

Trump National hosts “Mother of All Proms”

Richa Mehra

Co-Managing Editor

Throughout most of our adolescence we look forward to *the* night. We spend elementary school watching movies about it, middle school imagining it, and high school thinking about who we might go with and what we might wear. Of course I'm talking about prom, the culmination of our childhood experience.

Prom marks the beginning of an end. Thus far in our lives we have yet to go out and independently experience the world. We typically live in the sheltered existence of our parent's homes and guidelines. Although we have definitely learned valuable lessons throughout our high school experiences, they mark only the tip of the iceberg. Prom is representative of both our past and future; the knowledge from our existing lifetime as well as the innocence of all that is left to discover. For this reason, among others, prom remains to be a night no senior will forget.

Prom 2017 did not start off ideally. The pouring rain made it difficult to both rush from respective appointments, as well as take the tradition-

al outdoor “pre-prom” pictures. Many seniors lamented that they would expect nothing less to ruin what was supposed to be their big night. However, the night was far from ruined. Most seniors left school after third period in order to begin their preparations: girls off to hair, makeup, and boutonniere pick-up and guys off to pick up their tuxes and corsages. Although prom did not start until 7:00, many students were ready hours earlier in order to attend pre-proms, pre-pre proms, etc.

As discussed in a previous editorial this year, prom is no longer a singular event, but rather takes up a



A long line of colorful prom glamour. One of the several Pre-Prom celebrations, this one at Brae Burn Country Club in Purchase New York. There was a palpable feeling of excitement and high expectations.

Courtesy of Davis Gaynes

weekend. There is a pre-pre prom for a small friend group to take pictures and go to pre-prom together where they meet up with a bigger group and take more pictures. Then prom is followed by after-prom, typically a trip into the city, and then after-after prom in which a friend group typically spends the weekend together.

When asked about her experience, senior Samantha O'Reilly

said, “It was so fun to have everyone together celebrating the end of our high school experience, but the pressures of attending so many pre-proms and worrying about after-prom and after-after almost took away from the sentimentality of it all.”

Although many can agree that “prom weekend” is extremely fun and a great bonding experience, it is also tiring and busy. This can often detract from the experience as prom no longer becomes the primary event. However, the prom is special in the uniqueness of the event. For the first time in what might be 13+ years, peers get to see each other all dressed up as the young adults that they have become. Additionally, it is one of the only high school events that is so widely attended. While pre- and after-proms can be restricted by friend groups, the actual prom is attended by almost every senior. This fosters an unparalleled sense of community and sentimentality. It is important to remember this to fully enjoy prom as a final chance to appreciate each other and our shared past before we

part ways.

After the events, many seniors felt that prom is overrated. It was hard to dance on a crowded dance floor in long dresses with high heels. The food lines were huge and not particularly worth it. There were a few unnecessary obligations to stay with your date. There was a pressure to look good and take memorable pictures. But prom is also irreplaceable. The venue was beautiful. It was completely possible and accepted for everyone to dance. The dessert could be enjoyed because prom diets are over. It was fun to have a date, as well as to hang out with friends. Everyone did look good and took memorable pictures. Prom had its pros and cons, but that did not make it any less special.

When the seniors began boarding the buses to leave around 10:30, the mood was a mixture of both relief and nostalgia (excitement to get to the “fun” part, but disbelief that prom, and effectively high school, was now over). As we move on to the next chapters in our lives, it is uncertain how paths will diverge. However, it is certain that prom will forever be remembered as a bonding experience for the class of 2017, an incredible group of people. Ultimately, prom was the perfect way to celebrate our achievements and solidarity.



A pose for the ages. Another line-up of colorful prom glamour, this one at a Pre-Prom held at the household of Joseph Novello. In spite of the inclement weather, everyone was looking their best and getting ready for a fun time ahead.

Courtesy of Damon Sean

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NEWS & FEATURES

Azar Advances to ISEF

Lauren Barbulescu

Staff Writer

Recently Harrison High School's very own Science Research student, junior Keon Azar, was a finalist at WESEF (Westchester Science and Engineering Fair), allowing him to go to the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in Los Angeles, California held on May 18 and 19.

The INTEL International Science and Engineering Fair is "a program of Society for Science & the Public" according to *Student Science.com*. It's notably one of the world's largest international pre-college science competitions.

According to *Student Science.com*, "Each year, approximately 1,800 high school students from more than 75 countries, regions, and territories are awarded the opportunity to showcase their independent research and compete for on average \$4 million in prizes."

ISEF allows student from grades nine to twelve to be able to apply and compete in 22 different categories. To earn a spot in the ISEF, students from all over the world have the chance to compete in local science fairs, such as WESEF.

Keon earned the opportunity to compete in the ISEF after placing second in the physics and astronomy competition at WESEF. Eleven other Harrison High School students also won awards at WESEF.

According to WESEF.org, "WESEF is a local science fair affiliated with the Intel International Science Fair serving budding scientists in Westchester & Putnam counties of New York State. Students prepare a poster detailing their projects, which, in most cases, have involved complex research conducted under the

guidance of a professional researcher in their field of interest."

At ISEF, Keon competed against top high school science research students from over 50 countries. Keon's topic for the competition was astrophysics, more specifically, identifying limitations in exoplanet detection methods.

ISEF wasn't just all competing, though. Keon and the other students that attended the fair were treated to get free tours of Universal Studios where they got to experience the Harry Potter virtual reality rides, and feast on an unlimited supply of butterbeer and Panda Express food. According to Keon, there was a great amount of time to relax, explore, get curious, and make new friendships with other students.

Keon clearly enjoyed the experience.

to represent their country at ISEF. Another time, I was talking to my friends at Starbucks and saying how much I wanted to meet people from the United Arab Emirates and then later, walked outside to a huge group where I found a diverse surplus of people trading pins, dressed in cultural garbs while creating friendships all at the same time."

After all the fun and games ended, it was time for the judging to begin.

When asked about whether he was nervous to present at such a big event, Keon said, "Presenting was a lot of fun! While the judges were intimidating to an extent, they had a lot of experience and were interesting to talk to because of how much work they had done in the field previously. The style of presentation varied from



Limits in exoplanet detection methods. Mr. Randy Gunnell helps junior Keon Azar prepare his research presentation. Keon had a great time, met new friends, and learned so much during his trip to Los Angeles.

Courtesy of Keon Azar



Mind-boggling collection of scientific research. Keon Azar was one of approximately 1,800 high school students from over 50 different countries competing in this esteemed event.

Courtesy of Keon Azar

ience.

"Time has never flown by faster in my life - the week went by so fast, from when I first got out of the plane to when in LA to when I arrived back in NYC felt like one second," he said. "Being able to compete and go to this event was really beneficial, especially since I learned so much from the other students. Intelligence was almost contagious. I casually met people from literally all around the world. I was walking with two girls to Universal only to find out they were the first two people from Zimbabwe

judge to judge (some judges wanted me to speak for the whole 15 minute period about my research while others just looked at the poster and asked questions while analyzing it.) The judges were all so well qualified! Some provided great advice for my own research project and research in the future, so I will definitely utilize that as I take my next steps in astrophysics. I really couldn't have been at ISEF though without Mr. Gunnell and Ms. Blunt's help and am so thankful for them."

Not only is ISEF an opportunity

to learn more from others, but also about yourself. The advice from experts can be very valuable and help the participants to make improvements and minor tweaks to make their final research products truly superb.

"If there was one thing I would have changed about my overall research, I would have read more on the subject so I could learn more prior to my presentation, because some judges grilled me with complex questions that I couldn't completely answer," Keon said. "While I have a good understanding of the field, it

wasn't deep and complex enough for this level of competition."

Keon developed his project as part of his science research studies at Harrison High School. Science Research is a unique class, in part, that it allows students to research a topic of their own interest. Whether the topic concerns the next power source for the world to genetically modified organisms or exoplanets out in space, it's up to the student to find his or her own compelling passion.

DECA Duo Take Second Place in the World

Mr. Joe Santo

Guest Writer

This year over 17,000 high school students attended this year's, International Career Development Conference (ICDC), the finals for all DECA competitors. This year the competition was intense and students from Spain, China, and other parts of the globe attended this year's conference.

Junior Brett Silber competed

in the Restaurant & Food Services Management Series event. He gave a valiant effort and made Harrison proud. His scores on the tests and role plays were admirable, and we are extremely proud of him for qualifying for the ICDC competition. Brett finished in the top five of New York State to have the right to compete in the ICDC competition.

Adam Eljamal and Matthew Schwartz competed in the Buying & Merchandising Team Decision Making event. In this event, they



Second to none: Adam Eljamal and Matthew Schwartz display their awards.

also completed several tests and role plays.

In the past, no Harrison students have ever scored high enough

to be eligible for the finals of the ICDC competition. Not only did they qualify for the finals, but they earned Second Place in their event. This means these two were the second best in the world in their event.

Photo courtesy of Joe Santo

The following is a list of colleges and universities that some of our Harrison High School seniors will be attending:

Last Name	First Name	College of Matriculation	Last Name	First Name	College of Matriculation
Abramson	Emma	Tulane University	Jacobi	Sophia	Dartmouth College
Abramson	Leah	Tulane University	Jacobson	James	Quinnipiac University
Adler	Sam	Cornell University	Kapio	Blossom	University at Albany
Aguirre	Nahuel	Baruch College	Karofsky	Dylan	Tulane University
Ahmed	Umar	New York Institute of Technology	Kelly	Taylor	University of Georgia
Alper	Adam	George Washington University	Klein	Daniel	Indiana University
Ankawa	Amit	Stony Brook University	Koenig	Mark	Cornell University
Attilio	Diana	Iona College	Kim	William	Boston University
Baffour Owusu	Allyson	SUNY Brockport	Korek	Spencer	University of Pennsylvania
Baker	Daniel	University of Virginia	Lefkowitz	Brady	University of Notre Dame
Barry	Brian	College of the Holy Cross	Lefkowitz	Kendall	UCLA
Bartman	Jared	University of Michigan	Leighton	Jen	Washington University in St. Louis
Baruzzi	Thomas	Stony Brook University	Levkoff	Dylan	University of Miami
Bergman	Danielle	Syracuse University	Maida	Michael	University of New Hampshire
Bilotta	Nick	Lehigh University	Maldonado	Steven	University of Pennsylvania
Bishtawi	Ramzi	Boston College	Marciano	Angelo	Binghamton University
Brachlow	Karina	Arizona State University	Martin	Baxter	SUNY-ESF
Burkhardt	Peter	Binghamton University	Marriott	Will	Brigham Young University
Byrd	Laura	Merrimack College	Marsh	Jennifer	Dutchess Community College
Cabre Correa	Andres	ESCP Europe	McKinsey	Saraqh	The Ohio State University
Cacsire	Eddie	Miami University	McLaughlin	Matt	UNC Chapel Hill
Canell	Jordan	Syracuse University	McNelly	Morgan	University of Tennessee - Knoxville
Castro	Cynthia	College of Saint Rose	Mehra	Richa	University of Pennsylvania
Cherico	Michael	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	Mittman	Sophie	University of Michigan
Choe	Daniel	University of Michigan	Molero	Mariana	New York University
Clow	Megan	College of the Holy Cross	Mora	Christopher	Manhattanville College
Coben	Maya	Cornell University	Morris	Timothy	SCAD
Coloccia	Frank	Pace University	Moschetta	Kristine	Keene State College
Coonin	Allie	Brown University	Muller	Grant	Cornell University
Corbin	Tamyia	SUNY Delhi	Nadduchar	Amina	Fordham University
Cummins	Kyle	Syracuse University	Nelson	Erin	Indiana University
Cutri	Kiera	Sacred Heart University	Nielsen	Lauren	University of Southern California
Daraio	Isabelle	Sacred Heart University	Nitis	Theodora	Manhattanville College
Daraio	William	University of New Hampshire	Noejovich	Sofia	University at Wisconsin - Madison
DeBois	Katie	University of Delaware	Novak	Matthew	Bucknell University
Deluca	Olivia	Boston College	Nuvoloni	Nicole	Wentworth Institute of Technology
Demirjian	Alexis	Barnard College	O'Reilly	Samantha	Washington University in St. Louis
Denis	Allen	SUNY Purchase	Panza	Odalis	Bard College
De Schryver	Caroline	The New School	Pein	Romy	Vanderbilt University
DiNota	Julia	Quinnipiac University	Pesce	Gianna	University of Florida
DiRusso	Julia	Wake Forest University	Petermann	Luke	Wake Forest University
Dolinak	Joseph Vikram	Worcester Polytechnic Institute	Petrucci	Jessica	Miami University
Donohue	Robert	The Pennsylvania State University	Pettinato	Elisa	Tufts University
Dorado	Douglas	University of Massachusetts - Amherst	Piliero	Raffi	Georgetown University
Eljamal	Adam	University of Miami	Pirinea	Sophia	Providence College
Nicholas	Erb	Binghamton University	Pizzutello	William	Indiana University
Ferrera	Gabriel	SUNY Cortland	Platte	Ally	University of Michigan
Fitzgerald	Ryann	Maryland Institute College of Art	Prado	Jessica	Syracuse University
Fogelson	Alissa	University of Pennsylvania	Prado	Sebastian	New York University
Forgione	Nicole	Pace University	Principe	Luca	Westchester Community College
Franciosa	Krizia	The Pennsylvania State University	Ramirez	Maribel	Universidad Catolica
Francisco	Jerome	Westchester Community College	Rawson	Madeline	Williams College
Fugarino	Christian	Westchester Community College	Riccobono	Lauren	Siena College
Gaeta	Chris	Elon University	Robles	Karinha	SUNY Buffalo State
Gates	Conner	University of Wisconsin - Madison	Rosenstein	Isabel	University of Texas at Austin
Gaynes	Kendall	Tulane University	Rubin	Ben	University of Wisconsin - Madison
Ginanaris	Alex	Fordham University	Ruff	Dani	Syracuse University
Gisondi	Andrew	Quinnipiac University	Ryan	Kate	Cornell University
Giuliani	Jason	University at Albany	Salem	Elijah	University at Buffalo
Goble	Miwa	SUNY Binghamton	Santiago	Hayden	Hofstra University
Goldman	Ben	New York University	Santos	Brandonlee	Stony Brook University
Gonnella	Vito	Manhattan College	Sarmiento	Lea	Cornell University
Gordon	Vanessa	University of Wisconsin - Madison	Schapiro	Daniel	Columbia University
Goulas	Brook	Manhattanville College	Schettino	Chloe	University of Delaware
Gresham	Thomas	University of Virginia	Schultz	Jackson	Cornell University
Gropper	Elijah	University of Arizona	Scoli	Max	University of Michigan
Guastella	Anton	Iona College	Shanahan	Theresa	Boston College
Gurny	Kyra	Manhattanville College	Shires	Sebastian	University of Hartford
Guzman	Brad	Boston University	Slater	Kyle	Binghamton University
Guzman	Naomi	University at Albany	Steinberg	Andie	Northwestern University
Hamid	Hamza	Syracuse University	Steinthal	Luke	University of Richmond
Hansen	Marisol	Manhattanville College	Toledo	Christian	Springfield College
Hart	Jessica	Vanderbilt University	Urrutia-Soto	Santiago	Purdue University
Heffelfinger	Chris	SUNY Purchase	Velasquez	Nicole	University at Albany
Hendler	Michael	Western Connecticut State University	Verkuil	Max	Delft University of Technology
Hesse	Valeria	Johns Hopkins University	Viruet	Adolfo	SUNY Purchase
Homen	Ryan	North Carolina State University	Waldman	Nicole	University of Wisconsin - Madison
Huhne	Alexandra	University of Maryland	Whitson	Chris	Pratt Institute
Hymowitz	Kayla	University of Wisconsin - Madison	Wilson	Jack	Rice University
Ighobor	Zogie	Quinnipiac University	Windisch	Stephen	Boston College
Iolascon	Adrianna	Quinnipiac University	Witte	Harry	University of Rochester
			Zinman	Matthew	Columbia University
			Zinman	Samantha	Columbia University

