

Harrison Strong Day Initiates New Tradition

Steven Vendola and Ariel Coonin
Staff Editors



Panorama courtesy of Ms. Eileen Quinn

On May 27, all students, faculty, and staff participated in the first of what might become an annual event, Harrison Strong Day. This was a day designated to celebrate the spirit of love and community that makes us strong, and to honor the memories of those no longer with us. Pioneered by the efforts of Mrs. Brennan and Mrs. Burack, the end-of-the-day event let faculty and staff thank the students for their strength through the many tough times that occurred this past year, bringing the school together as a whole on a hot, memorable day.

To further help the show of unity, all students and faculty wore special t-shirts that had been distributed beforehand. The unified t-shirts displaying phrases such as "Harrison Strong" and "we choose love" created an environment in which students could feel comforted by teachers and peers. For one day, everyone was dressed the same, putting everyone at ease. Additionally,

the periods were each shortened by ten minutes signifying that there was a special event later in the day.

That afternoon, students lined the ring of the track surrounding McGillicuddy Stadium, wearing these white shirts that

helped demonstrate the strength of the Harrison High School community. Students and faculty were happy to wear their shirts, almost as a sign of pride, after having survived the various tragedies that occurred this year. It was a sea of white, connoting strength

and support, showing appreciation to all for their sympathy, empathy, and continuous hard work through this difficult year.

What happened this past year should never happen to anyone, let alone be experienced by young students. These things are

hard to handle especially at such age. As everyone is becoming young adults, many people aren't experienced in dealing with such crises or don't know how to handle these kind of situations. Yet, to our credit, we stayed strong and got through it. The generosity of spirit, and good will of those taken too soon will hope to be preserved and celebrated in this new HHS tradition.

During the event multiple performances occurred. The ceremony began with performances by the band, chorus, and dance ensemble. In between the performances, several teachers read comments about why they are thankful for their students. Each one of these teachers read some of the quotes that their fellow teachers had written as a means of thanks for their students. Some of these included the following:

"Students, we thank you for the ways you push me to be a better teacher and advocate. I thank you for the trust, the stories, and the life you bring to my classroom. I became a teacher to learn from students like you."

"Students, thanks for your candor, resilience, exuberance, and, most of

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Dance Ensemble Performs at Mid-Field: Pictured pre-performance are (left to right) Cassie Marriott, Taylor Graustein, Andrea Bolivar, Rebecca Bell, Amanda Almeida, Silvia Buonocore, Brianna Pertak, and Jada Lavar (partially obscured from view).
Courtesy of Bea Almeida

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NEWS & FEATURES

Prom Perfect Helps Make Prom Dreams Come True

Isabella Prado
Staff Writer

Prom Perfect is an event that has been organized for the past several years that began with a Harrison High School senior. The event consists of an upperclassman, or a group of upperclassmen, mobilizing the community to collect donations for new or lightly used prom dresses, shoes and accessories. Collection racks and areas are set up in the main lobby of the school for a few weeks prior to the event, and all the dresses and accessories left over from the previous years are also compiled along with the newly donated materials. The main focus is to collect clothes and accessories that can be used for

prom for those less fortunate and unable to afford their own dresses, shoes, and accessories. The event itself happens sometime during the spring, normally during

This year the event was run by juniors Caroline Lauro and Allison Karantzis and senior Erica LaManna. Harrison

High School volunteers transported the donations to Thornton High School after school on Friday, May 8, and neatly displayed everything for the participants to look through. The dresses were color-coded, the shoes and accessories



Shoe Shopping: Thornton High School students were happy to find a nice selection of shoes and accessories, thanks to Prom Perfect.

the month of May, at the Nellie A. Thornton High School in Mount Vernon.

ries were displayed in different areas, and refreshments donated by volunteers were



The rack is full: These were just some of the prom dresses donated to this year's Prom Perfect campaign, collected near the main office.

offered to those looking to participate in the event.

To start off the occasion, volunteers walked down the runway while modeling some of the dresses collected for Prom Perfect to create a light, fun atmosphere. The Thornton High School teacher who collaborated with Lauro, Karantzis, and LaManna in organizing the event made an opening speech about how humbly the concept of Prom Perfect had begun and how much it had grown over the years; she spoke of its importance to the community and how it was an exciting opportunity to search for prom dresses.

This was followed by Erica LaMan-

na's speech about the purpose of the event being to give these girls in a less privileged area a chance to find dresses and accessories that they enjoy. Although the focus of the project is prom, she emphasized that the girls could choose anything they liked rather than just shopping for prom, and that they were welcome to select as many items as they wanted. Those interested were free to look through the displayed articles of clothing and accessories, and to try on and take any dresses or accessories they liked, free of charge.

Volunteers readily offered help and advice to the participants throughout the event. Lauro described the occurrence as "a fun way of giving back to the community and making a difference." Karantzis emphasized that "it feels really good to see these girls leave happy with their findings." Prom Perfect was quite a success, with many girls leaving gleefully and excited to wear their new findings.



On the Runway: Harrison students volunteer to show off some of the prom dresses. Pictured here (left to right) are Carolina Franca, Bianca Diniz, Micaela Gomez, Sara Navarra, Isabella Prado, Caroline Lauro, Isabelle Caltabianco, while Marielle Sheck and Erica Eppolito look on. Photos courtesy of Isabella Prado

Feeley Fund Helps Many

Ally Platte
Staff Writer

Harrison Central School District's mission is to provide equity, access, rigor and adaptability for all of its students. These core values are certainly furthered by the Feeley Fund, a scholarship fund that was established to promote student success by awarding students with loans or grants. These loans and grants allow students to pursue their interests in college and their future endeavors. What better way is there for the community to help ensure that every Harrison student is able to achieve his or her goals than by contributing to this worthwhile fund?

College tuition and books are very expensive and there are many students who are not able to afford college without tremendous financial assistance.

Lola Geiger, Executive Director of the Feeley Fund, added, "Although they have completed four years of high school, some students are impeded from attending college, business school or technical training school because of the cost of tuition and other expenses such as books. The enormous cost of higher education prevents many students from continuing their studies and realizing their full potential."

Those students who are held back because of the extraordinary cost of higher education may feel like they are not given an equal opportunity to go to college compared to those students who are able to afford college and plan for future careers.

"I think that scholarship funds are a good way for students to be rewarded for their success," said freshman Lauren Barbulescu.

"College today is so expensive," said sophomore Matt Zinman. "I am so happy that I am part of a school district that is committed to making college tuition more affordable for students."

Sophomore Leah Abramson agreed: "Nowadays, many students can't afford college and I think that scholarship funds are a great way of leveling the playing field and giving the opportunity to go to college to those who are at a financial disadvantage."

The Feeley Fund was originally known as the Harrison High School Student Aid Fund. Eugene J. Feeley, for whom the fund was named, served as principal of Harrison Avenue School for many years. The Feeley Fund was originally established in 1967 and is a continuation of the Harrison High School Scholarship Fund that began in 1947. In its more than 65 years of operation, over a thousand students have received loans or grants from Feeley Fund scholarships to pursue their post high school education and training.

Requests for donations to the Feeley Fund have been mailed to the Harrison community. Contributions may be sent to the Feeley Fund, 255 Union Avenue, Harrison, NY 10528. The Class of 2015 and future Harrison High School seniors may obtain more information about Feeley Fund scholarships from the Guidance Department.



A Thankful Faculty Grabs The Photo Op: Harrison teachers express their gratitude to students on the first ever Harrison Strong Day. Pictured (left to right) are Ms. Johnson, Mr. Gunnel, Ms. Ganns, Ms. Kist, Ms. Mauche, Ms. Casey, Ms. Chieco, Ms. DiFiore, and Ms. Brennen.

Courtesy of Ms. Quinn

Harrison Strong Launches New Tradition

(Continued from Front Page)

all, for your smiles and laughter that bring us all through the tough stuff together as a united front."

"Students, thanks for your ability to help me put things in perspective, for pulling together and supporting each other, for your unending curiosity."

"Students, thanks for your willingness to trust and take risks in pursuit of new understandings. Each time you come to class, open to the learning experience, you are the embodiment of courage."

tion that offers messages of hope for those grieving. The organization connected with the high school following the untimely loss of Alissa and Deanna Hochman. Teachers were given a dragonfly key chain pendant and a card that told the story of the dragonfly, a short piece by the writer Walter Dudley Cavert.

Cavert writes about grubs who live in a pond and don't understand why none of their group ever came back after crawling up the lily stems to the top of the water.



Strong Forever: Ms. Quinn takes a picture with some of the many students celebrating on Harrison Strong Day.

Courtesy of Ms. Quinn

"Students, thanks for having the courage to show your true selves, in all their varied shapes, forms, and colors."

"Thank you students for the kindness and compassion that you show one another each day in moments big and small, obvious and discreet. Each of you proves in your own way that the world is a good place, filled with good people."

"Thanks for being the light and purpose in my chosen profession and inspiring me to better myself as a guide and leader as we walk through this journey together."

They thanked their students in various ways, delivering positive, inspirational, and often humorous messages.

