simon had coached cross country and dis-

tance running at the high school for four years, and most of the runners on the team have never known a different coach.

Senior captain Trey Wasilesky said, "Simon was a great head coach. It will be hard for the team to transition and start taking orders from someone new."

Stepping up from her position as assistant coach, Mrs. Profenna will be taking over as head coach, while Mr. Bennett will come up from the middle school team to work as the assistant coach. For everyone on the team, Mr. Simon's resignation came as shocking and disheartening news. Looking forward to the rest of the season, the question remains as to how quickly the team can acclimate to a new coach. Though workouts may be similar, the familiarity that so

many had with Mr. Simon makes it difficult to fathom someone else as head coach.

Major changes will be taking place for the upcoming track and field season, because only two of the four coaches from last year will be present. With Mr. Simon gone due to health issues and Mrs. Zanot on maternity leave, only sprinting coach Mr. Zanot and throwing coach Mr. Pellet are returning from last year. Although some might see this as a negative situation, it also provides a chance to bring in new coaches that have new ideas on how practice should be structured. Big changes are in store for this year's cross country team, and time will only tell whether the changes will pay off or not.

# Bowling Strikes Again

Ray Corona

Sports Editor

This year's Harrison Huskies' Bowling Team will be looking for more than just spares and strikes; they'll be looking for a section title. Despite the loss of some key bowlers from both the boys' and girls' teams, this year's lineup seems more determined and capable than ever of making a deep run in the playoffs. The boys will need to rely on returning starters, such as Anshul Doshi, Bobby Medori and Sanam Patel to lead them to a successful season. The girls' team will look to Kaylee Araoz and Alexa Coloccia for leadership as they too attempt to have a winning season.

After two days of tryouts, Coach Ciavarella set the boys' team, which consisted of both under and upper classmen. While the starting squad was set, the tryouts helped the team get back in rhythm, all while introducing new members to the bowling team. New team members such

as Jake Zuckman, Pornprom Thankhamyoo and Frank Evangelista shined during tryouts and opened eyes with their ability to consistently bowl in the 120s.

Sanam Patel, one of the top bowlers this year, was impressed with some of the new team members.

"It's always nice to have a good group of players top to bottom," he said. "As a starter, it feels good to know that if any one of us can't play, we have great bowlers to back us up."

While many of the boys on this year's team are seniors, the Huskies have the luxury of a strong core of underclassmen as well. Mike DeRenzi, Frank Evangelista, Savnak Shah and Rafael Tejada will have the task of leading the team next year.

While much is expected of the boys this year, the same expectations will be for the girls' team. Coach Kaplan, with only

a few seniors, will need to lead a group of mostly new bowlers to victory this year.

Senior Kaylee Arrozo, a bowling veteran for the girl's team, feels confident about the team's outlook.

"After tryouts, it's clear that we have the potential to be successful this year," she said. "Everyone on this team has a great attitude and each person contributes, whether getting strikes or spares."

Other seniors such as Alexa Coloccia and Sam Guarnero shined during tryouts, living up to high expectations.

Already the Huskies have had success, easily picking up wins against Rye Neck and Horace Greeley. Each match consists of three bowling games. The winner of each game, in terms of total pins knocked down, receives two points, and the winner of the total amount of

pins knocked down receives one point. The boys' team beat Rye Neck by a score of 5-2, while the girls impressively won 7-0. The boys' team shut out the Horace Greeley squad, winning 7-0. Perhaps more impressive than the 12-2 start by the boys was Bobby Medori's extraordinary 279 that he bowled against Horace Greeley. That game was a Harrison record.

While the season for these bowlers is just getting started, it's clear Coaches C and Kaplan have a special group of bowlers, teams that will definitely be a force to be reckoned with in the bowling alley.

"We're capable of anything this season," says Doshi. "We'll have plenty of tough opponents, but if we continue to practice hard and have fun, we can handle whatever comes at us."