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:

Matt Zinman

Tooth Lost, Acceptance Gained

I'd always hated my teeth. A friend's mother once joked that my teeth were so crooked, I'd still be wearing braces in college. When I was in middle school, a gap developed between two of my front teeth, leading to numerous pictures of me smiling with my mouth firmly shut. I thought things would get better when, at the beginning of



Matt Zinman: The gap on display.
Courtesy of Matt Zinman

eleventh grade, I got a Marilyn bridge (a euphemism for "fake tooth") to fill the gap. But my relief was short-lived: four months into the school year, I bit into my sandwich at lunch and discovered that the tooth had left my mouth for a new home between slices of turkey and cheese.

Immediately, I glanced around the cafeteria table to see if anyone had noticed. My face flushed, and I felt my heart pounding. As I tried to calculate how many minutes I'd have to spend clenching my jaw until the period finally ended, I wondered why I was reacting this way. Was losing a fake tooth really so earth-shattering? My friends would probably just laugh it off. So why was I so terrified?

I'd been sweating the small stuff for years prior to that moment. After joining my high school's marching band as a freshman, I dreaded putting on the starched white cotton sash and the all-too-perfectly matching white shoes, not to mention the shako (an oversized maroon hat with a hideously ostentatious

white feather jutting out). During football games, as I sat in the "truly special" section of bleachers that could only be occupied by Band members, I would stare at my non-Band classmates wearing normal clothes and feel

...the tooth had left my mouth for a new home...

foolish. Why was I choosing to stand out for no reason?

Midway through sophomore year, I surprisingly started to enjoy Band life. Yes, I had to wear the ugliest outfit known to humanity, and yes, I was separated from my infinitely cooler friends, but so was everyone else in Band. Besides, we got to do things no one else did, like collaborate with 90 classmates to make music every day, play "Magical Mystery Tour" on Main Street at Disney World, and build a community that integrated all types of kids within the school. I even began to accept the nerdiness inherent to being in Band, posting an Instagram photo of myself passed out from exhaustion after a week of Band camp with the caption, "Like this picture if you think the marching band should be able to opt out of gym class." (For the record, the photo received 209 likes. My principal has yet to respond.)

If being unique was no longer a problem for me in Band, why was it still a problem when it came to my teeth? I thought about that as I stared down at my runaway tooth. Then I spoke up. "Guys," I announced to everyone at my table, "I have something to show you." I held up the tooth for all to see and waited for a response. It came immediately: screams of laughter so loud that kids at nearby tables put down their food and stared in my direction to see what was going on. And instead of wanting to run away, I was joining in the laughter. I got out my phone and took a picture of myself with the fake tooth, adding illustrations of a pirate hat and eye patch, and sent it to my friends. It may not have been the most dignified moment in my life, but for once, I could see it as one of the funniest.

I know I won't ever be the most confident kid in my grade, or even close to the trendiest. I'll always be at least a little awkward and self-conscious. But if I can learn to live with that, I can enjoy life a lot more — even if I lose another tooth.

Katie DuBois

Meteorology makes my application complete because meteorology makes me complete.

I've always wondered what goes on in the sky, but it wasn't until middle school, home alone during a tornado, that I got the

meteorology bug. Outside my kitchen windows, I saw a scene from a horror movie: black clouds and rain pouring down to the point of blindness, set to a soundtrack of roaring thunder. My phone vibrated (a tornado warning for my area). I was terrified. First, I freaked out, frantically calling my mom, dad, brother. Nobody could be reached. Fifteen minutes into the storm, though, and my terror had made



Katie DuBois: fascinated by what goes on in the sky.
Courtesy of Katie DuBois

me curious—curious about the weather's mysteries. Soon after, meteorology became my world. I would look up weather facts for hours on end and read online encyclopedias or my new field guide to weather. I would pull all-nighters, studying the weather. While researching, I discovered that this unique field actually represents me: meteorology flaunts its independence, proud that it's one of the most unknowable sciences, just like me.

...meteorology is not just an interest...

Meteorology isn't a trendy science, but I've never followed the trends. In elementary school, I would wear t-shirts and cargo pants, without a trace of pink, because boys' clothes were simply more comfortable than tutus and blouses.

I read comic books, loved Spiderman, and spent my days looking at clouds and wondering which ones brought the storms. This tomboy lifestyle came with consequences, though—I've been given snarky looks from kindergarten to the present. These funny looks have only motivated me to become more independent and ask more questions. We all ask, "what goes on in the sky?" Some of us even wonder, "why?" Yet, most don't

actively seek answers. It's made me unpopular for years, but I want an answer.

Since sophomore year, I've focused my science research on tornadoes, a deadly mixture of warm-moist and cold-dry air (hence why they usually happen in springtime in the Midwest). At the end of each year, I've presented my findings at the science symposium; at the end of last year, I spoke in-depth about the very beginnings of my own experiment studying how to predict tornadoes using differences in pressure in the New York City metropolitan area. Everyone else presented on fitness or psychology—and rolled their eyes at my presentation. They weren't interested in the weather. But meteorology affects us every single day! Unless people live in a windowless, temperature-controlled box, it affects how we dress, the traffic, and even our moods. Still, there's so much we don't know about what goes on in the sky.

Although meteorologists can theorize and often predict severe weather, like blizzards, thunderstorms, and hurricanes, nobody is certain what exactly will happen with a given storm. That's my favorite part. One news station will say, "expect eighteen inches of snow" based on one model. Another predicts two inches of snow, based on a different model. Experts and models in the field can and do point to completely different outcomes. I find the science behind meteorology to be outstanding precisely because no prediction or experiment can be 100% accurate. Thunderstorms can happen in the mid-Atlantic for one reason, but in the southeast for a completely different reason. Hurricanes enter a specific area with one set of conditions, but won't enter into another area 100-miles off with the same conditions, for reasons no meteorologist truly understands. Everything is independent, individualized. Naturally, I love that.

I follow my own path, just like tornadoes and hurricanes follow their own paths. I am an individual—and the only girl at my school studying meteorology. Meteorology is an independent science, all on its own. That's



William Pizzutello: Prepared to face the unknown challenges of the future.
Courtesy of William Pizzutello

why my application would be incomplete without meteorology. Meteorology isn't just an interest. It's me.

William Pizzutello

I never thought that my first job would be working with a criminal. I never thought that U.S. Marshals would bust down the door and drag my co-workers out in handcuffs. I never thought I would be an unknowing accomplice to a federal offense at 15 years old.

It was summer after my Freshman year. After taking an introductory class in AutoCad, I landed an internship at an architectural millwork company. I got my working papers, and was excited for this great summer job. Although I was not being paid initially, I was eager to work, and prove myself worthy to eventually receive a paycheck.

My coworkers were smart, friendly and hardworking. They helped me adjust quickly and get up to speed with my responsibilities of converting architectural sketches into precise AutoCad computer drawings. Although it was not a family run business, it certainly felt like it. Everybody worked like a team and were friends outside of the office. This sense of family helped everything run like a well-oiled machine, where everyone knew their roles and trusted one another. The owner was always look-

I never thought U.S. Marshals would...drag my co-workers off in handcuffs...

ing to give people opportunities, and had even helped some of his employees become U.S. citizens.

It was a typical Wednesday afternoon and we were joking about who would go pick up lunch. Being the low man on the totem pole, I was about to make my way to the local deli, when four large, armed men busted through the doors. I was stunned and immediately thought we were being robbed. After seeing their blue jackets emblazoned with "POLICE U.S. MARSHAL", I would eventually realize that the criminals had not just entered, but had been there all along.

A few weeks later, I found out the whole story. For several months, three employees (one being my direct supervisor) had been stealing drawings, materials, and labor. They had cleverly rented the adjacent building, so after hours they could easily move materials back and forth. They duplicated existing cabinets and vanities using illegal laborers and sold them on the side, under the company's name.

These drawings included one of the many I had made that summer. One in particular was a custom-designed butler's pantry, including a built in wine chiller and cabinet. I had worked on it for about two weeks, ensuring all 15 views and elevations were precise. When I found out my hard work was stolen, I felt violated. Suddenly this crime was more personal.

In the aftermath, I never had to be interviewed by the U.S. Marshals, as my co-workers did. I was already back at school in my Sophomore year. But what I experienced that summer, I know I will remember for a lifetime.

The following summer I returned back and met the new employees who replaced those that currently sit in jail. My boss almost lost his entire business, but I witnessed him learn to trust his employees again. He persevered by showing resilience and optimism and rebuilt his company that thrives today.

When I think about what I have taken away from this I realize that the lessons are many. It is not just as simple as "cheaters never prosper." What I learned is more complicated. I learned that people aren't always what they appear to be, and dishonesty can be right in front of you and go unnoticed. Knowing that, I hope to still be trusting, but not gullible. I learned that those in positions of authority aren't always good role models. But I still look up to my superiors, and won't be shocked if I see a crack in their armor.

There is no manual, or guide or textbook that can teach you how to navigate everything. So I prepare to face the unknown challenges of my future with resilience and confidence, knowing that in business, and the business of life, there are unexpected twists and turns.

Kendall Lefkowitz

Quadruplets and twins: not something you hear every day -- unless you're in my family, where you may hear it a little too often. Being the youngest of six with a twin and older quadruplet siblings, my life is nothing short of a reality show. With outrageous family parties, endless sports games, and all the love I have experienced in my sixteen years, my family is the biggest part of my life and without them my story is not complete.

The Lefkowitzes have definitely had our fair share of mishaps including an almost fatal hike with my fresh out of a kidney transplant brother, a seemingly endless train ride through a tornado, and even a twelve hour road trip in a five person car, with eight people and a dog . . . for a day trip.

Yet a story that I feel best highlights the dysfunctional yet amusing way I was raised is when we took a nice, innocent bike ride together in California last summer. It was our first time in Cali and we were up for anything. This bike ride especially seemed like it could be fun considering the fact that the naive minds of my siblings and I didn't know the geography of Los Angeles, which meant we didn't know what my mom described as a 10 mile bike ride actually meant twenty six. To understand the fault of my siblings and me is to understand my Mom's well intentioned but extreme use of exaggeration. When she says "I'll pick you up in 5 minutes!", she usually means, "I ha-

ven't left the house yet."

