

# Husky Herald

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Harrison High School

March 2013

## Band Says Aloha to Oahu

Trent Lefkowitz

News Editor



Band plays at the Pearl Harbor Memorial.

*Courtesy of Sarah Curtis*

After months of endless fundraising and practice, the Harrison High School band flew out to Hawaii to represent New York State in the parade commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the U.S.S. Arizona Memorial in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. December 7, 2012, marked the seventy-first anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, an attack that killed over 2,300 American citizens and marked America's entrance into World War II. After being invited to represent New York State in the parade, Dr. Pasqua and Mr. Briem worked furiously in order to prepare the students in time for the big day. Unfortunately, Mr. Briem injured

his hip the week before the band embarked for Hawaii, and had to stay home for the trip. However, the band could not have performed without Mr. Briem's guidance, and everybody on the trip felt his spirit with them as they marched down Kalakaua Avenue in downtown Honolulu.

In anticipation for the performance, the band had been honing their repertoire since the beginning of September. Mr. Briem and Dr. Pasqua wanted to perform three types of songs in Hawaii; one to commemorate America, one that pays homage to the troops, and a song that would have been playing on the radio the day of the Pearl

Harbor attack. The band fulfilled these requirements by playing the patriotic staple "America the Beautiful," "Veteran's Salute" (a compilation of the fight songs of the Armed Forces), Marine fight song "Semper Fidelis" by John Philip Sousa, and "Sing, Sing, Sing" by Louis Prima. The songs played were very important because they portrayed the main theme of the Harrison band's trip to Hawaii - to honor all of the veterans who have fought for the United States in the past.

Although performing in Hawaii originally seemed like an impossible task, sophomore Andrew Cuevas knew the trip was

actually going to happen after veterans from Harrison's own community came to the band and spoke toward the significance of representing them in Hawaii. "As soon as the veterans came in and spoke to the band class, I knew the trip was becoming a reality."

Although the major component of the trip was the performance, there was also an incredible itinerary set for the band during their free time. In order to honor veterans, the band performed at and visited the Arizona Memorial and U.S.S. Missouri in Pearl Harbor, aboard whose deck the Japanese surrender papers for World War II



The band poses at the Pearl Harbor Memorial. *Courtesy of Sarah Curtis*

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# NEWS & FEATURES

## Tragedy Strikes in Newtown, CT

Michael Angarano

Staff Writer

On December 14 at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, CBS News reported that 20-year-old Adam Lanza gunned down 20 bright first graders who had their entire lives ahead of them. Along with the students, the lives of six school officials, including a devoted and proud principal, were lost. The principal, Dawn Hochsprung, was killed when she lunged at Lanza and tried to stop him from killing people. Before going on his rampage, Lanza shot and killed his mother with one of her own guns at their Newtown, CT, home.

Details of the horrific massacre began to break out on Twitter moments after it had taken place. Connecticut State Police Authorities identified the suspect as Adam Lanza just a short time after the shooting occurred. Lanza was said to have

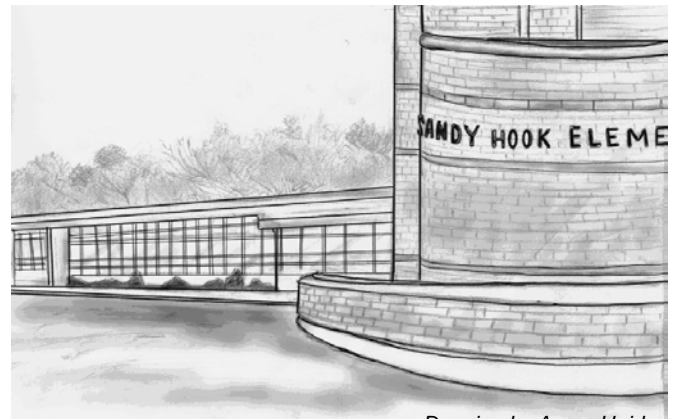
black clothing, and a military vest. He forced his way into the school and, without uttering a word, began shooting and killing innocent people. After 10 minutes of chaos, Lanza turned the rifle on himself and fired one bullet into his head. This is a young man who was taught to shoot a rifle at the age of nine by his mother, Nancy, who had a gun fetish.

Why Lanza chose Sandy Hook Elementary will probably always remain a mystery, as well as the motive for this nightmare. Lanza had a disability, Asperger's Disorder. According to *The New York Times*, his mother, Nancy, spent a lot of time helping him and getting him the help he needed. She was said to have been a very loving and caring mother, who wanted nothing more than to get close to her emotionally detached son. A few days before the shootings, Nancy met a friend at a local bar for a drink. During her time at the bar, Nancy expressed that she was very concerned about Adam.

She said, "I'm worried. I'm losing him."

She went on to tell the friend that Adam was getting worse and she was having a hard time reaching out to him. She was certainly concerned about his mental state of mind.

At Harrison High School, many were touched by the tragic event,



Drawing by Amna Haider

and it showed.

"What happened on Friday was a terrible event, and will live in infamy," said ninth grader Ricky Harris. "It isn't fair to those young innocent children who lost their lives all due to one person. They are gone, but never forgotten."

Tenth grader Dan Toto had similar emotions.

"I feel terrible about what happened to those poor kids in Newtown, no one deserves to suffer the way they did, especially at such a young age," he said. "Hopefully, we will all learn from this terrible mistake, and schools along with other public areas will be more protected and secured. My heart goes out to all those in Newtown."

Superintendent Louis Wool of our Harrison Central School District was also interviewed about the tragedy by *CBS This Morning*.

Superintendent Wool stated the following: "Kids need to be with other kids and in a place that feels familiar and comfortable.

I really think that the best thing that can happen for kids is to get back into the arms of teachers that care deeply about them, that know them, to be with their friends, and to create what should be childhood."

What happened on December 14 was a terrible event, and will be remembered forever, both in Newtown and throughout the world. Many were touched by this situation, especially those in the sports world. Many athletes have been writing inscriptions on their shoes/cleats, or tweeting about the topic and praying for those in Newtown. This day will always be remembered, along with those who lost their lives on this terrible day.

Perhaps it was President Barack Obama who summed it up best: "You must know that whatever measure of comfort we can provide, we will provide. Whatever portion of sadness we can share with you to ease this heavy load, we will bear it. Newtown, you are not alone."



Drawing by Amna Haider

come heavily armed, wearing all



# Debate Conquers Jersey

Peri Mendelsohn

Staff Writer

The Harrison Debate Team certainly does not mess around. Faculty advisor Mr. Hertzog and other team members are raving about one of the team's "most successful events in the Harrison Debate Team's history," referring to the Metro-Hudson League tournament. The tournament took place at Newark

ers claimed their glory by placing competitively at the tournament and receiving honorable speaker awards.

Six of the eight debaters were undefeated in a field of 56 other debaters. The novices definitely proved to be valuable attributes for the team as they secured the second through sixth and tenth place awards, as well as the second and fourth through eighth speaker awards after four difficult rounds. Freshman Constantinos Staten was named second speaker, Freshman Evan Burger placed tenth as seventh speaker, Freshman Bea Almeida placed sixth as ninth speaker, Freshman Kathryn

er placed fourth as fifth speaker, Freshman Elyssa Alfieri placed third as fifth speaker, and Freshman Sarah Ryan placed second as fourth speaker. Lastly, Sophomore Amy Geller certainly held her own in the Junior Varsity division. She was named tournament champion and was top speaker with a 4-0 record.

Additionally, Junior Danny DeBois has not ceased to amaze the Harrison community with his impressive debate accomplishments. Danny was recently invited to the Montgomery Bell Academy Round Robin (MBA) in Nashville, Tennessee. The MBA is the most renowned debate tournament, reserved for the top 12 debaters in the nation. While this invitation is extremely pres-



Debate winners.

*Courtesy of Patty-Jane Geller* tigious, it is definitely not surprising. Danny is currently ranked as the #1 Lincoln-Douglas debater in the country by the National Forensic League. It's evident that Danny's hard work and dedication has definitely paid off.

The Harrison Debate Team had a very successful 2012, and they look to continue those successes in this New Year. They currently are preparing for upcoming tournaments at Byram Hills, Columbia, Lexington, and Harvard. There is little doubt that this very accomplished team will only improve in 2013.



Debaters show off their awards.

*Courtesy of Patty-Jane Geller*

Science Park High School on December 15. Harrison debat-

Kenny placed fifth as eighth speaker, Freshman Ella Eising-

## DeBois Wins National Championship

Trent Lefkowitz

News Editor

On February 18, Harrison junior Danny DeBois won the varsity Lincoln-Douglas debate division of Harvard University's national championship, earning Harrison High School its first national title at the varsity level.

Harvard's tournament is often referred to as the U.S. Open of debate. This year, 337 varsity Lincoln-Douglas debaters from nearly 30 states competed at the tournament, along with 272 junior varsity debaters from an equally diverse range of states. The competition began early Saturday morning, with all students debating in six preliminary rounds. Debaters with a 6-0 or 5-1 record, along with a select few with 4-2 records, advanced to elimination rounds on Sunday night, and proceeded to debate for the championship starting on Monday morning.\

Danny reached elimination rounds with a 5-1 record, and went on to win his triple-octofinal (top 64), double-octofinal (top 32), octofinal (top 16),

quarterfinal (top 8), and semifinal (top 4) rounds all on unanimous decisions from his three-judge panels. He won the final round on a 2-1 decision, ending the tournament with an incredible 11-1 record!

It isn't easy to become such a highly ranked debater, and DeBois has worked incredibly hard in order to become such so successful.

"I have to write multiple cases on the topic I'm given, which requires research and a lot of writing," he explained. "I frequently do practice speeches over and over again in order to speak better and become more fluent. Before tournaments, I set a goal for how well I want to do and write it on an index card along with a list of things I have to do in order to meet that goal."

For winning the national championship, Danny received the tournament's enormous traveling trophy, which features the engraved names of all previous Harvard champions, and will

include his name in the future. When asked what he would do with the trophy, DeBois said he was going to bring it to the school and leave it in the law room.

The Harvard tournament has been a particularly good one for Danny; as a freshman, he was the 2011 junior varsity champion, and as a sophomore, was the 2012 top speaker in varsity. He is one of the only debaters in the history of Harvard's tournament to win both the JV and the varsity divisions.

Also in the varsity division, senior Patty-Jane Geller was 5-1 in preliminary rounds and placed in the top 32 of the tournament. Patty-Jane won her triple-octofinal round on a unanimous decision, losing a close debate in double-octofinals.

Harrison debaters in the junior varsity division also achieved great success at the Harvard tournament. Freshman Bea Almeida reached the octofinal (top 16) round after charging into the elimination rounds with a

5-1 record and winning her triple- and double-octofinal rounds on Sunday night and Monday morning, respectively.

Fellow Husky freshman Ella Eisinger also found success at the tournament, reaching the double-octofinal (top 32) round; Ella was also 5-1 in preliminary rounds, and also won her triple-octofinal round on a unanimous decision.

Although the Harvard debate is now over, championship debate season has only just begun. Students from Harrison will be taking part in tournaments at the University of Pennsylvania and two other national tournaments, including the Tournament of Champions, later this school year. With such great success at the junior varsity and varsity levels, the Harrison debate team seems poised to return to the Lincoln Douglas Debates next year stronger than ever, with another chance at winning a national championship.

# Operation Beautiful

Callie Fried

Staff Writer

On Friday, March 1, 2012, girls were encouraged to embrace themselves for who they are on the inside; they did this by not wearing any makeup to school. Everyone also participated through wearing red on that day to show their support. Compliment cards were made available, free of charge, in the



Handing out Compliment Cards.

*Courtesy of Rula Samad*

cafeteria on the Wednesday and Thursday prior. On these cards, a compliment was written and then sent out to a friend. Each card was tied with a red ribbon to symbolize that students were a part of Operation Beautiful. The cards were delivered first period on Friday. Any student who did not receive a card from a friend got one written by the Operation Beautiful team.

Senior Caroline Gaeta first started the Operation Beautiful movement as part

of her Creativity, Action and Service project (CAS) and has built it into something greater than that.

"We want to show girls that beauty is not only skin deep," she said. "We are hoping to make a statement that says 'I am beautiful on the inside and that is all that matters.'"

Students and faculty alike were urged also to consider buying an "Operation Beautiful" bracelet for two dollars to support

"Girl Up," an organization that has become a passion of senior Sara Purinton. "Girl Up" is an innovative campaign of the United Nations Foundation, in which American girls are given the opportunity to become global leaders and channel their energy and compassion to raise awareness and funds for

United Nations programs that help some of the world's hardest-to-reach adolescent girls. "Girl Up" wants a world of opportunity for girls, no matter where they live. It believes that all girls should have chances for education, health, and safety, as they grow to be the next generation of leaders.

For two consecutive years, Operation Beautiful has proven to be a huge success.

This annual event helps unify all girls at Harrison High School and helps with the ongoing struggle with self-image/esteem. Through the good work done that day, girls may realize that beauty is so much more than what we can see.

"Many teenage girls



*Courtesy of Alex Psaros*

struggle with their self-esteem," said Gaeta. "This project was designed to help girls who hide behind their makeup realize that

beauty is more than what we all see on the outside. Our goal is to boost self confidence."

Support this worthwhile cause and help us to make an

ongoing statement that declares: "I am beautiful on the inside and that is all that matters!"



The Operation Beautiful committee.

*Courtesy of Alex Psaros*

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Special Thanks to Mr. Petrillo

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.

# Talking vs. Texting

Sarah Mazza

Staff Writer

When was the last time you called a friend instead of texting? The majority of teens rely on text messaging as their primary method of communication. According to CNN writer Jeffrey Kluger, "the number of text messages sent monthly in the U.S. exploded from 14 billion in 2000 to 188 billion in 2010." With a boom in smart phones, phone calls are becoming a dying institution.

Texting has become an increasingly threatening obsession, as children are becoming too reliant on technology. Let's face it; the technological advances of the 21<sup>st</sup> century have made us lazy. Take looking up words for example. Who needs a dictionary when we have our personal assistant Siri available at the press of a button?

According to a recent study conducted by Harris Inter-

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Texting through the day.

Courtesy of Melanie Singer

tuation and grammar, and 38% of students have used text shortcuts such as "LOL" and "OMG" on a formal paper. Using such language just goes to show how severe this habit of texting is becoming.

"I don't even mean to use texting language in my writing," said Sophomore Emily Giorgi. "Since I'm always either texting or instant messaging, using text language is like second nature to me. Epically if I am typing a paper on my computer, I always have to make sure that I am cautious of the language I use."

"Americans ages 18-29 send and receive an average of nearly 88 text messages per day, compared to 17 phone calls. The numbers change as we get older, with the overall frequency of all communication declining," stated MIT psychologist Sherry Turkle, one of the leading researchers studying the effects of texting on the interpersonal development. "Some students who text in the class room setting as well generally have a lower average then a student who sits there and pays attention to the instructor. A cell phone in the classroom is just a distraction."

"I definitely have more of a meaningful conversation when I'm talking to someone ever the phone," said Junior Hunter Sable. "Sometimes though when I am in a quiet setting I feel very awkward sitting there talking on my phone so I have to excuse myself and talk somewhere else."

"I rarely ever check my voicemail," said Junior Danielle Mehlman. "I'm not even sure if I set it up. If someone leave me a message I'm much more likely to ignore the call, but if someone texts me I will usually answer them in under an hour. Texting just happens to be the efficient way of communication."

"I always misinterpret peoples attitudes over text message," said Junior Paige Brabant. "I sometimes can't tell when someone is joking or not due to the fact that you can't hear their voice over text message. I usually call people so that I don't get confused!"

Are cell phones a threat to direct communication? Though studies have suggested that the use of cell phones and texting has a negative impact on social behavior, there is no question that texting has allowed for quicker and more efficient communication.

# Twinkies Forever?

Melanie Singer

Managing Editor

Individuals around the world were terrified to hear that Hostess Brands, known for their deliciously long-lasting processed cakes and baked goods, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy on November, 21<sup>st</sup>. The tragic news came three years after Hostess emerged from an earlier bankruptcy in an attempt to continue selling their precious Twinkies and Ding Dongs. The company was saddled with \$860 million in debt, which required major layoffs from their labor force.

For those of you who are die-hard fans of these sweet treats, have no fear; Hostess's bankruptcy will not disrupt the company's selling's of their baked goods! These mysteriously long-lasting deserts have been part of many consumers' childhoods since the early 1900's. The idea of Twinkies no longer being produced and sold in stores anymore struck terror in the hearts of many snack enthusiasts. They were relieved to discover the tasty treats would continue to be stocked on shelves.

"I haven't had that many Twinkies in my life, but when the news came out that there was a strong possibility they would no longer be made my dad was more upset about it than anyone," said senior Taylor Friedwald. "Twinkies were a part of everyone's childhood, so the news is pretty upsetting."

Friedwald shares the pain that news of the discontinuation of the Twinkie has brought to so many people. Hostess is a privately owned company based in Irving, Texas, that has created a variety of packaged goods for public consumption since 1930. However, none of the tasty treats were craved more than Hostess' cream-filled sponge cakes with mystery ingredients. The Twinkie had become the guilty pleasure of millions of Americans.

In the last several years, many concerns have been voiced regarding Hostess and the products they manufactured. As recently as 2004, Hostess filed for Chapter 11 due to their struggles with elevated costs

of prime ingredients and increased economic pressure on maintaining a stable work force. Unfortunately, nine years later, these unresolved issues have contributed to the bankruptcy of the beloved company.