# Volleyball- A Season of Change

Rose Stokoe

Staff Writer

The road to this season was not easy for the Girls' Varsity Volleyball Team. Not only did the Huskies lose some of their key seniors, they sported a whole new lineup. With all the adversity they faced, the team finished the season with a record of 2-14. While the season was not what the girls originally had in mind, the future of the team still looks bright.

With the large success the team had the past two years, winning two Section titles and going undefeated at home, this youthful team had a lot to live up to. The talent and caliber of the seniors lost to graduation was obvious — there were three Con Edison award winners and one player recruited to a Division Two School. It seemed almost an impossible task for the girls to live up to last year's success.

Coach Candy Light made



The 2012-13 Volleyball Team.

*Courtesy of Lifetouch Studio*

it very clear to every girl on this year's team that they were in no way anyone's replacement; they were their own team with their own goals. One goal, rebuilding the future, was a success this

year, and the Huskies' return to a section title could happen in years to come.

While the success didn't appear on the team's record, statistically, many of the girls had

impressive seasons. Seniors Alexa Coloccia and Olivia Manley led the team in kill percentages, while freshman Maxine Lieblich led the team in overall kills with 59. Junior Zoe Rheingold had her own personal success, averaging 1.1 kills per set. This reporter also had her own success on the court, with 19 blocks this season.

While the loss of Coloccia and Manley will hurt next year's team, there definitely are plenty of players still around that have the potential to rebuild this Volleyball program.



# New Fitness Center Ready Before and After School

Kyle Lefkowitz

Staff Writer

Whether you know it or not, you pass this room every day, whether on a stroll through the language hallway or going to or from the gym. After school it becomes especially noticeable, as there are faint sounds of music and hard work emanating from within. If you glanced inside, you probably saw football or basketball team members hard at work, crowded around a few rusty machines. That's all changing now.

The room formerly known as the weight room is gone, replaced by the new and improved HHS Fitness Center. Based on the input of various coaches, athletes, and students, this new fitness center has doubled in space and includes new machines such as a stair climber and an elliptical, as well as multiple brand-new flat

said Mr. Pellet.

Mr. Pellet is eager to help students or staff with any questions. He can help them create their own personalized routines, or even just help out with proper technique.

"I hope word gets out about this new center because it is an awesome idea," said junior Olivia Pagano. "I feel a good way to further improve the fitness center would be having each sports team that wishes to use it make a schedule as to when they plan on working out in the center. By knowing when it will be in use by the sports teams, it will give those who would like to work out individually the chance to figure out their own schedule, based on their comfort level."

Junior Max McMullen agreed.

"It's a great idea," he said. "It will encourage a lot more people to exercise and also, now that there is a supervisor, it will make the center a lot more open."

With the new center comes a new set of rules. These

are put in place in order to maintain a safe and stable environment. Rules and new features include: a sign-in sheet when entering, adherence to rules to ensure that the center and its machines are not damaged, so that all may enjoy it, a 10-minute limit on cardio machines (so that all can use the treadmill), a first-come, first serve waitlist policy, a ban on foul language and horseplay, proper fitness attire, required racking of weights when done, and spraying down machines and equipment as required.

Integral to this improvement has been the work and

efforts of Athletic Director Mrs. Seligman, who has spent countless hours overseeing the renovations to the center, ordering and installing new equipment, and organizing the whole project.

"Our hope is that all of our students, individuals and teams, and faculty will benefit from the enlarged and renovated fitness center and that the latest state-of-the-art equipment will lure students and faculty into exercising before and after school," said AD Seligman. "My hope is that we will have so many people using this great facility that we will need to build another just to keep up with the demand."

With new lighting, ventilation, wall-to-wall mirrors, and TV screens, the new and improved fitness center is sure to lure students and teachers alike. Not only has the actual appearance of the center improved, but also its efficiency and overall foreseeable success.

The equipment (treadmills, bikes, the elliptical, and more) will have time limits to ensure that everyone gets their chance on the machine of their choice. With the help of Mr. Pellet and his workout regimens, students will also be able to maximize their workouts, by getting more effective exercise done in a shorter amount of time.