Mrs. Brennen then talked a little bit about the Dragonfly Project, an organiza-

tions. In vain he tried to keep his promise. Flying back and forth over the pond, he peered down at his friends below. Then he realized that even if they could see him, they would not recognize such a radiant creature as one of their own.

His point is that although we cannot see or communicate with our friends after the *transformation* we call death, there is no proof that they cease to exist.

For Harrison's Dragonfly Project, teachers were asked to select a junior who they feel embodies the spirit of those that we lost this year, and present them with the gift of the dragonfly pendant. These chosen students are encouraged to select others who also embody that same spirit, and pass on the pendant. The aim is to create a tradition to be continued for many

years.

This event was a great success. It was followed by free ice pops provided by the PTA, most welcome on the hot day. It was nice to see how much administration, faculty and parents care about and appreciate the students. Often at schools, the relationship between teachers and students remains formal and unemotional. Here at Harrison, there is a connection beyond that. Students and teachers form lasting emotional bonds that go far beyond mere teaching and classroom learning. That is what makes Harrison strong.

This event showed that this school is united even through the darkest times. No matter what happens, Harrison will stay strong because there is so much support from teachers, administration, fellow stu-



Dragonfly Pendant courtesy of Mr. Glauber

dents, and parents. They will always be there to help us through tough and unexpected times. This event demonstrated that kind of support and proved that Harrison is and always will be strong.

The Art of Crafting a Successful College Essay

They say it's the most important essay you'll ever write. The challenge is to capture, in 650 words or less, some essence of you that is not evident elsewhere in your college application. The following are three of the college essays submitted by this year's senior class. They are shared to show the wide variety of possibilities inherent in the college essay: it's a chance to show admissions officers your real personality – who you are, what you're about, where you've been, what you've learned. Enjoy these three fine essays from what has proven to be another very successful HHS senior class:

Joey Lagani

"Joey, go make friends!"
Being an only child, I always had a problem during family vacations. Wherever I went, I would see siblings out and about playing together. I would be alone, walking around hoping to be let into one of their games.
In Italy, on the Amalfi Coast, I went up to a few kids but ran away in fear that they would say, "Go away!" It was an irrational fear, as they could not speak English, but that is how my 8-year-old mind worked. I did not want to feel rejected, but I nervously approached two Italian brothers. Getting closer, the knot in my stomach grew tighter and my palms became sweeter. I clenched my pink bouncy



Joey Lagani: bouncing becomes the universal language.

ball tightly. It was a rubber ball, about the size of a tennis ball, completely blank except for the words, "Spalding Hi-bounce." Otherwise known as a "Spaldeen," this ball was my little confidence potion. I did not know the boys and I could not speak Italian, but I had a ball, and that was more than enough. My Spaldeen was an attraction, an icebreaker, even a bridge to cross a language barrier. And although I could only say, "Ciao" and "Bene" over and over, it didn't matter because my Spaldeen was a universal sign for, "Hey, want to have a catch?"
No matter the occasion, my

Spaldeen was there. Whether meeting new people in school, having a catch in the park, or even playing with my dog Lou-

I clenched my pink bouncy ball tightly...this ball was my confidence potion.

ie, I could always count on my ball. My Spaldeen gave me confidence whenever I approached a new situation because it was a tangible conversation starter. More than anything, it helped my real personality emerge. But as I got older I realized that my Spaldeen could not always come to the rescue. I began to use my words and actions to conquer new situations. And even though I have matured and learned how to meet new people in an adult manner, sometimes that old Spaldeen still comes in handy.

Camila Sarmiento

After driving an hour-and-a-half, we arrive at 27 Maple Road. The tires loudly maneuver the gravel as we head up the long driveway, now overgrown with grass. The little grey box-shaped house is revealed through the trees. When I first step inside, the familiar smell surrounds me. I recognize that odor instantly. It is the smell of my grandpa's famous crepes. It brings back thoughts of my cousin's laughter and lazy weekends reading and drinking tea on the porch. This is Setauket, an enchanted place to me, where worries are washed away and the memories people have made here make me feel at peace.

In the 1940s my great-grandfather and grandfather, who had spent previous summers camping on the nearby peninsula beach of Setauket Bay, decided to build a tiny house overlooking the bay, not knowing it would become the place their future generations would cherish.

My mother and her brother and sisters grew up here, running through the apple trees and swimming in the bay. Before long I too was spending my summers here, learning to swim and to ride a bike, the same one my mother rode as a kid.

I would spend afternoons with my aunt, a botanist, learning the difference between leaves of a flowering cherry and a linden tree. Mornings I would go with my grandmother, caring for the geranium and hydrangea flowers. Beautiful flowers from her garden would always be in a crystal vase on the kitchen table.

Setauket has taught me that even in this high tech world, it is okay to step back and enjoy nature and family. Even today, I spend days in Setauket like my

own mother spent in the '60s and '70s. There never was and never will be cable TV or Wi-Fi. Instead I spend hours poring over a good book from the Emma S. Clark Memorial Library, or riding my bike out to pick raspberries and blueberries. We have fun without the stress of the next incoming email or text message. Setauket



Camila Sarmiento: adoring the natural beauty of Setauket.

means being free to do whatever you want and whatever you love.

It is important to have places like these, where one can go to remind themselves what really matters. Not the next sale at the mall or latest scandal, but the tide that comes in and out twice a day as the earth rotates on its axis, and the lowering of the sun every night that makes thousands of fireflies come out, ready for us to catch.

Nature is my passion and

...through its natural beauty... Setauket holds a special place in my heart...

it started in Setauket. I am the one taking pictures of cool bugs while hiking six hours to the top of a trail. Friends know me as the one carrying the reusable water bottle or eating some vegetarian dish. Setauket inspires my desire for preserving the environment and actively engaging in environmental affairs, something I will pursue further in college.

Setauket is far more than any five-star vacation or fancy dinner. I am perfectly content looking at the bay over a plate of macaroni and cheese. When sitting, I know that not only has my mother, cousins, aunts and uncles, grandparents and great grandfather each sat in this same exact spot, but that they too have faced what I am experiencing at that moment. While some might say it's just a summer home, it is the true home of my family.

A lot has changed. My cousins are almost all married or in college now, my aunts and uncles are scattered across the

country, and my grandparents have passed away. Setauket in its old overgrown beauty, filled with ancient treasures, is where we all return whenever we can to share and love.

Through its natural beauty and loving atmosphere, Setauket holds a special place in my heart, reminding me who I am, where I come from and who I strive to be.

Catherine Rocchi

Where is he?

Drawn out of my peaceful reverie, I suddenly notice the conspicuous lack of heavy footsteps and snapping twigs behind me. I had blissfully trekked out in front of my father and his 50-pound backpack for most of the morning—a welcome change from my typical position dodging accidentally dislodged pebbles from farther up the trail. Now, though, I mentally berate myself for being so careless. Seconds turn into agonizing minutes as I ponder whether to remain here, anxiously peering into the underbrush for a glimpse of red shirt, or to begin picking my way back down the precipitous slope. Finally, the familiar clatter of shuffled stones shoots a wash of relief through my body as my father rounds the bend.

"Rest break?" he wheezes.

Despite my still-pounding heart, I smile a little at the juxtaposition of the dappled sunlight and tranquil birdcalls of Franconia Notch—a verdant expanse of heaven in northern New Hampshire—with my father's sweat-streaked face and labored breathing. The steep ascent is trivial compared with my daily track workouts, so the mild physical strain on my own legs only enhances my sense of meditative self-awareness and serenity in the woods. I'm entranced by the earthy smell of the mossy trunks and exhilarated by the cool caress of the alpine breeze against my warm skin. I feel, in the words of Annie Dillard, "what spirit it is that descends into my lungs and flaps near my heart like an eagle rising."

"Ready to get going?" I call down.

"Just a bit longer," he pants.

Not long ago my father had carried me on his back for miles when I grew tired. His constant encouragement to hike farther,

faster, and higher served as the yardstick by which I assessed my growth as a child; I counted miles rather than feet and inches.

The backpack thuds to the earth as my father sinks down onto the boulder next to me.

"You know Catherine, I think you're a better hiker than I am."

I feel a slight flush spread across my face; I am not sure how to respond to my father's sudden admission of weakness.

"I'm proud of you," he smiles.

In that instant I had a sort of epiphany: seniority and humility are not mutually exclusive traits. The significance of this realization didn't fully dawn on me until a few years later, as I began to witness those who I once mentored beat me in races, excel academically, and play solos more hauntingly beautiful than I could have ever imagined.

As a rising junior I had held one of the treasured spots on the spring track team's 4x800 meter relay on and off for two years, and I had felt sure of a more secure position in the upcoming season. Nevertheless, a talented new eighth grader usurped my spot on the relay just a few races before the championship meets. When I first saw the entries posted in the locker room, I stood rooted to the floor as my

...Seconds turn into agonizing minutes as I ponder whether to stay here...

stomach began to twist into the bitter knot of disappointment that tends to accompany frustrated ambitions. However, a timely mental echo of that summer Franconia hike quickly unclenched my fists and relaxed my shoulders. Like my father, I aspire to be the kind of leader who encourages her friends and colleagues to grow even beyond her own capabilities. It has been a privilege to help my young teammate mature into the runner and person that she is today.