Another problem the company has faced throughout the past few years is the increased outcry over the nutritional value of its products. Each year, the general public becomes more educated about the ingredients in packaged foods, and with the skyrocketing obesity rate throughout the United States people have begun to shy away from chemically enhanced sweet treats like the Twinkie.

Senior Nikki Muto is one of many health-conscious seniors at the high school that have had poor experiences with the Twinkie. "I've had maybe one Twinkie in my life and I wasn't crazy about it," explained Muto. "You really don't know what you're eating, and there are many ingredients nobody has ever heard of."

This viewpoint reflects experiments that have been done to see how long the Twinkie can last out in the open. Harrison High School health teacher Mrs. Catapano unwrapped a Twinkie at the beginning of the year, and besides becoming a little bit harder the spongy, oblong tube has changed very little in its appearance. Many people believe the indestructible Twinkie would remain the same from now to eternity.

Have no fear. Metropolis & Co and Apollo Global Management LLC have agreed to take on the Twinkie and its other tasty siblings. This means that the Twinkie will extend its long lasting shelf life in stores near you, and remain a fixture in the junk food world.



Drawing by Peri Mendelsohn

# Kid's Kloset:

## Community Service Close to Home

Melanie Singer

Managing Editor

Community service has become a big part of people's extracurricular activities after school and on weekends. Along with feeling good about giving back to those who are in need, it's also a great opportunity to get service hours for CAS (for any IB Diploma contenders) and National Honors Society members to add hours to their resume.

The Kid's Kloset, a new organization located in White Plains, collects gently used clothing to donate to local Westchester County families who cannot afford to buy clothing. The organization started fairly recently, in 2011. Its mindset is to make families in Westchester's lives easier by donating clothing to needy families. It's especially helpful around the time when the seasons start to change and many families are in need of new clothing for their children. It's especially important during

wintertime, when warm clothing such as hats, gloves, and coats are necessary.

Since this new organization began, the Kids Kloset has received a lot of outside help from local Westchester schools in finding students willing to support families who are less fortunate than them.

"I think that the Kids Kloset is a great organization because it allows kids living under the poverty line to feel positive about themselves through what they're wearing," said Jake Lerner, a senior at Harrison High School and the one who recruited Harrison members to volunteer at this organization. "By letting the kids request what kind of clothing they get, the Kid's Kloset is enabling the kids to do well socially and academically because they have more self-confidence than they would have if they wore old poorly-fitted clothing."

Lerner was a great contributor to helping the Kid's Kloset get started. He did a lot of service work through his temple, and met a woman there who mentioned that her friend was starting an organization for less fortunate families. He learned they would need volunteers once a working pattern had been developed. Lerner, also President of Harrison High School's Youth Volunteers of Harrison club, recruited members to come and volunteer at the Kid's Kloset starting last spring.

Unfortunately, the building where the organization was located had a fire over the past summer, so the Kid's Kloset had to move to a temporary building. This year though, more kids from all grades at the high school are coming out on Wednesday nights to help sort through clothing to be sent out to families.

"It's actually fun," ex-

plained senior Micaela Moscato. "I started volunteering this year and it's really just like doing laundry on steroids."

Walking into where the Kid's Kloset is located is very overwhelming. There are bags and bins piled on top of each other, filled with donated clothing. Some of the donated items are great for upcoming seasons too.

Recently the Kid's Kloset has become an even bigger project, including National Honor Society members as well as IB Diploma candidates. Instead of volunteering outside of Westchester with another challenging community service project, the Kid's Kloset is just one town over in White Plains and affects the community around us, making Westchester a better place to live.

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## Musical Mahalo

(Continued from Front Page)

were signed.

The performance at the Pearl Harbor Museum and Visitors Center provided an emotional moment for many members of the band, including conductor Dr. Pasqua.

"I was teary eyed as we played patriotic songs in the park, and being able to see the U.S.S. Missouri and Arizona Memorial in the background made it very emotional for all of us," he said.

As a teacher, Dr. Pasqua's proudest moment during the trip took place after the band's performance in the Pearl Harbor Parade.

"After seeing how excited the students were about the performance, I knew that they knew they did a good job," he said.

Other highlights of the trip included stops at the Polynesian Culture Center, Waikiki Beach, and the International

Marketplace. A tour around the island also brought students to incredible places such as the Pali Lookout and Sunset Beach, where movies such as *Pirates of the Caribbean* and *The Descendants* have been filmed. When asked about which extracurricular she was most excited about, freshman majorette Giana Hubbard said, "My favorite part of the trip was going to Waikiki beach because the water was really nice and it was hot out."

Every student that went on the trip to Hawaii has brought back incredible memories and experiences that they never could have imagined only a few short months before. Being able to honor the veterans, while taking part in the trip of a lifetime was an incredible honor for the students in the band, majorettes, and color guard. As Dr. Pasqua noted, the preparation needed in order for

the trip to be a success, including fundraising and planning the logistics of the trip, could not have been done without the incredible help of Mr. Briem, Harrison Band Parent Association co-presidents Leigh Platte and Grace Polakoff, and HBPA treasurer Kristine

Camillone. Although the trip has come and gone, the memories that each individual involved has made will truly last for a lifetime.



Parade by Waikiki Beach.

Courtesy of Sarah Curtis

# Pope Benedict Resigns

Michael Angarano

Staff Writer

Pope Benedict stunned the Roman Catholic Faith along with the rest of the world, announcing his resignation as Pope at the end of February. Pope Benedict resigned at the age of 85 and became the first Pope to resign since Pope Gregory XII, who stepped down in 1415 in a deal to end the Great Western Schism among competing papal claimants, according to the NY Daily News. Pope Benedict reportedly resigned due to his advanced age, but there are many speculations as to whether or not it was really his age that caused him to resign after eight short years at the Vatican.

Pope Benedict was born Joseph Aloisius Ratzinger on April 16, 1927 to Joseph Ratzinger, Sr. and Maria Peintner in Marktl, Bavaria, Germany. From a young age, Joseph was very Catholic, as he would welcome the Cardinal Archbishop of Munich with flowers, along with a group of other children. Due to the rise of power of Adolf Hitler in Germany, he was forced to join

Hitler's group at age 14. In 1943, while still in the seminary, he was drafted into the German anti-aircraft corps as a Luftwaffen-helfer (air force child soldier). He later went on to train in the German infantry. As the allied front drew closer, Joseph fled to his parent's house a few months after the war ended. It was then that he joined his brother Georg in the seminary and his Roman Catholic career began.

The two brothers entered Saint Michael Seminary in Traunstein and were both ordained in Freising on June 12, 1951 by Cardinal Michael von Faulhaber of Munich. Pope Benedict went on to become a teacher at both the universities of Bonn and Munster. He continued to teach until finally being called upon to serve the Catholic faith in 1977, becoming the Archbishop of Munich, then of Freising till 1982. Only a short time after becoming the Archbishop, he went on to become Prefect of the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, from 1982 until his

election into the papacy in 2005.

At the age of 78, Pope Benedict became the oldest Pope to be elected into the Roman Catholic Church in almost three centuries, becoming the successor to Pope John Paul II on April 19, 2005, according to The New York Times. Before becoming Pope, he doubted himself, significantly wondering if he should just retire, yet he kept his faith alive and became the Pope.

His first words after being elected into the papacy on the balcony at Saint Peter's Basilica were, "Dear brothers and sisters, after the great Pope John Paul II, the Cardinals have elected me, a simple, humble laborer in the vineyard of the Lord. The fact that the Lord knows how to work and to act even with insufficient instruments comforts me, and above all I entrust myself to your prayers. In the joy of the Risen Lord, confident of his unfailing help, let us move forward. The Lord will help us, and Mary, His Most Holy Mother, will be on our side. Thank you."

Despite his only serving a short term in the Vatican, Pope Benedict was a great Pope, and many here at the high school felt disappointed to hear of his retirement.

"I am very shocked about his resignation," said freshman David Pierroz. "He was a great man and a role model to all in the Catholic religion. I wish him the best in his future endeavors. God Bless him."

"As a common church go'er, I am saddened to hear that he will no longer be serving the Roman Catholic Church," said freshman Alexis Puccio. "I hope he has a happy and peaceful future and continues to serve in the name of the Lord."

Many were touched by the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI. He will surely be remembered in the Catholic faith as a leader and a person to look up to. He was well liked and will be missed by many.

In the words of the Pope, "I leave from where the apostle arrived."

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## Avoiding Falling Off The Fiscal Cliff

Ariel Coonin

News Editor

As 2013 began, the government inched closer to the deadline to pay its bills. Unfortunately, as the deadline approached, Congress was unable to agree on a plan that would tax the people fairly and substantially, while still paying the government's bills.

The difficulty on this issue lies within the components of Congress. Congress is comprised of the Senate and House of Representatives. The Senate includes two senators from each of the fifty states, totaling one hundred senators. The House has 435 members, as the number of representatives per state is proportional to the states' population. Currently the Democrats represent the majority in the Senate, while Republicans control the House. These conflicting beliefs often result in controversy, as the Republicans and Democrats must reach a

compromise in Congress.

The Republican economic approach is to minimize taxes for the upper classes to encourage investment, while the Democrats believe it is both necessary and fair to tax the wealthy at higher rates to support government programs. Republicans and Democrats also disagree over which government programs should be trimmed. These different approaches often lead to difficulty making compromises, as recent events show.

With increased spending, the U.S. government has found itself in over a trillion dollars of debt, lacking enough tax money to cover its bills. Due to this debt, as well as conflicting beliefs, the House had trouble making a decision in early January. Unable to reach an agreement with President Obama, Speaker of the House John Boehner left it to the Senate to come to a compromise

on taxes.

Without an agreement, the U.S. government would not be able to pay its bills, so Vice President Joe Biden and Republican Senate Leader Mitch McConnell, from opposing parties, worked together to come to a compromise. Together, the two raised the rates on individuals that earn over \$400,000 per year and joint filers that make over \$450,000 per year. The House accepted the deal. On January 2, President Obama signed the compromise, returning the country back to the tax rates in the 1990s when President Clinton balanced the budget.

Democrats and Republicans were unable to reach any compromises on which government programs should be cut or whether to raise the debt ceiling, the amount of money the government is allowed to owe. This delayed a full decision that

would put the economy back in balance.

According to *Huffington Post*, the tax extenders will only last for a year, and before they expire the government will be working to make the taxes more permanent. The government hopes to lower rates for many taxpayers, but still be able to fill the holes in the government spending.

"I feel they did the best they could under the circumstances, even though they really didn't make the decision I would agree with," says sophomore Matt Rube. "They just postponed raising all the taxes at once, and it'll be interesting to see how it is worked out in the end."

Not all may agree with the decision made by Congress, but when there are desperate circumstances, compromises must be made.

# Flu Epidemic

Callie Fried and Alexandra Sanchez

Staff Writers

Typically families receive the flu shot at the beginning of the season in order to prevent coming down with the flu in the middle of winter. This year that theory hasn't worked very well. A massive flu outbreak has swarmed the country since the start of 2013.

Influenza, commonly referred to as the flu, is a respiratory illness ranging from mild to severe, sometimes resulting in death. The elderly, young children and people with certain health conditions are at a high risk when catching the flu.

According to the Department of Health for New York State, every year in the U.S., 5% to 20% of the population catches the flu; on average more than 200,000 people are hospitalized from flu complications, and over 23,000 people die from the flu. About 90% of such deaths occur in persons aged 65 years and older, but this year, according to latinopost.com, 29 children have already been confirmed dead.

According to CBS.com, Debbie Stoops, an immunization coordinator for the New York City Bureau of Health says that children transfer germs much faster than adults.

"I think the flu epidemic spreads so quickly because children don't think about how they are harming themselves by not washing their hands. This ultimately causes them to become sick," said junior Evann Specht.

Stoops also said the flu is more dangerous to children than the common cold. Also children younger than six months cannot receive the vaccine, which puts them at a higher risk of receiving serious flu complications, which could possibly lead to death. With the season not yet fully concluded, the death toll for infants can surpass the 34 deaths tallied in 2011-12. These pediatric mortality figures are low compared to the 282 deaths in 2009-10.

"I think that the media plays up the flu epidemic just like they did with swine flu in 2009," said junior Danielle Mehlman. "There are only so many preventative you can take to avoid it."

According to yahoo-news.com, the Center for Disease Control recommends that parents should receive a flu vaccination, as it protects both the parent and the child. Antibodies form after two weeks of getting the vaccine and help provide

protection against infection with the virus in that vaccine. The vaccine is supposed to be effective against 60% of the flu strains.

"I made sure I got the flu shot this year because I knew that the flu was going around," said Natalie Suozzo. "To prevent catching the flu, I always wash my hands to keep the germs away that may be spreading."

Some symptoms of the flu are fever, chills, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches, fatigue, and vomiting, but not all of these symptoms may be present.

People with the flu are contagious one day before symptoms begin to show up. It is as easy to give someone the flu before you are sick as when you are sick. The flu is usually spread through coughing or sneezing, or touching something with the virus on it and then touching your mouth or nose.

"Something really helpful to prevent the flu is to keep small packets of hand sanitizer in your bag after you go to class, because you never know who touched the desk before you did," said senior Hannah Hochman.

According to ABC News

*Radio*, a school in Oklahoma had to cancel classes as 25 percent of the student body was out ill with the flu. Kiefer Public School District cancelled classes on January 11 to give students the weekend to rest. Nearly 150 out of 650 were suffering from the illness. The school used the entire day to clean off all water fountains, desks, chairs and lockers, according to ABC News affiliate KTUL.

Harrison High School nurses recently sent home a letter to all the students and parents informing them how to avoid the flu by doing things such as receiving at least eight hours of sleep a night and washing hands frequently. Some suggestions on staying flu free this season are:

- Wash hands regularly
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth
- Cough into your sleeve, not your hands
- Clean frequently-touched surfaces at home, especially when someone is sick
- If you get a flu-like illness, stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone.

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## World Fails To End With Mayan Apocalypse

Ariel Coonin

News Editor

So much for the end of the world: December 21, 2012 was supposed to be the end of life as we know it, but despite all the rumors, it happened to be one of the calmest days in the past few months.

The end to 2012 was rough due to unnecessary and violent acts, destructive weather, and economic struggles. The world pretty much seemed to hit rock bottom. It lead people to believe that the world was in fact coming to an end, along with rumors that the Mayan calendar was expiring.

One might wonder why people thought that an ancient calendar could provide such an accurate prediction of when the

world would end. The calendar was created thousands of years before modern knowledge of the solar system. It didn't account for the same months, or leap years, so it is relatively inaccurate.

"The world has been predicted to end so many times," says sophomore Cassidy Donohue. "Why would this time be any different from the last time? If the world didn't end then, I don't see why it would end now. No one can really predict when the end will be."

There is no knowledge that the Mayans were predicting this specific date and time as the end of the world. Perhaps the Mayans ran out of space, or maybe were planning on mak-

ing a new calendar when the time ran out. The thought of the world ending on that exact date is a bit ridiculous. Yet, even the most outrageous of rumors can gather a following.

People began preparing for the "Mayan Apocalypse." It was an easy excuse for people to continue their "YOLO" ways; if these were the end days, people couldn't possibly let a second go to waste.

"I wasn't sure if the world was going to end," says sophomore Marielle Sheck. "But I bought a lot of Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream just in case it did. I wanted to die happily."

Many prepared for the end. People went on shopping

sprees, blowing through most of their savings, while others built bomb shelters to try to save themselves.

Whether you believed in the end of the world rumor or not, the weather was bad enough to convince you. December 21 started off as a cloudy, rainy day – giving off a gloomy, depressing mood. The dark sky was enough to make people a bit nervous. Still, we survived it.

Now that the world hasn't ended, people should try to make the world a better place. Bad things are still happening in the world. It is important to remember that we shape the world we're living in, that we can still try for that ultimate happy ending.



# Farewell to Ed Koch

Clarissa Karantzis

Staff Writer

On February 1, New York bid farewell to former 3-term Mayor Ed Koch. Serving as Mayor from 1978 until 1989, Koch was both determined and outspoken, helping New York City recover from one of the worst financial crises to date. In the months preceding his death, Koch was hospitalized several times, and on February 1, he died of congestive heart failure. Koch was 88 years old.

Koch was born in the Bronx in 1924, into a conservative family comprised of Polish immigrants. In 1943, Koch joined the army to serve the United States during WWII, and not long after, entered the field of law. Graduating from the New York University School of Law in 1948, Koch became involved in New York City Politics, where he served two years on the New York City Council. Then, in 1977, Koch ran for Mayor.

At the time of his first victory, New York

City faced immense crisis, as crime and corruption spread rapidly throughout the city. The 'Blackout of 1977' left the majority of Manhattan in the dark for 25 hours, only adding to the already increasing crime rates. The outbreak of riots and crime, as well as the unstable economy, left the city of New York deteriorating.

bered for his compassion and for his reputation as a people person. He rode the New York subways, and attended public Movie theaters, stopping to greet city dwellers on the street with his catchphrase, "How'm I doin'?" Koch was also an accomplished author, writing a number of novels. In 2011, the Queensboro Bridge was renamed the

emony, sharing their final thoughts and memories about Koch. Koch's body was buried in the Trinity Church Cemetery, as Koch wanted to stay close to home. In a statement from 2008, Koch explained, "I don't want to leave Manhattan, even when I'm gone. This is my home. The thought of having to go New Jersey was so distressing to me."

