ARTS&ENTERTAINMENT



WEEK MANIA SPIRIT

-Bryana Carrillo & Karla Guardado-

Twice a year, HMSA students participate in Spirit Week, a time of games and friendly competition, or at least, that's what we think until we play nation ball. Throughout Spirit Week students dress in jeans and a shirt that goes along with the theme of the day. Sometimes teachers even decide to participate and support their homeroom.

As usual, Monday was College Shirt Day. Because of the proximity to the schools, several students tend to wear UCLA and USC shirts. (Note to freshmen: If you wear a UCLA shirt for college shirt day next year, Ms. Enger will give you candy.) However because of the weather, the lunch game was cancelled.

Tuesday was Band Shirt day. A plethora of band shirts were seen, such as Nirvana, the Beatles, Katy Perry, even One Direction. Although the lunch game was meant to be music related, it was replaced by volleyball, which had been meant for the day before. After an exciting game, seniors won the first game of Spirit Week by two points.

Wednesday was jersey day; considering the fact that we live in Los Angeles, students at HMSA tend to go for Los Angeles based teams such as the Lakers and the Dodgers. The lunch activity was basketball; Class of 2015 (juniors) won; it was horrible defeat for the seniors.

Thursday was Cartoon Shirt Day. An abundance of HMSA-nians went Disney; many wore Mickey and Minnie shirts, including Ms. Hall.

Friday was Class Shirt Day. Of all four classes, juniors wore the most spirit shirts. P.E teacher Mr. Kircher said, "Spirit Week

was great. I love seeing everyone in spirit shirts."

However, Friday wasn't just the day that students get to be colorful. It was also the day most HMSA attendees are waiting for: Nation ball Day! The day started off with tons of spirit. Throughout lunch and in the time leading up to the game, students painted their faces and adorned headbands with their graduation year written on them. When the time to play Nation ball came, each class walked out onto the blacktop with the expectation to win; the seniors proudly stomped their way onto the blacktop and yelled to the beat of "We Will Rock You" by Queen.

To kick off Nation ball, the freshies played against the seniors; it's not a surprise that the seniors won. When asked if she liked Nation ball, freshman Sylvia Gonzalez said "It was scary. I was intimidated."

While the Freshmen and Seniors were

Friday. Nation ball Day.

off getting water, round two of Nationball had the juniors and sophomores fighting for the chance to go up against the Seniors. In the end, the sophomores were victorious. Round three presented the losers of the previous games a chance to redeem themselves. After a heated game between the freshmen and the juniors, the freshmen took home their first ever Nation ball win. Not everyone was so happy about the freshmen's win, though; Junior Daniel Fuentes said he hated Nation ball because the juniors lost. The last game between the students had the best of the best up against each other: seniors v. sophomores; in the end, seniors won and prepared to go against the teachers.

Before the game went underway, however, there was one thing the seniors wanted as part of their game. "High-du-check! High-du-check!" Although many seniors wanted Mr. Highducheck to play, his hurt knee did not allow him to play. In an effort to get more teachers to join in the game,

the seniors began to chant Mr. Jahnke and Ms. Hall's names.

The teachers who did eventually play were Mr. Severns, Mr. Kircher, Ms. Jordan, Ms. Garcia, Mrs. Bawaney, Mr. Flint, Mr. Dura, Ms. Latigay, Ms. Bayani, Mr. Launius, Mr. Atanga, and Mr. Berumen. At one point everyone thought even Ms. Sharpe was going to play; however, she was merely distributing the volleyballs and returned to watch from the sidelines.

As every year, many alumni returned to play alongside the teachers. Additionally, as every year goes, quite a few people were hit in the face throughout the game. Each person who was hit, though, walked off the court to a round of encouraging applause. While some people are willing to possibly be hit in the face, not everyone looks forward to the possibility; Mr. Berumen is one of those people: "I'm scared," he said, "I don't want to mess up my face."

Despite the minor injuries, Spirit Week was a success. Many people enjoyed themselves and had fun playing Nationball. When asked how she felt about Spirit Week and Nation ball, sophomore Ajartu Hamid observed that it is "the one part of HMSA that everyone gets excited for."

The Winners of **Edmodo** Advice

-KIMBERLY RIVERA-

This fall, all students were assigned an Edmodo advice assignment for their English classes. They posted the best, most significant and meaningful advice they ever received. All the classes each voted for a winner.

Students Are Not the Only Ones With Homework (WASC/ESLR's)

-JUDITH MARTINEZ-

The majority of us students are caught up with homework, tests, and quizzes. We are not members that observe the school for a couple of days. Mr. Berumen informs us that this time we will be honored with the presence

EXPECTED SCHOOL-WIDE LEARNING **RESULTS (ESLR'S)** HMSA students are on a QUEST! Students will

These were the Edmodo Advice winners' advice:

aware of what is happening outside our "study bubble." Despite this, there is an association called WASC that comes to visit the school from time to time. But what exactly is WASC?

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) is one of the six regional accrediting associations in the United States. WASC gives accreditation to schools that meet its criteria. This includes the school's progress throughout the years and the way students evolve academically. Of course, HMSA has been granted full accreditation. According to the school's website, WASC accreditation expires every six years, and the school was last accredited on May 2, 2008. This means our accreditation terminates on June 30, 2014.

"It doesn't affect diplomas, but when colleges see that your high school has WASC accreditation, they know you are getting your A-G requirements," notifies Mr. Berumen. A-G requirements are necessary for UC admissions. Usually, a visit consists of two WASC

of five WASC members for three consecutive days. Other than observing schools as a whole, WASC members also observe students. They are looking to see if students know their school's mission, become life-long learners, and fulfill all their academic requirements as specified on the ESLR's. In order to know how the students are doing, the WASC members interview students. Sometimes they ask them to recite the ESLR's. To calm our wits, Mr. Berumen advises students to "act like if it [were] any other day; if they pull you aside and ask you questions, be honest".

Now, this does not mean we need to memorize the school's mission or the ESLR's, but we should keep them in mind. When the time comes for this anticipated visit, we will represent who we are: stars shooting for the stars. Go Aviators!

become:

•Ouality students

who create products that reflect high quality and originality

•Users of complex and critical thinking skills

who can problem solve in academic and real-life situations

•Efficient communicators

who read, write, speak, and listen effectively •Self-directed, lifelong learners who have the skills and knowledge to engage the world

•Technologically skilled citizens

who use available technology to enhance their lives



9th grade winners' advice:

"Be who you want to be, not what others expect you to be." -Jacquelyn Bedoya's mom

" The difference between school and life? In school, you're taught a lesson and then given a test. In life you're given a test that teaches you a lesson. —Giselle Becerra, advice from Tom Bodett

10th grade winner's advice:

" Life is a competition, you were born suffering and you will keep competing until you die; if you want to survive, you must fight with everything you've got. -Andrea Ortiz's dad

See more Edmodo on page 2





Edmodo continued from page 1

11th grade winner's advice:

Wever look at someone by their face, look at them by their heart, because in the end their face will change but their heart won't.
Yarikza Gonzalez's friend.

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Here are the **English Dept's** responses regarding edmodo (written by Ms. Enger, but they are the views of the entire department).