Chest-high shrubs cast long shadows across the rocky trail. Our destination, a small wooden hut haloed by the brilliant rays of the setting sun, draws closer and closer in my field of vision. The heavier backpack rests on my shoulders now, not a trophy of pride or personal strength, but a symbol of responsibility and partnership.



Catherine Rocchi and her dad: an adventure together.

opinions & editorials

Spring Internships

Staff Editorial

As the year winds down, students begin to focus less on the content of their classes and more on the nice weather, basketball and hockey finales (both of which are lacking New York sports teams), and their summer plans. Seniors take pleasure in the Powder Puff football game, the surreptitious Senior Assassins Game, and in their overwhelming lack of interest in anything academic-related. The proliferation of shorts and tank tops that accompanies warmer weather signifies to seniors the close proximity to life after graduation.

Some seniors enjoy the transition period, happily filling out College Surveys and meeting with their prospective college roommates or classmates. Others cherish the opportunity to come together as a class for the last time, choosing to bond with close friends rather than look toward the future. Despite the overwhelming excitement for some upon entering college, it marks the start of a new phase in our lives, one that not everybody wants to embrace as senior year gradually draws to a close.

The large majority of seniors agree, however, that their last few months of high school should be more meaningful than a slew of projects oft-referred to as “busy work.” Senior projects meant to pass the time not only fail to engage the students, but they instigate overwhelming backlash from the student body, which yearns for a more fitting closure to an excellent four years at HHS.

With this in mind, the Husky Herald staff proposes a district-wide shift in policy that might enable second semester seniors to engage in an external internship during the last few months of school, particularly from late May through June, a four to six week period. During this time, seniors would only be required to come to school for their AP or IB exams. Should a student require additional practice or review for these exams, they should feel free to attend morning and/or after-school review sessions, held by the generous staff of knowledgeable teachers already making themselves available to students here at HHS.

This is not some radical proposition being made by lazy seniors who simply do not want to attend school once enrolled in college. To the contrary, this is an attempt by those seniors, and the rest of the student body, to gain something meaningful from their last few months at HHS. The majority of students, and even teachers, agree that practical experience in the workforce serves as an ideal complement

to the education provided in high school. Whether one shadows a local pediatrician, an elementary school gym teacher, or interns at a social media firm in New York City, such internships are invaluable experiences.

If the school were to recognize the utility and value in such experiences over some of the “busy work” currently being distributed, then students might enter college with a particular advantage. Not only will they have they gained the college-level background and thought processes typical of an IB-school, but they also will have dipped their toes into the expansive ocean of the real world, and come out better prepared to face the upcoming challenges in college and beyond.

This policy is neither radical nor unprecedented. The students still would be required to take their AP or IB exams, yet they would simply replace senior projects with applicable internships in the workforce. Schools across Westchester County have been utilizing this policy for many years, including Blind Brook, Scarsdale, Byram Hills, Rye, Mamaroneck, and Fox Lane. To be quite honest, we think it’s about time Harrison joins that list.

In addition, a senior internship might serve to eliminate the requirement of final exams for seniors. We understand the administration’s likely concern regarding this matter, but we find it unreasonable for students who have worked tirelessly for nearly four years, students who are already enrolled in college and whose minds are certainly elsewhere, to sit for final exams at the end of June. If the administration does not support a complete elimination of senior finals, then perhaps a policy that enables students who achieve a certain academic benchmark throughout the year might be rewarded by a pass from having to take a final.

Here at the Husky Herald, we pride ourselves on voicing concerns of the student body. Despite our less than impressive staff participation this past year, we have come together to voice this bold idea. As we come to the end of what has been perhaps one of the toughest years ever at the high school, we still would like to use our journalistic voice to try and effect positive change. We hope that, moving forward, next year will see a return to the kind of journalistic vitality and cooperation seen in years past. Have a safe and enjoyable summer break. The idea of internships seems to be one that seniors believe in, and if you’re one for John Green’s Crash Course, consider this our open letter for change.

The Husky Herald

Volume XIX, Issue 1

Distribution: 900
www.harrisoncsd.org/index.php/school-publications/husky-herald
Harrison High School
255 Union Avenue
Harrison NY 10528
Students: 1044
Staff: 160

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Faculty Adviser - Mr. Gary Glauber

Printer: School Paper Express

Affiliations: American Scholastic Press Association
Columbia Scholastic Press Association,
National Scholastic Press Association

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

Editorial Policy

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

Why Dr. Wool is Right: Time to Suspend and Amend the Educational Transformation Act of 2015

Matt Rube
Staff Writer

On March 31, legislators in New York signed into law the new educational budget for schools across the state. Within that budget was the Education Transformation Act of 2015: a series of reforms to the educational system in New York. These reforms targeted corruption in education, testing, and tenure plans for teachers, amongst other things. The most contentious section of the law, however, is the reform of the teacher evaluation system for public schools.

The new system has two key parts that are used to evaluate teachers. The first is mandatory testing that the students in the teachers' classes must take at the beginning and end of the school year. These tests will be used to measure overall change, and the results will be used to evaluate whether teachers are "highly ef-

fective," "effective," "developing," or "ineffective." These tests either come in the form of regents/state testing (for middle school/elementary school instructors) or in "SLOs" or "Student Learning Objectives" (for high school instructors). The second part of the evaluation comes in the form of observations by both local school administrators and independent evaluators. These two different results are combined using a complex algorithm to determine how well a teacher is doing.

Harrison superintendent Dr. Louis Wool is leading a movement with multiple school districts to try to repeal this law, or at least get a grace period of one year to truly debate the finer points of the law with state legislators. He is right to do so.

This law was passed with claims that it would create a more

accurate system for evaluating teachers, that it would reduce testing for kids, and that it would improve kids' learning environments. The law ultimately fails at accomplishing those goals.

The testing format of "SLOs" is inherently flawed as a method of determining teacher effectiveness. It measures change in students' test scores to determine how much they have learned. However if someone gets a perfect or near-perfect score on the first test and the same score on the second test, no growth will be measured and it will hurt the teacher. In addition, the material on those tests is frequently unrelated to the course material, meaning that it cannot accurately reflect how well the teacher conveys the actual material covered in class.

The observational part of

the evaluation is flawed as well. The "independent" observer can be someone completely unqualified to evaluate teachers on their course material. Thus, a kindergarten teacher could be evaluating a teacher's performance in an AP Chemistry class.

The second claim of the law, that it would reduce testing for kids, is plainly ridiculous. It mandates "SLOs" to be taken at the beginning and end of the year, and teachers may have to prepare students in advance for a test that otherwise would not be taken. At the same time, all existing state testing, including regents testing, would continue.

The third and most important claim of the law is that it would improve kids' learning experience. Although this claim is premised on the notion that ultimately the law will lead to better teacher

performance, which it won't. Opponents of the law also cite the increase in testing as fostering an unhealthy learning environment.

Advocates for the law may argue that we need accountability. I agree, but the key is finding the right way to do it. State legislators must meet with educational experts, teachers, and local administrators to come up with an education reform law that truly has the best interests of students in mind. Dr. Wool's petition to postpone implementation of the law is a good first step. If teachers and state law-makers truly work together, we would create an education law that benefits all, and fosters healthy learning in our schools.

Tidal Seems More About the Money

Justin Santiago
Design Editor

At the end of January renowned rapper Shawn Carter, better known as Jay Z, announced that he had acquired Swedish company Aspiro, which owns the high fidelity music streaming service WiMP, which was then rebranded in the U.S., U.K., and Canada as Tidal. Near the end of March it was later announced that Jay Z was re-launching Tidal in an effort to, in his own words "...forever change the course of music history" through the service's promise of high quality, lossless sound.

This service would increase the value of music and let the artists who create it profit from their works. At the launch event, many famous faces in modern music came to rally the cause, such as Mrs. Carter herself, Beyonce, frequent collaborator, Kanye West, electronic music moguls Daft Punk and Deadmau5, singer-songwriters Alicia Keys and Usher, pop divas Madonna, Rihanna, and Nicki Minaj, and members of the bands Arcade Fire and The White Stripes.

Tidal eventually launched on March 30, and so began Jay Z's conquest to change the music industry. The service reeks of ego, which is not unexpected.

While Tidal is meant to preserve music's overall value, which is needed considering how the quality of music has been going downhill in recent years, it appears the service is more about

the money than the music. As it is now, Tidal costs roughly \$10 for normal streaming, and \$20 for the high fidelity streaming. Sure, it helps the artists benefit from their work, but general consumers, even those who would approve of Tidal's approach, probably would not approve of the price, especially for high-fidelity music. In all honesty, consumers

might be better off buying a CD or even streaming it anywhere else.

It appears that Jay Z seems to be in way over his head when it comes to his plans for Tidal. He and the other "co-owners" make it seem as if expensive streaming will spark a huge revolution in the world of music. They even maintained this arrogant attitude before the service was launched!