So this bike trip started great, riding through Santa Monica, and Venice Beach, wind in our hair, excitement in our faces. This feeling was short lived. After the bike trail ended in a mere three miles, I began to sweat as I realized the

The Lefkowitzes have definitely had our fair share of mishaps...

harsh reality. We found ourselves trying to navigate our way through LA traffic to a new trail, which I now know was five miles away. After dodging cars, yelling at each other and pretending like we didn't hear people yelling at us, we finally made it to the path. Lucky for us this scenic route took us next to a power plant and airport! Things weren't all bad because after the tears dried we finally made it to Manhattan Beach and lived to tell the tale

Yes, for those who did not experience it, this story seems funny but as I have come to realize through these rather amusing family adventures, it is normal for things to go wrong and the things that don't go as planned are the funniest part of any adventure. I have learned so much from my family and continue to learn more everyday.

Even though almost every day is filled with fun and laughs, living with a big family hasn't come without some tough love. With four people leading the way on all different paths it has been really easy to lose myself in feeling like I'm not up to a certain standard. I have a jock, singer, musician, and bookworm ahead of me, so what else can I be?

In more times than one I have been envious of the apparent perfection of my siblings. However as I have grown up, I have begun to slowly learn you don't need to compare yourself to



Kendall Lefkowitz: Quadruplets and twins - half a dozen strong.

Courtesy of Kendall Lefkowitz

others in order to be successful. Anyone can be successful; there is not one set of characteristics that determine what it takes to do well for yourself.

In the times where I feel lost, I have been lucky enough to look to my siblings for guidance. Although we constantly give each other grief, I know that in the end, they will always be there for me. Family is a weird thing: it brings together people who may not interact under typical social settings so that they can embrace each other's differences and become inseparable.

Tips For College Apps

Kendall Gaynes

Editor-in-Chief

Applying to college can be as stressful as you make it. No matter how many colleges you plan on applying to, the process is never easy. Here are some tips that will help you stay cool, calm, and collected while going through the process of college applications.

1. Stay organized

This tip is pretty much common sense, but by staying organized, you will keep the application process under control. It's important to know where all of your college materials are, so the first step would be creating a Google Docs folder specifically dedicated to college applications. Within that folder you can make more folders, narrowing in on the different colleges you will be applying to. In addition to that, another great way to keep organized is making a spreadsheet with all of the colleges you plan on applying to. Within that, write out the college deadlines (regular decision and or early decision/early action), which type of application the college requires, if there are supplements for the application, and the essay questions that are required.

2. Start Early

It's important to not wait until the last minute to start your essay. These essays hold a lot of weight in determining what college you will end up at, and it's very important that you start working on them as early as possible. The first semester of senior year is very chaotic with schoolwork, and the EE too if you are an IB diploma candidate, so starting your college essays over the summer can put you at an advantage.

3. Brainstorm

It may sound annoying and time consuming, but brainstorming can always help to make a better essay. Don't just try writing about the first topic that comes into your

mind and call it a day. Look at the essay prompt first. Based on the prompt, list ideas that you could write your essay about, and then within those ideas narrow them down to your top two favorites. Try writing as much as you can about both those topics and pick the stronger essay as your main essay to write. Brainstorming for one essay could even help you save time by helping you think of a topic to write about for another essay.

4. Take your time

Don't feel pressured to write the perfect essay in one day and be done. Essay writing can be very time-consuming; it is not meant to be a quick and easy process. Don't overwhelm yourself by writing one essay per day. Write the essays over time. If you are having a moment where the words are flowing easily, then of course continue writing. However, if you are experiencing writer's block, don't try rushing to get the essay done.

5. Don't be afraid to ask for help

Having other people reading your work can be very helpful in strengthening an essay because they will see it from a different point of view and be able to give you more honest criticism. Ask someone you trust: a friend, family member, or teacher. Have them read over your essay and give you advice. There is also a college workshop right here at Harrison High School over the summer where English teachers are more than happy to help you come up with topics and begin writing your essays. It's important to keep in mind, though, that there is a difference between asking someone to read over your essay and asking someone to write the essay for you. The work should be your own writing.

The college process can be very stressful or go very smoothly. Hopefully by following these tips the college process will be a little less dreadful. Good luck!

Senior Assassin

Julie Anna D'Onofrio

Staff Writer

The annual game of Senior Assassin began on Friday, May 12 at 2:30 PM. There were 142 assassins who entered the game this year. It cost \$5 to enter and the winner of the game is rewarded 75% of the pool and the runner up wins 25%. The first person out, Jessica Hart, received her \$5 back; she was eliminated by Dylan Levkoff.

Each assassin receives a hit card to start the game. This card is their first target. It's the assassin's job to find and eliminate their target before being hit. If they succeed in carrying out the hit, they receive the hit card from their target. When the new target is acquired they keep their former hit card to serve as proof that they eliminated their previous target.

The game is played using a water gun or a nerf gun. The target is considered eliminated if their assassin successfully shoots them on the target's body or clothes.

The game will conclude on graduation day or whenever one assassin remains. If there is more than one assassin remaining by then, the assassin with the highest number of hit cards will win the game.

After each day, junior Samara Lipman, who is one of the game makers, posts the names of the assassins who have been eliminated and the number of assassins remaining. The three game makers include Vanessa Gordon, Andie Steinberg, and Samara Lipman.

There are many locations off limit. These locations include the school grounds, while

the target is driving, bathrooms, places of worship, pre-prom, prom, after prom, after-after prom and while the target is working. If an assassin attempts to eliminate their target in any of these areas, they will be disqualified.

"The game is really fun and a great way to spend your weekends," said senior Rob Donohue. "It helps me get my mind off stressful schoolwork and the fact that high school is almost over."

Ms. Johnson, a Theory of Knowledge teacher at Harrison High School, was upset about the game because it started during AP and IB Finals Week. She felt it would distract many students from studying, but ironically it kept many people inside studying for fear of being assassinated.

The game of senior assassin is not a school sponsored event. In fact, it actually was organized by senior students and played outside of school. Many students have been spending their Friday and Saturday nights searching for their targets.

Senior Brian Barry said, "My target works at Footlocker. His shift ends at 10:00 p.m., so I'm going to wait for him to get out of work and see if I can get him on his way out."

Many students see this game as a fun way to end their last year of high school. It gives them an opportunity to go out and engage in an interactive game that keeps them communicating with their classmates before they go their separate ways.

Students for World Health Deliver Meals to Shelter

Allie Coonin
Entertainment Editor

On Tuesday, May 9, members of the Students for World Health Club at the high school packed a trunkful of home-cooked meals and delivered them to the residents at the Open Arms Shelter in White Plains, NY. This is the second time Students for World Health has delivered dinner to the local shelter, having organized a dinner for the shelter last April, whose facilities have since has been renovated. Eight students, juniors Anne-Marie Dillon, Sinead Rynne, Christian Steins, Fallon Morel, Adrianna Sacco, Emery Hakim, Jane Abi-Habib, senior Allie Coonin as well as one teacher, Mrs. Wilson, volunteered to cook meals for the more than 60 residents of the shelter. The meals included servings of salad, pasta, and cookies for each resident. The club plans to continue delivering meals to the shelter and to expand its involvement by serving the dinner next school year.

“Though homelessness is an issue far too big to be solved in a

single evening, having the opportunity to serve the community directly in this way was an invaluable experience,” says junior Anne-Marie Dillon.

A greater exposure to the reality of homelessness in our area would be beneficial to the Harrison community that all too often forgets its privilege and fortune, resulting in apathy toward individuals who are struggling with economic or social problems. Although Westchester County is famed for

exorbitant wealth, the area is not immune to the global epidemic of poverty, homelessness, and an increasingly large gap between the rich and the poor. In reality, even with full-time minimum wage jobs, many cannot afford housing after



Pasta for a great cause. Students for World Health prepared this lovely dish to help feed the more than 60 residents of the Open Arms Shelter in White Plains.

Courtesy of Allie Coonin

covering other expenses like food, taxes, and healthcare. The actions of the club raise awareness of the collective responsibility to extend opportunity to the disenfranchised to help individuals get back on their feet or to take first steps toward pursuing their potential.

The homeless need to feel comfortable entering the government system in order to considerably improve their situations. Many of the homeless in urban centers hesitate to enter the system out of concerns of personal safety and lack of trust. The criticality of a safe and effective system for the homeless is marked by the efforts of outreach programs at the Open Arms Shelter. With just a few steps into the communal room of the shelter, visitors can appreciate inspiring signs made by the residents, who are encouraged by the Open Arms coordinators and staff to recognize their self-worth and their entitlement to opportunities to succeed.

Students for World Health seeks to raise awareness, funding, and resources for people in need within the community and the world as a whole to improve the quality of life, health, and safety. The club had organized a soccer tournament to raise money for the Grassroot Soccer Organization earlier this fall, for the education, treatment, and prevention of HIV/AIDS in highly affected countries and participated in a “Sort-a-thon” of donated medical supplies from local hospitals to send to areas in need of relief through the Afya Foundation.

Through cooking for the homeless however, the volunteers of Students for World Health can give something tangible and necessary for survival to members of our own community. The club members encourage students interested in becoming involved in cooking for the homeless and/or other related service projects next fall to communicate with supervisor Mrs. Wilson.

Macron Wins French Election

Ella Napack
Staff Writer

In a resounding victory on May 7, France voted for Emmanuel Macron, a moderate centrist who had never held public office. Macron defeated his opposition by enormous margins, defeating Marine Le Pen, a member of the far right National Front party.

Leading up to the first round of the election, Macron and Le Pen were in the lead, disappointing many who did not feel either candidate was qualified, according to *BBC News*.

Emmanuel Macron, unknown four years ago to the public, centered much of his campaign on his charisma and his optimism despite the hardships experienced in the country. However, as a former investment banker, Macron was projected by *CNN* to struggle with support from a public that widely distrusted the banks. Macron had worked as a banker and civil servant until he served as an aide to Francois Hollande in 2012. He was later appointed as France's Economy Minister in 2014, but he resigned in 2016 after failing to push labor reforms through Parliament. Macron had been a member of the Socialist Party for three years, before identifying as an Independent in 2009. Macron's frustration with the current French government was extremely visible throughout the campaign; he encouraged a “shock to the system,” waking up the government of France.

Macron advanced through the election cycle without experience in elected office or any political party establishment backing him. Many French polls revealed the right's appreciation of Macron's economic

policies and his desire to increase military spending, while those on the left favored his social liberalism. *CNN* noted that Macron's advancement through the election seemed to be connected to good luck. As other candidates faced many struggles, this allowed a smoother progression for Macron.

In contrast, Marine Le Pen supported her own form of nationalistic populism for the future of France. Marine Le Pen had lived in her father's shadow for many years, but she stepped out in 2011, taking over the far-right National Front party from her father in an effort to clean up the party's racist and anti-Semitic image. Le Pen's campaign advocated for a large immigration cap, limiting the number of immigrants permitted into France. Le Pen also advocated for economic protectionism as a means to boost the French economy. Many American news outlets such as *CBS* and *Fox News* labeled Le Pen as “France's Trump,” for her far right stance on many issues. She favored close relations with Russia and Vladimir Putin, sparking much criticism and outrage for her ties to Russia. According to *CNN*, Le Pen believed her triumph would be inevitable, due to the Brexit vote in the U.K. and the election of Donald Trump in America.

Despite the racism associated with her campaign and party, Le Pen claimed that she was “the people's candidate.” Marine Le Pen received much outrage on the campaign trail, due to her party's connection to the Nazi Party, Holocaust Denial, and xenophobia. When her father, Jean-Marie Le Pen, had control over the party, he focused on anti-Semitic

rhetoric and he initiated racial hatred towards Jews.

It was difficult for the French public to separate Le Pen's policies from her father's. Marine Le Pen had attempted to cleanse the National Front of its anti-Semitic members, even going so far as to kick out her father, after his anti-Semitic statement that a Jewish singer should “go into the oven.” This “purge”

education for the children of undocumented immigrants, and any form of support for undocumented immigrants. Many citizens perceived Le Pen's promotion of connections between immigration and militant Islamism as xenophobic, according to *BBC News*.

Emmanuel Macron also was greatly criticized for his marriage; Macron is currently married to a

surprisingly embraced their odd love story, as Macron and his wife were very open about the circumstances in which they fell in love. Macron was also criticized for being an unconventional politician.

Many felt that they were choosing between the lesser of two evils, and 9% of the nation filled out an empty ballot. Despite the controversy, the voters of France elected Macron to be their next president. According to the French election results, Macron won by a 66.1% majority, a dramatic win over Le Pen's 34%. This enormous majority win was much more powerful than anticipated. Going into the final vote, Macron received an increase in support from many who had not supported him in the first round, as *CNN* reported.

Macron is the youngest person to ever be elected president of France; he is the youngest French Head of State since Napoleon. Despite Le Pen's loss, this election solidified the presence of the far right in French Politics, promoting the reestablishment of the National Front Party. Although Macron's victory was by a large margin, he now has the difficult task of healing a divided France. Now the real work for Macron begins, as the “novice politician” faces obstacles in implementing new policies and important structural changes. This election cycle was a political earthquake for France, shattering the dominance of previous parties and establishments. Macron's victory represents a turning point in the eyes of many French citizens, who feel guided by his optimism and hope.



Teacher's pet. Emmanuel Macron married Brigitte Trogneux, his former high school teacher. Now they are the first couple of France, as Macron won the recent election with a majority of 66% of the popular vote over Marie Le Pen, the far right National Front candidate.