Inscribed on his tombstone is an epitaph written by Koch himself, "He was fiercely proud of his Jewish faith. He fiercely defended the City of New York and he fiercely defended its people. Above all, he loved his country, the United

States of American, in whose armed forces he served in World War II."



Hizzoner.

Courtesy of [blog.bloomberg.com](http://blog.bloomberg.com)

Koch remained optimistic through it all, as he marched straight into the turmoil and attacked the issues head on. "When we were down, Ed Koch picked us up. When we were worried, he gave us confidence," reflected current New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

Koch is remem-

Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge in his honor. Following the funeral on February 4<sup>th</sup>, Koch's coffin was carried through the streets of New York as Frank Sinatra's classic "New York New York" played in the background. Former President Bill Clinton and Mayor Michael Bloomberg spoke at the cer-



Courtesy of Amy Carton

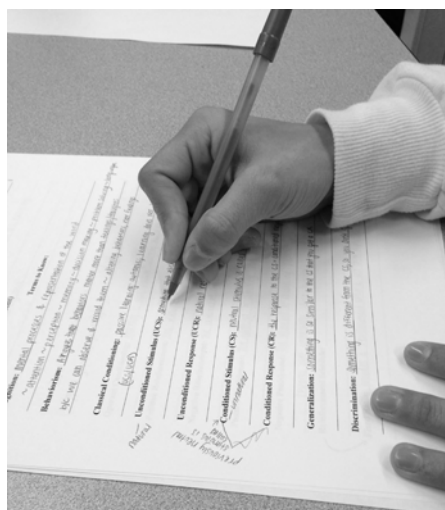
# Cheater Cheater

Ariel Coonin

News Editor

As midterm week came to a close, it was apparent to teachers that cheating in high school has gotten out of hand. It took a week full of testing to show the amount of cheating that occurs in this building. In many of these situations, students do not even realize they're cheating.

It's usually assumed that cheating only occurs at the bottom end of the educational hierarchy – students who are close to failing or don't perform as well as others in school. However, this is not always the case. The motivation for most to cheat is the same.



Courtesy of Melanie Singer

## The main motivation is to improve grades.

This can occur on any level, from the student who is barely passing his or her class to the A student who really just needs a boost to get to an A+. Though the classes they may be taking are unequal in difficulty – the difficulty is really relative to the student. What is easy for some is hard for others, depending on their learning levels.

"I don't understand why people cheat," says sophomore Olivia Barbulescu. "I just think people should try their best at whatever level they're at. School is hard; no one is going to have perfect grades."

Even students at Harvard University, one of the highest ranked and prestigious colleges in the world, have been caught for cheating. Just last year, over 100

Harvard students were caught in a cheating scandal and had to face the consequences. Now, a full year later, the administration are still catching and punishing Harvard students for cheating.

*The Huffington Post* reported that approximately 60 additional students attending Harvard have been forced to withdraw from school for a period of time. The original scandal involved students comparing and sharing answers on a take-home test – something that not all students realize is cheating.

It's important to determine what is cheating and what is fair game. Many students are unaware that the things they do are in fact cheating.

Studies done by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln show that only a small percentage of students realize that copying homework and giving out test answers to students who have yet to take the test is cheating. However, the percentage of students who admit to doing these things is much larger. It has been determined that a very large percentage of high

school students cheat. This recent discovery may cause some changes in cheating policies all across the country. Students should be cautious.

"I think people cheat because the workload is so demanding," says sophomore Roma Scarano. "We all have so much work from all our classes, especially APs and IBs. I can see why people feel the need to copy a homework assignment here or there."

Although the work may be demanding, cheating is not the answer. Whether it's obvious or debatable in regards to the cheating, it's still something to avoid. There are consequences for these actions and it's not something to risk. Remember, cheating can harm future options for college and for life.

# Welcome to the Class of 2017

Melanie Singer

Managing Editor

As winter comes to an end, and seniors anticipate college acceptances, Facebook explodes with Class of 2017 college groups. Facebook is the go-to source of any and all things college. With a click of a button you can access a network of people linked to a certain college, and connect with future classmates. Upon joining an accepted students' group, newsfeeds erupt with notifications, and the 'get-to-know-you' games begin. Tempted to write about yourself in attempt to make friends? As enticing as it may seem, numerous college groups have proven that this approach may not be the most reputable idea. Though the Accepted Students groups are supposed to be kept closed and private, it's hard not to share some of the outlandish material written in the groups.

"Every time a kid writes in my Duke group it's always some absurd comment," explained senior Rajan Mehra who will be attending Duke University this fall.

As time goes on, it becomes increasingly evident that each group has it's handful of obsessive posters, or people who can't seem to stay away from the group. It's as if they post their every thought, treating the groups more like Twitter than Facebook. To say such posts can be annoying is an understatement, however, due to their absurdity; many of these posts are actually quite humorous. Thanks to an anonymous yet genius blog called *Accepted 2017*, we can now read the funniest and strangest college posts in one place. The blog posts anonymously submitted phrases and comments from various Accepted Students groups, adding their own reactions afterward.

"This *Accepted 2017* blog couldn't be funnier," laughed senior, Sarah Berman. "I can relate to half the posts that are submitted because crazy kids in my own college Facebook group have been posting similar things."

So, graduates of the class of 2017, please think before you post, and remember – you could

be the next addition to *Accepted 2017*. Below are just a few of the absurd posts found on *Accepted 2017*.

## The Best of Accepted 2017

**Purdue University:** "Out of curiosity, does anyone else call a toasted cheese sandwich a cheese toasty?"

**Washington University in St. Louis:** "I just love pencils so much!! They're just so useful!"

**Tufts University:** If you have a pizza with radius  $Z$  and thickness  $A$ , its volume is  $\pi(Z^2)A$

**Dickinson College:** Hi, my name is Steven and I'm part of your average family. I got a dad, a mom, and a sister. There is Donnie, we found him, and Darwin, he found us. Oh yeah, about our house, it moves 'cause we travel all over the world. You see my dad hosts this nature show and my mom shoots it. Okay so we're not that average. And between you and me something AMAZING happened and now I can talk to animals. It's really cool but totally secret. And you know what? Life's never been the same.

**Middlebury College:** I've only heard good things about Middlebury's milk. Refreshing, thick (but not too filling), and always readily available! The more I hear about it, the more I fall in love. I keep having dreams about my first few sips. #milkenthusiast.

**University of Virginia:** You can apply to be in a committee of the Student Council and eventually be a representative and then officer for your class. I would love to be the President of the Class of 2017.

**Brown University:** Anyone dig existentialism?

**University of Mississippi:** I need to make friends so I have someone to go to Chili's \$20 Dinner for Two with.

# Student News Program Hits Local Airwaves

Ray Corona

Sports Editor

Looking for the latest news at Harrison High School? Well look no further than Husky Headlines, the new, student-run news program here at Harrison. Under the supervision of Mr. Nicol, Husky Headlines spreads the latest news and announcements to Harrison students and the general community.

Marisa Santella, an anchor for Husky Headlines, is excited about the new Cable TV program.

"I think that we present the news in a way that makes it easy for all students to access," says Santella. "A lot of times students struggle to find out about the latest news at Harrison, and I think Husky Headlines is the solution to that problem."

It's entirely a student-run production that covers all

aspects of a news program, from writing, directing and cinematography. The anchor team includes senior Marisa Santella, sophomore Paula Segovia, and sophomore Claudia Marino. Junior Sam Colangelo is the director of the program, while sophomore Jaylene Vasquez operates the audio and cameras.

Supervisor Mr. Andy Nicol has been more than impressed with the core group of hardworking, motivated students.

"They're all self-motivated and strive to put on the best production each month," says Nicol. "They are always asking questions and it's clear that they all have a passion for what they do."

Already the production has received positive feedback, with much of the student and faculty here at Harrison benefiting



Husky Headlines is a big success.

Courtesy of Harrison CSD

from the first few reports.

"It actually does help keep me informed when it comes to news," says freshman Phil Milana. "They present themselves well and make it easy for any student to understand."

Husky Headlines runs twice a month and can be seen on the High School website or the Cable TV station Channel 74.

## Gilda's Club Invites Teen Essay Entries

Rob Sperduto

Entertainment Editor

Gilda's Club, a remarkable community organization that helps families cope with cancer, needs your help! The organization's fifth annual "It's Always Something" Teen Essay Contest is right around the corner. Harrison High School urges any student who has been impacted by a cancer diagnosis in any way to consider sharing their experiences, as it will help a great cause.

Gilda's Club was named in tribute of Gilda Radner, a comedienne and original Saturday Night Live veteran, who passed away in 1989 from ovarian cancer. Written in her autobiography, *It's Always Something*, it was Radner's dream for anyone who had been through the emotional hardships from the deadly disease to have the opportunity to receive support and relieve stress from the struggles of reality.

Gilda Radner's husband,

Gene Wilder, and cancer psychotherapist, Joanna Bull, opened Gilda's Club in New York City in hopes of fulfilling Radner's dream. It has since made an impact on a national level. Currently, the organization has over 5,000 members, has seen over 100,000 member visits, and continues to grow. For more information, go online to <http://www.gildasclubnyc.org/index.php>.

The "It's Always Something" contest is looking for "honest, detailed personal essays

by young writers" that can help shape their community by sharing their experience with cancer.



Living with cancer?  
Come as you are."

The essay must be typed and the length must fall between 500-2000 words. The deadline for which the essay must be submitted is March 24, 2013.

The reception will be held at Gilda's Club Westchester on May 6, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. The prizes include a \$500 cash award for first place, a \$250 Amazon Gift Card for second, and a \$100 Apple Gift Card in

third. However, one's main motivation for the contest should be to share his or her story, not to win a prize.

For more details, the entry form can be found on the Gilda's Club website or at Harrison High School. Or, contact information is directly available for Jen Scully (Gilda's Club Teens and Families Manager) via email or phone. Her email is: [jscully@gildasclubwestchester.org](mailto:jscully@gildasclubwestchester.org); Scully's phone number is: 914.644.8844.

If this contest doesn't directly affect you, be sure to pass the information along to your friends and family, and encourage anyone who struggles with issues related to cancer to consider this essay. Any type of story goes a long way and can potentially change another individual's life.

As Gilda Radner promoted years ago, this contest shows us that, "No one should have to face cancer alone."

# opinions & editorials

## Positively Dealing With Drama

Rose Stokoe

Staff Writer

Every teenage girl who has ever had the pleasure of going to high school knows about the inevitable drama that will occur. Harrison, while maybe not having a fight blow up every day, still has its fair share of throw downs.

Surprisingly there are other ways to resolve problems. Most students enjoy seeing two other kids go at it till security gets there, but wouldn't themselves start swinging in the middle of school. Fighting physically in school can bring serious consequences that make some students shy away from a physical form of fighting.

Before you go and start punching that person you hate, think. There are ways of dealing with people other than with your fists. Taking out your aggression angrily may seem easier than having an actual face-to-face confrontation (no, that doesn't mean Facebook) but it just leads to more drama. Talking it out, while maybe seeming stupid, can actually help you.

"Way too many people deal with their problems over text or Facebook," sophomore Ariel Coonin said. "It really doesn't solve

much because most of the time they don't deal with the issue at hand."

Facebook is never the way to go when dealing with a feud. It is way too public and often brings more spectators rather than solving the problem.

If someone tries to start a fight with you via any social networking site, whether it's Twitter, Facebook, or anything you use, ignore it. Engaging the person will only bring attention to it



Can't we just be friends?

Courtesy of Melanie Singer

and won't solve the problem.

Using Facebook to tell everyone how you are going to "take her down" can actually lead to you getting in trouble.

Threatening violence, even if you are kidding, is never okay. It is especially not okay if you do it online where it stays forever. You have no idea who is taking a picture of it and showing the school or the threatened person's parents.

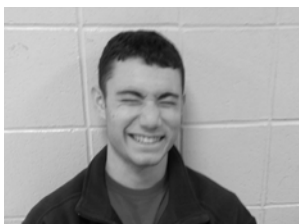
"When someone thinks they're being funny by calling me names online, I'm actually just sitting there laughing," said sophomore Jillian Roos. "It's so stupid and immature."

People often think if you try to talk something out with someone face-to-face, it will just lead to a fight. Don't dust off the boxing gloves just yet; instead of taking it to the ring, try talking it out. This means actually talking it out, not throwing a variety of curse words at the person you dislike. While it may make you feel better to best that girl you hate by cleverly revealing she has questionable morals, it will never solve anything.

There is no problem, no matter how large, that should end in physical violence. Doing so is actually assault. It may seem fun now, but it won't be so funny when you have trouble getting into your dream college and they decline you because of the suspension you received. What person is actually worth that?

Always try to resolve issues with your words, but if that doesn't work, leave it alone. You don't want a stupid High School spat affecting your future.

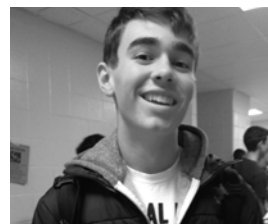
## *What are your plans for Spring Break?*



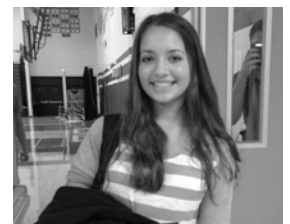
"Going to Florida for baseball."  
- Senior Tom Lovinger



"I'm just staying home."  
- Junior Rula Samad



"Coming to school to make up for the snow day."  
- Sophomore Dylan Manley



"I'm not going anywhere."  
- Freshman Natalie Suozzo



# You are SO UnFriended

Rose Stokoe

Staff Writer

Everyone, regardless of gender, age, or level of niceness, fights with their friends. These might not be huge blow-ups that ruin a friendship and cause two people to never speak again, but little spats still are fights.

An argument can start over a crush, a forgotten birthday, or a comment that was way over the line. Whenever they start, tension arises between two people who were the best of friends before the conflict.

While unfortunate, a large conflict can rip apart a previously perfect friendship. It's a shame when two people let something tear them apart, but depending on the offense that caused the fight, it can be for the best.

"I had a girl who I thought was my best friend until I heard she was talking way too friendly to my ex-boyfriend," said one sophomore on the condition of

equivalent to avoiding them like the plague and ignoring them when they dare speak to you. This may leave the people getting the cold shoulder a bit confused on why their "bestie" suddenly hates them. Chances are news will get around from their other friends on why they are officially iced out.

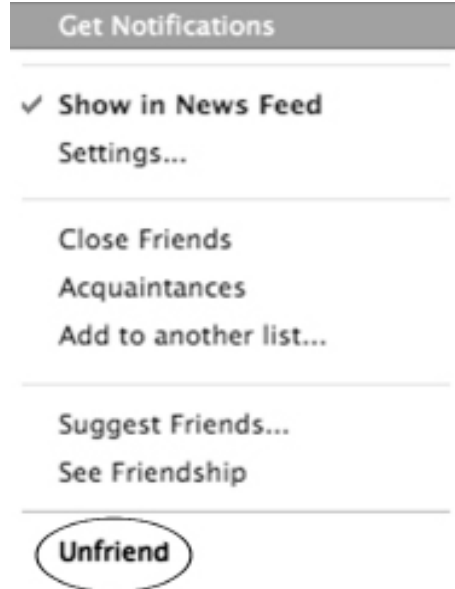
If you are having trouble with your friends, but would rather salvage the friendship than never talking EVER again, there are other options. This may shock you, but you can actually talk to them about it, face-to-face, not Facebook to Facebook, or DMing or Popchatting or Texting or any other convoluted electronic method of contacting someone.

"My friends and I were on the outs because I had been cancelling plans on them a lot," said junior Zoe Rheingold. "At first they didn't talk to me, but after we discussed it, all was mended. Now I would never ditch them!"

Most stupid little fights aren't worth losing a friendship over, but if someone has been acting really badly towards you, end it. If they are making you upset repeatedly, then their friendship is hardly worth it.

If you caused a friend to get mad or angry, don't just assume they are overreacting; think about it from their point of view. That may seem pointless if you are POSITIVE you did nothing, but obviously if they are angry, it's because you did something.

When it comes to friends, you will fight, you will forgive, and you will hold a grudge (maybe), but don't ruin something great over some stupid fight.



Courtesy of Amy Carton

anonymity. "I normally wouldn't have cared much, but this boyfriend broke my heart and she knew that. The fact she would cause me that pain made me so angry! I just wanted to freak out on her, but considering I didn't want to get suspended for hitting her I just froze her out."

Freezing people out is

# Communication Breakdown

Sam Mandell

Staff Writer

The other day I was in the car with my family and my little brother's friend. The conversation was flowing smoothly between my parents and me, but as I looked in the back seat to see what my brother and his friend were doing, I only saw the top of their heads. It was easily noticeable what they were doing; they were both playing on their iPod touches, playing different games by themselves. There was no conversation at all, no personal connection, no interaction or bonding. If there was any communication at all, it was over what game they were playing.

While the technological advantages of such large advancements in electronics are great, the consequences are just as large as well. In my sixteen years of living (which I can't say is a lot, compared to others), I have seen a major decline in personal human connection, interaction and conversation. Over the past couple of years, face-to-face interaction has declined, and technological interaction has increased dramatically. It used to be that if you wanted to find someone or meet someone or talk to someone, you would go out and find them yourselves and take action. But now, if you want to do any of that, you can do it in five minutes over Facebook, text, Facetime or video chatting. Not to say that there isn't conversation made between two people, but there is no personal connection



Courtesy of abovethelaw.com

or interaction that would otherwise be made face-to-face.