Courtesy of Tidal.com



They're practically treating this entire situation like a *We Are The World* fundraiser, while also attempting to knock down rival streaming companies like Spotify and Pandora. While the idea is nice and honestly needed, the artists involved (including the head ring leader) have gotten way ahead of themselves here. I understand that in music nowadays artists don't seem to benefit enough from their work, and I do agree something needs to be done about that, but to label it "a better service and a better experience for both fans and artists" is misleading. I'm not sure if anyone is willing to spend \$10 for music and \$20 for better sound. Tidal seems to be much more for the artists than for the listener.

To Jay Z and company, I wish you all the best with your musical revolution. While the music does need to be preserved, I'm not sure if Tidal is the way to go, especially considering its expensive price points. As such, I don't see it thriving for much longer.

HEY HUSKIES!

What are your summer plans?



"I'm working with my father in contracting."
Matt Rossi, Sophomore



"I'm going to be a camp counselor"
Ally Huhne, Sophomore



"I am going to Maine to work at my old camp."
Tyler Gersten, Junior



"I'm going to Japan."
Himeno Yamada, Senior

ARTS & entertainment

Harrison Wins Two Metros, Plus Another

Ally Platte

Staff Writer

The 2015 Metropolitan High School Theater Awards were held on June 1, 2015 at Archbishop Stepinac High School in White Plains with more than 1,000 people in attendance. Harrison High School's production of *Damn Yankees* was nominated for four awards, including: Actress in a Leading Role - Roma Scarano (Lola), Acting Performance (Female) - Andi Rella (Gloria), Outstanding Duet - Cassidy Donohue (Meg Boyd) and Connor McGillicuddy (Joe Hardy) for "A Man Doesn't Know", and Technical Merit - Gabriela Casella (Production Assistant).

Harrison's section went wild with excitement each time its name was called for a nomination. The Footlight Players wound up taking home two awards: Acting Performance (Female) by Andi Rella and Technical Merit by Gabriela Casella.

"Being nominated for a Metro was one of the most amazing feelings I've ever had the privilege to have," said senior Cassidy Donohue. "It really validated everything I had worked so hard for during the process of the show, and I couldn't be more ap-

preciative for the recognition. As someone who has been involved in the Harrison Footlight Players for all four years, it really made the whole experience come full circle for me."

While Roma Scarano unfortunately did not receive the

of actresses from other area high schools in their top female roles.

"I was in complete shock, but I do feel grateful to have been recognized for what I have been working towards for the past three months," Gianna Prignano said. "This year specifically I had

years."

In a close battle for the top spring musical, Pleasantville High School's production of *Man of La Mancha* won the Outstanding Overall Production award.

The schools that had been nominated for outstanding overall

work as Production Assistant.

"I am so absolutely grateful and thankful for this recognition," she said. "This year has been a tough one for all of Harrison and being prevented from doing what I love, dancing, was extremely difficult. A huge thank you to Ms. Toteda for creating this position for me so I could still be involved with the show. Big thanks to the whole cast, crew, Ms. Zwart and everyone else involved in the show for being so supportive of me. I love you all."

The Metropolitan High School Theater Awards were created in 1998 to support and recognize the high school musical theater productions, actors, actresses and production staff and technical crews in Rockland and Westchester Counties in New York and Bergen County in New Jer-

sey. Judging takes place during the schools' live performances in the spring. The Metro Awards ceremony is modeled after the Tony Awards, which took place on Sunday, June 7. Maybe we will see some of our very own Harrison High School performers there one day!



And the 2015 Metro Award Goes To...Harrison students (left to right): junior Gabriela Casella, senior Andi Rella, and sophomore Gianna Prignano.

Courtesy of Harrison Central School District

award for Best Actress in a Leading Role, Harrison still came away with the win. Harrison's own Gianna Prignano took the award for her portrayal of Mrs. Wilkinson in Archbishop Stepinac High School's production of *Billy Elliott*. Stepinac, an all-boys' school, generally casts a number

the pleasure to work on my acting skills because of the role I was given. I am thankful that I was given the opportunity to discover that I have such a love for acting and not just singing and dancing. I definitely plan on participating in both the Harrison shows and Stepinac shows the next two

production each performed musical numbers from their shows. The leading actor and actress nominees performed as well from each of their shows, with Harrison's own Roma Scarano singing "Whatever Lola Wants."

The other Harrison Metro winner was Gabi Casella for her

Choreographer's Showcase A Big Success

Ariel Coonin

Editor-in-Chief

On May 13, 2015, the Harrison High School dance program held the Second Annual Choreographer's Showcase. The Choreographer's Showcase gives young dancers the chance to choreograph their own dance to perform with friends or as a solo. This is a unique opportunity for many students as they were allowed to design their own personal routines, rather than performing one choreographed by a professional. The showcase challenges dancers to take the stage on their own to perform an original, creative piece composed of the steps that they have learned in their classes. This task of composing a new work alone pushes students to take risks and discover new forms of movement.

The showcase this year was a significant upgrade from last year's as demonstrated by the near doubling of the number of performances and audience

members. In the past year, the Choreographer's Showcase was held in the small, intimate venue of the Black Box Theatre. As a result of this year's expansion, the show was moved to the HPAC in order to accommodate the larger audience.

Additionally, the venue of the HPAC allowed the dancers to enhance their performances with coordinated lights, a feature not available in the Black Box Theatre. The participating students cooperated with the Tech Crew to design complementary lighting and background for their pieces. This left the young choreographers responsible for lighting and costumes in addition to the choreography of the piece. These tasks are very similar to those of a professional choreographer working for a production.

"I really enjoyed being a part of this year's showcase because of the opportunity to have

complete artistic freedom," said sophomore Allie Coonin. "It is a great feeling to turn ideas in your head into an embodied piece and this experience has helped me to grow as an artist in this medium."

The performances in the showcase covered everything from hip-hop to ballet including other styles such as contemporary, jazz, and lyrical. Each piece highlighted the unique styles of the choreographers as they combined steps with music to make meaning.

Following the performances, a short video displayed various events that Harrison High School dancers participated in throughout the year. The video highlighted events such as the Dance-a-Thon, the Tango dance workshop, and The Lion King workshop and adjudication. Dance Coordinator and Head Choreographer of the Dance Program Deborah Toteda works to bring unique opportuni-

ties to challenge students in the dance program every year.

"The dance program at our school is amazing," said junior Julia DiLorenzo. "It gives all of the dancers in our school opportunities to showcase their talents all year round. The Choreographer's Showcase specifically is a great place for dancers to not only show the technique they learn throughout the year, but also to perform pieces they've created themselves."

The video served as a transition from the Choreographer's Showcase into a ceremony for the National Honor Society for Dance Arts. This year marks the first induction of the HHS chapter of the National Honor Society for Dance Arts. The induction ceremony recognized juniors and seniors for their leadership, artistic merit and academic achievement in dance class. This year, 12 students were inducted including se-

niors Andi Rella, Gabriella Barile, Bea Almeida and Amanda Almeida. Juniors Cassie Marriott, Taylor Graustein, Julia DiLorenzo, Gabriela Casella, Sylvia Buonocore, Andrea Bolivar, Rebecca Bell, and Elisa Arcara were also inducted.

"The whole night was a celebration of dance as the community experienced the work of our very talented student choreographers," said Ms. Toteda.

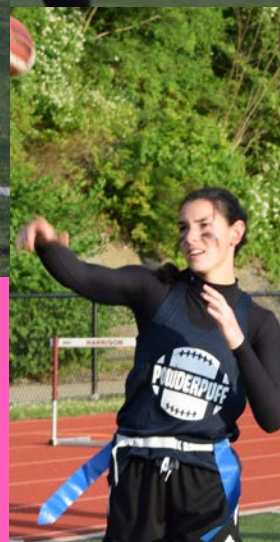
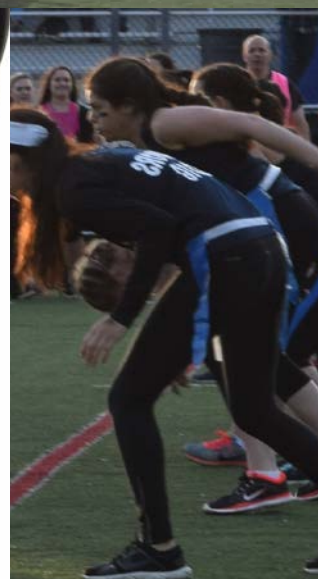
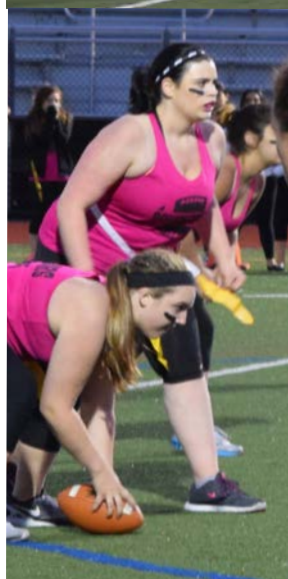
The dance program has established a strong presence at the high school and continues to grow every year. There are currently 104 students enrolled in dance classes for next year, a large increase from the previous year. With the success of the Choreographer's Showcase this year, it is no doubt that the dance program can put on a good show.