"It will not only be useful during the designated hours before and after school, but also for P.E. classing," said Mrs. Seligman. "The HHS Fitness Center will



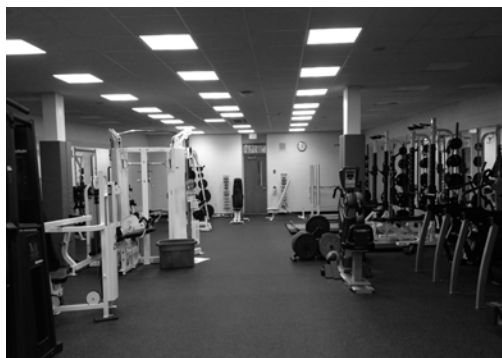
*New and improved equipment*

be an asset to the physical education program, providing students the opportunity to develop personal fitness plans and an appreciation of life-long fitness/wellness activities.

Perhaps the coolest part of the new center is that it will be 'user friendly' with a focus on making fitness available for all skill levels, including a new wheelchair-accessible upper body rowing machine."

Mr. Pellet intends on creating an incentive program to reward and recognize users for their hard work and routine usage of the facility.

The new HHS Fitness Center is a great opportunity for all students to improve their physical fitness developed. For a quick workout before or after school, the Fitness Center is the place to go. Hours for the HHS Fitness Center will be from 6:15 to 7:15 a.m., Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.



*Fitness center ready for action*

screen televisions.

The center also features a new Fitness Supervisor, certified Personal Trainer and Track & Field Throws coach Mr. Pellet. This new and improved facility is opening a whole new realm of possibilities for students and staff, offering a chance to substantially improve anyone that steps into the room, for an hour or even less.

"What I would like from the new fitness center is for everyone to feel comfortable coming in and using it regularly, and to make students as well as faculty and staff aware of the great benefits that come from physical activity,"



*State of the art technology*

*Pictures courtesy of Amy Carton*

# In Sync: Olivia B. Wins Nationals

Helina Dawit

Staff Writer

What do you think of when you hear winter sports? Skiing? Snowboarding? Ice Hockey? How about Synchronized Skating?

Our very own HHS sophomore Olivia Barbalescu is part of a very successful Synchronized Skating team that has won the Synchronized Skating Nationals in 2011. She was more than happy to explain what Synchronized Skating is all about and her part in this sport.

"It's like the Rockettes, but on ice," Barbalescu said, comparing it to the precision dance company that performs annually out of Radio City Music Hall every Christmas season.

Her Synchronized Skating team, which goes by the name "Skyliners," performs a coordinated routine. Unlike the Rockettes, who perform their routine solely for entertainment, the Skyliners perform to compete. In the sport, various teams of 16-20 skaters each perform a program together on ice to music while being judged on their expression, speed, and interpretation of the music, intricate formations and challenging step sequences. In addition, the routines must include required vigorous elements such as blocks and wheels. A team of judges ascertains the level of execution, elements executed, and overall artistry.

"It's basically a bunch of single ice skaters all doing the same thing at once, in synchronization," explained Olivia. "It's such a great thing to do because, in freestyle skating, there's one person and that person is the star of the show, and that's it. When you're on a team with 19 other girls, you have to know to be in the right place at the right time for each formation, while perfectly executing the program on time in coordination with everyone else. It's a lot

different and harder than you would expect."

Synchronized skating is really a matter of teamwork and relating to others.

"It's just amazing," said Olivia. "I get to meet people from all over the area, and I have friends from the outer parts of New Jersey and Connecticut too. You are exposed to all types of people, but you all have one thing in common: a love for synchronized skating, which makes for a great friendship. I've

has established a National Competition wherein competitors from across the nation come together to compete for the title of "National Synchronized Skating Champion." The Nationals are held in a different location every year. In 2013, Nationals will be held in Kalamazoo, Michigan. The World Championship competition will be held in Boston, Massachusetts this year. In 2014, it will be held in Courmayeur, Italy.

and participate as models as part of the Moncler Grenoble Fashion Week Fashion show at NYC's own Wollman Rink.