"I think it's shown a major decline in human interaction," said junior Alex DosSantos, "because people are more focused on themselves and are drawn to their phone rather than to the people they are actually with at the time."

Although face-to-face interaction has declined drastically, communication on a global scale through technology and our understanding of the world and the universe have increased dramatically. Today we are able to look out into distant space, communicate with people right down the block or on the other side of the world in a matter of minutes. Through Email, Instant Messaging (IM) and texting, communication has exploded exponentially. Many will argue that it has helped humanity continue to grow.

However, the main problem still remains. The consequence of advancing technology is that phones and iPods are capable of almost anything, and today almost anyone can have one, including elementary school students. Kids, teenagers and adults will continue to rely on this technology and focus on their phones rather than the person next to them. In a global sense, it is a lot harder to come up with a solution because technology will inevitably continue to advance. However, locally parents can wait until their kids are older to get them phones, and kids today can easily put their phones away as well. Facebook or Twitter can wait.



Courtesy of Amy Carton

# Security: How much is needed?

Helina Dawit

Staff Writer

Though school security has always been an issue, it seems as if in the wake of the Newtown shootings, it has taken its place front and center in everyone's minds. Every teacher, principal, superintendent and parent in the nation has been self-evaluating, reassessing and wondering: Could it happen here, and if so, what can we do to prevent this?

On December 14, 2012, Adam Lanza forced his way into Sandy Hook Elementary School with a Bushmaster AR-15 assault rifle and multiple 30-round magazines in hand. He killed 20 first-graders and six educators. While his motives are still unclear and an official report has yet to be released, it has created a nationwide wildfire that has prompted possible changes to gun laws and gun control and a school-by-school assessment by nearly every administration regarding school security.

The gun debate could be another article entirely, but the

aspect that hit home in Harrison was the question: How much security is enough security to prevent another school shooting from happening, especially here?

Currently, the answer comes to students in the form of an armed Harrison police officer who is stationed by the main entrance at HHS, along with other safety precautions like locking all the doors, especially the outer ones that lead into/out of the school.

But how effective would these actions be in preventing an armed person intent on doing damage here? To really effectively prevent another such incident, a lot of changes need to occur not only in our school, but within the American culture. Whether it's going to happen by gradually changing the prevalent gun culture that exists within the U.S., or by getting rid of guns completely, a more significant and widespread change needs to take place. Until then, Harrison High School will continue to be

affected by the measures taken in the direct aftermath of Newtown. Yet Assistant Principal Mastrotta assures us this is not a long-term plan.

"The police officer being stationed here was a decision made by the Chief of Police and the Superintendent, but what has come out of that is to once again have a Student Resource Officer" says Mr. Mastrotta. He maintains that the police officer currently stationed at the school is only a measure in place until an officer has undergone the right training to become the next SRO. The necessary officer will assure the safety of the students and will be integrated into the school's culture as well. That, according to Mr. Mastrotta, is the significant difference between an SRO and a police officer.

Though students don't seem to mind the officer now, they say that his presence isn't necessarily a positive either. An SRO would change that, assures Mr. Mastrotta.

"An SRO is different than a police officer," he explains. "While they are obviously part of the police force, the training they will have gone through to become an SRO will enable them to integrate into a school culture as a police officer in a way that is meaningful as opposed to having a police officer merely assigned here."

That is the long-term goal. Whether we want to face it or not, times have changed. Having a sign-in sheet by the front door is no longer enough to secure a school. Since the start of this decade alone, there have been 31 school shootings ranging from one person injured in Perry Hall, MD, to the recent 26 dead in Newtown, CT. That is 31 too many. The Student Resource Officer would be trained for such situations to help secure our school, while also becoming a positive part of our HHS culture.

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## More like extended agony

Peri Mendelsohn

Staff Writer

With the culmination of the first half of senior year comes the first deadline of the ever dreaded and excruciating component of the IB Program: The Extended Essay. Senior IB students did not blindly agree to enroll in the

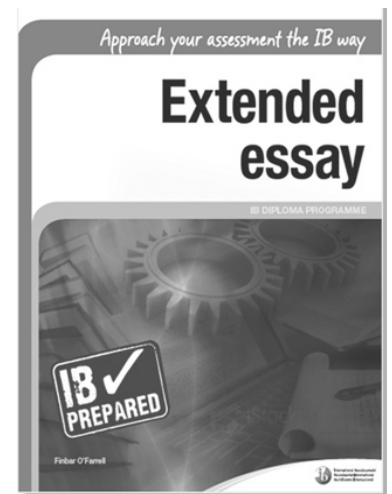
understood that the Extended Essay was a necessity for the IB diploma, yet the early due date in mid-December still came as a shock for many. Even with plentiful warning about the essay's importance, it seems as if the Extended Essay has taken a backseat in students' minds in the last few months.

TOK teachers have stressed the EE from the beginning of September, but it seems as if the essay's significance has only just set in for IB students. One could use the word "insane" to describe the state of mind of stressed IB students this December. Many IB students have complained about the essay's abrupt deadline along with the various other commitments and events at this busy time of year. The very

week the Extended Essay drafts were due on turnitin.com happened to be when the numerous tests and projects in anticipation of winter break, and preparation for IB Internal Assessments are due. The week before break is notorious for causing high stress levels, not to mention that students are distracted by the upcoming break. Adding an additional deadline of such importance definitely did not ease the already hovering pressure.

"Nearly everyone wrote the entire essay in one night," commented Kate Fax-on regarding her EE struggle. "It was generally a really stressful process."

As the deadline for the final draft approached, diploma candidates lost more and more



*Courtesy of ibo.org*  
sleep, struggling to complete the 4,000-word nightmare. Hopefully next year's diploma candidates will be wise and take a more proactive approach.



*Courtesy of ibo.org*

Diploma Program without knowing the consequences; everyone

# Privacy versus Public Information

Ariel Coonin

News Editor

On December 14, our country experienced a tragedy that left everyone in shock. The school shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, left people in shock and horror, unsure what to do. Out of fear people did crazy things. Suddenly parents were debating sending their children to school, police were patrolling schools, and a national gun control debate broke out.

All across the country people disputed whether the second amendment would still apply, or if stricter gun laws were necessary. People acted out of fear and made rash decisions.

In the heat of moment, *The Journal News* published an article releasing information on licensed gun owners in the area. Although this is technically public information, it's not exactly something one would expect to

see in the news. It seems a bit personal. It makes everyone consider what the limit is for something that can go into the news and what is too far.

As a journalist, one is challenged to write articles with little to no biases, to share the breaking information with readers objectively and leave out personal opinions. So when an article sharing extremely personal information surfaced, it shocked many other journalists as well.

*The New York Times* published an article quickly following the article by *The Journal News*. In this article, author David Carr discussed how publishing a map of gun owners in the area may have been going too far for a journalist, especially in light of the recent tragedy in Newtown. It was evident that the map was published as a rash reaction

to the shooting. People were fearful and the journalist from *The Journal News* believed that releasing this information would help to ease people's worries and calm them down.

"I think that it was an invasion of privacy," says sophomore Sydney Mueller. "I don't think that it calmed anyone down."

Many others agree. Although the list of licensed gun owners can be accessed by anyone with a little research, it still is surprising to find it published for all to see. To some, it strikes more fear into readers than comfort when they find out that their next-door neighbor may have guns.

While everyone is entitled to freedom of speech and freedom of expression, there are arguments stating that there are things that people shouldn't post or publish. Publishing something

turns it from private (or semi-private) to fully public and accessible information. When this article on gun owners in the area was published, it released information that people consider personal. It was clear that this was what the author deemed appropriate after the terrible tragedy.

However, not all gun owners will commit serious crimes or any crimes at all. We have to be careful with what we publish; there can be negative reactions from the public that are not even considered when the article is written. Private versus public information is something that is debated on all levels and until a clear, unanimous decision is reached, this sort of information shouldn't be published.

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## Livestrong: What does it mean now?

Matthew Miles

Staff Writer

A yellow band that once symbolized hope and desire for one's good health has now become a sign for doping and cheating. Lance Armstrong was once a seven-time consecutive Tour de France champion. He now has been banned from professional cycling for life. He is banned because he used illegal performance enhancing drugs during his career. According to *Espn.com*, Lance Armstrong has been stripped of all his titles. In addition, he has stepped down from his job as chairman for his "Livestrong" foundation which, *Espn.com* notes, has raised millions of dollars for cancer.

Livestrong was created by Lance Armstrong in 1996 when he was diagnosed with Stage Three Testicular Cancer. His goal by creating Livestrong was to support people affected by cancer and to raise aware-



This used to stand for something.

*Courtesy of Livestrong*

ness as well. Lance created shirts and pants and hats to raise awareness for Livestrong, but the most important piece of merchandise was a little yellow band that people wore on their wrists. In block letters, it said 'Livestrong.' The Livestrong band was worn by everybody, celebrities and average citizens alike. It has inspired people all over the world and has served as a model for other charities as well. Its message is hope and to continue to fight on. Today the

Livestrong band isn't as significant as before because of what Lance Armstrong did, cheating at his sport and going against what society expects of him.

The general public today now believes that Lance Armstrong is detrimental to society. In an interview with Oprah Winfrey, Lance apologized for his actions and told the people that once believed in him to forgive him because he said that he made a big mistake. However, his confession was not believably

convincing. According to *The Los Angeles Times*, who interviewed many different people, the general reaction is they will never be able to forgive him.

Kathy LeMond said, "He's a liar, and it never stops."

Her husband, Greg, a three-time Tour de France title winner, said, "I don't think he's sorry."

Sophomore Jared Gaynes said, "He is the biggest fraud in sports history."

Will Lance Armstrong ever be thought of as anything besides a cheater and a liar? Many think his apology was insincere. It is unlikely that people will ever think of Livestrong the same way again.

# ARTS & entertainment

## Renaissance Festival Doth Rock The HPAC

Sarah Camillone

Staff Writer

On Thursday, December 13, 1012, the annual Renaissance Festival took place. It was as if this reporter was transported back in time, back to the time period of the Renaissance. The extravagant outfits, the lovely voices and instruments all make the Renaissance Festival an unforgettable experience.

The selective Madrigal singing group sings pieces that are, true to their name, called madrigals. A madrigal is a vocal music composition, usually a part song, meaning that it is written with different vocal parts: soprano, alto, tenor, and bass.

According to chorus teacher Ms. Fusco, "Musically, madrigals are quite difficult to perform. The harmonies are very intricate, the rhythms challenging, and the fact that it's all a cappella adds to their complexity."

The Renaissance Festival did not only include singing, it included performances from the orchestra, and various drama performances too. This annual experience has been growing with each successive year.

"Over the past seven years, the Renaissance festival has grown, and it will continue to do so. We had our largest number of madrigals this year, close to 30 singers," said Ms. Fusco. "In addition, we had student participation from both our high school orchestra and theatre arts classes. Our tech crew runs everything, from lighting to executing deck moves.



With each passing year, I grow more and more impressed with the level of dedication, talent, and professionalism put forth by our performing arts students."

Madrigals provide a great opportunity for trying a new way of singing, and to experience music from the Renaissance time period.

"I've been in madrigals for three years, and I have found it to be a very fun experience, along with learning a lot about the different techniques used in madrigal singing," said junior Sarah Curtis. "Even though it may be challenging, at the end of the day, it turns out sounding really great."

The challenging rhythms, singing a cappella, and the

different component parts all make singing a madrigal piece even more exciting. Even if you've never been involved in Madrigals, next year is the perfect opportunity to try out and learn more about this type of music, and what it sounds like.

"I've never sung Madrigal style music before," said sophomore Roma Scarano. "It was a great experience to challenge and expand my knowledge of different genres of music."

Sophomore Paula Segovia perfectly summarizes the festival: "I think that the Renaissance Festival was something completely out of the glory and spirit of those glorious times. It was absolutely magnificent," she said.

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## Choral Cabaret Makes Sweet Music

Sarah Camillone

Staff Writer

On Thursday, January 10, 2013, Harrison High School hosted its biannual Choral Cabaret. Each school year, the two cabarets are held at different restaurants, allowing attendees to eat and relax as they listen to the performances. The most recent cabaret was held at the Westchester Burger Company in Rye Brook.

"The winter cabaret was a huge success for everyone," said sophomore Roma Scarano. "Lots of family and friends came to support and it was a lot of fun. I will definitely do it again."

In preparation for the event, singers choose to perform

either solo, as a duet, or as part of a larger group, helping improve the singers' performance abilities and confidence, making for a memorable experience. With the guidance of Chorus teacher Ms. Fusco, singer also had the choice to provide their own musical accompaniment, or enlist Ms. Fusco to accompany on the piano. Senior Chris Morris acted as the MC for the evening, introducing each act and entertaining the audience with his sense of humor.

"The pretension and nervousness was at an all time high," said senior Chris Morris. "Everyones' performances were

fantastic."

Chris Morris brought the show together, he inspired people to give their best performances. I personally had a great time, singing at this cabaret made me feel like I have developed as a singer, and it made me feel appreciated," said sophomore Rosemarie Belfiore. "It overall was a great experience, and if anyone would like to sing at a cabaret, I would highly recommend it."

"Cabaret is always so fun," said sophomore Troy Tripicchio. "Hanging out with people and getting to know them a little better always makes the experience

worthwhile."

"It was a lot of fun to see everyone sing," said freshman Elizabeth Marino. "It was great to see the different ways each song was performed."

The winter cabaret also raised money for the Chorus and Orchestras' upcoming trip to Boston. Following the trip to Boston, the Chorus will hold its second cabaret, which promises to be even more successful than the first. If interested in participating or attending the cabaret, contact Ms. Fusco.



# Music 2012: A year in review

Ariel Coonin

News Editor

With the New Year underway, it's a good time to reflect on the past year in music. It was a long year of the same songs played over and over on the radio. By this point, most people have all those songs and lyrics stuck in their heads.

Spotify, a music streaming website, has released the results for the Most-Streamed Songs of 2012 in America, and some of the answers will surprise you. America's favorite pop star Justin Bieber, famous for striking "Bieberfever" into fans all across the world, did not even make the top 25. He comes in a rough thirty-second for his "hit" song "Boyfriend."

Summer 2012's hit pop song "Call Me Maybe" by Carly Rae Jepson coming in third was a huge shock. It'd be hard to find

a single person in this school that can't belt out the chorus to this popular tune or hasn't seen a parody video of this song. A bit of a shock – but still understandable – Carly Rae Jepson's pop love song was beaten out by other popular tunes, "Somebody That I Used To Know," by Gotye and "We Are Young" by the band Fun.

"I'm so sick of 'Call Me Maybe,'" says sophomore Julia Soltz. "I never really liked it in the first place. I'm glad it wasn't number one."

"Call Me Maybe" is filled with fun, repetitive lyrics that some people really enjoy listening to, yet others, not so much. Whether you like it or not, it's undeniable that you're capable of belting out the chorus of this song.

It's slightly puzzling to see

a song by Gotye in the number one most-streamed spot because most people in the United States hadn't even heard of him until "Somebody That I Used To Know" was playing basically on repeat on every radio station across the country. It'll be a true test of time if Gotye will keep producing top ten songs or if he's had his 15 minutes of fame and will just become somebody that we used to know.

The band Fun showed up twice in the top ten, proving that they are completely able to produce addictive music that people just can't seem to get out of their heads.

"I'm a big fan of Fun," says sophomore Roma Scarano. "I think their songs are passionate and enjoyable to sing along to."

Both songs by Fun in the

top ten have catchy tunes and lyrics that people all over the country have been humming and singing along to for the past year. The band represented well in the top ten for 2012.

The remaining spots of the top ten were filled by Nicki Minaj, The Wanted, M83, Flo Rida, One Direction and Maroon 5. It's no surprise to see the British boy band, One Direction, tearing up the top ten, as they stole the hearts of America in this past year. The same goes for the rest because, as much as we'd like to deny it, we know all the lyrics to almost every song on this list. Maybe 2013 will be filled with refreshingly new music – let's hope so.

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## New Lonely Island Release Due to Drop in 2013

Rob Sperduto

Entertainment Editor

Last year, another era of NBC's *Saturday Night Live* came to a conclusion when beloved cast member Andy Samberg made his decision to depart from the show along with fellow staff writers, and close friends, Jorma Taccone and Akiva Schaffer. It was difficult to see the three comedic geniuses leave since they made such an impact on the sketch comedy show through their pre-recorded segments under the comedy troupe, The Lonely Island. However, like any cast member who departs from SNL, the show must go on; Season 38 rolled on through last September, leaving heartbroken audiences without the classic "An SNL Digital Short" segment of the show. However, on January 26, Andy Samberg made his first guest appearance since departing SNL on the Adam Levine/Kendrick Lamar episode. Along with this appearance, Samberg brought some exciting news regarding a new Lonely Island album for 2013.

Samberg made the first surprise of the night when he appeared in Adam Levine's monologue, humorously providing advice to Levine for his debut as host. While this was amusing, the real news of the night came just before the Weekend Update, with The Lonely Island's first Digital Short since their exit from the show, featuring Adam Levine and musical guest Kendrick Lamar. Entitled "YOLO," the trio parodied the ridiculousness of Drake's belief that "You Only Live Once", by looking at it through a contrary perspective and acronym: "You Oughta Look Out." While the song wasn't their best work, their signature style of taking the meaning of common pop-culture references to the extreme was amusing. The song and accompanying video felt even more enjoyable since it's been such a long time that a Digital Short's been released.