POWDERPUFF '15 JUNIORS SENIORS



POWDERPUFF '15 JUNIORS VS SENIORS



On June 3, the Seniors battled the Juniors to a hard-fought tie in the annual Powderpuff Football Game. Close to \$1,000 was raised for the Grassroots.org charity.



Life is a Cabaret

Emily Murray
Staff Writer

It's that time of year again! Time to warm up your voices and hit those high notes, singers of Harrison High School!

On Thursday, May 28th, the Spring Cabaret took place in the Student Union of Harrison High School. A fun night was had by all who attended as it was filled with good music, both singing and various instrumental accompaniment. This being the first Cabaret for the freshman class to participate in and the last for the senior class of singers, it was an emotional event for those who will sing alongside their friends and peers at Harrison High School for the next few years

as well as for those who will miss doing so. "It was my first and last Caba-

into it, since it would be my last chance."

"I've taken part in the Spring Cabaret before," recalls junior Christine Prezioso. "The one this year was a very good experience. I'll definitely be doing it again in the years to come."

All throughout the night, there was a constant spark through the audience as they watched their friends and loved ones. Superintendent Dr. Wool, the principal, Dr. Siciliano, and the vice principal, Mrs. Griffo, were also in attendance, greatly enjoying



Musical Melodies: Sophomore Matt Novak and freshman Megan Margiotti sing to "Falling Slowly" from the Broadway musical *Once*.

ret here," says senior Paula Segovia. "I was very fortunate to be a part of it and sing with my friends. The performances were very much something to be proud of."

Amanda Almeida explains, "I never thought I would be doing the Cabaret! Ms. Zwart talked me



Senior Duet: Senior Paula Segovia passionately sings "The Parting Glass" by Ed Sheeran accompanied by senior Emily Murray on the cello.



Strumming Away: Senior Jackie Dalfonso and Junior Demetri McMullen perform a duet with string instruments. Both Dalfonso and McMullen are members of the HHS orchestra.

Photos courtesy of Gabby Casella

even previous Harrison alumni who had come back to visit and enjoy the show!

Seniors who performed that Thursday include Amanda Almeida, Rosemarie Belfiore, Jackie Dalfonso, Emily Murray, Alex Ostroumoff, Roma Scarano, Paula Segovia, Max Tempkin, and Troy Tripicchio. Congratulations to all of the senior performers on a fantastic night, and good luck in your future endeavors! Harrison hopes you will all be visiting us again for the next Spring Cabaret!

Savor The Sounds Raises Money for the Arts

Andrea Bolivar
Staff Writer

On May 9, 2015, the arts department held their annual fundraiser in the Harrison High School Student Union. The fundraiser, Savor the Sound, is a night comprised of food and music. In previous years, the event was held under the name "Savor the Flavor" and only included performances by the band. However, this year the event was open for the entire arts department, including students from the band, orchestra, chorus and dance programs. Those who attended were able to enjoy their night by watching countless performances from the variety of arts.

Savor the Sounds is the main fundraiser for the arts department to raise money for its programs each year. This event gives students the opportunity to showcase their talents outside the classroom and typical performances. Band students were split up into smaller ensemble groups to perform throughout the night. These smaller groups really allowed each student to showcase their own capabilities and learn how to cooperate

with various different group members. Within each band group, there was a variety of different

brass and so on.

Although most of the music of the night was provided by

dents also sang throughout the event. There were over 10 soloists throughout the night providing

their meals.

Towards the end of the night, the orchestra provided the audience with an enjoyable string performance. The variety in styles of music helped to keep the audience intrigued in the performances as they ate.

In addition to all of the musical performances present, members of the Harrison Dance Ensemble performed for the first time at Savor the Sounds event. Audience members were entertained with a combination of musical and dramatic arts. All in attendance were impressed with the variety and high level of skill of different performances that night.

The annual event was made much more complex including an assortment of performances giving the audience a better idea of the full extent of talent present in the Harrison High School arts department. The different sectors of the art department joined forces to raise money for their annual performing arts trip that takes place every school year in April.



It's All About The Game: Junior Sakura Tateiwa, junior Zach Struhl, senior Catherine Rocchi, sophomore Mel Castro, and sophomore Kyra Gurny perform a piece on a stage in the student union. The room was decorated just for the occasion.

Photos courtesy of Sakura Tateiwa

instruments from woodwinds to the band students, chorus students, and dance students, providing soothing music for those enjoying

Full House Spin-off Comes to Netflix

Caroline DeCarlo
Staff Writer

On April 20, 2015, it was finally confirmed that one of television's most anticipated and awaited revivals would finally be taking place. The millions of followers of "Full House" will finally see the rolling hills of the San Francisco streets in new episodes of the series spinoff "Fuller House" in the upcoming year.

John Stamos (Jesse Katsopolis) announced the "Full House" reboot on "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" He revealed that Netflix had ordered 13 episodes of the series. Additionally, Candace Cameron-Bure (D.J. Tanner) brought public attention to the "Full House" reboot while appearing at the "Dancing with the Stars" 10th anniversary party in West Hollywood. As for the decision to retain the show's positive vibe, Bure said the producers and cast have talked about it for quite some time, and she believes this type of family show was attractive to Netflix.

"It is a family show," said

Bure. "I'm not concerned about the show taking a turn that the fans would be disappointed in." Bure said viewers will laugh, cry and learn important lessons by watching the beloved characters face and overcome modern-day scenarios — much like they did during the show's original run from 1987 to 1995.

"The show is so nostalgic. It's still so relevant today, because it is one of the few shows that has never been off the air in 25 years," she said. "They still learn lessons

from it." The show is set to take place in the same San Francisco area,



Courtesy of nativemobile.com

bers Candace Cameron Bure (now D.J. Tanner-Fuller), Jodie Sweetin (Stefanie Tanner), and Andrea Barber (Kimmy Gibbler). D.J. Tanner-Fuller is a recently widowed mother of two (and soon to be three) when her younger sister and best friend make the decision to move in with her in attempt to help her raise her children. In addition to these characters, "Fuller House" is being produced by John Stamos (who will also make cameo appearances) and will guest star original cast members Bob Saget (Danny Tanner), Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen (Michelle Tanner), Dave Coulier (Joey Gladstone), and Lori Loughlin (Rebecca Katsopolis).

In a joint statement, executive

producers Robert L. Boyett, Thomas L. Miller, and Jeff Franklin said, "The continued support of "Full House" fans of all ages for the last 28 years has been astounding. It is an honor and a thrill to catch up with these beloved characters and explore their lives today. The love you saw on the show was real. The cast has remained a loving family off screen all these years. We are as excited as our fans to finally bring "Full House" back to life."

The new season is expected to premiere at some point in 2016 with an hour long reunion episode that will catch viewers up on the many missed years of the extended Tanner family.

"The anticipation regarding a "Full House" spinoff has been going strong for a really long time, so the show has a lot to live up to," said junior Julia Provino. "I think they'll definitely do a good job with delivering their audience with a show that continues to be just as successful as the original."

Unbreakable Tina Fey

Caroline DeCarlo
Staff Writer

On March 6, 2015, Netflix streamed the first 13 episodes of Tina Fey's newest sitcom, *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*. This eccentric new comedy represents writer and co-creator Fey's characteristic light-hearted nature. The cast features both well-known faces, such as *The Office's* Ellie Kemper and *30 Rock's* Jane Krakowski, and fresh faces, such as Tituss Burgess, of Broadway fame.

The show revolves around Kimmy Schmidt (Kemper), one of the famous "Mole Girls", who longs for a normal life. The "Mole Girls" are a group of women who were kidnapped and kept in an apocalyptic bunker for 15 years by a psychotic cult leader. Upon being rescued from their trench of isolation, the girls are paraded

across the country, finding themselves on the Today show. Falling in love with New York City, start her life over. With nothing but a 6th grade education, Kimmy takes on the hectic world optimism, and enthusiasm. She moves in with the Broadway-hopeful/Barbie-collecting Titus Andromedon (Burgess), and lands a job working for self-proclaimed trophy wife, Jaqueline Voorhees (Krakowski).

The show, that has quickly proven itself to be a hit, was previously rejected by NBC for being "too quirky". It crosses boundaries not often crossed in mainstream media, likely one of the reasons for its early rejection by NBC.



Courtesy of Netflix.com

Kimmy decides that it is time to of New York City with her spunk, *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt* has

been criticized as being "too edgy", due to its satirical, yet offensive, humor and its exacerbation of stereotypes. However, when they are not over-addressed, the concepts addressed in the show are touched upon in such a light-hearted way that makes it enjoyable - thus explaining its ridiculously-high viewer ratings.

HHS Junior and fan of the series, Mihoko Sakanaka, commented on the controversy surrounding the shows:

"*Kimmy Schmidt* is so brilliant and unique because it is built on stereotypes, yet at the same time criticizes the act of stereotyping."

Season Two has been ordered by Netflix and will begin later this year.

Goodbye Letterman, You'll Be Missed

Adam Alper
Staff Writer

On May 19, television great David Letterman hosted his final showing of the wildly popular "Late Show with David Letterman." David Letterman has been a famous late night show host and comedian since 1974 when he was the star of "Late Night with David Letterman." After 42 years, Letterman has called it quits due to his age and many years of incredible work.