1. What is Edmodo?

It's a social networking site with a user interface similar to Facebook that allows students to connect with their classmates and their teacher.

2. Why is the English department at HMSA using Edmodo now?

The district recommended Edmodo as a resource for our students. After exploring the features, the English department decided it was our best online option to post homework, encourage discussion, and share work in small groups.

3. Why was the Edmodo Advice assignment assigned?

To familiarize students with Edmodo, the advice assignment encouraged them to post a favorite piece of advice on the class "wall" for all to see. This advice could be from someone famous or from a family member.

Through the websites's online polling, each grade level voted for their favorite overall. These short words of wisdom not only inspired us at the beginning of the year but continue to do so as we share them with all of HMSA through publication in the school newspaper.

We look forward to using Edmodo for more community engagement and discussion. Congratulations and thank you to the winners for sharing!

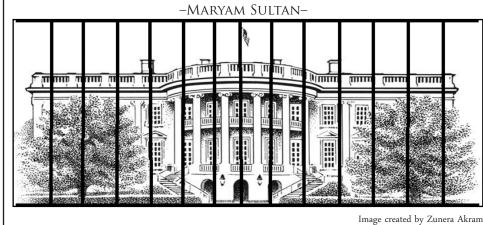
MESA's Robotics Team Meets with SpaceX

–Kimberly Rivera–

MESA has been involved with and has received a rocket and monetary donation from SpaceX this year.

According to MESA co-president Brian Moncada, the 2012-2013 MESA robotics team, Ms. Enger, and Ms. Bayani went on a field trip to SpaceX because the people of SpaceX wanted to meet the students who had worked so hard in obtaining a place in the MESA robotics competition at USC in April 2013.

Another Possible Government Shutdown



When senior Chijioke Akunwafo was asked what he knew about the recent developments in the government he said, "I know there's an argument about Obamacare."

The spotlight seems to be on Obamacare, but why?

It all has to do with funding of Obamacare.

According to U.S. Government teacher Mr. Lanius, "each year near October Congress has to agree to the Federal Budget; they have to determine how they are going to spend the money that they have available to them."

This October, the government wasn't able to reach an agreement about the Federal Budget. Therefore, on October 1st, the federal government shutdown.

The Affordable Care and Patient Protection Act, also known as Obamacare, is the main issue Republicans and Democrats haven't been able to agree on, fueling the shutdown.

According to AlJazeera.com, "House Republicans refused to accept a temporary funding measure unless Obama agreed to defund or delay his health care law." This health care law is said to provide health coverage for most Americans. It is also ... Representative Tom Cole, a Republican from Oklahoma, criticizes Obamacare, saying that the Republicans "have the opportunity to highlight [Obamacare's] problems, including the unfair individual mandate, unaffordable plans and website glitches."

After sixteen days of a dead stalemate, the government finally reopened on October 17 after Republicans and Democrats reached a temporary agreement on the Federal Funds that restored all government services. The agreement, according to The Washington Post, "funds agencies through mid-January, calls hundreds of thousands of civil servants back to work and raises the \$16.7 trillion debt limit." Congress will meet again around January and if an agreement is not reached at that point, the government will be facing another shutdown. However, since Republicans and Democrats don't usually agree on issues, the scheduled meeting will most likely lead to another stalemate.

Mr. Launius believes that "BOTH parties are most interested in doing what helps them get reelected, not what is best for our country."

The future of our government lays in the hands of Republicans and Democrats' ability to reach an agreement on this issue.

MSA Club: What They're All About -SAMIRA MUNA-

Muslim Student Association (MSA) kickstarted the year with their first meeting that took place on October 1.

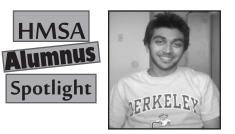
The "Game of Identity" was the first thing on the agenda as the icebreaker. Each person went to one student, giving their name and three facts about himself or herself. With the facts collected, he or she went to two other people and repeated the same information thus stealing munity is just like any other; it is filled with normal people trying to fit in and get along with others. It is made for people to realize judgment can't be made based on what is on the surface.

During the rest of the meeting, some students of the Muslim faith shared stories of their most vulnerable moments of being bullied because of their beliefs. Other non-Muslim students also replayed their past that involved

HMSA Alumni Spotlight?

-Vishali Kapoor-

The HMSA Alumni Spotlight section is a way of commemorating the students who succeeded at HMSA. Our goal at this school is to attend college, and during these school years, we naturally develop a curiosity about what is in store when our college lives finally begin. Glimpsing these alumni's experiences will give us an idea about how to prepare for higher education and relieve any anxiety.



ABDUL ZAHID

Graduated from HMSA: 2013 School: University of California, Berkeley Plan to major in: Biology

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Did HMSA help you adjust to your studies at Berkeley?

HMSA adjusted me to the rigor here pretty well; Life Binders are actually useful. A part of me died admitting that.

What was the most beneficial lesson taught at HMSA that helped in college? Why?

Always carry a pen in your pocket; it's a great way to make friends with professors. Professors dont tend to keep pens with them (they're all very absent minded)

What the most difficult part in applying for colleges? Why?

The sheer number of steps you have to take to fill out the application is the most difficult because all the steps are so similar and so different that they can easily confuse you. A lot of the steps involve reflecting about yourself and your family condition, so it can get overwhelming to have to think about the same topic with only slightly different wording, but keep calm and answer each one at a time, turns out each question is actually about different aspects. Also the paranoia you experience when filling out tax forms, for fear of the IRS breaking down your door and arresting you for misinformation.

Do you regret going to HMSA? Why or Why not?

No, because it prepared me for the challenges I face at my university, and HMSA introduced me to people I hold dear to my heart.

Do you feel at least a little bit more prepared for college than your peers?

Not so much because my peers had 4.5 cumulative GPA's in high school but I can manage the stress and stay awake late at night without any repercussions. (Note: Abdul starts to fall asleep).

MESA received a donation and rocket ship from SpaceX during this October.

SpaceX made this donation because MESA co- president "Jose [Martinez (junior)] and I spent our summer collaborating with Ms. Enger to request funds from SpaceX," remembers Brian.

The rocket ship was an appreciation gift for MESA because the MESA staff members wrote SpaceX a letter requesting donations for robotics kits and other supplies too.

Brian explains that the main purpose of this letter was "to give more MESA kids the opportunities to gain skills in a cutting edge field." Thanks to SpaceX, MESA has gained lots of support for future goals and projects.

*See what MESA received as an appreciation gift from SpaceX, check page 7 * an identity. It was a unique way for the people to get to know each other better.

Next Ms. Reese, the advisor, gave a heartfelt speech about her personal experiences and challenges as being a Muslim.

She explained the idea of MSA: you don't have to be a Muslim to join and you aren't being persuaded to convert to this religion. It is made for Muslims and non-Muslims to come together and understand that the Muslim comwitnessing a Muslim being mistreated for being who he or she was.

When MSA president Nasima Khan (senior), was asked about what she was most excited about she replied, "[Working with] lots of new members and seeing what they can take from this experience."

It was a very emotional meeting, but it was the perfect way to get the club started for the 2013-2014 school year.