Courtesy of IB Times

seemed convincing, however Marine Le Pen recently made a statement that “France is not responsible” for its authorities' actions during the occupation by the Nazis, despite the overwhelming evidence that French officials and officers aided the Nazis in rounding up many Jews, and sending them to be killed. Le Pen's immigration policies were also controversial, as she promoted ending

woman 25 years his senior, and she was his former high school teacher. Although his marriage outraged some French and citizens from other nations around the world, it did not appear to harm his chances in the election. According to *The Cut*, in Macron's home country, citizens seemed to not care, especially considering his more controversial opponent. The majority of France



opinions & editorials

Too Hot For School

Staff Editorial

While the past few weeks have given us a rainy, somewhat cooler respite from normal spring temperatures, the forecast is for sweltering heat in the remaining weeks of the school year.

Thanks to the administration of New York State Regents examinations, the school year is extended through the third week in June each year. As a result, students and faculty must suffer appalling temperatures, not conducive to efficient or maximal performance. Sure, we suffer, and perhaps our grades suffer too. While portions of our building have been upgraded with air conditioning, the classrooms and testing areas (gym, small gym) have not.

Due to the lack of air conditioning, students are forced to learn in an environment in which they do not feel comfortable. This not only affects their ability to take in what they are taught, but also hinders the processing of information. They are so distracted by the heat that they lose focus in class.

Students constantly hope to be blessed with one of the few air conditioned classes in the school and, if they aren't, must miserably sweat through the sweltering day. They are too caught up with unsticking themselves from their seats to actually focus on the content being taught. This shouldn't be the case. There needs to be changes.

With the Trump Administration's June 1 decision to pull the nation out of the Paris Accord on Climate Change, despite the mountain of scientific evidence to the contrary, we again are forced to confront the issue of global warming.

There is a notable greenhouse effect. In the year 2016, the world experienced on average the hottest temperatures on record. When certain gases interact with infrared radiation, it traps heat within the atmosphere like the glass panels of a greenhouse.

Human activity, mainly the unregulated combustion of fossil fuels and the extensive livestock industry, increases the volume of gases interacting with infrared radiation. To comply with increasing industrial demand, this has increased at an alarming rate. Consequently, we have begun to notice the effects of global climate change - more extreme weather, storms, drought, melting of glaciers, rise in sea level.

The very real effects can be felt here at the high school, and immediate steps must be taken to make conditions in the school more bearable and conducive to success. Final exams, in general, count for 20% of the yearly grade. That is a lot at stake.

Not only does the heat make the late spring/ summer months uncomfortable. In general, it is now staying hot longer. The Harrison High school community can feel overheated in September and now even October, which may distract incoming students at a critical point in their academic year. How can students (and teachers) be expected to build foundational knowledge if they cannot concentrate?

Asking the taxpayers to foot the bill for this needed upgrade might be a bit much, especially considering that there already is a bond referendum for other needed changes in facilities.

However, what about contacting some of the corporations who call Harrison home? Perhaps Pepsico or Mastercard or some other corporate sponsor might find a way to donate funds toward such a worthy cause. For large corporations, such funding might be less of a burden to bear. It would be a boon for them to help the community in this way, it would strengthen community relations and provide positive public relations. In the end, we could all breathe easier and learn in an efficacious environment. In short, it would be cool.

The Husky Herald

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Mission Statement

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

Editorial Policy

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



13 Reasons Why - or Why Not!

~Olivia Naioti

Netflix's teen suicide drama is based off the 2007 novel *Thirteen Reasons Why* by Jay Asher. The series revolves around a high school student, Clay Jensen, and another student, Hannah Baker, who committed suicide after suffering a series of demoralizing circumstances, brought on by select individuals at her school. Before her suicide, Hannah records a box of 13 tapes, each with a reason why she ended her life.

According to *Variety*, the series has received largely positive reviews from critics and audiences, who have praised its subject matter and casting. It has also attracted controversy over the series' graphic depiction of issues such as suicide and rape, along with other mature content. Paired with a graphic depiction of the act itself and the show's wild popularity, 13 Reasons Why now has mental health advocates and suicide prevention organizations doing damage control.

In a public statement, the *National Association of School Psychologists* issued a warning against viewing the series to parents of vulnerable youth. Its powerful storytelling may lead impressionable viewers to romanticize the choices made by the characters and/or develop revenge fantasies. They may easily identify with the experiences portrayed and recognize both the intentional and unintentional effects on the central character.

The NASP said that while *13 Reasons Why* conveys that there is no one cause of suicide, "research shows that exposure to another person's suicide, or to graphic or sensationalized accounts of death, can be one of the many risk factors that youth struggling with mental health conditions cite as a reason they contemplate or attempt suicide."

"The show changed the way I look at the world and the people around me, it was drastically life-changing," said sophomore Athena Staten. "I will always love this show because it teaches the audience to be careful about what they do and how they act. It can also help those in a similar situation, or those who know someone suffering."

Harrison High School and many other schools across the country sent out a notice about the show to parents. Because the show is becoming very popular and contains many graphic depictions, it was necessary to send out this warning.

A message from Harrison Central School District stated, "As you are aware we are always mindful of the social and emotional well-being of our students. Recently there has been discussion on social media regarding a controversial program on Netflix that deals with difficult adolescent/teen issues. We have posted a number of resources on the LMK and HHS webpages under the guidance section. You will find the link to the site below. As always if you have any question of concerns do not hesitate to reach out to our counseling, psychologist or administrative team."

~Sydney Smith

Recently, Netflix paired up with popular singer and actress Selena Gomez to produce an original show based off the book *13 Reasons Why* by Jay Asher. The book focused on the topic of teenage suicide and how people are affected by it. Some reports allege that since the show has been released, teen suicide numbers are increasing. But is there a direct correlation?

According to *CNN.com*, "The series, which premiered March 31, follows the fictional story of a teenage girl named Hannah Baker (Katherine Langford) who leaves behind 13 mysterious audio recordings on cassette tapes after killing herself. She addresses each recording to a person who she says played a role in her tragic decision to end her own life."

Many adults who have watched the show thought that the series touched upon far too mature topics for the targeted young viewers watching. Some of these significant topics include suicide, rape, drug and alcohol abuse, and how the school's guidance counselors do not actually help teens in the school portrayed. Parents thought their kids were too young to view such horrid things on the screen of their computer.

"It's not the kind of show that I would say nobody should watch, but I think that every school right now should have an open conversation about it in health class," said one *CNN* reporter. "Kids should probably even be separately brought aside, as privately as possible, and spoken to about it. Any kids who are known to have depression, to have spoken to counselors or any previous suicide attempts, they should be very, very, talked to in-depth about it."

CNN notes that some adult viewers and professionals are concerned that teens that have depression and other mental problems might be influenced into thinking that suicide is the right and only answer. Others suggest the show provides a valuable opportunity to discuss suicide risk with young people, as well as teaching them how to identify warning signs of depression or suicidal thoughts among their peers.

Many at HHS have already watched the whole season and have opinions on whether or not it should be viewed by teens.

"The show was really good and shared a lot of information about suicide and instead of teaching me that suicide is an option, it actually told me that people will miss you if you are gone especially your parents and close friends," said freshman Chloe Barnett. "It showed me that there is an option better than suicide."

"I do not think the show should be watched because I feel like it sends the wrong message that suicide is the only answer and that no one appreciates you or cares," said Alexandra Sinis. "I did not enjoy it."

While there are many differing opinions locally, the show has been a big success for *Netflix*, who recently announced they have inked a deal for a second season.

~Natalia Galeano

While the show discusses suicide and the effects of bullying, many feel as if it is an irresponsible representation of mental illness. Many say the show has created a wrongful discussion of suicide. A lot of people feel as if the show makes suicide into an act of revenge, which is not what it is at all. Although many people do feel as if the show has shed a negative light on mental illness, many others feel as if it has shed an important light on mental illness, and the seriousness behind the whole situation has made many people realize how words and actions affect people. Still, depicting Hannah's suicide as an exposing of the actions of her peers and making them feel guilty rather than exploring the serious side effects of mental illness continues to cloud the thoughts of people while watching the hit show.

"I started watching the show because everyone else was watching it and I completely was hooked to it," said Felicia Kay. "It's such a good show for teenagers and adults to watch, to understand what it's like to be a teenager right now."

"I don't like the message it brings, that killing yourself and blaming people is what suicide or mental illness is," said Elisa Isaac. "It's not and being someone who knows people who have dealt with mental illness, it's difficult to watch, for many reasons."

Whatever side you are on, remember that watching the show can be very hard at moments, due to the graphic reality of how it is portrayed.

~Marisol Hansen

Netflix's newly debuted show, *13 Reasons Why*, has caused quite a stir in the world of people who watch Netflix, as well as in the rest of the world. What had started out as all hype is actually something dangerous for young people to be watching.

The show is said to "glorify suicide" which, in a sense, it does, but the issue lies deeper than that. As a whole, the show was pretty bad, and drags quite a bit. The main character isn't super likable, and the focus of the show, Hannah Baker, is even less likable than the people she's blaming for her suicide. The show was intended to show the effects of bullying, and try and bring awareness to that issue as well as teen suicide; however, it managed to do the opposite.

In the show, there are multiple rape scenes, and the last episode contains an extremely graphic suicide scene, which is the first thing I want to touch upon. When the show was released, there was no warning or anything saying that these incredibly graphic scenes would be in a few of the later episodes. Yes, they put a "viewer discretion is advised" at the beginning of these episodes. However, if you're someone who is already invested in the show, and didn't know these were coming, and are sensitive to things like rape and/or suicide, you don't want to be watching scenes like that. I did watch the show, start to finish, and was completely appalled that they included these scenes without warning except for the one in the beginning of the episode. I can't speak for everyone, but I'm pretty sure no one wants to see a 16-17 year old girl sitting in a bathtub with a razor blade in her hand, slitting her wrists. I highly doubt that people want to see a young girl bleeding out in a bathtub. I also highly doubt that people want to see teenage girls getting raped. Good intentions or not, those things really should not be shown so explicitly.

Another issue with this show is that there are kids as young as fifth and sixth graders watching this show. Children at that age are very impressionable, and will not understand whatever message is trying to be portrayed. This show is influencing kids in the wrong way; they can't necessarily decipher that it's not cool to make tapes blaming people for something that another person did. This series, 13 Reasons Why, is almost giving the message that it's "okay" to blame other people for suicide, when at the end of the day the only person to blame is the person who took their own life.

On top of the overall "suicide is okay" message, it also shows Hannah Baker asking for help, and basically being told by the school counselor that he can't help her, and to just get over it. This shows people who are suffering with things like this that even if you do reach out, you can't be helped, because you'll end up being blamed or the person you ask for help will not be properly equipped to try and help you.

The show is also relatively unrealistic, yet there are people who actually believe that it is. I was sitting in my health class one day, and I overheard a couple of students talking about it, and someone said, "I love the show because it shows you what really goes on when you're depressed," and as someone who has battled through depression, and know people who have it (though it varies from person to person), I can say from my experience it doesn't work that way. It isn't necessarily other people's faults that make someone feel the way they do. Sure, the way people act can influence it greatly, and have a decent effect on someone's mental health, but you can't really blame them because all they're doing is adding fuel to the already burning fire that is someone's mental health. I am in no way an expert on mental health, but I'm speaking from experience. The show is basically (though unintentionally) teaching younger people about their misfortune/unhappiness.

Overall *13 Reasons Why* is a show that I would not continue watching, and it's most definitely not something I'd want my younger siblings or children exposed to. There is a safer way to teach people and raise awareness on these issues instead of using a Netflix show.

~Sofia Guaraglia

On March 31, 2017, the show *13 Reasons Why* came out for the public to watch. This show is based on a book written by Jay Asher, and the executive producer of this show is Selena Gomez.

Everyone is talking about the new show. The storyline is about a girl, Hannah Baker, who decides to commit suicide and leave behind 13 tapes. Each tape is a reason/person as to why she decided to take her own life. Each time a person listen to all the tapes they must pass on the tapes to the next person on the tapes, and if any of the people on the tapes expose the tapes, then the tapes will be shared with the whole world. During the TV series, we see Clay Jensen receive the tapes and struggle to listen to all of them. We see all the drama and consequences that come along with Hannah's death, and we even see flashbacks of what Hannah says happened in her tapes.

This TV series has a strong message about being kind to everyone and to be aware of other people and what they are feeling. The show is a very emotionally dense show that some can find disturbing at times. There is a little of everything in it, like rape, bullying, depression, peer pressure, abuse, LGBT issues, and much more.

Selena has said in an interview with *CNN* that this show is very relatable for everyone because everyone in some respect has gone through what characters in this show have gone through.

This show has affected many students' lives.

"I watched the shows in just a few days and it really changed my view on a lot of things," said Tanya Reyes. "It made me really think about what I do or say."

AnneMarie Tucci also loved the show.

"I think it sent a very strong message that a lot of people need to hear," she said, "including those that are our age."

This show had a huge impact on many lives and will continue to do so as it has been renewed for a second season.

~Judy Fierman

Over the past few months, there has been a controversy about the new Netflix original show *13 Reasons Why*. The original *Netflix* series show is about Hannah Baker (Katherine Langford), a high school student, committing suicide and leaving tapes behind about the 13 reasons she had killed herself. On these tapes are the people who made her kill herself, making her life miserable. Clay Jensen (Dylan Minnette), Hannah Baker's friend and crush, returns home from school to find an unusual package on his front porch. When he opens this package, he discovers several cassette tapes recorded by Hannah. Clay received these tapes because he was one of the reasons why she committed suicide and so were the other people on the tapes. Before Clay got to his tape, he heard the other stories of her classmates and each episode is based on one specific person that contributed to her death.