While active, Letterman interviewed hundreds, maybe even thousands of celebrities. Some notable celebrities include President Barack Obama, LeBron James, Tom Hanks, and longtime friend Bill Murray.

Throughout the years, he worked with Canadian-American musician Paul Shaffer, who was the head music director during Letterman's time on air. Even though Shaffer is depressed that his run with Letterman has come to an end, he's looking forward to the extra free time.

"I've got to keep playing and want to keep making music," said Shaffer. "I'm excited about the fact that after almost 33 years, my schedule will open up a little bit."

Letterman is notorious for his "Top 10" lists, which include an array of humorous topics. During his last show, Letterman had a very

special "Top 10" list, consisting of his most interviewed guests. The list was called "Things I've Always Wanted To Say to David Letterman." This consisted of celebrities like Chris Rock, Steve Martin, Jerry Seinfeld, and Peyton Manning making funny remarks about their time on the show.

David Letterman is leaving a late-night atmosphere that is very different from the current late night shows on the rise. Hosts like Jimmy Fallon on NBC and Jimmy Kimmel on ABC are dominating with their own cunning energy and visible youth. Letterman will be replaced by Stephen Colbert,

the politically clever host of "The Colbert Report." However, he has influenced these young talk show hosts in what they do and it has proven to be quite successful. The youthful generation at Harrison High School had varying opinions on Letterman's retirement.

"Personally, I do not watch Letterman because I prefer to watch Jimmy Kimmel and Jimmy Fallon," said sophomore Thomas Gresham. "However, I know that many people like him a lot since he has been around for a while, so it will be weird to not hear his show being advertised or him on television anymore."

Some people are sad to see him go, but are looking forward to the future.

"Stephen Colbert is the perfect replacement for Letterman," said sophomore Noah Bender. "As it will be sad to see him go, I know that Colbert will do a great job because of wittiness and hilarious jokes."

Letterman's departure from television will leave many people depressed, but it's unfortunately time for change. There will be no one else on Late Night who compares to the great talents of David Letterman. Television will never be the same.

90-Second Interviews



“90 Second Interviews” is a feature wherein we sit down with two teachers and see how many random questions they can answer in only 90 seconds. This issue we interrogate everyone’s favorite married couple - English teacher Ms. Jessica Burack and Social Studies teacher Mr. Adam Burack.

Interviews coordinated by Callie Fried



Burack

Burack

What is your favorite vacation destination? Newburgh.
What are your summer plans? Make a photo montage of pictures of my wife.
What is your favorite tv show? Spongebob Squarepants
If you could have dinner with any celebrity, who would it be? Joe Santo.
What is your guilty pleasure? Watching Coach Kail work out.
What is your biggest pet peeve? Snow Days.
What is your favorite music genre? Russian Folk Dance or Polka.
What is your favorite candy? It’s tough to eat candy with dentures.
What is your favorite holiday? Our anniversary or Arbor Day.
Where did you go to college? I was home schooled.
Where did you grow up? On the mean streets of Harrison.
What is your best quality? Teamwork.
What is your favorite season? Garlic Salt.
Book or movie? Pop-up books.
Sweet or salty? Sweet like my wife.
How long have you worked at HHS? Not long enough.
If you could switch jobs with any faculty member, who would it be? Bill Frates.
What was your first concert? Mozart.
What is your favorite board game? Sorry.
What is your favorite form of physical activity? Equestrian.

What is your favorite vacation destination? Jupiter, Florida – Juno Beach with my toes in the sand.
What are your summer plans? Burack Boot Camp
What is your favorite tv show? Current Netflix Obsession: *Mad Men*.
If you could have dinner with any celebrity, who would it be? Larry David.
What is your guilty pleasure? Talking on the phone with Ms. Morrissey for hours!
What is your biggest pet peeve? Delayed text message responses!
What is your favorite music genre? ‘80s!
What is your favorite candy? Starbursts... the pink ones!
What is your favorite holiday? Chrismukkah.
Where did you go to college? Stonehill College.
Where did you grow up? Putnam Valley.
What is your best quality? I have to pick just one?
What is your favorite season? Fall.
Book or movie? Book... then movie.
Sweet or salty? Sweetness is my weakness
How long have you worked at HHS? 10 blissful years!
If you could switch jobs with any faculty member, who would it be? SANTO.
What was your first concert? Last concert? Coldplay.
What is your favorite board game? Life.
What is your favorite form of physical activity? Spinning with my hubby.

SPORTS

Boys' Varsity Lacrosse Team Finishes Outstanding Season for the Ages

Will Kirshner

Staff Writer

Finishing off the regular season with an outstanding record of thirteen wins and three losses, the Huskies slid into the number two seed in the section one class B playoffs. This has never been achieved before by any Harrison lacrosse team, and the Huskies had the chance to host a semi-final game in the sectional playoffs.

"Last year we made it to the semifinals and had to play at the historic field of Yorktown," said first year head coach Edgar Glasnost. "This year once we make it to the semifinals, teams are going to have to come to us, and I look at that as an awesome thing for this program going forward."

The Huskies were tearing up the section. At one point they had a 10-0 record which was then disrupted by an 11-7 loss to Byram Hills. Bouncing back in a huge way, the Huskies squared off against archrival Rye and beat them on the Gar-

net's home turf by a score of 6-4. A tough game against Hen Hud brought them to a total of 11 wins and only two losses for the year, but the Huskies finished strong

Huskies landed a #2 seed, the highest seed in school playoff history and they were matched up against #15 Nyack, a rematch of the season opener in which the

section one powerhouse John Jay. It was a tough, high intensity game with emotions flaring at all levels; Harrison came up just short of a sectional semifinal ap-

minutes.

"With four freshmen, all starters, and many other sophomore standouts, we are ready for the future," said assistant coach Bryan Cipolla. "Austin and Ethan Evans had a fantastic year on defense, Menniti was a catalyst on offense and Will Kirshner controlled the game with his great faceoff play, giving us the ball and a chance to score."

After one of the very best seasons in school history, the Huskies have much to look forward to next year. Returning all but two starters, the Huskies were a young team this year with so much potential for years to come. A special congratulations to Matt McLaughlin and Steven Forrest on being named All-Section, to Matt Allegretti on making All-Section Honorable Mention, and to Tyler Menniti and Owen Van Tongeren on making All-League.



A Lax Season to Remember: Coach Edgar Glasnost, front row, left to right: Robert Palmieri, Will Kirshner, Paul Guimaraes, Thomas Alvarado, Matt Novak, Rashan Gilmore, Sal LoMedico, Anthony Tiso, Kyle Stalteri, Thomas Gresham, Adam Rappaport, Austin Glazer, Matth McLaughlin, back row, left to right: Ethan Evans, Jack Wilson, Owen Van Tongeren, Matt Allegretti, Kevin Alvora, Harrison Steins, Harry Barnwell, Tyler Menniti, Sonny LoFranco, Kyle Davidoff, Alex Spanos, Steven Forrest, Austin Evans, and Assistant Coach Bryan Cipolla.

Courtesy of Harrison Central School District

and closed out their regular season with a 13-3 record; the best season the school has tallied in over 10 years.

In the first round of the section one, class B playoffs, the

maroon and white walked off the field with a 12-4 win. The Indians put up a fight, stronger than many expected, but the final score was 10-7 in favor of Harrison. In the quarter finals, the Huskies drew

pearance with a 7-6 loss. Matt McLaughlin and Tyler Menniti each had two goals and one assist to lead the Huskies, but time wasn't on their side as the Indians killed off the clock for the final two

Tennis Team Features Promising Young Talent

Matthew Miles

Staff Writer

The Harrison Tennis Team finished the year with ten wins and seven losses. The team was able to be a finalist in the Jim San Marco Tournament. The team was led by senior captains, Matt Miles and Cami Wissak. Also, the Huskies still had their coach Quan Huynh. It was Huynh's third season as varsity head coach.

The Huskies also had a lot of young talent with junior Akshat Sanghavi, freshmen Tucker Martino and Adam Alper, and eighth graders Matt Dugoff and Ben Lubowitz. The team started out the year with a controversial win against Byram Hills in the second round of the Jim San Marco Tournament. Then the Huskies lost to Rye Country Day with Miles being the lone victor.

The Huskies then took on Mamaroneck, playing them really tough, but eventually losing 4-3.

"I think the boy played really well, considering this was one of the first matches of the year," said Coach Quan.

Miles picked up a win, as did Lubowitz, Antoine, Tucker, and

Dugoff. The Huskies then played Rye and they were able to pick up the victory with big wins by Sanghavi at second singles and Wissak at third doubles. The Hus-

dale. They also suffered defeats at the hand of Horace Greeley and Byram Hills. "It would have been nice to beat Riverdale and Byram, but we just didn't play as

Alper was able to pick up a win at third singles, pulling it out in a tough tiebreak. The Huskies finished the regular season with a strong win against Briarcliff. The

to be the deciding factor in the Huskies' success. The Huskies then later lost to Trinity in the finals at Columbia University.