MSA members attended the Friday meeting in Room 104

Based on your experience, what do you think is the difference between high school and college?

College has a bigger work load, requires a lot of self-discipline, and overall it is difficult to get used to the free time.

Which classes are you most interested in? How do you manage your time?

I am most interested in my Anthropology 2ac and English R1B. I don't manage my time well but my roommates retain focus in earphones and staring at a blank work document rather than going on the internet.

Who are your favorite professors?

My favorite are my anthropology professors because they are very down-to-earth and will say whatever is on their mind, whether it be rated G or R. (Note: Abdul takes more than one anthropology class).

Do you have any advice for the HMSA seniors?

Don't panic, don't stress out, if you don't get into your first choice for university, it's not the

See Spotlight on page 7



Pandora's Box: It's Okay to Open This One | X Album Reviews:

-YASMINE GUTIERREZ-

If you go back a little over five years, the most common way for someone to listen to music was on a mobile MP3, iPod, and so on. YouTube has also been a huge music dealer where people go to get their fix. With the easygoing lifestyle everyone likes to lead, looking up a new song every four minutes is getting to be too much of a burden. Because of the release of iTunes Radio, the Internet radio community has received some stiff competition, but who's really in the spot light? Pandora is still considered a top competitor when it comes to free music.

Pandora is a free radio website that molds its tracks based on what you want.



You can make stations based on the kind of artists or genres you like. As you give songs a "thumbs up" or "thumbs down," Pandora systematically decides which songs you would like to hear in the future. Pandora lets you see the lyrics to the song playing and the artist's biography. You can also follow users whose taste in

music you enjoy so you can discover even more artists. It's a great site to break up the monotony of the same old songs on your iPod. There's also an app that doesn't take up very much battery life (for Android users anyway).

As everything does, it has its ups and downs. Senior Alan Cifuentes hasn't had a good experience with Pandora because "sometimes it'll give you music that you might actually like. Other times, it'll be stuff that you don't. You'll run out of skips before you know it."

Senior Phebe Boye opines, "I don't like the commercials sometimes and the limit of how many times I can skip a song."

Mr. Jahnke has a few qualms: "regardless of the station, there are some songs they shove down your throat constantly... [And] when it's on-point for an hour straight or so, it shuts off," but, all problems aside, Mr. Jahnke also believes that "Pandora is one of the best things about the Internet."

Junior Muhammad Fazal praises, "The site is great. Instead of deciding what to listen to from a long list of songs, it chooses for you. And if it's a song you don't want to listen to, just skip or get a new station."

With the release of iTunes Radio to iPhones and iPads, Pandora is in a race to the top as the best Internet radio service.

Ryan Nakashima from NBC NEWS experimented with iTunes Radio, and compared it to Pandora: "it doesn't have to intelligence that Pandora has gained from tens of billions of interactions with X



Image created by Zunera Akram

listeners who have given a 'thumbs up' or 'thumbs down' to a song." There was also an issue with the "never play this song again" option because once he pressed it, the same song showed up a few songs later.

iTunes Radio and other music-streaming sites aren't as up-to-date as everyone would like, so as far as discovering and recreating a musical identity goes, Pandora is the one stop to meet everyone's needs.

-VIDEOGAMES-Image created by Zunera Akram **The Console Wars**

-Leanette Estrada & Michael Salazar-

A new generation of video gaming is only weeks away, and the anticipation has reached a fever pitch.

Sony's PlayStation 4 hits store shelves on November 15 and Microsoft's Xbox One will follow on November 22. Gamers have been setting aside extra funds, or in many cases, mercilessly begging their parents to buy one of these consoles for months. Some devoted video gaming fans will purchase both systems, but most folks probably will invest in only one for the foreseeable future.

With the arrival of the next-generation consoles, the expectations of both Xbox and PlayStation gamers are at high levels. After Microsoft presented its prized Xbox One, the levels of criticism were astounding. Many considered the Xbox One to be in the shape of a VCR, which caused a great uproar in the Xbox community. On the other hand, the PS4 was welcomed as a brand new gaming experience with high monetary expectations; however, both systems are evenly watched in many respects. The Xbox One and its new features are highly controversial. This next generation console features game-play that can only be accessible through Internet access, which angers long-time Microsoft gamers because they are used to Internet connection being irrelevant to offline game play. Another feature that has gamers all over the world talking is the Xbox One not being compatible to share games. This infuriates gamers because clearly this is an attempt

for Microsoft to make easy money, which left Microsoft gamers to ask the question, what happened to the loyalty to the fans? The Xbox One has yet to be released and it already has multiple issues, which is why Microsoft is abandoning these new features and following the demands of the gamers. Due to last minute changes of the unpopular features, Microsoft is now back in the extremely competitive console war. However, the Xbox One will come with a revamped Kinect (Microsoft's hugely popular motion-sensing device), which was originally a \$150 purchase on its

In order to win this console war, Sony proved the PlayStation 4 is a true nextgeneration console. The PlayStation 4 is not only \$100 cheaper but also boasts better game-playing hardware. This astounded many gamers because a new hard-drive was announced as well for the PlayStation 4, which means more countless hours of gameplay. That and its faster graphics memory should translate into games that more visually thrilling on PS4.

Sony also made significant upgrades to its controller and social gaming experience, such as integrating live video chat and Facebook. The Sony DualShock 4 controller amazed gamers with its new clickable touch pad on the front, which gives gamers an all-new gaming experience. Critics from gaming review site Techradar.com believe, "The DualShock 4 is appealing not just to the eye, but more importantly, to the hands. We caught ourselves grinning from the mere feel of the thing, which, at once is slight yet fills out the hands with its nubbed ends.

PANIC! AT THE **DISCO**, Too Weird to Live, Too Rare to Die!

–Leanette Estrada–

Inspired by Las Vegas, Panic's latest effort packs a sizable punch despite its brevity. One thing that irks Panic! at the Disco is being in the shadows of another, more popular pop-punk band named Fall Out Boy. Panic! has chosen their own path of more stylistic adventurousness and nonconformity. Their long awaited fourth album, Too Weird to live, Too Rare to Die! doesn't eschew that eclecticism, this time relying on musical elements of 80s pop, electronic music, and R&B as major influences. As captivating as the rest of their discography, such as A Fever You Can't Sweat Out and Pretty. Z Odd., Too Weird To Live, Too Rare to m Die! is another welcome addition. Rate: 4.5/5

Favorite Songs: This is Gospel, Miss Jackson Ft. Lolo, Collar Full, Nicotine, Girls/Girls/Boys, Vegas Lights.

Nothing Was the Same

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-Brandon Azuoma-

It's what everyone has been waiting for - Drake's new album, Nothing Was the Same. This is Drake's third studio album after having his freshmen and sophomore albums go platinum. This album features the popular songs "Started from the Bottom," "All Me," and "Hold On, We're Going Home." Drake continues with the same vibe from his previous album, Take Care. Try your best not to tear up while listening to this album.

Rate: 4.5/5

Parov Stelar -Electronic Swing Music?