A few hours after the episode aired, "YOLO" was posted on the trio's YouTube channel

with a surprising tag at the end of the video. The tag read "Lonely Island. New Album. 2013." This surprise wasn't mentioned the night before so it came as even more of a pleasant surprise for Lonely Island fanatics. The Lonely Island's last album, "Turtleneck and Chain," was released two years ago in 2011, leaving fans yearning for more. When asked about his thoughts on the upcoming album, Junior Josh Kaidanow said, "I'm really excited for the new album. Their last two albums were hilarious and I have high expectations for this one."

Around Harrison High School, the trio's newest album seems to be even more anticipated due to the fact that the Samberg, Taccone, and Schaffer have left SNL.

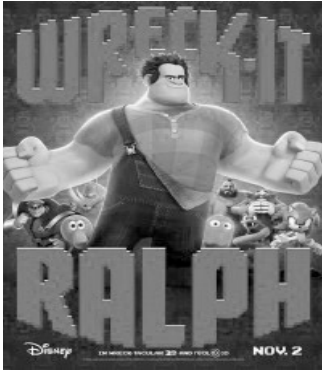
It's also exciting to think that with a future album in the works, more frequent guest appearances and Digital Shorts on SNL might be in the works for Samberg, Taccone, and

Schaffer. While this is purely speculation, it is likely that they'll make more appearances, as old members tend to frequently come back here and there. Junior Ralph Tancredi said, "I hope Andy Samberg comes back again; I'll never forget the 'Great Day' skit; Digital Shorts were my favorite part of the show." Besides, SNL members never really leave the show, do they?

Aside from *Saturday Night Live*, 2013 will be a busy year for Andy Samberg, with a future FOX comedy pilot managed by Phil Lord and Chris Miller (21 Jump Street) also in the works (via *Entertainment Weekly*). While it's always an emotional time when a beloved cast member leaves SNL, it's very exciting to see what their future holds for them. It's time to hang up those turtlenecks and chains and prepare for The Lonely Island's next hilarious album and other work in the near future!

# Top 10 Movies of 2012

Jamie DeRosa and Rob Sperduto  
Staff Writers



Courtesy of disney.go

In the Academy's choices at this year's Oscars, some movies were ignored entirely. Hollywood doesn't always agree with the critical acumen of a Harrison High School teenager. As such, we offer up our list of the top 10 movies of 2012:

**10.) Wreck it Ralph** - A love letter to video game fanatics, and a well made family movie in its own respect. *Wreck it Ralph* is funny, charming, and has a cast of loveable characters. This is a well above average animated film which some are calling this generation's *Toy Story*. Expect this one to become a major series in the future.

**9.) Chronicle** - The found-footage genre is one that is generally suited to horror movies. *Chronicle* was a different take on a genre that has become oversaturated with bad, unoriginal films. It showed a "realistic" take on the super hero genre by showing what would happen if a group of teenagers got super powers. It was well acted by a fresh group of actors and was a very solid directorial debut for Josh Trank. *Chronicle* is among the best of the found-footage genre, with one of the most thrilling endings in recent memory.

**8.) Sinister** - Good horror movies are hard to come by these days. The past few years have been overrun by *Paranor-*

*mal Activity* sequels and lame slashers. *Sinister* is easily the most uncomfortable and chilling viewing experience of the year, but that's the beauty of it. "It was hard to keep my eyes directly on the screen. I haven't been that scared by a movie in a while," says junior Matt Bruzzano. It is well acted, very well shot, and offers unique scares in a genre that's becoming more and more predictable with each new entry.

**7.) Ted** - In a year void of comedies, *Ted* was a breath of fresh air. As the directorial debut of *Family Guy* creator and recent Oscars host Seth McFarlane, *Ted* is destined to become a classic in the genre up there with the likes of *Anchorman* and *Superbad*. Longtime fans of McFarlane's work will instantly be able to connect with this type of humor. Filled with tons of pokes at modern media, *Ted* is easily one of the most memorable comedies in a while and a promising start to McFarlane's career as a film director.

**6.) Skyfall** - After the last Bond entry, *Quantum of Solace*, underwhelmed fans of the franchise, *Skyfall* came back with a vengeance that made any still skeptical about Daniel Craig's performance as 007 eat their words. Director Sam Mendes showed the world that James Bond can contain a mix of dark realism while still being able to be suave and represent what every man wants to be. "As a huge fan, I can say that *Skyfall* is easily the most enjoyable bond film in years," says junior Sam Colangelo. It was a great way to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Bond and get people psyched for whatever comes next in this mega series.

**5.) The Cabin in the Woods** - This was one of the most unique and well written

movies in a long time. *The Cabin in the Woods* is a parody on the horror genre without feeling like a spoof. It manages to be funny, scary, and surprising at the same time, which is no easy feat. The plot to this is better left under wraps because the less you know about it, the more you'll be blown away when you watch it. It's that good.

**4.) The Dark Knight Rises** - Without question one of this year's most hyped movies, the beloved trilogy came to an end this year with epic results. While Bane might not be a better villain than the Joker, he offered something completely different by beating the crap out of Batman on numerous occasions, something viewers have never seen before. It'll be tough for whatever comes next to top the trilogy Christopher Nolan created.

**3.) The Avengers** - A project four years in the making finally saw the light of day earlier this year with unbelievably successful results, destroying box office records with an absurd 207 million dollar opening. It is clear people liked it, and who can blame them? It was everything fans wanted and more. Director Joss Whedon at the helm of the project added his signature mixture of humor, suspense, and action. For the most part, every character had their opportunity to shine on screen, which is a major feat to produce in a two and a half hour movie. Hailed as the "greatest superhero film of all time" by Chuck Walto of Fandango, there's no excuse to not see this movie.

**2.) The Hobbit** - Serving as the prequel to the greatest movies of all time (no argument), *The Hobbit* had a ton to live up to. While obviously not as strong as what came before it, *The Hobbit* surprised with some of the best performances of the year, especially from Martin Freeman and Andy Serkis who stole the show again with his insanely awesome performance as Gollum. This was a great start to what is no doubt going to be a great trilogy.

**1.) Django Unchained**



Courtesy of themovieblog.com

- 2012 sent us off with Quentin Tarantino's eighth film, a spaghetti western starring Jamie Foxx about a freed slave turned bounty hunter who sets off on a journey to rescue his wife from the worst plantation in Mississippi. This film is everything that a fan of Tarantino could want from an all star supporting cast (Leonardo DiCaprio, Samuel L. Jackson, Christoph Waltz, Don Johnson) that contributes to the director's signature violence and humor that's always enjoyable to watch. Like most of his movies in the past, *Django Unchained* has been criticized by the media for its wide use of profanity, racial slurs, and intense scenes. However, Quentin Tarantino dared to enter a part of American history that we're not proud of, and expose it accurately for what it was. What most don't understand is that, at the heart of the film, *Django Unchained* is an epic quest of love and redemption that just so happens to take place a few years prior to the Civil War.



Courtesy of imdb

## Ted



Courtesy of ebay

# And the Oscar Goes To...

Clarissa Karantzis

Staff Writer

Every year, millions of people (40.3 million this year to be exact) wait to watch the most anticipated, spectacular awards show of the year. Celebrities and people all over the world get ready for Hollywood's biggest night, the Oscars. Whether in front of your own living room's television, at viewing parties found across the nation, or as a "seat filler" at the actual event (to fill in the seat of a celebrity as he or she steps away), the excitement is bound to overtake you.

The first Academy Awards was held in 1929 to recognize achievements in films from 1927 and 1928. Only 270 people attended, tickets sold for five dollars, and the ceremony lasted about 15 minutes with 15 statuettes given out. The ceremony wasn't broadcast for the public until the second Academy Awards, which aired on a radio station. As the years went by and Oscars became more popular, more and more categories appeared, such as Costume Design, Best Supporting Actor and Actress, etc. The twenty-fifth Academy Awards was the first time that the ceremony was televised, and in 1966, the thirty-eighth Awards were the first to be televised in color, allowing audiences at home to experience the event in all its grandeur.

The glamour aspect is almost as important as who goes home with the little gold statue. With red carpet "best and worst dressed" lists, celebrities always dazzle the audience with iconic fashion moments, and sometimes mishaps. But the Oscars weren't always so glamorous. In its early years, it wasn't unusual for women to wear a fancy suit, or even - yes it happened - a nightgown. Over time, the glitz and glamour became more important, and the phrase "Who are you wearing?" became as important as "And the Oscar goes to..." Recaps of the fashion is what everyone talks about in the days after Oscars- the best dressed, the ones who wore too much or too little, and then of course "The Red Carpet Hall of Shame." And then there are

always the adventurous ones, who bring fashion to a whole new level, like when Lizzy Gardine wore a dress made out of American Express cards in 1995, or when Bjork wore a swan dress at the 2001 Oscars.

Even more important than the right dress or Tux are the acceptance speeches, and every year pressure is put on the celebrities to make the perfect one. With the shock of winning an Oscar, the need to thank friends, family, and people who helped with the making of film, and the fact that the winners are speaking to an audience of millions, the speeches don't always come out as eloquently as hoped. Nevertheless, the gratitude, surprise, and happiness of winning an Oscar can always be seen on the faces of nominees turned winners and makes an impression (positive or negative) on the viewers.

The coverage of the 2013 Oscars, held at the Dolby Theater in California, began as early as 4:30 p.m., as people prepared for those who would soon flood the Red Carpet. Slowly, the celebrities arrived, posing for the cameras, giving interviews, and wowing the audience with their fashion. Within half an hour, the carpet was full of the anxious yet excited nominees, waiting to enter the theater. The show opened at 8:30, with first-time host Seth MacFarlane. Within minutes, William Shatner, aka Captain Kirk, appeared via large screen, to warn MacFarlane that he would be the worst Oscar host ever. MacFarlane, listening to Shatner's advice, brought

out celebrities like Charlize Theron and Channing Tatum to perform a dance number to help him "improve" his doomed reputation. Numerous musical numbers performed by celebrities followed, staying true to the theme of the night of celebrating music in films.

As the night went on and the statues were handed to elated winners, the anticipation as to who would win best actor/actress and, of course, best film, mounted. *Life of Pi* picked up four Oscars, the most throughout the night. *Argo* took home three, followed by *Les Misérables* and *Skyfall* with two. The Oscar for "Actor in a Supporting Role" was given to Christoph Waltz in *Django Unchained*, his second Oscar. He had won an Oscar in the same category back in 2010 for the film *Inglorious Basterds*. The Oscar for "Actress in a Supporting Role" was given to the much deserving and expected Anne Hathaway, for her impressive performance as Fantine in the musical *Les Misérables*. As she smilingly accepted her first Oscar, she said that her "dream had come true."

One of the most coveted awards is for "Actress in a Leading Role", which was awarded to Jennifer Lawrence for her role in *Silver Linings Playbook*. Completely shell-shocked, the actress went to make her way up on the stage, but took a tumble going up the stairs. After recovering from her fall, the audience gave a standing ovation, to which she replied, "You guys are just standing up cause you feel bad that I fell and that's really embarrassing, but

thank you."

After much anticipation, the Oscar for "Actor in a Leading Role" was given to Daniel Day-Lewis, for his inspiring and moving portrayal of President Lincoln in the film *Lincoln*. This was his third Oscar- he had won two others in "Actor in a Leading Role" for *My Left Foot* in 1990, and *There Will Be Blood* in 2008. After much suspense, the Oscar for "Best Picture" was announced by First Lady Michelle Obama (who joined the festivities via big screen from the White House). It went to *Argo*, with director Ben Affleck. Completely shocked by the win, Affleck rambled and stumbled a little over his words as he gave his acceptance speech, nevertheless expressing his thankfulness and appreciation for receiving the famous award from the Academy. His win was an impressive one and surprised many, since he was ignored by the Academy in the directing category.

Some of the highlights of the night were Adele singing "Skyfall" (who won an Oscar for Best Song), and a rare appearance of Barbra Streisand singing "The Way We Were" in an emotional tribute to Marvin Hamlisch. The entire cast of *Les Misérables* sang a powerful medley of the songs featured in the musical, but Jennifer Hudson brought the house down with a standing ovation with her performance of "And I Am Telling You I'm Not Going."

The 85th Academy Awards were again a success, with great performances, laughter, some eyebrow-raising jokes, some mishaps, and lots of entertainment. However, it wouldn't be an Oscar night without it going overtime. The show ran 30 minutes late, even though only the speech of the Visual Effects team for *Life of Pi* was cut off. Nevertheless, it was a night to remember. Now we have another year to watch movies, get excited over performances, and pick our choices for the 86th Academy Awards in 2014.



Courtesy of funfacts



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 takes a trip to Polpettina's Pizza and Home Style Eatery on Fisher Avenue in Eastchester, where local and organically grown foods are turned into superb Italian specialties!

*Pictures courtesy of Polpettina.com*



Eggplant chips piled high.

can taste it. The meatballs, on the other hand, left something to be desired. Arriving in a cute presentation displaying each of the three meatballs on separate dishes with unique sauces and flavor profiles, our hopes were set high. However, none of the three left us feeling wowed. The traditional version was just that and nothing more, the pork and broccoli rabe take on the classic was dry and fell apart too easily, and the Asian chicken version seemed to have lost sense of what a meatball is. On a brighter note, our main course finished with a lovely mushroom pasta (available in a gluten-free version). The mushroom sauce was not overly creamy, and had a hefty amount of warm smoky flavor, which provided a homey feeling to warm us up on a cold winter day.

In a very un-American way, the portions were much smaller than we were used to, and much lighter than expected. THIS IS NOT A BAD THING, mind you, it left room for more! Could I have had 12 slices (two pies) and more eggplant chips? Yes, however being that we were stepping out of our comfort zone, this was not something we were at liberty to do.

In addition to this, there were two beautiful young ladies (maybe 65, 70 years young) seated at a table very close by and basically attached to ours. The last thing I wanted was to gross out these ladies! It was a very Anthony Bourdain moment how we were enjoying such great food, and involved in discussion with two people we had never met before, but acting like we were all related due to some technicality, likely the great food on our respective tables. In a sense, we think that's what the atmosphere of Polpettina tries to provide, and better yet, encourage patrons to do. This welcoming and social environment is what sets Polpetinna apart from other Italian restaurants (we live in Westchester, people, - there are plenty of places to dig into some spaghetti). We feel that, at restaurants, the food is only the starting half of the equation. Eating great food is nothing special if you aren't enjoying yourself while doing so. Happy diners, delicious food, a friendly waiting staff: Polpetinna has the right idea.

Over our not-so-boring crème brulee rice pudding, the night came to a nice close and we felt like we were eating in our Grandmother's kitchen rather than in some side-street Restaurant. The question isn't if we will be going back, but when.

After careful analysis, our final review (out of five) is:

Taste:

Ambiance:

Value:

Almost instantly after we exited our car, we became immersed in the full experience of Polpettina simply by getting a table. To go to any popular eatery is one thing, but grabbing two of twenty seats at this small modern Italian kitchen was a real steal. Rustic wooden tables are accented with splashes of modern design in what culminates into a very pleasing visual experience. In a few words, it can be described as a modern Italian Country style eatery with foods for any palate.

To start off, Coby ordered the eggplant chips with wildflower honey and Polpettina's take on the not-so-French fries. If eggplant chips seem frightening at first, don't be afraid to leave your comfort zone. As a former plain eater (he only ate American cheese sandwiches until eighth grade), even he found himself struggling not to pop one more crispy, sweet piece of delicately fried eggplant into his mouth!

The Polpetinna fries came next. There's nothing like taking an old classic like French fries,

and turning it into an entirely new dish. Something resembling Italian Poutine, the generous portion of fries came covered in local mozzarella cheese and a house-made Bolognese sauce. A volcano of cheesy, saucy goodness, "just trying" isn't an option. "Pass the fries" soon became the slogan of the meal, as we battled to finish the falsely named "small size" of this house special. On a lighter note, we shared an arugula salad served with a balanced vinaigrette dressing and perfectly sweet roasted beets paired with a local (again) goat cheese. The salad served as a perfect introduction for the main courses, giving us time to make some room for the more modern Italian cuisine.

After these appetizers, we took on a Neapolitan Pizza pie along with some Chicken, Beef, and Pork Meatballs. The pizza was just what we were looking for: something light and crispy. Who wants to struggle to stomach thick greasy slices? Certainly not us. What makes Polpetina a true "Neighborhood Joint" is the use of many local and organic ingredients, and trust us, you



An interior view of Polpettina's.



# Bike Race Takes Off

Sam Mandell

Staff Writer

Over the past couple of months, the game Bike Race has taken over as the new top game. Kids all over the school are playing it wherever they go, while eagerly trying to beat their best time and race against others in the multiplayer section. It's taking its rank as the top game in Harrison High School. If not the best game on iPhone and Android devices, it is certainly up there among the greats.



Pictures courtesy of Apple.com

The game provides a fun experience that is competitive, addicting, and frustrating, all at the same time. With a total of 48 levels, 13 attainable bikes and unlimited multiplayer fun, there is always something to do.

Junior Ryan Nangle says, "Bike Race is the best game ever. I can't get enough of it. It's so addicting I even play it in class."