Some of the episodes of *13 Reasons Why* are very graphic. Before most of the episodes, a screen pops up saying that viewer discretion is advised because of sensitive topics in the episode involving rape and sexual assault. When this show just came out, many schools were writing letters and emails to parents about it, taking a proactive approach to those worried their own sons or daughters might cause themselves harm. Several schools are suggesting parents watch the show with their kids in order to discuss each episode.

People are not happy with this show's portrayal that schools don't do anything about problems with bullying and suicide. The show also demonstrates how some schools and teachers aren't there for support if someone needs somebody to talk to.

"Although *13 Reasons Why* has been a controversial topic lately, I believe it was a good choice to produce the show," said sophomore Amanda Fameli. "Yes, the show contains a very serious plotline, but society needs to see that dark side of people's lives that others try to gloss over. Suicide is and has been a major epidemic in society and people need to be exposed to the truth of it all. This way, peers can try to look out for signs of depression and offer their help and/or reassurance before it is too late."

It is important for children to learn about the seriousness of suicide. Parents should allow their children to learn that this happens often. In some ways, this show is realistic because of the way people treated Hannah and all of the traumatic things she has been through leading to her death. Also, many teenagers have committed suicide because of bullying and rumors going around school. However, viewers might think people don't plan out their suicide and most suicides are not about revenge. The recording of the tapes may have been a little extreme, causing people to think that this show is not realistic.

Regardless of your stance on the show, suicide is an important problem today, especially for teenagers. Everyone should be aware of what is going on around them and be there to help others who are going through a hard time

~Lauren LaManna

Reason number one that I was not a huge fan of the newest Netflix series *13 Reasons Why* was the whole concept behind the tapes.

In the short 13-episode series, Hannah Baker, a young sophomore in high school committed suicide and left behind 13 tapes to 13 specific people explaining to them why they are a part of the motive to end her life. I personally think the whole reasoning behind that is deranged. No one deserves to be left behind knowing they cost someone else their life because of a silly mistake or something they didn't think twice about.

I go to high school, I know what it can be like to have a bad day and unintentionally and obviously take it out on someone else. No one knows what is going on in someone else's life 24/7, this I know, but how is it fair to ridicule someone for not always taking into account what might be going on in another person's life, especially if that said person never shared anything alarming with them to begin with?

Another reason to support my dislike for the show is the uncomfortable and explicit footage of Hannah committing suicide. I understand suicide is a very serious matter and must be dealt with and spoken about; however, I don't think it was necessary to see it firsthand with all of its gore and pain. I could feel myself get queasy in my wrists and my gut after watching Hannah do what she did to herself. I feel as though watching that is something children especially should never see, which is why I do not condone explicit footage like so, and the excessive use of it throughout the show with the violent sexual scenes as well.

In addition, not only were the tapes evil and cruel to leave behind for others, but they affected their victims drastically, especially the character Alex. Shortly after Hannah's death, he became suicidal and actually attempted to kill himself due to the toxic amount of guilt he developed from the role he played in someone else's death, someone whom he used to call his friend.

The directors seemed to never take into account the severity of being blamed and accused of murder. These 13 kids were basically being accused orally by the victim herself that they were the culprits behind the act. That alone can damage and scar someone mentally and especially emotionally.

Lastly, although the show promoted the welfare of women and the preservation of their bodies and their privacy, it also displayed all the female characters as easy to manipulate and especially vulnerable. All three of the lead female roles of Courtney, Jessica, and Hannah were all exploited in some form. I disliked the weak portrayal of Hannah that the directors decided upon.

Rather than Hannah actually seeking help and playing something other than the victim, she let her experiences break her into tiny pieces and finally let herself get to the point where glue could no longer suffice to piece herself back together. The weak characterization of Hannah seemed a little farfetched in that, after all she had been through, she would still refuse to seek refuge and help, and I also found it to be somehow demeaning.

Overall, the moral of the series was certainly important and a valuable lesson; however, I can say with certainty that it definitely had more potential than was actually realized.

~Michael Canno

13 Reasons Why, a Netflix series that follows a student, Clay Jensen, who is still recovering from his friend's suicide, is a haunting, yet realistic story that fans are admiring.

This series really delves deeply into issues such as rape, suicide, and bullying, and the audience of the show can really connect to it and learn about how to deal with these issues and get help, rather than making decisions that could end their lives. The show begins with Hannah Baker explaining why she took her own life and she does this by recording audio cassettes explaining the 13 reasons why she killed herself previous to her suicide. On each tape, Hannah talks about different people who have made her feel depressed and empty inside, and the tapes get passed on to Clay, who is featured on the sixth tape and the audience gets to learn about Hannah's powerful and extremely sad events that occurred in high school along with Clay. As Clay listens to the tapes, things get more serious and scary, yet the audience of the show has given mostly positive feedback for the style and story of the series.

Julia Kischkat, a sophomore and fan of the show who finished it in two nights explains, "13 Reasons Why will forever be my favorite show. I had to finish it in two nights because every episode kept getting better and better. Everything about the show seemed genuine and I really admire how they touch upon the subject of teenage suicide because it is very serious and people need to be educated about the signs of it and how to help teens. Even though I may not connect to the show, I can see why some other teens can because depression is a popular thing among teenagers and this show can really help the teens going through things like depression and bullying."

Fans are demanding for there to be a second season, and it was recently announced that Netflix is going to go on with it. According to MTV, the author of the novel, Jay Asher, upon which the series was based says, "I'd just like a continuation of all those characters. I'm curious as well. What happens to Clay?"

The audience of the show couldn't agree more with this as the season finale of the series left everyone with an insane amount of cliffhangers. This Netflix series has changed the lives of many teenagers as they have watched it because it has taught them that it's okay to feel upset sometimes, but it's not okay to not talk about it to anyone. It has educated teenagers and even adults who have watched it because it touches upon rape and bullying, which are both very serious, and it really shows that all of these events need to be talked about, or they might end up in suicide, which is never the answer.

~National Association of School Psychologists

Suicide rarely happens without warning. As a peer, you may be in the best position to recognize when a friend might need help and help them get it. You may see signs in person, hear about them secondhand, or see them online in social media. Never ignore these signs. While suicide is typically associated with the pain of mental illness (in particular depression and associated feelings of helplessness and hopelessness), there are sometimes specific situations that trigger suicidal actions such as breaking up with a boyfriend or girlfriend, failing in school, being bullied, or experiencing abuse, loss or other trauma. It is important to learn these warning signs and what to do if you see any them in yourself or a friend. Suicide is preventable. By listening, talking, and acting you could save a life.

Suicide Warning Signs

1. **Suicide notes.** These are a very real sign of danger and should ALWAYS be taken seriously.
2. **Threats.** Threats may be direct statements ("I want to die." "I am going to kill myself.") or indirect comments ("The world would be better without me." "Nobody will miss me anyway."). Teenagers might make indirect threats by joking, comments in school assignments like particularly creative writing or artwork, or online through social media. Younger children and those who may have some delays in their development may not be able to express their feelings in words, but may provide indirect clues in the form of acting-out through violent behavior.
3. **Previous attempts.** If someone has attempted suicide in the past, they are more likely to try again. Be very observant of any friends who have tried suicide before (especially those who have recently attempted suicide).
4. **Depression.** When symptoms of depression include strong thoughts of helplessness and hopelessness, a child or adolescent is possibly at greater risk for suicide. Watch out for behaviors, comments or posts that indicate that your friend is feeling overwhelmed by sadness or pessimistic views of their future.
5. **"Masked" depression.** Sometimes risk-taking behaviors can include acts of aggression, gunplay, and alcohol/substance abuse. While your friend may not act "depressed," their behavior can suggest that they do not care about their own safety.
6. **Final arrangements.** This behavior may take many forms. In adolescents, it might be saying goodbye to friends, giving away prized possessions, or deleting profiles, pictures or posts online.
7. **Hurting oneself.** Self-injury behaviors are warning signs for young children as well as teenagers. Common self-destructive behaviors include running into traffic, jumping from heights, and scratching/cutting/markings the body.
8. **Inability to concentrate or think clearly.** If a friend is going through tough times, this may be reflected through classroom behavior, homework habits, academic performance, household chores, or even conversation. If they start skipping classes, getting poor grades, acting up in class, forgetting or poorly performing chores around the house or talking in a way that suggests they are having trouble concentrating, these might be signs of stress and risk for suicide.
9. **Dramatic Changes.** Parents, teachers and friends are often the best observers of sudden changes in suicidal students. Changes can include withdrawing from friends and family, skipping school or classes, becoming less involved in activities that were once important, avoiding others, inability to sleep or sleeping all the time, sudden weight gain or loss, disinterest in appearance or hygiene. Sudden unexplained happiness (after a prolonged period of sadness) can also be a

~Alex Baio

The new most popular television series, *13 Reasons Why*, is a very touchy and uncomfortable subject for many people to discuss. The main character, Hannah Baker, chooses to end her life after a series of events in her life go wrong. Hannah leaves a series of thirteen tapes as to why she ended her life, and instructs the tapes to be passed on to the next person after each person listens to all 13 tapes. Hannah had emotional and social problems, which were some of the reasons she ended her life. Before Hannah ended her life, and recorded those tapes, she didn't realize how much it would affect her parents, and everyone at her school.

The Los Angeles Times confirms that *13 Reasons Why* was approved for a second season. Many people were surprised by this renewal, due to the fact that many parents have been against this show from the start. Additionally, some parents will only let their children watch this show if they agree to watch it together.

"I personally believe *13 Reasons Why* was made to help teenagers understand that suicide shouldn't be the answer," said sophomore Zoe Priore. "Additionally, the show is made to teach people how much one death can impact so many people, both emotionally and physically. Hannah Baker's death affected her parents, teachers, ex- friends, and friends with so much grief that will affect their personal and school life. Lastly, I personally believe that 13 Reasons Why shouldn't be banned from Netflix, in fact it should be publicized to help remind children and teenagers that suicide should never been a first or last option."

suicide warning sign.

10. **Plan/method/access.** A suicidal child or adolescent may show an increased interest in guns and other weapons, may seem to have increased access to guns, pills, etc., and/or may talk about or hint at a suicide plan. The greater the planning, the greater the potential for suicide.

A Brief Note on Unity

Jack Roshco
Co-Managing Editor

Throughout this year, we have seen an almost unprecedented amount of divisiveness amongst our community. The reason for this is pretty obvious: the presidential election. I have no doubt in my mind that I have contributed to this problem, both in person and in writing. However, the election has passed, and four months post-inauguration, it is time to move on from the politics that divide us and move towards the goals that unite us.

Whoever holds the Presidency should be irrelevant. It is fully understandable that people are outraged

by a lot of what this President is doing, and equally understandable that people are very encouraged by his impacts as well. However, the policies he ran on have been spoken of plenty, and seeing as we are not politicians ourselves, we should let the politicians debate those policies. The people of this country have a different responsibility: come together.

Of course it seems very easy to gripe about what you see and do or don't like but quite frankly, no one wants to hear it; no one cares. What you accomplish by publicly airing your political grievances is embitter-

ing yourself to those who disagree with you at a point in time when it is far more important to worry about common goals in a world where there are increasingly few of them.

We have a global water crisis and a global food crisis. Our time would be far better spent uniting as a community to create change for people in our country who are far more concerned about where the next meal for their children is coming from, as opposed to whether Russia was involved in the U.S. elections. That's not to say the country as a whole ignores the Russia issue, but

let the press do their job and let the government do theirs before we as a people start fighting over it.

Whether you supported the President, or any of his opponents, the overwhelming majority of us, Democrat or Republican, liberal or conservative support certain ideals that can bring us together: food and water for the poor, shelter for the homeless, civil rights and liberties for all regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, or sexuality.

If we unite to tackle these more fundamental problems, it could very well put the people on path towards

consensus on these more politically divisive issues that have created such tension in our society.

Remember: liberals aren't "libtards" or "snowflakes", and conservatives aren't fascists or xenophobes. We're all human beings, and as human beings we owe it to all the other human beings to make the world a better place than it is right now. Respect other people's beliefs, and work with them on your shared ones instead of bickering over things you'll never convince each other on.

Trump's War Against the Press

Jack Roshco
Co-Managing Editor

Being that this is a newspaper, albeit a school one, it seems appropriate that we might comment on President Trump's consistent attacks on a free and independent press.

The President of the United States referred to the news media as "the enemy of the American people." He said it in a Tweet, because he was mad that they weren't drinking his racist immigration reform Kool-Aid.

Trump's 5a.m. bathroom-visit tweet-storms have become something of a regular occurrence early in his Presidency, but the press is making very sure not to normalize them. Quite simply, the man just writes things and expects people to just go on with their day as if he's not the leader of the free world. In no way is this acceptable. We must be aware of what he says. We must track every minute detail of what he does;

because if we do not, *Fox News* still is—and you can be quite sure Sean Hannity isn't breaking any big stories about infighting in the White House or the sloppy rollout of an executive order. *Fox News* is just going to go right ahead blasting anybody who says anything negative about the President.