–Saria Khan–

Electronic music has been long popular, but this fresh young band takes it to a whole new level. Applying an older trend to the modern genre of dubstep, Parov Stelar has created a new trending phenomenon. One of their top albums, "The Princess" has even made it to the top-tens on iTunes. A junior exclaims that after listening to Parov she felt as if she could "wash the dishes, take out the trash, and do the laundry all at the same time." Parov Stelar is truly a motivational band worth investing in.

own before Microsoft reduces the price to \$99.99

Fellow student and devoted Xbox fan Chijioke Akunwafo mused, "The Xbox One will be far superior to the PlayStation 4, thus making it the only logical purchase for the next generation of video game consoles."

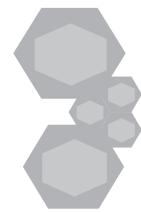
PlayStation fan Anthony Gonzalez proclaimed, "I'm really excited about the release of the new PS4. They've taken a considerable amount of time to create an entirely new gaming experience.

Another devoted PlayStation fan, senior Adrian Bonilla exclaimed, "I really can't wait for the limitless possibilities with the PlayStation 4. I look forward to having a great gaming experience and unlike Xbox One, there won't be any children [see note] to disrupt the experience." [A&E Editor's Note: PlayStation players often think of Xbox players as immature.]

The winning console of this Console War can go either way. The question is: Which will you choose?







Carrie: The 37-Year Gap

(This is a two-part article comparing the

original movie to the remake and the novel to the remake).

The Original Movie and the Remake

People raved about *Carrie*, released on October 18, 2013. Like me, many may not know that this was a remake of the 1976 movie and the adaptation of Stephen King's novel of the same name. Maybe another thing that some people didn't know is it's different than the original movie in significant ways even though it doesn't add anything special.

Starting with the most notable difference, there is no raw material. Since these girls are high school students, and because actress Chloe Grace Mortez is underage, it seemed extremely reasonable to keep the vulgarity out of the 2013 remake. In addition to this, the explicit material was unnecessary and didn't add any meaning to the 1976 movie.

The second remarkable difference is how true to the book the remake is compared to the original movie. This version gives more insight into the other characters aside from Carrie and shows a little more detail when everything unveils, giving the viewer more information to understand what's going on. Probably the best difference is how the 2013 version really teaches how wrong it is to bully. The original version made a point to show that it's not right to bully others, but this remake takes that to a whole new level, projecting the consequences of making fun of the "weird" kid.

The last difference is the little details that were changed in order to update the movie. Although the ashtray in the principal's office played a role in the first sign of Carrie's telekinetic powers in the original movie, removing this prop, since there is no smoking on school grounds anymore, was crucial in marking a different time period from the remake.

It's all these tweaks and changes that show the differences between the original 1976 movie from the 2013 remake of *Carrie*.

The Remake and Novel

Stephen King's novel <u>Carrie</u> and the film adaptation *Carrie* differ in a multitude of ways.

While Stephen King's novel is set in 1979, this *Carrie* is set in a modern-day town. This setting leads to differences such as pop culture references to "Dancing with the Stars" and Carrie using the Internet to seek out "magic powers." The antagonist, Chris Hargenson has an up-to-the-minute form of bullying available in this modern scenario: cyber bullying. King's novel is nonlinear, switching between a present tone and flashbacks whereas the movie is chronological. Carrie and her mother Margaret are also slimmer. In the novel, Stephen King is blunt about Carrie's appearance calling her "large" and "pimply" while in the movie Carrie White is much slimmer with rather clear skin. When describing Margaret, King reveals her as having white hair and being stout; Julianne Moore, playing Margaret, has red hair and is not stout. Carrie's dress is slinky and pink whereas in the book it's a red velvet shade. If anything, Sue Snell's dress is red, but this is another indicator of the director expressing his creative license.

The novel offers a major incident that depicts how Carrie's abilities surfaced when she was a mere child: massive rocks come hammering down on the White home, and only on the White home. In the film, Carrie's telekinetic powers are first shown in the shower scene where, as a teenager, she shatters a light bulb.

In the book, Sue has a telepathic correlation with Carrie. The correlation is what spurs Sue to depart her home and race to the school



on prom night. In the movie this thread is discarded wholly and Sue comes because Chris sends her an ominous text message regarding Carrie. In the movie, Chris' boyfriend Billy surprise her by taking her to a pig farm and asking her to pick out the pig they'll kill for its blood rather than Chris coming up with the scheme. After getting Chris' enigmatic text, Sue races to the school and realizes what Chris has planned. Before she can warn the crowned Carrie, Ms. Desjardin shoves her out of the auditorium. In King's version, Sue never makes it to school. In the movie, Carrie recognizes Sue is pregnant, and tells her "it's a girl" before flinging her to safety. Sue is also pregnant in the novel, but after Carrie's death she discovers blood on herself and realizes that she has miscarried. Carrie's mother is killed by a method that mirrors crucifixion. In the book, Carrie uses her powers to slow her mother's heart to a stop after her mother tries to kill her...what a benevolent mother-daughter relationship.

The Return of the SuperWhovians

People of the world, beware. Two of the biggest fandoms in the world will be in full stride this November, and there is nothing you can do to stop it or their fans. *Supernatural* and *Doctor Who* are two cult favorites that share the same audience and that now have thousands of Tumblr pages dedicated to crossovers between them. Who knows what will happen now that both shows are back on our TV's?

For those who don't watch the show, Supernatural is a show about two brothers named Sam and Dean who travel in a 1967 Chevy Impala through the country fighting ghosts, monsters and demons after their mother was violently killed by a demon. Castiel is an angel that saved Dean from Hell once and occasionally helps the Winchesters against the forces of evil. All the Saltgunners have much to look forward to in season 9. Season eight ended with a massive cliffhanger (Spoilers!) where the Winchesters witness all of the angels falling down from heaven and Castiel becomes human after his grace is taken from him Fans don't have to worry about the show ending any time soon. According to the Huffington Post, Supernatural has been signed on for at least one more season. The executive producers have confirmed that the story arc will last one more season and the show's main stars, Jared Pladelecki and Jensen Ackeles, have signed on for season 10. If you still feel like that's not enough Supernatural for you, the executive producers also mentioned a spin-off series in the works that will be introduced in episode 20 of season 9. So while you wait, make sure to tune in every Tuesday at 9 pm on the CW.

to look forward to this winter on Doctor Who. For those who don't know, The Doctor is an alien from the planet Galifrey that is able to travel through time and space using a time machine called the TARDIS, which is disguised as a police telephone box from 1963, and usually travels with a companion. The Doctor also has the power to "regenerate" when he takes a great amount of damage, but his appearance and personality change. After being left on such a big of a cliffhanger at the end of season 7, (Spoilers!) we come to learn that The Doctor has an even greater secret than his name: there exists a dark and unknown version of himself that is not even worthy of the name of "The Doctor."

Luckily, all our questions will be answered on November 23when the 50th anniversary episode, "The Day of the Doctor," airs simultaneously on BBC (here, BBC America) and in select theaters across the globe. "The Day of the Doctor" will include the current Doctor played by Matt Smith, the Tenth Doctor played by David Tennant, and the unknown Doctor, played by John Hurt. They will face off against some of The Doctor's greatest enemies, the Daleks and the Zygons in an hour- long event that will surely bring joy to both new and old fans of the show. On a sadder but hopeful note, it was announced earlier this year that Matt Smith will be leaving Doctor Who after four years of being on the show. His final episode will be this year's Christmas special, where we will see the fall of the Eleventh Doctor and the beginning of the Twelfth Doctor, who will be played by Oscar and BAFTA award winning actor Peter Capaldi. Although it may seem like a long time away, these two new episodes and the

-ZUNERA AKRAM AND ALBERT RIVERAnew Doctor will be appearing really soon, so don't blink!