The Huskies had individual play in the post season. Dugoff and Sanghavi advanced to the quarters of conferences, but they ended up losing. Also Lubowitz and Alper lost in the first round. Miles and Martino were able to advance to sectionals and sadly their season ended when they lost to the number two seeds in the sectional quarterfinals.

Coach Quan said, "Despite the record this year I believe the Harrison team will be able to rebuild and to be stronger than ever in the future. Although it was sad to see Miles and Martino lose, I know that the Harrison team will one day have players at States."

It will be interesting to see how the Huskies progress next year, since they are losing a pair of key seniors. Coach Quan believes that they will be a stronger team regardless, and headed for great achievements.



Courting Victory The current lineup for Harrison's Varsity Tennis Team: Pictured here are David Sullivan, Antoine Dartienne, Adam Alper, Tucker Martino, Jared Gaynes, Dillon Bogart, Akshat Sanghavi, Nick D'onfrio, Matt Miles, Ben Lubowitz, Cami Wissak, Matt Dugoff, Matteo LoSchiavo, Andrew Alper, Santiago Virutia, Steven Krgin, and Spencer Korak.

Courtesy of Harrison Central School District

kies began to go on a winning streak when they defeated New Rochelle and Pelham. However the winning streak stopped when they lost a close match to River-

dale. They also suffered defeats at the hand of Horace Greeley and Byram Hills. "It would have been nice to beat Riverdale and Byram, but we just didn't play as

well when it was close in the set," said senior captain Cami Wissak. The Huskies then traveled to Scarsdale where the Raiders were able to beat the Huskies.

Huskies then played the semifinals of the Jim San Marco tournament and it was Akshat Sanghavi who was able to pick up two wins for the Huskies and proved

FIFA Corruption Scandal Causes Resignations, Investigations

Michael Angarano
Staff Writer

The United States' cracking down on international football's governing body looks like a recipe for global disaster.

According to ESPN, nine FIFA officials were indicted last week by the U.S. Department of Justice for taking \$150 million in bribes while awarding FIFA broadcast rights. This kicked off a Swiss investigation into the bidding process for the 2018 Russia World Cup and the 2022 Qatar World Cup. Since the story broke last week, FIFA president Sepp Blatter has managed both to win reelection and then resign his post.

For years, the worst-kept secret in sports has been FIFA's extensive 'patronage' system. Blatter is accused of using FIFA development money, earmarked for promoting soccer in impoverished nations, to secure votes and general support for his initiatives. According to The New York Times, FIFA generated nearly \$6 billion over the last four years, yet underdeveloped soccer nations remain as poor as ever, waiting for FIFA to fulfill their public agenda.

Each of the 209 FIFA member nations casts a single vote for the body's president. This system gives smaller countries outsized influence: a vote from Lesotho weighs exactly the same as a vote from Germany. According to a story in The Daily News, when news broke of the

DOJ investigations, the African Bloc and all of its 54 members immediately announced their support for Blatter and the current system.

Some African countries have more "pull" in the game than others. U.S. investigators have accused South Africa of paying \$10 million to secure rights to the 2010 World Cup, according to

Tiso. "I'm surprised that it didn't come out sooner, in all honesty. Everyone should be aware that FIFA is very corrupt and has been for a while."

A tournament that netted just \$500 million for South Africa after \$4.6 billion were spent in preparations may well prove more trouble than it was worth, according to Time.com. In fact, there is

countries.

"I was very shocked upon hearing this story," stated junior David Pierroz. "Being a huge soccer fan, you would never expect something like this to surface."

The 2022 games are another story. Qatar is so heavily invested in their World Cup hosting duties that its stock market dropped three percentage points upon news of Blatter's resignation. Qatar is expected to spend about \$200 billion over a 12-year period upgrading its infrastructure and building stadiums, according to The New York Times.

The Swiss investigation puts all that in jeopardy. Prosecutors have reportedly uncovered emails that show Russia and Qatar supporting each other's bids, even with bribes. Qatar needed the help, as a country that averages 105-degree tem-

peratures in June and maintains a strict no-alcohol policy seems like a doubtful venue for international tourism. Scandals have emerged of large-scale human rights violations among migrant workers from Southeast Asia, with media outlets calling on the new FIFA leadership, yet to be chosen, to switch venues.

Russia, similarly, has a recent track record of international hostility and lack of care for human rights. Perhaps most noticeable was the Crimea crisis in which Russia supported separatist forces in Eastern Ukraine and sent troops into the Crimea region to back the "insurgency." Politicians have taken swift action against Russia, yet FIFA remains undeterred. Instead, FIFA wants to place an international ban on Israel for their conflict with Palestine, viewed as a relatively innocuous offense compared to the state of their future host nations. Collectively, Qatar and Russia seem like true footballing paradises . . .

It isn't realistic to think that, when it comes to organizations like FIFA, sports can ever remain separate from politics. No third-party power oversees FIFA, so its members basically have the right to rule themselves. Ultimately this leaves countries with the jurisdiction to investigate highly sensitive matters involving other countries, without a check on their power and influence.



Guilty as charged: CONCACAF secretary general and former Westchester resident Chuck Blazer was one of four men who pleaded guilty in the U.S. Justice Department's corruption investigation into FIFA.

Photo courtesy of Bernd Kammerer, Associated Press

ESPN reports.

"This really does not surprise me much," stated junior Anthony

scant evidence that hosting an international athletic tournament ever pays off economically for

peratures in June and maintains a strict no-alcohol policy seems like a doubtful venue for inter-

Rangers' Enchanted Season Falls Short

Jack Roshco
Staff Writer

The hometown New York Rangers have seen their season come to a shocking end, losing on home ice to the Tampa Bay Lightning in Game Seven of the NHL Eastern Conference Finals. The Rangers were the overwhelming favorites to be hoisting the Stanley Cup three weeks from now, after acquiring yet another star defenseman, Keith Yandle, at the trade deadline. The best road team in hockey finished the regular season atop the NHL standings, earning them the Presidents' Trophy, their first since their Cup winning season of 1993-94. The Rangers offered their fans hope for the future, while slapping us across the face in the present.

The Rangers had a spectacular regular season. After falling to 0-2-0 to start the season and sustaining numerous injuries in late 2014, they rebounded to take the division lead by early January. The early part of the season was highlighted by rookie phenom Anthony Duclair. The

nineteen-year-old Canadian burst onto the scene in the pre-season and earned himself the right to start the season with the big club, tallying his first goal and point in the league before being sent back to major junior with the Quebec Remparts of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League (QMJHL). Duclair gave fans a shot of adrenaline and a pining for the future, which would only last until March.

In January, the best goaltender on earth, Henrik Lundqvist, was hit in the throat with a shot by Carolina forward Brad Malone. Lundqvist missed eight weeks with a vascular injury, and Cam Talbot stepped in. Talbot was dominant.

F r e s h m a n

Sammy Kaplan says, "Talbot saved our season".

He could very well be right. Talbot stepped in for eight weeks and played with a save percentage above .920 and a goals against average below 2.20, Hank-like numbers.

On March 2, the Blueshirts'

season took its biggest turn. Keith Yandle and Chris Summers were traded to New York, in exchange for scapegoat defenseman John Moore, a 2016 first round draft pick, a 2017 second round pick, and budding fan favorite Anthony Duclair. The trade, while weaken-

ing the future, gave the Rangers the best defense corps in hockey, and gave them the final gun in the arsenal to make a real push for the Cup.

Push they did. Breezing by Pittsburgh in the first round of the playoffs, the Rangers moved on to play Washington. After a controversial Game One Caps' win, the Rangers took Game Two, but then lost Games Three and Four on the road. An overtime goal by Captain Ryan McDonagh propelled them to Game Six, and the Rangers powered through to face the Bolts. The heavily offensive Eastern Conference Finals saw star goalie Lundqvist give up five or more twice, saw Tampa goalie Ben Bishop give up five goals three times on home ice, but shut the Rangers out twice at the Garden, including Game Seven.

The Rangers' offensive inability and ailing defense cost them the 2015, Cup, but this team has plenty of rising young talent and will be a juggernaut of the NHL for the next ten years.



Will the King ever get his Cup?: Superb goalie Henrik Lundqvist had high hopes that this was the year the Rangers might go all the way. Unfortunately, it did not happen.