The girls practice 2-3 times a week at Chelsea Piers in Stamford, Connecticut, Playland Ice Casino in Rye, Westchester Skating Academy in Larchmont, or Sport-O-Rama in Monsey. The Novice line is coached by Josh Babb and Jenny Gibson.

"They are strict, yet amazing in their ability to make the team the best it possibly can be," said Olivia. "I wouldn't switch coaches for anything in the world."

For the 2011 U.S. Synchronized Skating National Championships, Skyliners traveled to Ontario, California, to compete with teams from across the country for the title of "National Champions." With Olivia as their captain, they came back with a bit more than just an experience -- they came back with gold medals.

"It was the first time my entire organization, including all the different divisions, had ever fully claimed a National title," she said.

"It was one of the best moments of my life, standing on a podium representing my team, knowing that I had been the captain of the team that had won the first National gold for Skyliners. That was a moment I will remember for the rest of my life," related a very proud Olivia.

Through rigorous practices, constant improvement, and a great deal of commitment, the Skyliners were able to accomplish so much in 2011. As they celebrate such a successful season, Olivia and the Skyliners are also looking forward to this year's challenges.

"I can't wait to bring another gold this year" says Olivia.



The Skyliners in mid-routine.

Courtesy of Olivia Barbalescu

been skating since I was five, but I started skating on the Skyliners when I was 7, and I've never regretted it."

In the 2012-2013 competitive season, Olivia will be on the Novice line, seventh highest of the nine divisions available for Synchronized Skaters on Skyliners. Yet Synchronized Skating is still in its infancy as a sport, compared to mainstream sports like Track and Field, which has been around since the ancient Olympic Games. Synchronized Skating really gained momentum in the late 1970s. Its first official international competition was held between Canadian and American teams in Michigan back in 1976. Since then, it

Olivia's team, The Skyliners, was established in 2001 "by a group of parents who wanted to create a new competitive synchronized skating club in the tri-state area," according to the team's official website (skylinerssynchro.com). The website also state that, "over the last 11 seasons, Skyliners has grown to be one of the top synchronized skating clubs in the country."

In addition to competing each season, Skyliners are asked to perform in special events and ice shows including Skate for the Goal, which raises funds for the Pediatric Cancer Foundation and Toys for Tots. Last February, Olivia and her team had the opportunity to skate a program

# Huskies Dominate Regular Season

(Continued from Back Page)

for the Huskies, giving them a 30-20 victory.

"We started off slow, but our offense and defense picked it up in the second half and were able to wear down their defensive line, while our defense helped give us great field position. It was a great team performance."

The real test would come the next week in a Section 1 battle against a powerful John Jay Indians squad. The Huskies started off slowly, proving unsuccessful in handling the Indians' talented quarterback duo of Tyler Keech and Jack Lambert. Going into the half down 27-7, the score then escalated to 34-7 after a fake punt in the third quarter. At that point, a comeback didn't seem unlikely, it seemed impossible. But at their lowest point, the tenacious Huskies fought back. The defense stepped up, slowing down Keech and Lambert, and holding John Jay scoreless for the rest of the game. Offensively, the Huskies were efficient, attacking John Jay on the ground and in the air. Senior quarterback Vinny Nicita led the way, throwing two scores to Cory Calcagni and Mike Amicucci, and one key pass to Michael Rossi that set up the winning score. Senior Kevin Nathanson, in his first game as a Husky, rushed for 112 yards on

just 13 carries, but even more importantly, scored the go-ahead touchdown with 2:44 left to play. The Huskies, showing their determination and resilience, shocked everyone and came out of John Jay with a 35-34 victory.

Senior Christian Santamaria was as stunned as everyone else by the astonishing comeback.