What is interesting about these shows is that one is about the supernatural (obviously) and the other is about time travel, yet they share many fans. It is because at their core, they are both shows of two people traveling in a sweet ride, fighting dangerous creatures, and helping others. Both also share some of the same problems like plot holes, bad special effects, and finding ways to cheating death. Regardless of their problems people continue to watch, because when these shows are good, they are the most mind-blowing thing that one can ever experience. It is what makes the fans wish that they had a TARDIS so that travel could travel into the future to watch the newest episode.

Images created by Zunera Akram

Fashion Fall Ready

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AUJENE BUTLERFall is here, and the now is the time when we must tuck away the khaki shorts, cargos shorts, and skirts and pull out the cardigans, boots, and scarves. This fall gives us a chance to present our fashion

creativity through our uniform, unlike the past falls, the weather this year has been quite on-point. Here at HMSA, you may wonder how students can style up their uniform by still abiding by the school rules. Well, fret no longer my friend; I am here to help. Below are a few tips that can keep you winter ready and uniform approved.

§ A scarf either bold or printed (both are in this season) can add an extra flair to your style around the collar area.
§ Leg warmers can accent your shoe apparel; whether you're wearing them with flats, shoes, or boots, these comfy warmers are sure to keep you fashion fall ready.
§ Boots help accent the khaki pants, especially with a scarf that agrees with the shoes. These two can complete your uniform.

For all of the Whovians, there is much



Supernatural



§ **Cardigans, sweaters, or jackets** can keep you weather ready, but stick to the bold colors that HMSA approves, such as: blue, white, grey, and black.

§ **Thermals!** Don't have an HMSAapproved cardigan or jacket? A thermal under your polo shirt can add contrast, bringing out the color of your polo on those days that you feel really cold warm yourself up even more by adding a hoodie underneath the polo. This can definitely accent your polo quite the same.

§ Thigh or knee high socks! Own it with these warm kickers; you can rock *See Fashion on page 7*



The End of the Season Ends in a Bang

-ANTHUAN CRUZ-



Photo taken by Ariana Gary

AnthuanCruz (AC):

Though you didn't get to play the last game, what were your thoughts as your team clutched that close game?

Kimberly Ngo (KN): I'm so proud of the senior girls who stepped up and played, because they worked so hard this season. The fact that the game was a victory makes it even better.

AC: How has the amount of support from the school affected how the team played?

KN: The team plays a lot better and has more motivation with school support. It's harder to play a tough match when no one is there to cheer on the team when they're down.

AC: What will make this season more memorable than others?

KN: The girls are definitely what made this season memorable. They were so much fun to play with. Amber was definitely the person who ignited the passion that a lot of our girls have for volleyball.

AC: What will you miss most about your fellow seniors who will be leaving the team next year?

KN: I'll miss the spirit and energy they always brought to the games and practices. We've all gotten pretty close over the last few years.

AC: After having to be introduced to

The girls' the volleyball season came to an end on Tuesday, November 5, the volleyball girls played at Memorial Park They won their last match against Wildwood after coming back from a 0-2 deficit. Their history with Wildwood is usually fifty-fifty due to constant changes in rosters. With a collective effort, the girls took it to game 5, winning it (17-15).

This game was most important to our seniors on the team because it

the team during your first years playing

for HMSA, how does it feel knowing

that next year you will get to be the one

KN: It'll definitely be a challenge,

because I am not an outgoing person.

But, it'll be something that I'm excited

son down to the wire, how did you feel

when you checked that scoreboard and

Amber Burns (AB): I was feeling a bit

nervous, but I knew the girls and I

were going to give it our all to win

that game. Especially since the oppos-

ing team would frequently send over

"free" balls so I was confident in the

AC: What do you hope the underclass-

men learned from their experience

AB: I hope the underclassmen learned

to be more confident. I loved seeing

how one of the shyest girls on our team

started to feel more comfortable to be

a part of our family and not feel like

an outsider. All of the girls now have

a stronger bond with each other than

it was at the beginning of the season.

Each of us supports one another and

helps each other become better volley-

girls to make plays off of them.

with you this season?

to work towards and see happen. AC: Playing your last game of the sea-

saw that the score was 15-15?

initiating the new players?

would be the last time the senior girls play volleyball for HMSA. Many students (mostly seniors) came to watch the game and show their support. Christian Lara (senior) comments, "I love watching intense games, and hope that they will be able to return the support when the baseball team has games."

SPOR7S

I was able to interview the two team captains, Kimberly Ngo (junior) and Amber Burns (senior), shortly after the game.

AC: What will you miss the most after this season?

AB: Oh man... I'm going to miss so much. I'm definitely going to miss my girls; we've been through so much together; they've always been there to support me through the many hardships I went through. They're the ones who made this season my favorite. I'm also going to miss my coach, Mr. Kircher. He's the one who encouraged me to fulfill my goals and challenges, whether it was our league games or even my academics. I also can't forget about Mr. Severns. He'd come to support us at our games and help me become a better volleyball player. Last but not least, the food! Food is always available! We'd have small potlucks, get food before late games and the food at the end-of-the-year banquets.

This season has truly been an exciting and thrilling one. It will be great to see how the Junior Varsity (JV) has learned from the seniors and fill in the roles the seniors will leave behind. As for the seniors, it was great watching your games first-hand and we will truly miss you all!

Boston Strong





After a tragic year for the city of Boston, the Boston Red Sox won the World Series on October 30, 2013. Boston has gone through so much heart-

break and grief in the past year because of the Boston Marathon Bombings. Boston's NHL team, the Bruins, also came within two wins of winning the Stanley Cup. Boston showed its strength as the Red Sox and Bruins played hard for their city in an attempt to ease the grief of Bostonians.

Last year, the Red Sox traded away some big name players: Adrian Gonzalez, Carl Crawford, Josh Beckett, and Nick Punto. Even after trading away some big names for some promising prospects, the Red Sox managed pulled together the four wins needed to win the World Series against the St. Louis Cardinals, and they won the World Series in front of their home fans for the first time since 1918. The Red Sox won game 1, lost the games 2 and 3, and won games 4 and 5 to take home the MLB crown.

Everything worked out for the Red Sox in Game 6, which they won 6-0. The Red Sox did what no other team in the postseason could do: solve rookie sensation Michael Wacha, who was unbeaten in the postseason. David Ortiz won the MVP award because of his superhuman offensive statistics. According to ESPN, Ortiz batted .688 (11 for 16) with two home runs, six RBIs, and eight walks.

For a city that is still recovering from the hardships of the year, the Red Sox victory will surely rejuvenate Bostonians and give them hope for a better future.

Dodgers' Season Comes to an End

-ISAAC GORGY-



On October 18th, the LA Dodgers fell short of the World Series after losing game six of the National League Championship Series.