A free and independent press is the single most critical check on power in any democracy. We have a system of checks and balances built into the government, but as long as Donald Trump has Paul Ryan cowering in a corner and defending whatever ridiculous

thing President Twitter said on any given day, Congress is useless. The courts are doing their jobs, striking down his abusive executive actions,



Courtesy of FreePress.net

but quite frankly they need help, and right now that's a job that falls to the press.

So let's just put this to bed right

now: the President is an egomaniac with quite possibly the thinnest skin of anybody ever to reach the office (this is a job that has held the likes of Andrew Jackson, Franklin Roosevelt, and Richard Nixon, mind you). He deems anything negative said about him to be "fake news" and says that *Fox News* is the only network that covers him correctly, because they treat him like a father-in-law they're desperate to impress.

There are absolutely positive things the President has done, which the so-called "fake news media" have reported: *CNN* and *MSNBC* both reported how the economy has

created new jobs and that the Dow Jones has reached its highest point in history, largely due to Trump's influence. However, they are also covering that his Attorney General and other top level associates likely perjured themselves in an attempt to hide campaign and administration links to Russian President Vladimir Putin, how Trump son-in-law and advisor Jared Kushner has omitted key contacts with Russian officials and was seeking back channel communications, and more.

So to those covering the good, the bad, and the (very) ugly of this current Trump Administration, we must say thank you. It is crucial to keep the checks and balances that protect us on a daily basis.

To IB Or Not To IB: Looking Back

Ally Platte
Proofreading Editor

At the conclusion of my sophomore year, I wrote an editorial about whether to do the IB Diploma or not.

I wrote about the course requirements and expectations after doing extensive research about the IB program. I also spoke about the positives and negatives of doing the IB diploma. At the conclusion of my editorial, I decided that I was not planning on doing the IB diploma, and here's why: I thought that the classes I was planning on taking would academically challenge me, whether or not I did the IB diploma. I feared that the rigors of the IB Diploma program would leave me without the time to enjoy extracurricular activities or socialize. After having the course selection meeting with my guidance counselor at the end of my sophomore year, I decided that I was not doing the IB diploma.

Well...after contemplating my decision for two long weeks, I called

my guidance counselor and told her that I wanted to do the IB diploma. That was one of the best decisions I've made throughout my high school experience.

It is now two years later in my Senior year and all of my IB classes are coming to an end. After staying up into the early hours of the morning to finish up essays and projects, it's hard to believe, but I am a survivor of the IB program.

The IB program taught me how to deal with my deadly habit of procrastination. I've dealt with horrible procrastination habits throughout high school. I'm not saying that the IB program completely banished my terrible habit of procrastination, how-



Courtesy of IBO.org

ever it illuminated the importance of deadlines. Since all classes I took in the IB program were IB classes, most of my assignments and essays had deadlines. Working to meet those deadlines in a timely manner, whether I started working on the assignment weeks or hours before it was due, allowed me to learn how to be an effective and efficient worker.

The IB program also allowed me to become a well-rounded learner and student. The foundation of all IB courses I took were in essence all connected. Theory of Knowledge was the class I was actually the most nervous about taking. I was scared of the Extended Essay and the rigor of taking a class that was philosophical and about where knowledge comes from.

I believe that doing the IB diploma also helped me get into my choice of college. I have wanted to go to the University of Michigan since I was young and I like to believe that doing the IB diploma helped make that dream come true. Due to the rigor of the IB diploma, when an admissions representative is reading through thousands of applications, it is advantageous to have IB classes on your application.

I was challenged to approach tasks from new perspectives in the

IB diploma. Through CAS, I have done more community service work in the last two years than I have ever done before. I have benefited greatly from contributing to my community. CAS forces community service in a way that is intentional and designed for the benefit of the greater good. Following CAS activities, we are forced to reflect on our activities. Reflecting has allowed me to fully appreciate my creativity, activity, and service work.

The fact that I can write this and reflect on my thinking from sophomore year to senior year shows how much I have changed as a student. I like to credit my strengthened writing and thinking abilities to the IB Diploma and my ability to assess situations from new and different perspectives. I feel as though I am well prepared to tackle the challenges that college will bring me. I have the IB Diploma to thank for that.

ARTS & entertainment

The Addams Family Musical Garners 12 Metro Nominations

Judy Flerman
Staff Writer

The Metropolitan High School Theater Awards are being held this year on June 12, 2017 at the Purchase College Concert Theater. This annual awards ceremony honors achievements in musical theatre on participating high school stages in Rockland, Putnam, Westchester, and Bergen counties. There are 53 schools participating in the Metro awards, each competing to take a Metro back home to their school. On the strength of the Harrison High School Footlight Players' amazing student production *The Addams Family Musical*, it has been nominated for 12 Metro awards.

The 12 nominations are for the following: Best Lighting Design, Best

Director – Ms. Debbie Toteda; Best Stage Crew; Best Chorus; Best Duet ("Live Before We Die") - Tim Morris and Gianna Prignano; Best Dance Performance - Allie Coonin; Best Cameo - Elijah Gropper (Lurch); Best Actor in a Supporting Role - Nick Erb; Best Actor in a Leading Role - Tim Morris; Best Technical Merit - Matt Novak (Assistant Director); Best Technical Merit - Jess Prado (Stage Manager); and lastly, Best Overall Production.

Only six out of the 53 participating schools are nominated for best Overall Production, meaning Harrison had one of the best productions of all. The nomination for Best Overall Production allows the Harrison

Footlight Players to perform a part of the show for five minutes in front of everyone who is in attendance at this year's awards ceremony.

Christina Ledesma, a sophomore who was in the musical productions these past two years, says, "Every year high schools from Westchester County and surrounding areas compete in the biggest event in high school musical theatre, the Metros. This year there are over 50 schools participating. Categories range from outstanding duet to outstanding production. It is an exciting night for all to enjoy and appreciate their love for musical theatre! This year *The Addams Family Musical* was fortunate enough to be nomi-

nated for Outstanding Overall Production, or in other words, the Best Musical this year. On Metros night, the entire cast will perform a song from the musical, along with five other schools nominated for that same award."

The Footlight Players are all excited to perform this play one last time together, hoping to win the Best Overall Production award.

Last year, The Footlight Players performed *Guys and Dolls*, and were also nominated for 12 awards.

This continuing trend of Harrison High School getting all of these nominations is an amazing thing, as all of the students' and director's hard work is paying off. Even if they

don't bring home an award, it is still an exciting experience and honor to be nominated.

When the nominations were read on a live stream, The Footlight Players all got together in the HPAC and watched it together, hoping for nominations in different categories. When they got nominated for Best Overall Production, the students were so excited that they jumped and yelled, eager to perform a part of this tremendous production one last time.

We wish the best to all who have been nominated and look forward to this year's Metro Awards ceremony.



Normal means getting lots of nominations. The cast of *Addams Family Musical* was nominated for Best Overall Production, a true honor. The cast will perform again for the Metro awards ceremony on June 12.
Courtesy of Harrison Central School District

HEY HUSKIES!

What are your plans for Summer?



"I'm going to be a camp counselor for a day camp in Harrison"
-Anne Marie Tucci
Freshman



"Participating in a cartooning art program in NYC, then working at Purchase Day Camp"
-Michael Barletta
Sophomore



"I plan on working at a store and doing a business program at Saint Joseph's University"
-Adrianna Sacco
Junior



"I'm going to Amsterdam and relaxing before college"
-Sam Adler
Senior

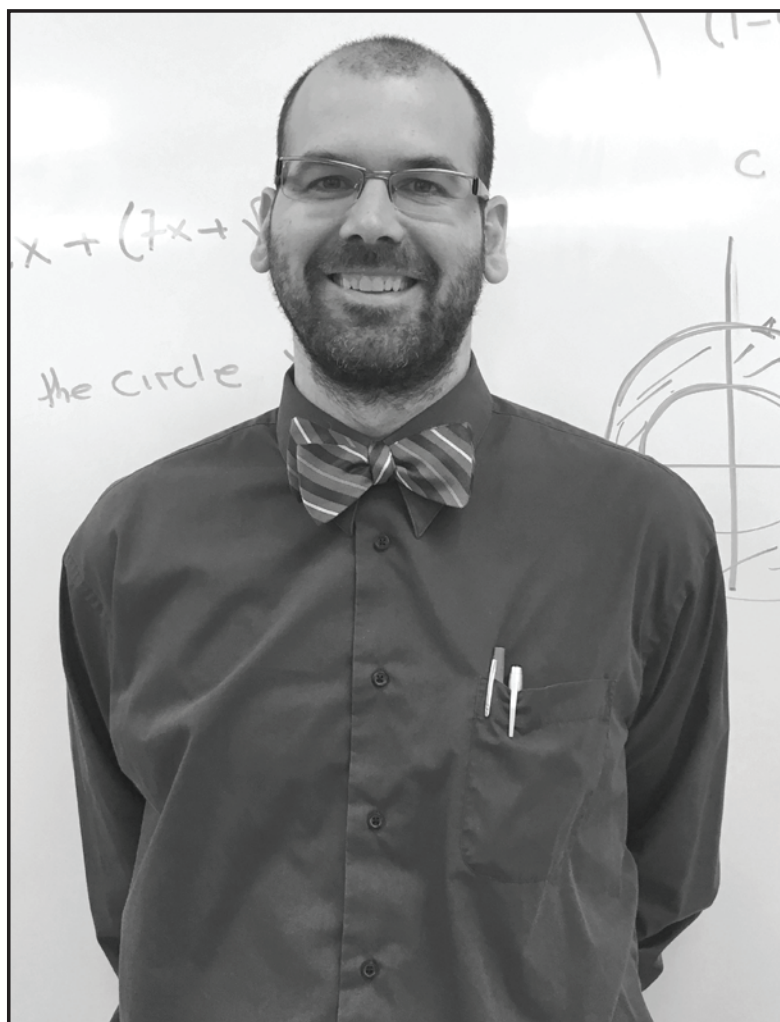
90-Second Interviews



“90 Second Interviews” is a feature wherein we sit down with two teachers and see how many random questions they can answer in only 90 seconds. This issue we focus on two masters of mathematics, crunching the numbers with Mr. Michael Ciavarella and Mr. Aidan Burns.

Interviews coordinated by Allie Coonin and Jenniviv Bansah

Ciavarella



Favorite mathematician? Carl Gauss
Favorite Theorem? Green's Theorem
Favorite equation? Maxwell's 3rd Equation
How many digits of pi do you have memorized?
15
Favorite geometric shape? Frustum
Favorite type of triangle? Equilateral
Favorite trigonometry function? Cosine
Do you do your own taxes? No
Is your checkbook balanced? Yes
Were you always a numbers guy? Yes
Names and ages of your children?
Hannah - 2 and a half; Joshua - 2 weeks
Hometown? Long Island
They say all music is math. Play any instruments?
No
Favorite musician? Zac Brown Band
AP, IB, or SUPA? SUPA
Favorite hobby? Playing sports
Least favorite class when you were in high school?
English
If you could teach any class, what would it be?
If not Math, then Physics
Pythagoras or Isaac Newton? Newton
What is $e^{(i \cdot \pi)}$? -1
How many sides are on a triskaidecagon?
One less than a tetradecagon
A survey showed that three out of two people have trouble with fractions. Your thoughts?
Well, people that know zero about fractions can learn 100 times more if they study.
What do you get when you put root beer in a square glass? Beer
Your favorite math joke/pun?
“Life is pointless without geometry” and “When a math teacher retires, they enter the aftermath”
Your hero? My grandfather, who was an engineer

Burns



Favorite mathematician? Archimedes
Favorite Theorem? Fundamental Theorem of Calculus
Favorite equation? $A = \pi r^2$
How many digits of pi do you have memorized? 3
Favorite geometric shape? A sphere
Favorite type of triangle? Equilateral
Favorite trigonometry function? Inverse tangent function
Do you do your own taxes? No
Is your checkbook balanced? Yes
Were you always a numbers guy? No, I was a psychology major
Names and ages of your children?
Peter - 5 and Sophie - 5
Hometown? Yonkers, NY
They say all music is math. Play any instruments?
Piano
Favorite musician? Brian Wilson
AP, IB, or SUPA? AP Calculus BC
Favorite hobby? Playing the piano
Least favorite class when you were in high school?
Chemistry
If you could teach any class, what would it be?
Band
Pythagoras or Isaac Newton? Newton - Pythagoras had someone killed for threatening to reveal that the square root of 2 is irrational!
What is $e^{(i \cdot \pi)}$? No comment
How many sides are on a triskaidecagon?
I guess 300
A survey showed that three out of two people have trouble with fractions. Your thoughts?
It might be more than that.
What do you get when you put root beer in a square glass? A square
Your favorite math joke/pun?
“Cherry pie's delicious, apple pies are too” (used to teach middle schoolers formulas for the area and circumference of a circle - $C = \pi \cdot d$ and $A = \pi \cdot r^2$)
Your hero? My wife, because she is superwoman

Review: *The Servant of Two Masters*

Miwa Goble
Staff Writer

The spring production this year was *The Servant of Two Masters*, a comedy by the Italian playwright Carlo Goldoni. *The Servant of Two Masters*, first written in 1746, follows three protagonists: Truffaldino, Beatrice, and Florindo. Florindo has fled to Venice after killing Beatrice's brother in a duel, and Beatrice follows him so they can get married. However, when she is unable to find him, she dresses up as her dead brother and tries to collect the money another character owed to him in an effort to continue searching. Truffaldino is servant to them both, even though a servant is only supposed to serve one master at a time. Hilarity ensues as Truffaldino mixes up mail, meals, and suitcases until finally Florindo and Beatrice find each other at the end.