Senior Luke Elion says, "I do think it's taking over the school. It spreads like a virus and people get really competitive and want new bikes. It almost turns into more of a competition rather than just a game that you can play in your free time."

Although Bike Race is the number one game among the students at Harrison High School, it is far from being a favorite for the teachers. For many classes, Bike Race has been a big distraction among students because they play during their lessons and don't pay attention. Teachers are not very fond of this

for obvious reasons.

Junior Alex Delfufo says, "A lot of people play it in class because it's so fun. You can play with your friends and compete against yourself. I think that's the best part; the fact that I can play with my friends wherever I am."

For months, this game has been at the top, replacing Tiny Wings, Angry Birds and Temple Run all in the blink of an eye. Bike Race shows no sign of

stopping at all. With new bikes and always a time to beat, there is always something to do and always something to achieve. Also, if you've achieved everything in the single player levels, play your friends and compete



An opening screen shot.

against them. With the option to send invites via email, text, and Facebook to any random person out there, a new challenge is always waiting. Only time will tell when the Bike Race phenomena will stop, but for now, it is one of the best games out there and will continue to be.



Inside the diamond mine.

Students of Harrison High School have just been handed another way to procrastinate from doing their schoolwork. As of January 16, Imangi Studios released Temple Run 2 on every iOS device and it is expected to show up on the Android and Google App Stores in the coming weeks.

Travel back about a year and half ago to 2011. Whether somebody was sitting down at a track meet, waiting on line, or playing any type of leisurely game on his or her phone, chances are the game they'd be playing was Temple Run. The app sustained such popularity in 2012 that, according to the site gamesindustry.biz, Temple Run was the seventh most downloaded free iPhone game and the second on the iPad list for the year. That's pretty impressive for an app to remain that popular for so long when there are quite literally hundreds of thousands of apps in the store, and counting.

However, like most apps that reach Harrison High School, they become fads and are forgotten just as fast as they were introduced. The game that seems to be spreading around currently is Bike Race, a fun and competitive time consumer that can be played with friends and other people around the world.

When asked what apps he's most using, Junior Michael Sin said, "At the moment, I can't get enough of Bike Race. The game has an addicting single

# Temple Run 2: The Same, Only Better

Rob Spurduto

Entertainment Editor

Pictures courtesy of Touch Arcade player and my goal is to collect all of the bikes."

In the mobile world, seeing a person play a game that came out a year or two ago can almost feel like pure nostalgia in such a short period of time. Currently, Temple Run seems to be in this phase, but with the arrival of its sequel, the name might start to sound more familiar around Harrison again.

Control-wise, Temple Run 2 is the same as its predecessor; tilting and swiping the screen hasn't been altered, so picking up old skills shouldn't take too long. However, visually the game is a major upgrade. In fact, the improved graphics was the

first noticeable aspect when starting up the game; for a mobile phone, it's a visual feat. The setting changes from a swampy jungle in the first game to running through bridges and waterfalls in the sky in the sequel. There are many new obstacles to jump and dive through, like rolling wooden spikes, zip-lines, and even a new railroad segment where the player rides in a cart dodging more



Can you do the 2?

things that fly at you.

Temple Run 2 is free and currently number one on Apple's App Store, so fans of the first game don't have a reason to avoid it.

A fan of the series, Junior Michael Robinson said, "I played Temple Run so much when it came out and now I'll be playing this one just as much, if not more."

Judging from the popularity of the first game, expect Temple Run 2 to make a comeback in the school in coming months.

# LOTR Prequel Spells Magic

Rob Sperduto

Entertainment Editor

Nine years have passed since the culmination of Peter Jackson's stunning *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy. Earlier

short, but sweet scene provided a fitting throwback to the previous trilogy and set up the story by introducing Martin Freeman,

desire is to be safe in his house reading books rather than on an adventure; and Thorin, the king dwarf whose sole purpose is to lead his people to safety and reclaim his home, are complete polar opposites. Their contrasting characteristics truly emphasize the theme of having a place to call home versus the depressing thought of wandering about without a purpose. Actors Martin Freeman and Richard Armitage capture the emotion between each other, as Thorin frequently neglects and resents Bilbo for being puny, helpless, and an outcast in the group. Sir Ian McKellen's much loved character, Gandalf the Gray, perfectly describes Bilbo's purpose in the story when he says, "I found it is

beautiful set pieces and costumes, *The Hobbit* deserves any award that it will most likely get nominated for and sets the story up for a very promising trilogy. When asked about the quality of the movie, junior, Michael Robinson, said, "It exceeded my expectations and it was so good that it overshadowed any negative thoughts that I had about it." Mike provides an interesting thought as there are some grievances with the film that the audience might have like the portrayal of the zany wizard, Radagast, or the length of the film (2 hours, 49 minutes); however, the good far outweighs the bad. Any fan of J.R.R. Tolkien or fantasy in general shouldn't be disappointed and *The Hobbit* is a great sendoff into 2013 as it's



Courtesy of IMDb.com

this year, Jackson reprised his role as director of *The Hobbit*, J.R.R. Tolkien's widely praised prequel to the Academy Award winning trilogy. While originally planned to be two films, it was announced earlier this year that the novel would be adapted into a three-part trilogy. This news aroused my speculation and, not surprisingly, many other fans. After all, the novel itself is only 310 pages. A trilogy led many to believe that there would be large amounts of filler content (scenes not featured in the novel) in the movie, because it seems like the whole story could be wrapped up into a single film, if not two. However, in early December, Jackson defended this decision, telling the press, "The book is written in a very brisk pace, so pretty major events in the story are covered in only two or three pages." (E! News) Jackson goes on to discuss the importance of character development, and after watching this film, his vision becomes clear.

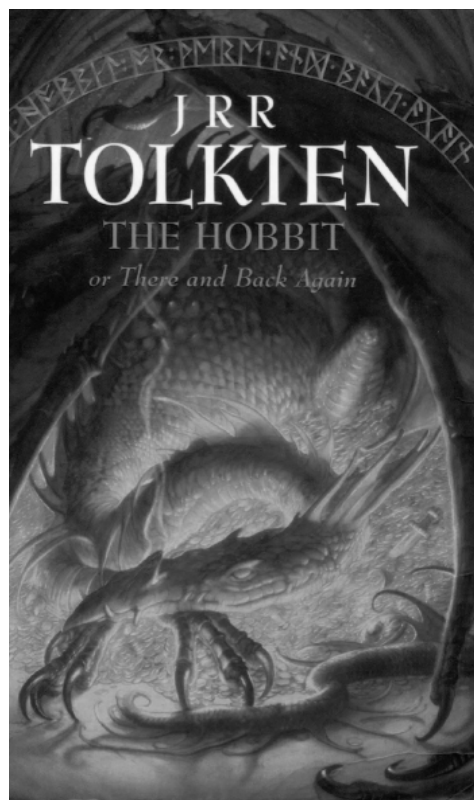
*The Hobbit* begins by introducing two familiar faces: Elijah Wood as Frodo Baggins and Ian Holm as an older version of the protagonist, Bilbo Baggins. Watching these two actors reprise their roles for a

the young Bilbo Baggins. Simply put, Freeman is the absolute perfect person to portray Bilbo on the big screen. His short and lanky stature represents a Hobbit's appearance, and by watching his previous works on BBC's *Sherlock* and *The Office UK*, Freeman has a firm grasp on balancing humor with drama. The first 30 to 45 minutes are what many critics' gripes seem to be about in which they complain about the slow pacing at Bilbo's home, The Shire. However, any fan of Tolkien knows that his fantasy is filled with numerous amounts of complex characters that are essential to the story; and Jackson's decision to make Bilbo's introduction to Gandalf the Gray and the dwarves laid the foundation for each character and their relationship with each other. Also, the excitement immediately picks up after The Shire and is very consistent until the end. And besides, watching the incredible effects and experiencing the sheer beauty of Middle-Earth is well worth sitting through the extra minutes.

One of the strongest aspects of the film is the chemistry between Bilbo and Thorin Oakenshield (Richard Armitage). Bilbo, the small man who's only

the small everyday deeds of ordinary folk that keep the darkness at bay. Small acts of happiness and love." The audience and supporting characters slowly realize this, especially with a scene involving Thorin that put a warm smile on my face.

There are so many great things to talk about in *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey* that it's hard to only discuss a few. From the fantastic acting to the incredible musical score by Howard Shore to the enormous,



Courtesy of Amazon

one of the last films of 2012. Skeptics of the film and people who claim that Peter Jackson is a "sell-out" for expanding the novel into three films should enter the movie and exit with this thought:

"Anyone who thinks Peter Jackson would fall for market forces around him rather than artistic integrity doesn't know the guy or the body of his work." – Sir Ian McKellen (E! News)

# Te'o Gets Catfished By Close Friend

Sarah Mazza

Staff Writer

On September 11, 2012, the sports world heard the shocking news about the passing of Notre Dame Football player Manti Te'o's grandmother and his girlfriend, Lennay Kekua. Te'o had an important game against Michigan State that weekend and people were shocked to find out that he wasn't going to be with either of his two loved ones for their funeral. Manti had said that he had made a promise to his girlfriend that he would play, regardless of anything that might happen to her.

Notre Dame went on to have an undefeated season and earned a spot in the BCS National Championship Game against Alabama. In addition Manti Te'o was the runner-up to Johnny Manziel for the Heisman Trophy, a trophy not usually awarded to a linebacker such as Te'o.

On January 7, 2013, Notre Dame was blown out by Alabama 42-14 and Manti Te'o had one of the worst games of his college career. However, that was just

the start of his troubles. On January 11th, 2013, Deadspin.com posted an article about how Lennay Kekua never existed. They also claimed that Manti Te'o was part of an elaborate hoax to create sympathy for him

friend, Ronaiah Tuiasosopo, made up Twitter and Facebook accounts for a fake female in an effort to fool Te'o into believing he was in a relationship with Lennay Kekua.

"I'm curious to see how ev-



Courtesy of MTV

in an effort to boost his Heisman trophy profile.

New information still is coming out day by day, but it is certain that Manti Te'o, through his interview with Jeremy Schapp of ESPN, was the victim of a hoax in which his supposed

everything in this story plays out," said junior Danielle Mehlman. "I've been following the story since it came out and just waiting for the truth to come out...if it ever does."

Nev Schulman, a man that became a Hollywood sensation

for being "catfished," was called to investigate the Manti Te'o story. Schulman met and fell in love with Megan, a girl he met online. The premise followed Schulman on the journey of discovering that the girl he thought he was talking to was actually someone only pretending to be Megan, and her real name was Angela. The term "catfishing" means someone who pretends to be someone they're not, using social media to create false identities, particularly to pursue online romances. Nev Schulman has taken his life experiences and turned them into a TV show on MTV.

"Catfish amazes me every week," says junior Alexandra Psaros. "I don't understand how some people can develop an online relationship with someone for over three years without ever meeting or anything."

Keep up with the Manti Te'o story on any major sports site and watch Catfish Mondays at 11 p.m. on MTV.

## Parental Guidance out soon on DVD

Callie Fried

Staff Writer

When a strict mother calls her old-school parents to come watch her children for a week, madness is not far behind. Her father, Artie, an announcer for a minor league baseball team, has a very relaxed way of parenting. He and his wife, Diane (an ex-weather girl), are very free-spirited and Artie is used to being in control when it comes to who deals with what.

Their uptight daughter, Alice, and her amiable husband, Phil, are invited to celebrate Phil's success on a trip for an entire week. They are left with no choice but to call Alice's parents to come watch their three children.

Pandemonium strikes when the out-of-date Artie and Diane clash with the methods used on their twenty-first century grandchildren. Of course get out

of hand at times, but in the end, it all works out how it should be.

The comedy is family friendly, but rated PG due to some "rude humor." The film opened in theaters in December, and has a running time of 105 minutes.

At the beginning of the film, Artie (played by Billy Crystal) is introduced as a harmless jokester who looks up to traditional American values, and his faithful wife, Diane (played by Bette Midler), embraces the changes of everyday life. Although such characters are fictional, they are based on relatable people who represent how a longtime marital couple operates.

Alice (played by Marisa Tomei) is first shown as an over-protective, neurotic mother who doesn't allow her children to eat

any sugar, but soon she turns into a caring, relaxed parent who just wants the best for her children. Her husband, Phil (played by Tom Everett Scott) is a bland husband who supports most of his wife's decisions, typically not the role of the man of the house.

Each child has their own unique personality that makes them desirable. They all have issues and habits, mainly caused by the way they are raised, such as having OCD. At first the children don't get along too well with their grandparents, but soon they build strong bonds that surprise the entire family, especially Alice who never got along too well with her parents.

The DVD will be released on March 26, 2013. It will also be available on iTunes and Amazon.

"Parental Guidance is an engaging comedy that bridges

multiple generation gaps, making it that rare movie that grandparents, their kids, and their kids enjoy," says Carrie Rickey of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

"Crystal and Midler are such confident pros that their crack timing elevates even sub-standard material," says Elizabeth Weitzman, of the *New York Daily News*.



Bill Crystal, Bette Midler, Marisa Tomei, Tom Everett Scott

parentalGUIDANCE

Courtesy of IMDB

# Stand Apart with Trendy Nail Art

Clarissa Karantzis

Staff Writer

Nail polish is as old as time itself. First worn in 3000 BC, the Chinese used a mixture of egg whites, beeswax and gelatin to create a form of nail polish. The ancient Egyptians used henna to stain their nails. Colored nails were a sign of social ranking, and lower classes were only allowed to wear very pale colors. Red, gold, silver, and black was reserved for the royal classes, and punishable by death if worn by anybody else. Even more popular today, yet certainly with no death toll in store, nail polish still holds an important role in the beauty regime of people worldwide.

Nail polish has become an integral part of American culture and is changing and evolving with fashion itself. In the 20's, the half moon manicure and red nail polish were the height of the fashion. The 60's were known for their demure pastels and the classic French manicure. Then the 80's came along with neon colors and wild nail art painted onto long nails, forever marking the era as notorious for their outrageous fashion and colorful designs. The art of dressing up your nails has always been around, but now, the trend has reached its peak. From a simple polka dot pattern to elaborate designs and prints, nail art has become a method of self expression. With companies creating new polishes and nail art techniques almost every day, it is impossible to miss this craze. Whether you're going on the internet or flipping through

perfect manicure.

Celebrities have seized this trend seen in almost every pop magazine. Actress Zooey Deschanel is one celeb who has not missed the trend. During the Golden Globes in 2012 she was seen with "tuxedo nails" and had "filmstrip nails" on the red carpet at the Golden Globes this year. Kelly Osbourne wore a \$250,000 manicure, in which powdered black diamonds, yes *diamonds*, were applied to her nails creating a very unique and expensive manicure. For those of us who don't have \$250,000 lying around to spend on your manicure but are dying for this look, try OPI's "The Man with the Golden Gun".

signs which can be directly applied to your nails. This is the perfect alternative for the "manicure challenged" who still want to sport a trendy and unique nail design but unfortunately don't have the artistic ability to do so. Also becoming increasingly popular, is the gel manicure which can be bought in stores, staying on for weeks without chipping. Items such as dotting tools and strippers help to achieve perfect dots or stripes. 3-D nail polish, shat-



Husky inspired nails for the expert.

Courtesy of Clarissa Karantzis

With their different collections, you'll be sure to find the perfect color that suits you. But there's no need to spend \$8 on these brands of nail polish. Brands like Sally Hansen "Xtreme Wear" and Revlon have nail polishes in the \$4 range, and work just as well, leaving you with a salon worthy manicure. Just beware of pale, chalky colors - they tend to clump up faster.

**For the beginner:** Try painting all your nails one color, and then your ring fingers a different color that "pops". Your manicure will stand out without any effort. Adding sparkles with a sparkle polish is a simple way to make a more playful look.

**For the simple artist:** Try using tools such as dotting tools and strippers to add simple lines or polka dots to any manicure. It will add a little something extra to the manicure that will make people wonder how it got to look so perfect.

**For the expert:** Using different techniques, such as an ombre effect (easiest done with a makeup sponge), water marbling, or a matte top coat or flocking powder (to add texture) will make people look twice at your distinctive nail art.

With all the different brands and colors across ranging across the manicure spectrum, you can be sure to find a way to express your unique personality. And the best part is, you can always switch it up and try different techniques to see what suits you best.



Courtesy of Clarissa Karantzis

It is an 18K gold leaf top coat, running at \$40 per bottle. Or, you can always look on YouTube where you will be sure to find recreations of these manicures. YouTube channels, Instagram pages, and websites dedicated solely to nail art, continue to emerge with the growing trend. These sites teach you endless techniques and tricks to creating the perfect manicure for any event, leaving people wondering how you were ever able to do that.

Beauty companies have not shied away from this new trend. Sally Hansen recently came out with "Salon Effects": nail strips that come in all colors and de-

ter/crackle polish, caviar polish, matte top coats and adornments like gemstones and flocking powder all add different elements to your nails that give them a unique look. With base coats and top coats created by every brand and in every price range, you are left with all the resources needed for the perfect manicure.

With the number of nail polish brands out there, it can be hard to find which ones are the best and give you the most worth for your money. This reporter has tried a number of different nail polish brands, a few sticking out from the rest. The Essie brand of polish is one of her favorites. Leaving a smooth, glossy coat, and coming in a variety of different colors, Essie will not leave you disappointed. Up there with Essie is OPI and China Glaze.