The Dodgers had an incredible regular season, winning 92 out of the 162 games played and ranking first in the NL West, but it all came shattering down after the 9-0 loss to the dominant St. Louis Cardinals.

In an ESPN interview Dodgers manager

-MICHAEL SALAZAR & BRANDON AZUOMA-

ball players and teammates.

Lakers. Kobe Bryant, the best player on the team, was injured with a torn Achilles heel before heading into the postseason. They ended up with a record of 45 wins and 37 losses. With this record, losing their title of the best of the Pacific division, and to whom? They lost it to the other team inhabiting Los Angeles, the Clippers. The Los Angeles Clippers with a record of 56 wins and 26 losses. The fourth best record in the West. The Clippers and the Lakers both made it into the playoffs, but they were both eliminated in the first round of the playoffs. As the season came to a close, the window of trade and opportunity opened. During the offseason, the Lakers and the Clippers were involved with numerous trades and free agents, which added to their rosters. In their offseason, the Lakers acquired small

man and point guard Jordan Farmar (for the second time). While the Lakers did acquire many new players they lost (long time) Laker Metta World Peace (formerly known as Ron Artest) and (1year) Laker Dwight Howard. The Lakers were not the only LA team to have a change in their roster; the Clippers also made some modifications to their team. During the summer, the Clippers were involved in a three team trade that sent point guard Eric Bledsoe, and small forward Caron Butler to Phoenix for small forward Jared Dudley from the Phoenix Suns and shooting guard J. J. Redick from the Orlando Magic. The Clippers also fired their head coach Vinny del Negro because of the results of the previous season and they signed Doc Rivers, the famous coach of the Boston Celtics.

Last season ended in turmoil for the forward Nick Young, center Chris Ka- there is hope for them to make it in to the postseason one more time. Sophomore Francisco Contreras, believes that they will "probably [have] 45-37, 8th seed." This is a very optimistic view from a Laker fan. My prediction; 49-33 7th seed, and they do not make the playoffs. After this summer's blockbuster trades and a new coach, the Clippers are rejuvenated and ready for a title run. Junior, Brianna Carlos believes that the Clippers "will make it to the Finals and take the Championship." My prediction: 59-23, 3rd seed in the West and I believe they will make the playoffs. Both team's progress will surely be debated until we see some actual play during the season, but there is a best question to ask: Who are you rooting for and who deserves to claim LA as their rightful home court?

With the Lakers 'news acquisitions,

Don Mattingly stated, "We put a lot of time in... it's very disappointing for all of us."

One of the major setbacks for the Dodgers in the postseason was injuries. Matt Kemp and Hanley Ramirez were not fully healthy, and their absence was significant on the team.

Despite all the frustration, the Dodgers are proud of their accomplishments and believe that this was a very successful season. The owner of the Dodgers, Magic Johnson, told ESPN, "This was not a losing season."

This loss, however, has not degraded the Dodgers eagerness for next season. It seems as if the Dodgers embraced their elimination and are looking ahead. First Basemen Adrian Gonzalez mentioned, "The only thing is to be hungry next year...we got this close this year, and will be in the same spot next year but at the other end of it."

Nevertheless, the Dodgers gave fans a season to remember, and are looking forward to another winning season.



Is Obamacare Obamafair?

–Jesse Torres & Omar Amer–

"We have to pass the bill so you can find out what is in it." — Former Speaker Nancy Pelosi, March 2010

On March 23, 2010, President Barack Obama signed into law the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) also) which has come to be known in the mainstream as "Obamacare." According to obamacarefacts. com (a website dedicated to informing the public about the healthcare law) the purpose of the law is to make health insurance more affordable, lower the uninsured rate by expanding public and private insurance coverage, and reduce healthcare costs for individuals and the government.

On October 1, 2013 individuals and small businesses were now able to sign up for the brand- new private insurance plans with help from healthcare.gov. But it wasn't even two weeks when an overwhelming number of Americans started complaining about using the site and an even greater number have started researching for themselves the provisions of Obamacare and the effect it will have on individuals, businesses, the economy, and their healthcare.

According to Obamacarefacts.com, Obamacare will help lower costs of our insurance of Americans. Let's talk about these "lower costs." The House of Representatives' Energy & Commerce Committee asked seventeen of the nation's largest insurance companies how much Obamacare could cost individuals and then compiled their answers into a report (*it can be viewed at http://energycommerce. house.gov/sites/republicans.energycommerce. house.gov/files/analysis/insurancepremiums/ FinalReport.pdf*) about how Obamacare will affect premiums.

The report, which is based on information provided to the HORECC, concludes that in the

individual and business markets, "45 states will see significant *increases*" in insurance costs. In fact, in California alone premium costs will increase by 23-66%. As a result, individuals will be forced to pay these much higher prices or sign up for the Obamacare program and wish to receive a better rate (that is, if the website even works long enough for people to sign up!)

Obamacare also promises to give "better quality care and better access." People over the age of 65 may require a bit more care than younger ones. Every day, 10,000 Americans turn 65. According to survey conducted late last year by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), over the course of ten years, supply of doctors will only increase by 7% while the amount of those over 65 will increase by 35%. Supply is inadequate and Obamacare hasn't even been factored in vet. Obamacare will add 30 million uninsured Americans into the insurance market. This dramatically increases the demand but does nothing to add to the supply of doctors. For those of you in Economics, you may know about the first law of supply and demand: "if demand increases and supply remains unchanged, a shortage occurs, leading to higher prices." This translates to longer wait times, fewer visits, and *gasp* lower quality healthcare.

In 2010, President Barack Obama spoke to Congress about his proposal that would be known as Obamacare. "The plan I'm proposing will cost around \$900 billion over ten years... The plan will not add to our deficit. The middleclass will realize greater security, not higher taxes. And if we are able to slow the growth of health care costs by just one-tenth of 1.0% each year, it will actually reduce the deficit by \$4 trillion over the long term."

The ten-year window the president has used is 2010 -2019 (starting from the year Obamacare slowly started being implemented). However, the \$940 billion estimate only includes the last six years of the 2010 -2019 window, meaning 2014-2019. If we include four additional years (to make up for the four years Obama didn't mention) to make it ten years (the window period is still ten years, but it's now from 2014-2023), **true costs are \$1.8 trillion.** That's double what he originally claimed. (Note: All the information about the long term costs

due to Obamacare can be seen at the Congressional Budget Office's website at http://www. cbo.gov/sites/default/files/cbofiles/attachments/ hr4872_0.pdf)

When Obama originally first mentioned talks about passing Obamacare, he said it received "overwhelming support from the American Medical Association (AMA)." But what he neglected to tell us is that Jackson & Coker conducted a survey about physician opinions on the AMA; results from this survey showed that 70% of our physicians disagree with AMA's position. 77% say the AMA does not reflect their views overall. The AMA in actuality represents **only** 17% of America's doctors and just 35% of those members support Obamacare. Does this look like overwhelming support? NO.