"Being part of this production



No one knows it's Beatrice: Madeline Rawson confronts Christian Collazo as Pantelone in *The Servant of Two Masters*, directed by Tim Morris.
Courtesy of Ms. Fusco

was very different from acting in the dramas I've done in the past," said senior Madeline Rawson, who played Beatrice. "In dramas or tragedies the only way to judge if the audience enjoyed the play is to talk to them afterwards. However, in a comedy, actors get immediate and direct feedback in the form of laughter. In that way, many comedies tend to be less staged than tragedies because the actors react to the audience and improvise jokes in the performances depending on how the play is being received."

In watching one of the play's performances, it was evident that the attempt at comedy and intended dramatic irony did not always land successfully across the audience. Freshman Michael Jubak played the role of the servant, Truffaldino, who serves masters Florindo,

played by student director Tim Morris and a disguised Beatrice played by Madeline Rawson. Despite technical shortcomings and occasional confusion in the audience, the show prevailed, although the human spirit was tested.

In an audience talk back, when asked what one of the challenges was, one actor responded with "working with the student director," as there was much tension throughout the process.

Notable highlights of the play include when Allen Dennis' character attempts suicide at the end of the play, alongside Beatrice and Florindo as they experience a scene reminiscent of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.

Fidget Spinners: Focus Aid or Pointless Distraction?

Emma Berkowitz
Staff Writer

The newest fad that seems to fascinate all students is fidget spinners. As fidget toys are super popular, it is rare to not know what one is by now. Why are these spinners so intriguing?

According to *CNN* in an article about fidget spinners by AJ Willingham, "the little devices were originally designed to help students with attention disorders like ADD -- experts say having something to occupy their hands may help improve concentration."

This original purpose was a method of helping kids who need help paying attention, while now it seems as if every child has one. This article says that spinners have been used by teachers, guidance counselors, and doctors for a while, but are just now becoming the latest trend.

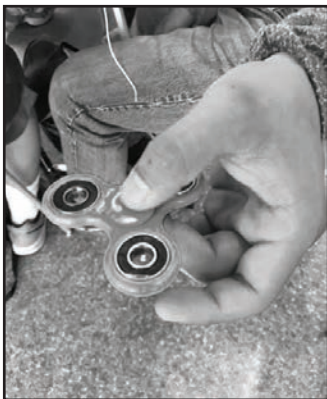
The same article stated that "what a fidget allows some people --

not all people -- with ADHD to do is to focus their attention on what they want to focus on, because there's sort of a background motion that's occupying that need."

As spinners help those who have concentration issues, what are they doing to children who can pay attention? The spinners can now be distracting to children and teachers while they used to be used to help with a child's ability to concentrate.

The *CNN* article also states that fidget spinners are being banned from many classrooms. It says, "spinners are visually distracting, and they can make some noise, so it's not an ideal fidget for the classroom." The spinners can become the child's primary focus instead of the background focus.

Fidget spinners are part of a larger group of fidget toys which can include other ways to fulfill one's



Courtesy of Ms. Fusco
need of fidgeting such as fidget cubes.

According to *Inc.* in an article about the growing popularity of spinners by Tom Popomaronis, it states, "instead of paying attention to the lesson, the kids are watching the fidgets, subsequently missing important information teachers are

presenting."

This same article states that children without disorders may be buying spinners because "they're responding to the stress they experience in the modern classroom, or that they are bored and just want to play, having trouble learning based on the way information is presented."

Spinners are growing more popular because so many people have them and many children see others so fascinated by the toy that they want one themselves.

Sophie Berkowitz, a fourth grader at Purchase Elementary School said, "In my grade, everyone has at least two spinners, I have four! We play with our spinners when we are bored because it is fun to try and do different tricks with them. We all trade our spinners to get cool ones that have different colors and designs."

Freshman Nellie Fisher said, "I think it is interesting how some children really use spinners to help with concentration and for others the spinners are just a distraction."

An article about why fidget spinners are popular from *News CTV* said, "Fidget spinners have become huge sellers in recent weeks, with toy stores struggling to keep them in stock."

Many use the spinners as a game while the original purpose of them was to help with concentration issues. The popularity of these toys has increased rapidly over the past few months, causing many stores to sell out. Who knows what the next trend to help kids feel occupied will be? Maybe a new version of a fidget toy will be created that will take over toy aisles just like the fidget spinner has.

Album Review: *DAMN.* By Kendrick Lamar

Chris Wallace, Sammy Kaplan, Ben Stein, Allie Coonin
Staff Writers

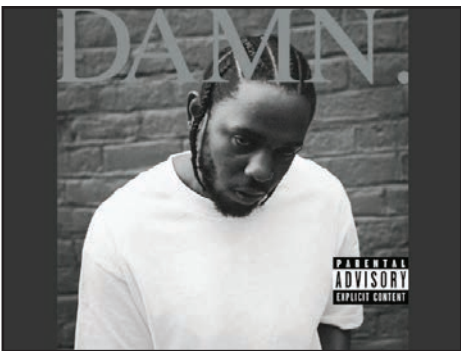
Kendrick Lamar is back with his fourth studio album, *DAMN.* He is coming off a somewhat quiet 2016, where the Compton MC only released one project: *Untitled: Unmastered*. The album did debut at number one on the Billboard 200, but soon fell to the bottom of the charts. Kendrick's pure art form was evident, specifically within the track titles. However, the album did not surpass the expectations set by his previous album of the year contender, *To Pimp a Butterfly*.

After guest spots on numerous projects, including Travis Scott's *Birds in the Trap Sing McKnight*, and the Weeknd's *Starboy*, Kendrick returned to the solo scene with the release of his single "The Heart Part 4." On the track, Kendrick hinted at an album release on April 7, with the lyric, "Y'all got till April the 7th to get y'all sh** together." April 7 turned out

to be the date he announced the rumored album, *DAMN.*, which dropped a week later on April 14.

Statistically this is Kendrick's best album to date, with each song on the album making an appearance on the Billboard Hot 100. The album featured one lead single, "Humble," which shot up to number one on the charts. The album has also created praise locally. *DAMN.* has filled the speakers of cars and the headphones of students throughout Harrison High School. His album has a little bit for everybody to enjoy.

"It was so astonishing to see Kendrick sum up his story and point of view on society in just 14 songs," said junior Jenniviv Bansah. "Even though some songs are provocative, it is lyrical. After listening to



Courtesy of Interscope Records

the songs, I could pick up even the subtle nuances and I guess that was one of his goals, letting the listeners see how the slightest words or sentences used could actually mean something greater, which is a step into understanding his point of view. This album is very enlightening and powerful."

DAMN. is an extension of Kendrick's artistic exploration. This proj-

ect is different from all prior. His first few albums told the stories of poverty and the gang-stricken streets of Compton, California. Tough beats and aggressive lyrics allowed Kendrick to paint a picture of Compton from the outside looking in. He was a good kid in a mad city. Close enough to the street life to know the rules and how the game is played, but he always managed to keep his hands clean.

To Pimp a Butterfly, the album of the year contender, consisted of funky, soulful undertones to hip hop beats full of political content including allusions to the Black Lives Matter movement and systemic racism. He wanted to use his position of influence and power to spread the message of peace and equality. His only release in 2016, *Untitled, Unmastered* was made up of unre-

leased projects that didn't make previous albums. The album had a little bit of everything pieced together, but still did not live up to the expectations set by *To Pimp a Butterfly*.

DAMN. can be argued as a reinvented Kendrick. Every one of the tracks on the project speaks about real world things. He represents where he's from in a different fashion. Without using the same type of style of many West coast rappers, his beats are very smooth and subtle. Kendrick just flows over the top and they work together. He skillfully encapsulates the young black American experience and of course about who he is. It is clear Lamar intends to bring the stories of the dismissed and the disenfranchised to light through his newest album. All you have to be is you and listen closely -- Kendrick will have you like *DAMN!*

SPORTS

Boys' Varsity Tennis Finishes Season Strong

Darin Iraj
Staff Writer

The Boys' Varsity Tennis Team finished the season strong with a record of 11 wins and 4 losses. This team was comprised of one of the most talented group of players that Harrison has ever seen.

The team captured some big wins against Ardsley 6-0, East-

chester 6-1 and Pelham 6-1.

However, the Huskies faced a tough loss against Byram Hills 2-5 and a close match with Rye 3-4.

Coach Quan Huynh has been instrumental in leading this team to great success this year. Captains senior Adam

Alper and junior Tucker Martino also overcame the challenge of such a large team of young and old players and motivated them to work hard together in order to gain victory.

According to senior Captain Adam Alper, "This year was a huge improvement compared to last because overall we had more depth in our lineup helping us win in closer matches."

For the second year, Harrison hosted the San Marco Tournament on April 29 and 30. The Tournament is named after long-time Edgemont tennis coach and athletic director Jim San Marco and features the most competitive teams from Section 1, Long Island, New York City, and private schools.

The Harrison Huskies won against St. Francis Prep 4-1 in the first round and then lost to Trinity 5-0 in the second round.

The successful season for the varsity team was further showcased in the postseason playoffs.

Harrison Varsity Tennis had 10 players represented in the Conference II Tournament. Tucker Martino and Matt Dugoff



Strong Backhand. Harrison's Ben Lubovitz puts some oomph into his return during a match against rival Rye.

Photos courtesy of Tommy McAdam



Big Serve. Harrison senior Adam Alper connects on a serve in a home match against Rye on April 18.

made it to the doubles championship and finished second.

The Huskies also had six players advance to Sectionals, which was the most in at last five years.

Adam Alper stated that, "Sending so many players to Sectionals this year really showed how deep and strong our team is."

Adam Alper and Benjamin Lubowitz played singles. The

doubles teams were Conner Griff/David Griff and Tucker Martino/Matt Dugoff.

Coach Quan is already looking forward to a more successful season next year.

"The strengths of this team is our youth," he said. "We have a lot of talented young players which bodes well for the future of Harrison Tennis."

Girls' Lacrosse Caps Off Year With Big Postseason Victory

Sarina Iraj
Co-Sports Editor

The Harrison Girls' Varsity Lacrosse Team faced a challenging season this past spring with a record of 10-7. Caitlin Rooney returned as head coach for the third consecutive year, assisted by Megan Connolly.

With the strong leadership of the coaches and captains junior Brie Losito, senior Erin Nel-

son, senior Theresa Shanahan and senior Nicole Waldman, this team was focused, practiced hard and was determined to improve their record.

This was evident early in the season against Nyack where the Huskies won 8-5. This was a crucial victory for the confidence of Harrison players since Nyack

had defeated the Huskies 15-7 last year in the first round of the Class B Sectionals. Harrison led 6-4 at the half and with 2:05 minutes left to the game when Jessica Saviano made a long pass upfield to Sydney Saviano who scored and secured the lead. Kathleen Lino had 8 saves. According to Coach Rooney, the difference this

year was due to better communication and "the transition that saved the game."

The Huskies continued on a winning streak against Nanuet 16-6, Eastchester 15-9, and Briarcliff 14-1.

However, Pelham was able to upset Harrison by only one goal and a final score of 8-9. This defeat only drove Harrison to fight harder and ensure victory against Croton 18-7, Horace Greeley 17-15, Ardsley 16-1, and Keio Academy 17-4.

The most heartbreaking loss of the season was the final game at Rye. Harrison was leading at halftime 5-3, but lost control of the game in the second half with a final score of 7-8.

The Huskies quickly put this upsetting loss aside and prepared to face Clarkstown North in the first round of the post season playoffs. The Harrison Huskies dominated the game and won 16-7. The leading scorers were Brie Losito and Sydney Saviano with 5 goals each. Kathleen Lino had 12 saves in goal.

The season came to a devastating end in the Class B quar-

terfinals against Tappan Zee as Harrison was winning 3-0 early on in the game, but ended up losing 9-6.

Despite such a tough loss,

said, "This year was a great improvement and our best ever."

The future of this team holds great promise and the returning players hope that next year the



Tight Defense. Harrison junior midfielder Sarina Iraj steps up against an opposing Croton Tiger, in a game where the Huskies dominated, 18-7.



Coast to Coast. Harrison midfielder Brie Losito carries the ball up the field unencumbered during a home game on April 28.

Photos courtesy of Tommy McAdam

the Harrison Huskies were proud to have made it this far in the playoffs for the first time in the history of Harrison Girls' Varsity Lacrosse.

Senior Nicole Waldman

team will be better prepared to advance further in the playoffs.

Boys' Golf Rolls Through Postseason

Sammy Kaplan
Co-Sports Editor

The Harrison High School Boys' Golf team brought home the hardware this season. The Huskies captured a League title, a Conference title, State Championship bids, and a number one team ranking heading into the postseason.

The Huskies cruised through the regular season recording a whopping 14 wins, and only two losses. The team was led by an upperclassmen nucleus that featured junior captain Brian Aslanian, senior captain Luke Steinthal, and senior captain Dylan Karofsky.