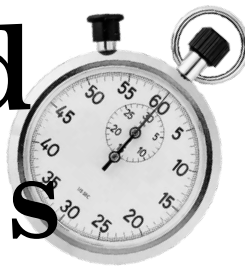


A sample design for 'the simple artist.'

Courtesy of Clarissa Karantzis

a magazine, you can be sure to find some kind of nail art feature or tutorial somewhere, teaching you the ways of creating your

# 90-Second Interviews



"90 Second Interviews" is a regular feature where we sit down with two teachers and see how many random questions they can answer in just 90 seconds. This issue, we interview Science teacher Mr. Randy Gunnell and Librarian Ms. Catherine Johnson.

Gunnell



**Which animal would you be?** Squirrel.  
**First crush?** In kindergarten I dated a girl on my bus.  
**Pet peeve?** Senioritis.  
**Coke or Pepsi?** Pepsi.  
**Dream vacation?** Colorado for skiing.  
**Favorite vegetable?** Asparagus.  
**Ski or snowboard?** Ski-board.  
**Unbreakable habit?** Drinking Soda.  
**First car?** Toyota pick-up truck.  
**Favorite animal?** Cats.  
**Gloves or mitten?** Gloves, I hate mittens.  
**Hot chocolate or coffee?** Coffee.  
**Favorite TV show?** The Colbert Report.  
**Biggest fear?** Water that I can't see the bottom of.  
**Mac or PC?** Mac.  
**Favorite student?** All of them.  
**Favorite sport?** Hockey.  
**Favorite music?** Benny Benassy.  
**Hometown?** Falconer, NY.  
**College mascot?** Knights.  
**Cold or hot?** Cold.

Johnson



**Which animal would you be?** Cat.  
**First crush?** Lloyd Lee Shaunter, my 2nd grade crush.  
**Pet peeve?** Kids who leave trash in the library.  
**Coke or Pepsi?** Tea - I quit diet drinks.  
**Dream vacation?** Greece.  
**Favorite vegetable?** Asparagus.  
**Ski or snowboard?** Ski very slowly.  
**Unbreakable habit?** Procrastination.  
**First car?** Red Audi Sedan but it was 10 years old.  
**Favorite animal?** A cat!  
**Gloves or mitten?** Gloves that have mittens over the top.  
**Hot chocolate or coffee?** Oh a latte, otherwise hot chocolate.  
**Favorite TV show?** Community.  
**Biggest fear?** Having a meal at a restaurant and not having money to pay for it at the end.  
**Mac or PC?** I like them both.  
**Favorite student?** Any student I'm talking to.  
**Favorite sport?** Lacrosse.  
**Favorite music?** All kinds.  
**Hometown?** Annandale, VA.  
**College mascot?** Bison.  
**Cold or hot?** Neither or both.



# SPORTS

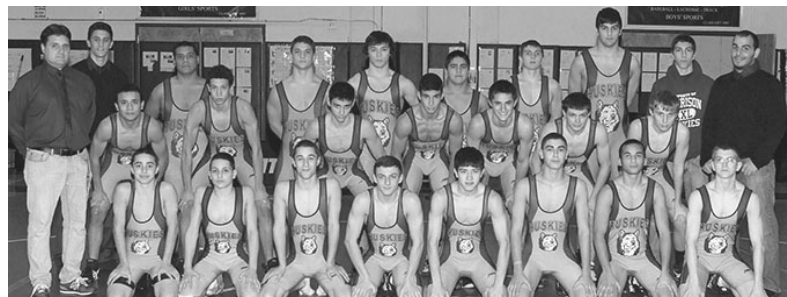
## Seniors Dominate Wrestling Season

Ray Corona

Sports Editor

The Harrison Wrestling Team finished the regular season posting an impressive 15-4 record. The vast skill and strength of its wrestlers was obvious, with the Huskies having success in the lower and upper weight classes. While much of their success could be accredited to the strong leadership in Coach Nicita, the Husky seniors paved the way for much of the overall team's success. Joe Maida, Gavin Menchel and Dave Polakoff shined, leading the team in wins, while other seniors such as Steven Maldonado and Bobby Scatenato also showed signs of leadership with the team. While the loss of these wrestlers will be a major blow for the team next year, many are still confident that the team's success will continue.

"We still have a lot of good wrestlers remaining," says senior Dave Polakoff. "The fact that they're underclassmen means that there is still plenty of room



The Wrestling Team poses together for them to grow for the future."

Courtesy of Harrison CSD

The Huskies' season started slow, with a pair of losses to Fox Lane and Port Chester, putting their record at 1-2. However, the Huskies rebounded in a big way, picking up four wins in a row. The Huskies narrowly won against Edgemont, but crushed New Rochelle and Nyack in convincing contests.

The Huskies' win against Pleasantville would mark the start of a ten game winning streak. During that span, the Huskies had some dominating performances, beating Eastchester 70-12, Burke Catholic

High School 62-6 and Irvington 66-6. Overall, the Huskies' 15-4 record showed improvement, with the Huskies more than doubling their win total from last year.

Many of the Huskies have had their own personal successes this year as well. Both Maida and Polakoff won the Patriot Tournament and Super 16 Tournament within their weight classes. Maida and Menchel picked up their hundredth career wins during the Sectional tournament. Overall, the two narrowly missed out on states, finishing fifth in their weight classes.

Sophomores Frankie

Barchella, James Carducci, Josh Guerrero and Dom Schepis each picked up over 20 wins this season. Junior Max Lukaswitz and senior Bobby Scatenato both posted winning records this year as well. Along with these wrestlers, the team will rely on junior Max McMullen to continue his dominance into next season.

The Huskies' season was more than a success, as many of the wrestlers' legacies will continue for years to come. While a strong core of wrestlers leave, Joe Maida feels confident that the future will be bright for the Huskies.

"I think the team can continue the success of this season," says Maida, "With guys like Barchella, Carducci and McMullen remaining, the Huskies should continue dominating Section One wrestling."

## Credendino Signs With Fordham

Ray Corona

Sports Editor

After four years of dominating at the high school level, Charlie Credendino will look to continue his football career at the collegiate level.

On February 6, National Signing Day, Credendino signed his National Letter of Intent to play for the Fordham Rams. For Credendino, the signing was bittersweet, marking the end of his high school football career, only to begin a new one at Fordham.

"I've had the honor of playing for Harrison for four years and have so many great memories," says Credendino. "I'm excited to become a Ram and help them get back to their winning ways."

Fordham heavily recruited Credendino based on his outstanding achievements during his four years. In his junior year, as a captain, Credendino earned the honor of Section 1 Class

A Lineman of the Year. This past season Credendino was voted first team All-League, All-Section, and All-State. He also earned the honor of being in the National Football Foundation's Golden Dozen, which consisted of students that excelled on the field and in school.

At 6'3" and 300 pounds, Credendino will provide a much needed spark for the offensive line at Fordham. Fordham fin-

ished the past season at 6-5, but with the additions of Credendino and other promising recruits, the Rams have a bright future.

With tremendous talent and potential, the sky is the limit for Credendino. While it may take some time for Credendino to adapt to his new team, it's clear that Credendino will eventually become a dominant force for Fordham and bring success to their respected football program.

# Titans Have Successful Season on the Ice

Zack Smolev

Staff Writer

The Rye Town/Harrison Titans are off to an illustrious start to their season, going 6-3-1 in their first 10 games. However, there seems to be more in the tank. Because of the goals this team has set forth for this season, this is just the beginning.

Even though the Titans are combined from three different schools (Harrison, Rye Neck, and Blind Brook), the attitude is one of unity. This team is known for its physical style of play and a relentless approach when it comes to preparation and intimidation. Like the other major winter sports, hockey serves as an exciting and fast paced game. A decline in fan support in recent years has led to a very quiet arena and a fan base, which is composed of mainly parents and former players. With three schools comprising the fan base, it should be quite the opposite – friends and classmates should show support for the team members, ones who are devoted to practicing nights from 9:45 to 11:15 p.m. every other day.

Coach Jason Rabinowitz and his brother, Brian Rabinowitz, along with Seth Michelson, make up the new coaching staff hired this year to develop a tough, yet skillful group of players. When asked about expectations for the year, the staff said that, "We are excited to begin a new era of Titan hockey. This team is capable of doing a lot this year, it's just the players' and coaches' jobs to do what they have to do and focus on each game, one at a time."

The Titans have a team who can contend for a title this year and next because of the experience and the roster. One senior, Jake Chalfin of Blind Brook, has made it clear to the rest of the upper and lower classmen that he wants to go out with a deep run in the playoffs.

The past two years have been successful, with a growing rivalry developing with New Rochelle. The Huguenots had beaten the Titans previously, ending their season in only the second round of the sectional playoffs.

"It's going to take a total team effort to overcome our

playoff woes and even though it's early, we've had a successful season so far," said an optimistic Chalfin. "No one really expected this from us. We are a strong contender this year to go deep into the playoffs."

Juniors Zack Smolev, Brian Jacobs, Ian Bass, Ryan Morningstar, and Jake Picker have been playing together since their freshman year and have been a part of some very talented squads.

"The loss of senior leadership from last year's team has made everyone even more motivated to do something special," says Brian Jacobs of Blind Brook. "We don't just want to defend our league title; we want to show that we are capable of anything against any team in the section to get to that next step, which is to have a strong showing in the playoffs."

Freshman standout defenseman Brian Kelly is one of the most talented and humble players; he has had a whirlwind the past two years.

"His devotion to teammates and his enthusiasm has made it all the more exciting to play with a guy like that," says defensive partner Zack Smolev.

With the help of Sam Chalfin and Brian Jacobs (the other two defenseman), this defensive core is strong and experienced. The fact that no one will be a senior until next year will keep the group intact.

"We got to just keep going and finish the season on an up-note, going into the playoffs with confidence that we will go far," said Jacobs. "We just got to keep grinding out games and giving everything we have. It is such a pleasure to be around these kids and I feel we have a great bunch of guys in the room. We all know where our goals were in the beginning of the season. To accomplish those goals, we need to play with everything in the tank. I know every coach and player believes in us going far into the playoffs. Our game is not that sweet move and snipe, our game is to get to the red line and get it deep and play in the dirty areas. We can't throw away any games; every game means

too much."

"It is necessary for this team to come together as one because critics all over have doubted us since Brett Novick left," says Captain and fellow junior Ian Bass. "Without that camaraderie from past experiences, guys on this team would've fallen apart already. It is extremely hard to get everyone from one school to like each other. Here we have to get players from three schools to have patience with one another and I think we've realized that's what we need to do to get to the next step."

"It is crucial for us to get off to a good start and propel our selves into the big games and then, if we win those, our confidence will run high, which is key to a successful playoff run" says junior defenseman Zack Smolev.

"With the playoffs nearing, the time to start preparing is in these games," noted sophomore Captain Dom Brescia. "If we bring the mentality that they have to beat us, not that we have to beat them into the playoffs, I think it will be beneficial. Guys won't be tentative in doing things they might not do against top notch teams."

With the collapse of Playland's rink, ice time has been reduced to a minimum, but it hasn't been as bad as expected. Since Westchester County is in charge of maintaining Playland, it will not be providing money necessary to rebuild the heavily used ice slot.

"Yeah I'm disappointed, but you can't control the weather and with the new complex being approved, I think better days are ahead for the program," said sophomore Mitchell Milbauer. He was referring to the new super complex approved for building permits near the Westchester County Airport. While it won't be completely ready by the 2013-2014 season, it will give the Rye Town/Harrison Titans a new official home with ice slots available all the time and a place where not only parents can attend, because of its prime location. The expectation is to have people come from Rye Brook, Harrison, and Rye Neck and to bring hockey back into perspective for all three

schools, considering the rising success this team has sparked for the future.

The last two games of the season proved to be the push the team needed to propel them into the playoffs, with major wins over Horace Greeley and rival Rye. The Titans were seeded 6 out of 14 and faced Mahopac in the first round. After a slow start the score was 2-0 in favor of the Titans after the second period. The third period resulted in a 4-1 win against a talented team who wasn't able to come together and make a strong playoff push.

The second round was the end to a year which at first was in question, considering the coaching changes after the program's first league title since 2007. However, the team showed resilience and toughness to come together as a young group. The final record of 14-7-2, with victories over Rye, Horace Greeley, and Fox Lane, and ties against White Plains, and Lakeland/Panas and overtime losses to Horace Greeley.

The defeat at the hands of Mamaroneck was understandable; that team has a plethora of section titles and a coach whose tenure is longer than many players' lives. While the defeat was the end to the season, the road to redemption is very manageable, with only one senior on the 2012-2013 roster. Captains Ian Bass and Dominic Brescia both believe that the team is "capable of anything next year."

"The future is very bright and the expectations are very high," said assistant coach Seth Michelson. "It's just up to the players and how they want to respond to all the doubts and questions about our team. Every single player is committed to winning and putting time into improving their game, whether it be on the ice, in the gym, or off the ice. Everyone is getting ready for something big next year because we know that we have an experienced team ready to burst into the spotlight of Section One hockey. Anything is possible for this team -- I hope they realize the time is now and what we have here is special."

# March Madness Rules

Matthew Miles

Staff Writer

We are inching closer to March Madness, which means everybody will be filling out a bracket and trying to find the perfect prediction. Even our own President will be creating a bracket. March Madness is a time for sitting down, relaxing and just watching. People take time out of their busy workdays to catch games. According to Espn.com, at this moment the projected number one seeds will be Indiana, Duke, Gonzaga and, Miami. Indiana is being led by sophomore Cody Zeller and junior Victor Oladipo. According to Espn.com, Zeller is averaging 16.6 points per game and, Oladipo is averaging 14 points per game. Duke is being led by their star players Seth Curry and Ma-

son Plumlee, who both are averaging more than 15 points per game. Gonzaga and Miami are the surprise teams and could be potential Final Four candidates if they keep playing this way.

The rest of the brackets are fair game. Any team at this moment in the top 25 could potentially compete for a second seed. It all comes down to how teams finish. At this moment, according to Espn.com's Bracketology with Joe Lunardi, the second seeds will be Kansas, Michigan, Florida and Michigan State. However, due to a loss to Ohio State, Michigan State will potentially be knocked out of a second seed spot. Louisville, who is a potential third seed, could potentially move to number

two as could Arizona.

The big question that everyone is asking is what teams are on the bubble and who will be in and who will be out when the brackets are revealed. According to Joe Lunardi, the last four in are Memphis who have a 23-8 record, Arizona State 22-9, San Diego State 22-8 and Illinois who are a surprise bubble team with an 18-13 record. The last four teams out are Washington 21-9, Seton Hall 18-11, Ole Miss 21-9 and Rhode Island 21-8. These teams will be hoping for a little bit of luck and will hope to get in. Some other teams close to the bubble are North Carolina, who is a projected tenth seed led by Reggie Bullock. Another team on the bubble is La Salle, who so far

has been a surprise team trying to have a Cinderella-like run in the tournament.

Some students at Harrison High School made their predictions.

"Michigan is going to win it all," said sophomore Michael Pizzutello.

Fellow sophomore James Delia says it will be Kansas.

It should be a remarkable tournament to watch because any team can win it all!



# Super Bowl Delivers Excitement

Steven Vendola

Staff Writer

On February 3, 2013, the Baltimore Ravens faced off against the San Francisco 49er in the Super Bowl. This year, the Super Bowl was broadcast by CBS and was held at the Superdome in New Orleans, Louisiana. The Baltimore Ravens were the underdogs in this year's contest.

At the end of the first half, it seemed like this game was going to be a blowout. The Ravens led 21-6. The Ravens had dominated the game up to that point and it looked like it was going to be a boring Super Bowl. The Ravens had San Francisco beat and it

seemed like many people believed that the second half would be just like the first half but, luckily for the fans, it turned out to be quite the opposite. In the end, it would turn out to be a game that went down to the last second.

This Super Bowl was a special one. This year the Super Bowl had brother versus brother. Coach John Harbaugh faced his brother Coach Jim Harbaugh. This Super Bowl would divide a family for one game. Unfortunately for the brothers, only one could win the Super Bowl. The parents, on the other hand, also

had a hard decision to make. That decision was who they should root for and who should they go with at the end of the game. Their decision would not only affect themselves, but also their sons.

Though the Ravens were winning going into the

third quarter, they would eventually lose that huge lead. The 49ers stepped it up in the second half of the game, turning the contest an exciting game. They would come back and challenge the Ravens until the last second of the game.

During the third quarter the lights went out at the Super Dome. Many people believe that this was a turning point in the game because after that, San Francisco would step up and hold the Ravens for a while. As they held the Ravens down, they continued to score and that would lead the game's final score. The blackout really woke up all the players on San Francisco because they actually started to play and weren't making stupid mistakes. Many people believe that if there wasn't a blackout, then the game wouldn't have been as interesting as it was. They believe that it would have stayed a one-sided game.

The last quarter showed who deserved the Lombardi trophy and that was the Baltimore

Ravens. Through that long Super Bowl game, both teams fought hard for that trophy and title. San Francisco fought and tried to comeback but they couldn't and they fell short. San Francisco was able to get 31 points, but unfortunately for them, the Ravens had a field goal lead.

Ravens fan Justin Scaperotti said, "It was the best Super Bowl ever! The Ravens winning made it perfect. #Ravens Nation"

Ravens fans in general were very excited about this win. Many people wanted the Ravens to win in this area because of Ray Rice, who was born in New Rochelle and attended New Rochelle High School. Even if your team wasn't in the Super Bowl, you had one team to root for because Rice lives in Westchester.