(Survey can be viewed at http://www.jacksoncoker.com/Promos/internal/Surveys/AMA/ images/JC-AMA-SurveyFullPresentation.pdf)

Obama said that "the middle-class will realize greater security, not higher taxes." When the Supreme Court said Obamacare's mandate was constitutional, Chief Justice John Roberts issued a statement saying "it is reasonable to construe what Congress has done as *increasing taxes* on those who have a certain amount



Branco. A. F. "ObamaCare: Don't look under the hood." Americans for Limited Government. 2013.

of income, but choose to go without health insurance. Such legislation is within Congress's power to *tax*." According to CNN Money, that "certain amount of income" is anything over 138% of the federal poverty line. That's \$15, 857 per year, which makes Obamacare one of the biggest middle-class tax increases in history.

The tax will be enforced by the IRS, who admitted to having systematically targeted for the past three years conservative groups. According to Forbes and CNN, IRS employees are calling for themselves to be exempt from Obamacare in exchange for enforcing the tax. That's the very "equal and fair" Obamacare promised, isn't it?

Let's summarize all of this. Obamacare – not supported by doctors, boosts premiums, reduces access, decreases quality, is a huge tax, is enforced by the corrupt IRS, and has exemptions. Is Obamacare really going to revamp a messed up health care system or will it further complicate the healthcare system with soaring costs and further cripple our economy? Judging by what Obamacare is truly going to do, I guess you now know the answer.



How to Get from Reading and Studying to Laughing and Loving

-TATIANA MEDRANO & OGECHI OKAFOR-

Thanksgiving Break is approaching, so be prepared for the load of homework that is pending. We bring wise words from beloved teachers and advice to avoid procrastination.

Thanksgiving Break should be about coming together with close family and friends, not only homework and projects. An HMSA student doesn't really get to experience what an actual break is without the constant stress of finishing their homework assignments. After interviewing a junior from the student body, she gave her own judgment about the vacation breaks at this school. vise advice and information on what assignments they will assign their students.

English teacher Ms. Siegler explains what type of homework she's giving to her students. "They have a project they've been working on; I assigned it to them two weeks ago. The project is a Prezi presentation, and the students are basically creating their own utopia. They have been working on it, so really all they need to do is finalize it." She advises her students to not "wait until the last minute to get [the homework] done." else." He advises his students to "start now, and use this time to catch up on what you need to know."

Although teachers from different departments have different types of homework or projects, they all agree that procrastination is not the way to go. If these teachers didn't really give you the advice you need in order to master the evilness of vacation homework, then maybe ours will.

finish a more difficult one next.

 As Everest.edu suggests, it is important to have some kind of reward system while doing homework or studying. It can

"Breaks here at HMSA are never true breaks. HMSA ensures that its students get education at home – it's basically homeschooling."

Two juniors, Jamila Berryman and Kierra McCurchin, strongly gave their own opinions regarding Thanksgiving Break homework.

"We just had midterms, and now we are having out first break. I think homework during thanksgiving is a hassle and unnecessary," said Jamila.

Kierra passionately declares that homework during breaks, is "unnecessary", and she feels that homework "takes away time from celebrating the holidays with family."

The majority of the student body obviously wants to have a stress-free break, so why not do something about it? A few teachers gave some Math teacher Ms. Latigay will give her classes "a packet that is half multiple-choice and half free-response. It will be based on things from previous lessons." She advises her students to "do the homework right away."

Spanish teacher Ms. Jordan, wanting her students to continue using Spanish daily, said she "will be assigning a play to perform in Spanish." She advises her students to "not rush on this assignment, and to get started right away."

Physics teacher Mr. Flint expresses that his assignment is mainly "for people who need to catch up. It isn't too much work. The homework assignment I will assign is review work, and will benefit the people who are behind; for people who aren't doing so well in my class, it's a chance for them to get ahead with everyone One of the hardest parts about doing vacation homework is actually starting it. Once you start on homework, it is extremely difficult to focus on it, especially when there are distractions all around you, such as Black Friday sales and family. Luckily, we are here to help you with these problems.

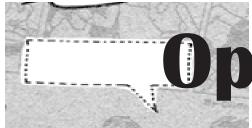
••

• Push yourself to start your homework early. Starting your homework early allows you to break it down piece by piece, and accomplish those chunks without too much stress. Having a set amount and some kind of schedule (either written on paper or in your head) will help accomplish this.

• Often times we don't know where to start when we try to complete homework. **Starting with the easiest assignments first is the best way to start.** This gives you a motivator. If you can finish an easy assignment, then you can always challenge yourself and be simple, such as seeing that new episode of your favorite TV show or spending another few minutes on a game. Make sure that the reward is worth something to you, so it can actually motivate you.

• *It is important to take breaks.* Not having breaks can make you feel overwhelmed, worked out, or want to stop doing homework forever. Ideally, it is good to take about a fiveto ten-minute break every hour.

• Make sure that you have the best working environment that you can have. It should be a place where you can focus on your homework; somewhere that has minimal noise. Devices should be turned off such as TVs or phones. As in Mr. Jahnke's classroom, it can be helpful to have music in the background. The music should be something calming and quiet. Have the music in a playlist, so you don't have to continually search for songs. If it is playing from a device such as an iPod, make *See Thanksgiving HW on page 7*







Thanksgiving HW continued from page 6

sure it is not in your sight (under a book or in your hoodie pocket) so you do not feel compelled to reach for it. You can also use helpful websites that plays music automatically, like Pandora. 8tracks is the best alternative if you don't like the commercials that Spotify and Pandora have.

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We hope our teachers' wise words are eye openers, and our advice to you is beneficial. Get started on homework quickly, and enjoy your break while you can because time does not wait for anyone. As Thomas Jefferson once said, "Never put off for tomorrow, what you can do today."

The REAL Problem with Black Friday

-NISHRAT KHAN & ALBERT RIVERA-



It's almost that time of year again where people of different backgrounds come together for one evening to give thanks and talk about the things for which they are grateful. Then later on that same night, they drive to the nearest Wal-Mart and fight with each other over an iPad they will probably get rid of once the new iPad comes out in two months.

To many Americans, Black Friday has become the most important holiday, which is ironically next to the day where we celebrate immaterial things. Aside from the sales, Black Friday is also known for the large amounts of people who stampede stores and get into battle royals over unnecessary items. It seems that every Black Friday always ends up looking like something out of a zombie apocalypse, but this wasn't always the case.

According to the always-convenient Wikipedia, the day's name originated from Philadelphia, where it was originally used to describe the heavy and disruptive pedestrian and vehicle traffic the day after Thanksgiving. Most stores operate all year at a loss. It is only during the fanatic shopping mania on the day after Thanksgiving that stores turn a profit for the first time all year. The term "black" refers to this profit, since operating at a loss is referred to as running in the red. Many retail stores have started opening stores at midnight or even leaving them open through Thanksgiving Day and as a result have people referring it to Gray Thursday.

Because of low prices and the abundance of merchandise, many acts of violence have occurred through the years. According to Investopedia.com, in 2010, a woman and man were arrested for engaging in physical violence and having possession of a handgun and two knives. Similarly in 2012 outside a Wal-Mart, two people were shot during a dispute over a parking spot.

months later to the same store and find out that the TV that they bought now costs the same as it did on Black Friday. It makes the consumers wonder if that TV was actually worth losing sleep over.