Photo courtesy of SNY Rangers Blog

Varsity Softball Team Wins League

Sydney Woolf
News Editor

The Varsity Softball Team started off the season with one dream in mind: win the league championship. Three months later, that dream became a reality. Finishing with a league record of 8-2 and an overall record of 13-7, the Lady Huskies were crowned Conference II League D co-champions along with Eastchester High School. This was an incredibly satisfying feat for the team, especially after a grim 2-4 start to the season. Despite not being the lone champions, the girls were highly pleased with the way the year played out. “Winning the league was something we haven’t done since 2009, so we wanted this more than anything,” said senior Taylor Day. “Our skills came together very well this season, but I think it was the overall closeness of our team that gave us a true edge over everyone else.” Strong bonds formed within this team from the very start. With

rest of the season. Spending Spring Break together in Disney World for spring training allowed the girls to learn the importance of team camaraderie and friendship, two things that proved crucial to their success. “Being one of the youngest on the team, I was a little nervous about playing,” said freshman Gina Nuvoloni. “It turns out I had nothing to be worried about. All of the girls were super welcoming and within the first few days, I felt

“The Huskies were crowned Conference II League D co-champions.”

lo. “Each girl on this team had enough heart and drive to finish the season off strong, which is all you need in this game.” DeCarlo definitely had the drive. An absolute powerhouse, DeCarlo broke the school record for most doubles in a season with 10 doubles; she also led the team in RBIs, with 31 total. Senior Dominique Loguidice led the team in batting average, holding a strong .423. In the circle, senior Taylor Day dominated, amassing 144 strikeouts and a solid 3.72 ERA. Overall, every player on this team contributed to its overall success in one way or another, making for a very enjoyable season. Along with winning the league championship, some individual players received accolades for their performance during the season. Seniors Taylor Day and Dominique Loguidice and juniors Christina DeCarlo and Sydney Woolf were awarded All-

Class A and faced Tappan Zee in the first round. After beating the stronger next year. “Next year we’ll be back,



League Champs: The 2015 Varsity Softball Team, Back row, left to right: Coach Dean Marino, Jacky Dalfonso, Adriana Darcy, Taylor Day, Stevie Carpinello, Kristi Iannacchino, Dominique Loguidice, and Coach Nat Acuti, Front row, left to right: Sydney Braiotta, Lauren Madonna, Gina Nuvoloni, Elisa Arcara, Sydney Woolf, Christina DeCarlo, Vanessa Santamaria, and Julie Robertson.

a long season ahead of them, the girls knew that their overall spirit was going to make or break the



Making Contact: Christina DeCarlo connects for another hit, en route to a stellar season.

like I had known them forever.” The beginning of the season did not look very promising for the team. After falling to Westlake in their season opener by a score of 10-3 and losing a league game to Pelham early on, it looked as if it could be a grim season for the Huskies. However, the girls did not let these early downfalls overwhelm them. As Head Coach Dean Marino always said, “It’s not about how you start, it’s about how you finish.” This motto held strong for the team all season as they vied for the top spot in the league. Even with a rough start, the girls were able to pull through at the end, going 13-3 in their last 16 games, an astounding feat. “The season started off a little rough, but I knew we would pull through at the end,” said junior Christina DeCar-

lo. “Each girl on this team had enough heart and drive to finish the season off strong, which is all you need in this game.” DeCarlo definitely had the drive. An absolute powerhouse, DeCarlo broke the school record for most doubles in a season with 10 doubles; she also led the team in RBIs, with 31 total. Senior Dominique Loguidice led the team in batting average, holding a strong .423. In the circle, senior Taylor Day dominated, amassing 144 strikeouts and a solid 3.72 ERA. Overall, every player on this team contributed to its overall success in one way or another, making for a very enjoyable season. Along with winning the league championship, some individual players received accolades for their performance during the season. Seniors Taylor Day and Dominique Loguidice and juniors Christina DeCarlo and Sydney Woolf were awarded All-

ride home, they were already talking about coming back even



A Force on the Mound: Senior Taylor Day gets the sign before delivering a pitch.

Dutchmen 10-4, the Huskies faced the undefeated #1 seed, Brewster. Unfortunately, the team’s season ended there, but the girls were not upset. On the bus

looking to be just as good, if not better, than we were this year,” said junior Stevie Carpinello. “We have a reputation to uphold now, and there’s no doubt we will do it.”



And that’s two outs: Junior Stevie Carpinello gets the put-out at first base.

All photos courtesy of Christina DeCarlo

Boys' Varsity Baseball Wins Playoff Game

Steven Vendola and Taylor Kelly
Sports Editor and Staff Writer

The baseball season for the Huskies has come to an end. After 20 games, the Huskies had a record of 11-9 with a conference record of 6-4.

Though they finished third in the conference, this team still had its share of difficulties. They had a rocky start to the season. They had a record of 3-3 in the first six games of the season. They were struggling and had some bad losses at the beginning of the season, but they soon found success. In the middle of the season they kept going back and forth with wins and losses, but they eventually found their groove near the end of the season, which really helped them claim the ninth seed come playoff time. It was a tough season for them, but by working hard and staying strong, the Huskies were able to finish third in the conference and compete in the playoffs.

"Going into the season we didn't know what to expect or how we were going to respond to the tragedy that happened in the offseason," said senior Michael Pizzutello. "The biggest challenge we faced was pitching. As the season progressed we saw improvement and ultimately it became our strong suit with two rotation leaders in Dean McCarthy and Steven Pesce."

The Andrew Gurgitano Memorial Game took place on May 2. This was the second and final meeting between the Huskies and the Rye Garnets in the regular season. Though a big rivalry game, there was something more to it than just the game itself. Both teams were there to compete and honor the memory of Andrew Gurgitano. It turned out to be so much more than an ordinary game. This game was played to show strength and to honor Andrew who loved baseball and would have been out there playing.

Before the game started, one senior from each team was picked to receive the Andrew Gurgitano Scholarship award. Senior Michael Pizzutello re-

"The last six games led to us believing in better chances for the playoffs."

ceived the award for Harrison and Sam Lubeck received the award for Rye. These players were chosen based on their passion for baseball and life, which resembled who Andrew was. This award will now be given out each year to honor Andrew.

The game was very close and came down to the end. Both teams played hard and fought for

the victory. Unfortunately Harrison wound up losing 3-2. Even though they lost this game, it definitely was one of the biggest highlights of the team's season.

Harrison entered the playoffs as the number nine seed. Harrison claimed the spot after a three-way tie between Beacon, Sleepy Hollow, and Harrison. According to *MSG Varsity*, the number eleven seed was given to Beacon due to their having lower bonus points and the Harrison-Sleepy Hollow seeds came down to a decision made by committee.

Harrison took on Eastchester, the number eight seed, in their first playoff game. Harrison played Eastchester twice this year. They happened to be the last two games of the season. On May 12, Harrison beat Eastchester 9-1. On May 14, Harrison beat Eastchester 3-2. This was the record prior to the two facing off in the first



Excelling Under Pressure: Dean McCarthy had eight strikeouts en route to a playoff win against Eastchester.

ton 14-0.

Heading into the playoffs, the team was ranked below Eastchester due to the fact that Eastchester had one more overall win and one less loss. Harrison was third in their conference, behind number two Byram Hills and number one Rye.

"We were able to stick together to overcome adversity," said senior Joey Lagani. "Throughout this past year and season the team has gone through plenty of tough times. We started off the season doing

okay and we ended up having a 5-1 record in the last six games of the season. Our defense is also a strength for this team. We have pitchers who pitch well and get the job done. We have a great infield and outfield that support our pitchers and make their jobs easier."

"Ending the regular season 5-1 was very good and a big growth for our team as we headed into the playoffs," said junior Michael Nannariello. "The last six games led to us believing in better chances for the playoffs."

On May 21, Harrison met Eastchester for the Section 1 Class A opening round game and won the contest on the strength of pitcher Dean McCarthy's arm. He struck out the side in the final inning, and Harrison secured a hard fought 2-1 victory. McCarthy had eight strikeouts in the

complete game effort, which set up a quarterfinal showdown with the rival Rye Garnets. Chris Siapanides was an additional major contributor to this win, going three for three with two runs batted in, including the game winning run.

"This year, the Rye game was our most exciting game even though it ended in a tough loss," said Frank Evangelista. "We played very hard that game and we have kept up the intensity ever since. If we continue to play like this throughout the playoffs, our team has a chance of making it far. Like the Rye game, our game against Eastchester was very exciting. Dean McCarthy was throwing great pitches. I'm really proud of our boys and the way we won."

In that quarterfinal matchup with Rye on May 23, the Huskies faced senior pitcher Tim DeGraw, who no-hit them in an earlier meeting. They only mustered a few hits this time around and unfortunately the team's playoff run came to an end with a 2-0 loss to Rye. It was a tight game nonetheless. Rye only managed four hits overall, but scored in the first and fifth innings.

This team has gone through a lot this season and has made the best of it. They have had their ups and downs, but they overcame those problems and played to the best of their ability. They have experienced things that many high school teams will never experience, yet they played on and played their hearts out. When others might have quit, they didn't. They stood together and stayed strong and remained proud. They played their hearts out and represented the school and our community of Harrison in many ways. Hopefully, future teams will follow the attitude and mindset of this team and play impressively with heart, honor, and purpose.



Husky for Life: The Andrew Gurgitano Memorial game took place on May 2, pitting Harrison against its archrival Rye. It was a hard battled contest.

the victory. Unfortunately Harrison round of the playoffs.

There were a couple of huge scores this year. One was their game against Port Chester in which the Huskies put on a hitting clinic. Harrison would go on to win that game by a lopsided score of 22-2. They also put up big numbers against Gorton in their second game of the season. In what looked like another hitting clinic, they beat Gor-



Connecting when it counts: Daniel Klein takes a big swing in the playoff game against eighth-seeded Eastchester. The Huskies were victorious.

Photos courtesy of Henry Klein