The 2012-2013 NFL season was over and Baltimore came out on top, 34-31. A brother beat out a brother for the trophy. This Super Bowl was an exciting one and fans could only hope for a Super Bowl like it next year.



Ray Rice runs hard. Courtesy NY Daily News

# Winter Track Recap

Sara Purinton

Staff Writer

As Harrison looks back on another successful year of indoor track and field, there were quite a few changes and unexpected successes to note. Starting off the season, two new coaches were introduced to the team. Coach Bennet had replaced Coach Simon during Cross Country, and came back again to train the distance athletes. Coach Bash came to help Mr. Zanot train the sprinters, but he also brought extensive lifting knowledge that helped all distances in the weight room.

For the first time in Harrison's history, our athletes competed at the coveted Millrose Games, which is considered to be one of the most prestigious track and field events in the world. Running on the same track as collegiate athletes and professionals, our girls' 4 x 400 meter relay ran in the high school suburban heat, finishing with a time of 4:16.74. Both Hannah Hochman and Rula Samad (two regulars on the relay) were

not able to compete, so freshman Maya Samad and Marissa Gazolla stepped up to join Ashley Dellipaoli and Samantha Shopovick at the games.

Both the boys and girls teams were able to finish in second place at the Section 1 Class B championship meet, which is a considerable feat. First place finishes for the boys went to Giovanni Valdes in the 55 meter hurdles, Jeremy Altamuro in shot put, the 4 x 200 meter relay (Giovanni, Dan Quinn, Deven Jacobo, and Ryan Moretti), as well as the 4 x 800 meter relay (Trey Wasilesky, Frankie Antolino, Jake Coonin, and Ben Adler). For the girls, Sam Shopovick came in first for long jump, along with Rula Samad in the triple jump, and the 4 x 200 meter relay (Hannah Hochman, Marielle Sheck, Erica Lamanna, and Rula Samad).

As the leading long jumper at Harrison, Sam Shopovick had done well for herself during the season, but it wasn't until the

season was nearing its end that she really took off.

"In the middle of the season, I was stuck in the 15's and was constantly getting 15'10 and 15'11 and then, towards the end of my season, I started to hit 16'3" and then 16'8 (which is my best)," said Sam. "When I got to 16'8," I realized that I actually had a chance to make it to States. Once coach Zanot was giving me the papers to fill out for States, it hit me that I was actually going and that I made it this far. I've never felt that accomplished before. It was awesome."

Accompanying Sam to States was Ben Adler, who found a spot after breaking Harrison's record for the mile.

The successful finish to the season was certainly gratifying for the team, though many seniors were sad to see their last high school winter track meet.

"It felt very bittersweet to finish my last season because it's nice to not have the demanding schedule," said Hannah Hoch-

man, "but it's sad because I know I'll never have the opportunity to run at the Armory again."

Hannah plans to attend Colgate University next year, where she may decide to run at the collegiate level.

Looking towards spring, Harrison's top sprinter, Ryo Inkyo, is excited to get back from his injury and help Harrison contend for the section and county titles.

"It was great seeing everyone contribute and having a great overall performance during sectionals," said Ryo, who watched from the sidelines. "But at the same time, it was difficult having to watch and not being able to help the team. Recovering from my injury, I had to get over things such as missing time from actual practice and really focusing on getting better. It made me realize how lucky I am to be on the team."

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## Boys Swim Team Strives For Success

Melanie Singer

Managing Editor

The boy's swim team has been quite successful in this year's season meets. With Bryan Pon as the captain and Ryan Nangle and Charles VanTonger as co-assistant captains, meets throughout the winter season have turned out quite well. Despite the fact that this year there are only eight returning members from last year's squad, the boys' varsity swim team gained 10 new members as well. This was great for the team as a whole, allowing for new talent to shine throughout the season.

For the varsity swim team, there are small meets and a lot of dual meets as well. On January 30, Harrison's swim team partici-

pated in a dual meet where they lost three races, won six, and tied one. The one tie was important for the swim team because it was against Horace Greeley, one of the fastest teams in Section One. Because Greeley was missing a few swimmers that day, Harrison took advantage of that fact and was able to forge a tie.

"I believe this season was something to remember and be proud of due to the fact that we are a team with a lot of first year swimmers and a team with a great personality," said VanTonger. "Each swimmer played a specific role that helped the team become successful. Even though we didn't win as many meets as we wanted to this season, we did

train hard and are proud of our accomplishments."

Although the season has come to an end for boys' swimming, the team won't be losing many teammates next year. Bryan Pon, a senior and four year varsity swimmer, is the only senior on the team. He was recruited for swimming at Johns Hopkins University next year.

"It was an easy choice picking Hopkins because it's an excellent school academically and has one of the top Division III swimming programs," explained Pon.

Last year, two members of the varsity swim team, JT Nangle and Matt Carducci went on to swim for Bucknell University and

Lehigh University, respectively. That being said, the boys' varsity swim team has had a great record for college recruitment. Pon, the former two graduates, and junior Ryan Nangle also swim for Empire Swimming, a competitive travel team that breeds talented swimmers.

Having dedicated swimmers on the team who participate in the sport outside of school allows the captains and other knowledgeable swimmers to help out new swimmers on the team. Considering how the team received so many new swimmers this year, there's still room for improvement in addition to the great success they experienced.

# Girls' Varsity Basketball Builds Successful Effort

Kyle Lefkowitz

Staff Writer

A new year usually means new resolutions and new opportunities. For the Girls' Varsity Basketball team, the start of 2013 has given them just that - the chance to have a clean slate and prove some people wrong in the second half of their season. With arguably one of the best starts in Harrison girls' history at 5-2, the team was re-positioned at 5-5 midway through the season after some tough losses to Blind Brook, Horace Greeley, and the number four team in the state, Ossining.

Although the record may not show it, the girls are having one of their best seasons in years, having beaten the seventh seed in the section, John F. Kennedy Catholic and another top 20 team in Tappan Zee.

"Winning the JFK game was a huge step for our program," said Coach Louis Kail. "It was a huge step for our girls to see what they are capable of when they put their minds to it. The game really meant a lot to our program and is definitely the biggest win we have had in recent years."

"We have begun to realize what it takes to win close games like we did against Kennedy and Tappan Zee," said Assistant Coach Scott Clough, "but we still need to be able to execute consistently enough to be competitive for stretches during our games."

Another big game, although it did not result in a win, was the contest versus Ossining. Ossining's senior guard Saniya Chong will be playing at UConn next year for one of the best girls' basketball teams in the country.

Junior guard Paige Brabant saw positives from the loss to Ossining.

"We learned to play with more confidence and to stay

calm in difficult situations," she said. "The experience we gained during that game will help us move forward because we will be able to keep our composure against difficult teams."

Something unique about this year's squad is that it is a very young team, featuring two freshmen, and five sophomores. Because of this, the girls have been able to use this season to get very beneficial experience against other dominant teams. This has certainly given the younger girls the experience they will need moving forward. But it has been the upperclassmen that have been able to really utilize their experience

"Because of our few upperclassmen, we are in good shape moving forward," said Coach Kail. "I have now been with our juniors and seniors for four years and they are learning the expectations we have for the program. They have also done a great job sharing those expectations and teaching the younger players how it works."

All of these new experiences and lessons show promise for this year's team, but also bode well for the future of Harrison Girls' Basketball as a whole.

"Our coaching staff has really invested a lot of time and energy into our being successful and so have all the girls," notes senior Ali Menneti. "We all care about each other as a family and look out for one another."

Coach Kail agreed, saying, "The change to Harrison Basketball this year is a great mixture of upper-class experience and youth. When you have a team that has balance from its upperclassmen, and a younger

underclass that is hungry and fearless, it allows for great success."

In the second part of the season, the girls had some tough games. One of the turning point games of the season was against Alexander Hamilton, one of the top 20 teams in the state, with the Huskies entering the game with a record around .500. This game was so important be-

the rival Rye Garnets, and a battle that resulted in a tough-fought loss against Woodlands. A huge boost in confidence that contributed to the win over Hamilton was a thriller against another top 20 team in the state, Blind Brook. That game came down to the final minute, resulting in a six point Harrison loss. Finishing the regular season with a win, the Huskies were given the



The 2012-2013 team had a successful season.

*Courtesy of Kyle Lefkowitz*

cause it could solidify the team as a force to be reckoned with. The first half of the game was a battle, tied 18 all. The start of the third quarter brought a shock to Hamilton when their star center, Maia Hood, went down. Having to play through this game, it was tough to see someone go down in so much pain. At the same time, the Huskies knew they had to fight on, regardless of whom was on the court. When the buzzer sounded, the Huskies had won the game, "sending shockwaves around Section One," according to MSG Varsity journalist Jordan Griffith.

This game set the team on an ascending path to success, with a huge victory against

eighth seed in a playoff bracket of 24, giving the girls the highest seed that they have seen in nearly ten years, as well as homecourt privileges for their first playoff game after the bye.

Although the girls lost in a heartbreaker to Hendrick Hudson in their first playoff game, their accomplishments of the season should not be overlooked. Having a mix of wins and close contest losses against multiple top-ranked teams in the state, Harrison Girls' Basketball is certainly on the rise, and will look forward to continuing their success next season.



# Strike Force!

## Third Straight Title For Boys

Ray Corona

Sports Editor

With the League Championship on the line, bowler Bobby Medori would redefine clutch. Needing three strikes in the last frame to claim Leagues over Valhalla, Medori would pull an amazing performance and secure the Huskies' third straight League Championship.

Dynasty? The Huskies once again established themselves as the best through a team effort. With stellar bowling from Mike DeRenzis, Anshul Doshi, Bobby Medori, Saunak Shah and Sanam Patel, and a hardworking, motivated coach in Mr. Ciavarella, the Huskies were destined for greatness.

"We came into this season looking to win Leagues again, and we did," said senior Anshul Doshi. "I'm proud of what we achieved, and even prouder to continue the winning tradition of Harrison Bowling."

With a core group of bowlers from last year, the Huskies had the pressure of repeating, claiming another League title. However, another major goal was rebuilding. First time bowlers Pornprom Thankhamyoo and Jake Zuckman shined, showing steady progress throughout the year and exceptional senior leadership. Juniors JD Barnett and Raphy Tejada bowled better as the season continued, making a strong case to be on next year's starting team. Overall, the B-Team sustained a perfect record, while personal achievements included a 187 by Thankhamyoo, a 215 by Tejada and a 204 by this reporter.

"I was extremely happy with how I bowled throughout the year," said Barnett. "I think we [the B-Team] were motivated throughout the whole season and were determined to win and get better."

The A-Team also had tremendous success and achievements. The Huskies dominated the regular season, defeating league opponents in Port Chester, Horace Greeley and Briarcliff. Furthermore, the Huskies

defeated rival Valhalla in the League Championship.

The Huskies found themselves tied 2-2 going into set three. Needing a win, the Huskies started slow, but dominated in mid-set. However, due to Valhalla's sudden comeback, the Huskies found themselves needing a major frame from Medori. As the anchor of the team, Medori would "strike out," picking up three strikes in a row. The Huskies were able to narrowly defeat Valhalla, 4-3, in picking up their third section title.

"After I got the first strike, I knew I had a chance to finish the frame with two more," said Medori. "I didn't really feel the pressure. I knew I had it in me to get the strikes I needed."

Along the team's League title, many of the Huskies had their own individual successes.

Sophomore Mike DeRenzis bowled a perfect 300 for the Huskies, putting himself in the history books with the highest score in Harrison history.

"It's tough to bowl a 300," said DeRenzis. "You need to be perfect each bowl, and can't afford to slip out of your groove. But I just kept calm and tried to avoid thinking about it. Overall, it was definitely the highlight of my season."

In the sectional competition, both DeRenzis and Medori earned a spot, maintaining over a 180 score throughout the season. Out of about 100 bowlers, Medori finished twenty-fourth, while DeRenzis finished twenty-seventh.

For Mr. C., the season could not have gone any better. Records were broken, legends were born and, most importantly, a dynasty was maintained. The Huskies will have the daunting task of continuing their winning ways for next season. However, with a group of determined and motivated bowlers remaining, it shouldn't be hard for the Huskies to remain "Best in the Alley."

## League Title for Girls

Ray Corona

Sports Editor

Despite ups and downs throughout the year, the Harrison Girls' Bowling Team came together and ultimately were able to achieve their main goal for the season: a League title. In the end, the Huskies narrowly defeated rival Port Chester, winning with an overall record of 65-19 to Port Chester's 64-20.

"I think it just took us some time to get into a rhythm," said Coach Kaplan. "Once we got into the groove of things, we worked as a team and were able to make a run at the end of the season."

With a league consisting of strong teams such as Valhalla, Briarcliff and Horace Greeley, both Mr. Kaplan and the Huskies knew a League title would not come easily. The Huskies had the luxury of having plenty of talent, especially from their seniors. Seniors Kaylee Araoz, Alexa Coloccia, Joanna Gonzalez and Sam Guarnero established themselves as leaders of the team, and were key in preparing the young bowlers for the season. Bowlers Zoe Rheingold, Rose Marisa Salantro, Emily Scofield, Karol Moises, Brianna Pavesi and Kristen Petriello all had an opportunity to bowl with the A-Team and learn from both the seniors and Mr. Kaplan. Despite many being first-year bowlers,

all were able to contribute in some way toward the teams success.

"A lot of the new bowlers were very motivated and willing to learn some of the basic ideas behind bowling," said Araoz. "Overall, the team was well prepared and had tremendous skills in various aspects of bowling."

In the beginning, the Huskies were slow to get into a groove. The Huskies battled hard and remained competitive to keep themselves within reach of a League title. The Huskies would eventually pick their game up and become victorious against their opponents. Wins against Rye Neck and Horace Greeley propelled the Huskies up the standings, setting themselves in second place.

Against Port Chester, the girls would need a complete sweep, winning all sets, to move into first place. Led by their seniors, the Huskies took care of Port Chester and established themselves as the best. The Huskies would maintain their lead, and by the end of the season, would be awarded the League title.

As a team the Huskies' success was evident, but individually, many of the Huskies also thrived. Coloccia's average of 127 made her the fourth best bowler in the League, while Pavesi's impressive 121 made her the eighth best. All the other bowlers were right behind, maintaining averages in the high 110s.

The loss of four seniors will be a major blow for the Huskies, but there is still much promise ahead. With a core group remaining, Mr. Kaplan's bowlers should definitely come into next year as favorites. Many of the bowlers showed tremendous growth throughout the season.

"I think that we can definitely win another League title," said Scofield. "We can only get better as bowlers and, with Mr. Kaplan leading us, we should continue our success."



Araoz lines up her shot.

Courtesy of Yearbook

# Husky Hoops Show Marked Improvement

Trent Lefkowitz

News Editor

Harrison has never been known for its basketball program, and coming into this season, the HHS boys' varsity team was ready to break the stereotype that Harrison will always be a "football" town. Starting in November, Coaches Gary Chiarella and Dan Pesco began working their team into condition for the upcoming season and battles with basketball powerhouses such as Byram Hills, Fox Lane, and Pearl River. Team captains Coby Lefkowitz, Nick Pipitone, and Jack McCarthy, the three returning starters from last year's squad, led the 2012-2013 team to a blazing 4-1 start before the New Year. Included in the win tally were Harrison's victory in the first annual Harrison Tournament, and an impressive win against Sacred Heart of Yonkers in the Harry Jefferson Jr. Classic, held at White Plains High School.

Although the team's start to the season was impressive, the games became increasingly more challenging as the calendar swung into 2013. After a tough loss to Cardinal Spellman to begin the year, the team bounced back with impressive

victories against Horace Greeley and Fox Lane. This brought the

the nineteenth seeded Nanuet Knights in an out-bracket home



The boys team had a better season than their record shows.

Huskies' record to 6-2, a win total the team would be stuck on for quite some time. The team lost four straight to bring their record to 6-6, and then continued its topsy-turvy season by winning four more and losing the same amount to bring their record to an even 10-10, heading into the playoffs.

On February 13, the fourteenth seeded Huskies faced

*Courtesy of Brian Goldstein*  
game of the Section 1A playoffs. Though the team faced a three point deficit after halftime, tough defense and clutch free throw shooting at the end of the game led the Huskies to a 47-45 victory. In the next round of the playoffs, Harrison voyaged up to Poughkeepsie to square off against the heavily favored third seeded Pioneers. The Huskies built up a five point lead at the

end of the first quarter but, as the game progressed, Poughkeepsie took control and won the game 74-47.

The Huskies ended their season with a 10-10 record, one of the program's best records in recent history. Harrison basketball's upward trend seems like it will continue into next year, with eight juniors returning and a solid junior varsity team supplying loads of new talent.

"I thought we played very well compared to my expectations for the year," said junior captain Coby Lefkowitz. "We played the toughest schedule in the entire section, and lost to a very good opponent in Poughkeepsie, who would end up winning all of Section 1A. Next year, I expect us to have a record that is above .500 and to win our very competitive league. If we keep on practicing and working hard this offseason the way we have been all year, we can accomplish anything next year."

If the dedication and hard work that this team showed is any indication, next year's Huskies will return stronger than ever.

## Harrison Bowling Sweeps Leagues

(See Articles on Page 31)



*Pictures courtesy of Yearbook*