"The upperclassmen really set the standard," freshman Eric Mehlman said. "Even though it is only my

first year on the team, the leadership from the upperclassmen allowed me to engage with the tradition of the program. It feels like I've been a Varsity Golfer for much longer than I have been."

Over 70 golf teams participated in Section One this golf season, with only the top 60 golfers advancing to the individual portion of the Section Championships. Out of the 60, Harrison represented seven as junior Brian Aslanian, senior Luke Steinthal, senior Billy Daraio, sophomore Joseph Reilly, senior Dylan Karofsky, junior Mike Cappelli, and senior Will Pizzutello all qualified for the individual Section Championships.

After the first day of the tournament four of the seven Harrison golfers advanced to the second round as Brian Aslanian and Luke Steinthal finished in a tie for seventh place, Dylan Karofsky finished 13th, and Joe Reilly finished 17th.

The Aslanian-Steinthal duo carried their dominance into the second round, earning bids to the State



The Seven. Pictured here, left to right, are Joe Reilly, Mike Capelli, Dylan Karofsky, Luke Steinthal, Brian Aslanian, Billy Daraio, and Will Pizzutello. These seven qualified among the top 60 golfers in Section 1.



Bound for States. Harrison senior Luke Steinthal and junior Brian Aslanian pose with Coach Digioia, after earning bids to States.

Photos courtesy of Harrison Central School District

Championship, and finishing in the top nine of Section One. Aslanian recorded two 75s to finish in third place, and Steinthal finished in a three way tie for seventh.

"I set a goal for myself earlier this year to make it to states and that's exactly what I did," junior Brian Aslanian said. "I'm definitely proud of both my

performance and the team's performance this season."

The Huskies continued their postseason run at the Team Conference Championships. Harrison won the Conference Title over Hendrick Hudson, Byram Hills, and Pearl River. As a result the Huskies clinched a spot in the Team Section Championship. Aslanian led the way, shooting a 38.

The Huskies faced off against three of the top High School Golf programs around in the Team Section Championship, taking on Scarsdale, Bronxville, and Rye. The Huskies fell just short of a section title finishing second to Scarsdale.

The team portion of the season

has concluded, but Brian Aslanian and Luke Steinthal will continue their seasons and represent Harrison Golf at this year's State Championship, which will be held at Cornell University.

Despite falling just short of a section title, the Harrison Golf team captured many honors this season. A 14-2 record, a League Championship, a Conference Championship, seven Sectional participants, and two State qualifiers show how good this program and team is.

"The team exceeded all my expectations," coach Phil Digioia said. "I am very proud of how we performed this year."

Boys' Lacrosse Has Successful Season With First Year Coach Matt Cipolla

Jack Roshco
Co-Managing Editor

Coming into the season with extremely high expectations, the Huskies' Lacrosse team lived up to every one of them, finishing the season with nine wins and only six losses.

New coach Matt Cipolla began the season on the right foot, starting his tenure with a 3-0 record, and establishing the Harrison group as one that was both solid defensively and with a high-octane offense.

The team faced their first defeat against Scarsdale, losing a nail-biter in the closing minutes, which was how the majority of the losses came for the Huskies this year, with only two losses coming by large margins, and one coming in overtime.

The team for the most part played far better than their record might suggest. The first half of the season was especially strong, with a start of seven wins and only two losses, to Scarsdale and Ramapo. They were led by a strong group of senior captains: Jack Wilson, Matt McLaughlin, Kyle Staltieri, and Thomas Gresham.

In addition to those three excellent senior leaders, there were huge contributions from junior Tyler Menniti and sophomores Con-

nor Novak and Teddy Corcoran.

The offense hummed along in pretty much every game, scoring double-digit goals on numerous occasions, namely against New Rochelle, with 17, and Tappan Zee and Eastchester, with ten.

McLaughlin was the unquestioned leader of the offense, racking up both his 300th point and 200th goal during an outstanding senior campaign, ranking in the top ten in both categories in Section One for the season as well.

The defense certainly held up their end of the bargain as well. Senior captain Staltieri led a group of stand-out long-poles, with juniors Austin Evans, Ethan Evans, Justin Sanchez and Ray-

mond Sanchez, and sophomore Alejandro Aguirre all stepping up and playing a tough, physical

help of its own, with second-year starting goalie junior Henry Alvarado taking over a few games

kos and Tommy McCooley.

Junior Drew Grauer sang the praises of the entire group, saying, "Everyone really stepped up. We got scoring when we needed scoring, defense when we needed defense, and the goalies stood on their heads when we needed them to also. We just played a really strong team game for the whole year."

The Huskies capped off the regular season with a dominant 10-2 win over Eastchester on Senior Night, giving their leaders an excellent send-off on their home turf.

Unfortunately, the season ended with a tough playoff loss in the first round against John Jay-Cross River, but the team will look back on the 2016-17 season with plenty of pride.



Scanning the D. Harrison midfielder Tyler Menniti looks to make a pass in a key home game against Byram Hills on May 3. The Huskies defeated the Bobcats 8-7.

Courtesy of Tommy McAdam

defensive game, helping to ease the burden on the scorers.

The defense certainly had

over by himself and leading a goaltending corps that also included juniors Pasquale Koura-

Boys' Varsity Baseball Playoff Run Comes Up Short

Sammy Kaplan
Co-Sports Editor

It was a remarkable campaign for this year's Varsity Baseball team. The Huskies finished the year with 13 wins, and a remarkable postseason run that fell just one win short of the title game.

This year's team had big shoes to fill as last year's team graduated five seniors from a group that made it all the way to the section semis. In fact, three of the graduates, currently play

The Huskies looked to play the upset card again in their second round matchup against second seeded Hendrick Hudson. The media considered Harrison an underdog, however the team never felt that way.

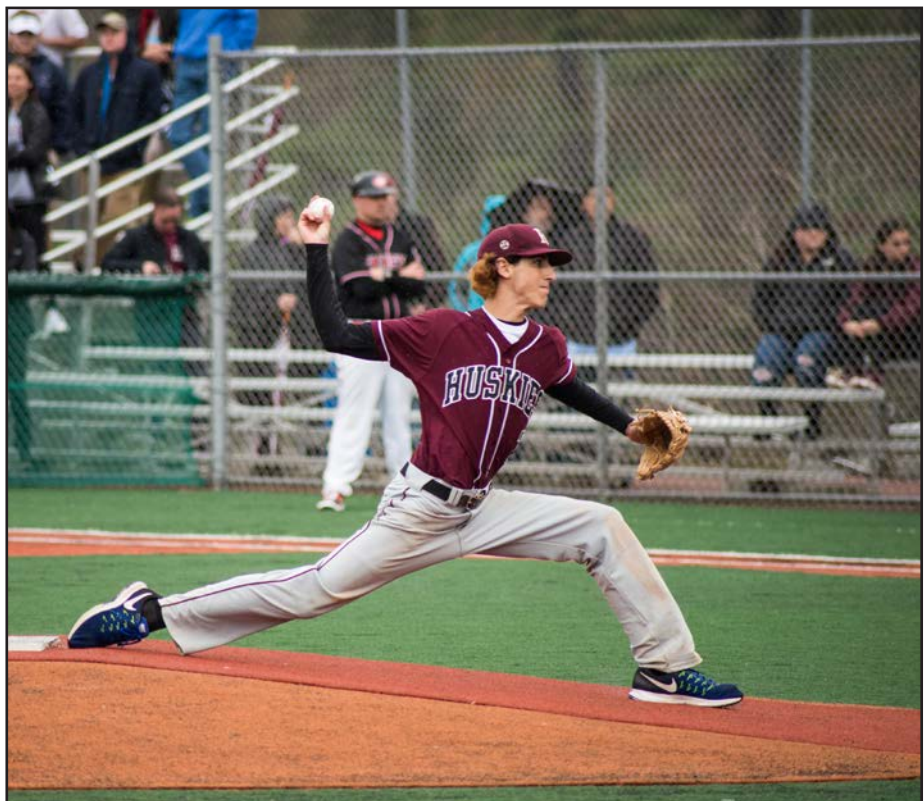
"We always believed that no matter who we played it was our game to lose," junior Scott Lobel said. "We carried that mentality throughout the season and into these huge playoff games."

This mentality was present once again as the Huskies pulled out another upset win on the road. It was a defensive



Memorial Game. In honor of Andrew Gurgitano, #14, a Husky forever, Harrison played Rye. Pictured here for the ceremony are (left to right): Dr. Louis Wool, Superintendent of Harrison Central School District, Coach Michael Bruno, Rye Garnets, Matt Bruno, Chris Galano, Harrison Athletic Director, and Eric Bratberg, Harrison Huskies.

Photos courtesy of Tommy McAdam



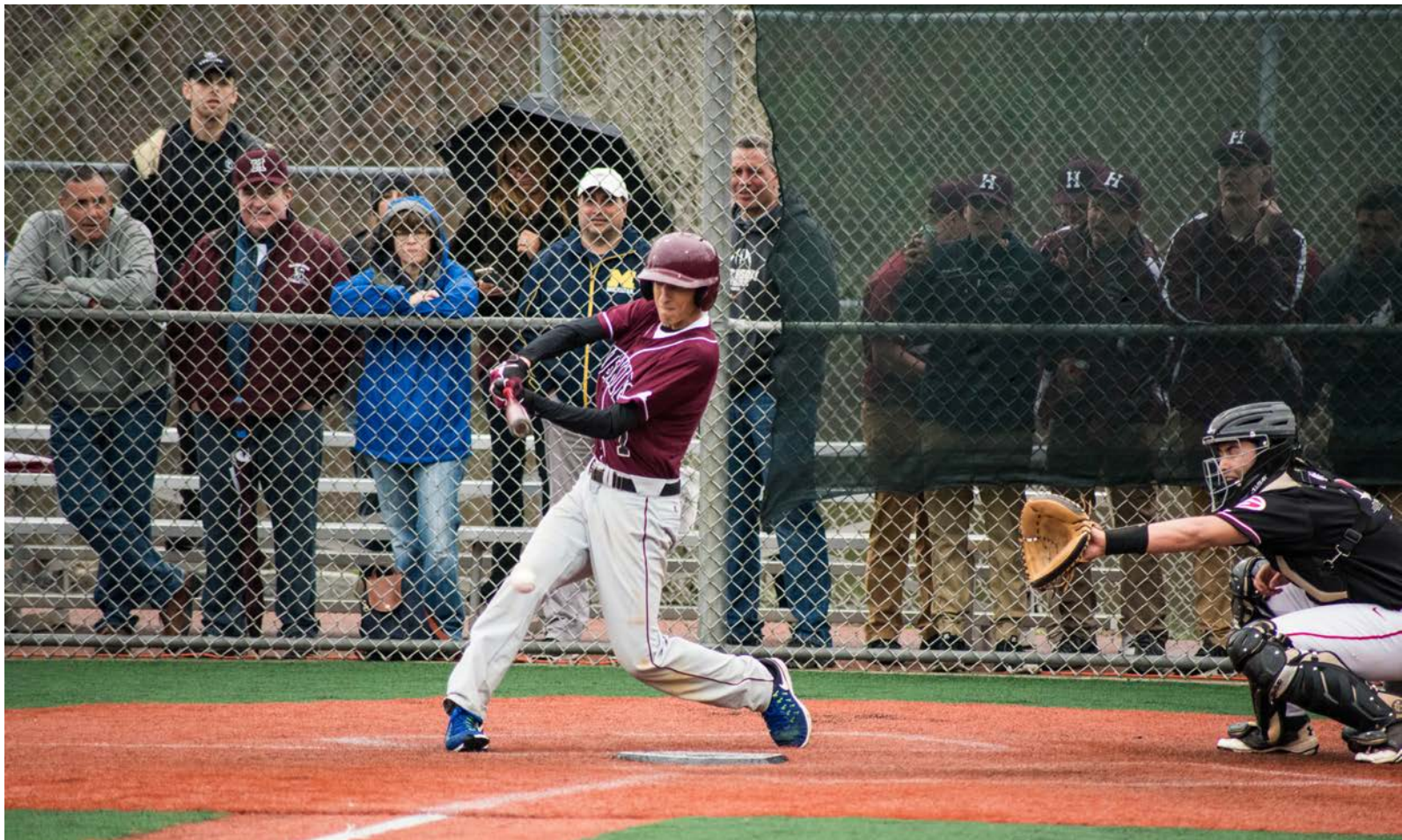
Throwing heat. Senior Mike Hendler tosses a fastball toward home plate in the third annual Andrew Gurgitano Memorial Game. Harrison came up short, losing 7-1.

at the collegiate level.

The Huskies overcame the loss of experienced players from the get-go, winning four out of their first five contests to open the season. However, later in the season leading up to the playoffs Harrison lost momentum losing five of seven to finish the year.

"Those last seven games were a lesson and a test for us," junior Luke McCarthy said. "We learned that in order for us to win tight, tough games in the playoffs we have to raise our intensity when it matters most."

The tenth seeded Huskies did just that opening the postseason with a 6-1 upset win over the seven seed, Eastchester. Senior Matt Handler was solid on the mound, while Mike Arlotta fueled the offense with a home run.



Making contact. Senior Mike Hendler hits a line drive as catcher Alex Noga waits for the pitch during the game at Silver Lake Park on April 22.