"As a player, you never want to throw in the towel," he said, "no matter what the score is. It takes more than just skill to mount a comeback like that; it takes determination, something our team has plenty of."

In the next four weeks, the Huskies would go on a tear, dominating their opponents. The Huskies would average 39 points per game, while their defense stopped teams, holding them to an average of 9 points per contest. The strong offensive line, led by Charlie Credendino and Ryan Knox, paved the way for Amicucci, Marino and Nathanson, while Nicita attacked the air with receivers Michael Rossi and Nick Pipitone. The defense



Charlie and the Husky motivate the crowd.

matched the offense, stopping the run with linebackers Tom Lovinger, Bobby Scatenato and Anthony Spano. Teams failed to pass against the Huskies' secondary, a group led by Cory Calcagni.

As the Huskies cruised throughout the season, going 6-0, their biggest game would follow. The season would end with "The Game," the annual meeting against the Rye Garnets.

Coming into the game, the Huskies were favored, but it was clear that the Huskies wouldn't take this game lightly. The Huskies got on the board quickly with a 35-yard touchdown run by Mike Amicucci in the first quarter, and built upon their lead with a 33-yard touchdown run

by Kevin Nathanson in the second. The Huskies would hold that 14-0 lead into the half, with great help from their defense, stopping the Garnets from moving the ball down the field. In the third quarter, the Huskies would score again, another run by Amicucci that gave the Huskies a 21-0 lead. As the game continued, the Huskies dominated the Garnets, especially quarterback Andrew Livingston. Brendan Pyne in particular had an amazing de-

fensive performance, sacking Livingston six times. In the end, a total team effort by the Huskies resulted in a 21-0 shutout victory, ending Rye's nine-year winning streak.

Charlie Credendino, a Varsity player since freshman year, was overwhelmed by the Huskies' victory over the Garnets.

"Beating Rye is something I'll never forget," he said. "We came in there with a plan and were able to execute it. I'm happy to finally beat Rye, and happier to do so with a great group of teammates."

The Huskies would follow the Rye victory with a playoff win against Poughkeepsie, 31-24. While the Huskies' playoff run would be short-lived, falling to Somers 28-14, the Huskies' season was definitely a successful one.

As this year's seniors, some of the best football players in recent memory, move on to college, the Huskies still will retain a solid core of players. The running-back duo of Amicucci and Marino will remain, while linemen such as Ryan Knox and Jeremy Altamuro will still be around to pave the way for open running lanes. While the Huskies will lose quarterback Vinny Nicita, Brendan Pyne seems prepared and capable of taking control of the Huskies' offense moving forward. Simply put, the Huskies aren't done, and next year's team will be looking for more than a section title -- perhaps even a return trip to the Carrier Dome..



Exuberant fans storm the field after the victory at Rye.

Courtesy of Amy Carton



# Undefeated!



An exuberant Huskies team celebrates a 21-0 victory over Rye, capping their undefeated season.

*Courtesy of Ms. Joanne Mayne*

Ray Corona

Sports Editor

The Harrison Huskies' football season was just as memorable, just as electrifying and thrilling as it was two years ago, when the team reached the State Finals. With high expectations this season, the Huskies proved once again that no matter what obstacles they face, they would always emerge as one of the top

teams in Section 1. While their season ended short to Somers in the Semi-Finals, the 2012 season will go down as one that many will long remember. A miraculous comeback was achieved, a perfect regular season record was maintained, and the icing on the cake was a dominating victory over perennial rival Rye,

breaking their long winning streak and perhaps starting a new streak for Harrison. While the season is over, the achievements accomplished this past year will remain in memory for years to come.

The Huskies started their season with an unfamiliar foe, the White Plains Tigers. The Tigers took a 14-10 lead into the half,

making an upset seem possible to start the season. The Huskies, however, overwhelmed the Tigers in the second half, using their strong core of running backs to dominate the Tigers' defense. The Huskies would rush for over 350 yards in total. Key touchdown runs by Jake Marino and Rob Waldman sealed the deal

(Continued on Page 27)