Junior Cassandra Cervantes states, "I'd the rather sleep in then go shopping."

People treat these objects like they need them to survive but in reality, they just want them because they find these items appealing. There is nothing wrong with wanting new things, but if people are harming others just for an easily replaceable product there is something terribly wrong with what we think is important.

We suffer from a disease called consumerism where we are easily tricked to buying unnecessary things because of our misinformation and because of the influence that advertising has over us. You can see it every time a new iPhone comes out, every time a new video game comes out, and every time new pairs of Beats[™] headphones come out. We lose our common sense and do not bother to ask why we go to such extremes for such insignificant things.

What happened to the lovely, family Thanksgiving dinner everyone has every year? Because of stores opening early Friday mornings, many people forget about the whole dinner and gather up their camping gear. To camp outside stores, of course. However when asked if she thinks Black Friday sales degrade the holiday of Thanksgiving, Ms. Sharpe explained, "No, I think the history of Thanksgiving degrades the holiday of Thanksgiving." (She refers to the tenacious relationship between the Pilgrims and Native Americans.)

So how do we fix it? We become better shoppers. We question whether we really need to go to such extremes to get just one thing. We do our research and find out if there are better and easier ways of getting the same product. We think ahead about how much the product will cost in a few months. We prioritize the things we need with the ones that we don't. All we need to do is not go on an impulse and actually stop to think about what you are going to buy. Or even better, you could try shopping online. It eliminates the long lines and drive to the stores, so you can peacefully do your shopping from the comfort of your own house. The online community also has its own big sale called Cyber Monday. It is the Monday right after Black Friday and it has the exact same sales. Despite Black Friday's reputation, there is some good that can come out of it. There are appliances that families would not have been able to get if they weren't on sale. There are people in college who would not have their laptops to help them with their work it weren't for that \$100 that they saved. Black Friday is not bad; our habits are. All we need to do is think about what we want to buy and the black and dangerous Friday that has become so infamous will turn into an ordinary Friday.

Don't forget to pick up Spontaneity!

-ISABEL RAMIREZ & MARIA HEREDIA-

A simple sheet of paper with the title Spirit Week excites but then disappoints many. The thrill of competing between classes is something we all feel when Spirit Week is announced. Every class participates with the given themes and activities but what most of us seem to look forward to the most is Nation Ball. We never alter the game in any way but it excites us nevertheless. Although it's tradition for seniors to be victorious, every other class is hoping it'll be their class to change that outcome. On top of that, the winner gets to face the teachers! Can you feel the adrenaline begin to pump in your veins simply at the thought of it? Unfortunately, the same can't be said about the themes assigned to the days leading up to Nation Ball.

For those here in previous years, you may have noticed how this year's first Spirit Week is eerily familiar, even to the point of déjà vu. As the years pass us by, the thrill Spirit Week is meant to create seems to only plummet deeper and deeper. From Music Day to Cartoon Day, themes as well as activities are being repeated. ASB executive officer, Jose Martinez (junior), responded to our curiosity as to why Spirit Week tends to repeat.

"[We] are repeating this first Spirit Week only in order to make it easier for the freshmen to partake in the activities... because if they mess up, then the whole Spirit Week gets canceled so we just want them to get the hang of it. Also, the first and last days of Spirit Week are mandatory College Day and Spirit Shirt Day."

The intention of helping out the freshmen is grand, but riddle me this: wouldn't they be able to get the hang of Spirit Week even better

Spotlight continued from page 2

end of the world, and don't count against yourself when applying to universities because the one you think is too high is actually willing to take you.

Hopefully Abdul's answers have diminished your fear of college. The main concern is not which college you will attend, but the opportunities and experiences you will obtain in the future. Not having a plan is totally acceptable; it's better to understand and recognize which skills you have already attained and which ones you need to develop. This selfknowledge¬ will allow you to quickly take advantage of chances when they are presented to you. Remember to take Abdul's advice and not stress out. Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors, be sure to plan ahead, and seniors, get those if themes and activities were more engaging? If there were more creative themes like Career Day, Twin Day, Around the World Day, or maybe Alter-Ego Day, it would motivate us to participate while being careful, and follow the dress code, of course. No one wants to be the one person responsible for the cancellation of Spirit Week. After all, Albert Rivera speaks the truth when he says Spirit Week is "[a] reward [to] students for living through midterms. Kind of like tax refunds."

With this in mind, activities should be fun for everyone, teachers included! It should be a time to relax in between classes and studying. Just imagine trying to walk to the finish line as your leg is tied to a teacher's or slowly rushing to the finish line with an egg balanced on a spoon. Some may think that they are not the best activities to participate in, but they're undeniably something new, which is what Spirit Week is in dire need of.

Although Nation Ball is currently what most of us look forward to, it too can be changed. Has anyone else notice that teachers wholeheartedly participate in other school activities but not in Spirit Week? There are some teachers that participate, but the majority doesn't, especially when it comes to Nation Ball. Many students - from all grade levels - also don't participate in Nation Ball but participate in the days leading up to it. Whereas many of us view Nation Ball as a source of adrenaline rush and excitement, the students and teachers not participating view it as a barbaric game providing a potential fear of volleyballs and bruises as souvenirs. We're Aviators flying into the future, but can we stop and pick up Spontaneity on the way over there? It's high time it met with our predictable Spirit Week.

MESA continued from page 2



The rocket MESA received from SpaceX as an appreciation gift.

"Many people turn into animals trying to get their things" explains Monika Lupercio, a junior and Black Friday shopper.

It seems that this sense of urgency has created a dangerous side of humanity. They return to their animal instincts when they go to the stores. They prepare, hunt, calculate, strike, claw, and bite their way until they get what they want.

When asked if she will be sending Mr. Launius to get any baby clothes this Black Friday, Ms. Sharpe replied, "I would rather pay ten times the price of something than have a loved one get hurt." She also expressed how she thinks Black Friday is "hell-on-Earth day."

Yet on Friday, November 29, millions of people will be ready to take down the doors and buy until they can't buy anymore. Who could blame them? These deals only come once a year. Who knows if they will be able to ever buy them again? Except when they go back two



Image created by Zunera Akram

personal statements done!

Fashion continued from page 4

them with pants, skirts, or even shorts.

§ Gloves and earmuffs! Stay snug in these comfy fall items.

§ **Double up** – if you think you are going to be cold that day and a pair of khaki pant are not going to do the trick, try putting a pair of leggings or sweatpants underneath.

These are just a few tips that can keep your fashion fall-ready. Simply because we wear uniforms does not mean that we cannot project our personality through them, so go for it! Mix and match accessories and try alternate styles that you've always wanted to experiment with. HMSA is not a place of judgment; it is a place for you to be yourself and not worry about a thing except for grades. As long as you stay academically ready your true inner fashionisto(a) will shine.

Sources for "Is Obama care Obamafair?" :

 - AMA views and stats: http://www.jacksoncoker.com
 -House Energy & Commerce Committee Reportm (May2013): http://energycommerce.house.gov
 -Doctor shortages: https://www.aamc.org
 -IRS employee exemptions: http://washingtonexaminer.com
 -Obamacare budget effects: http://www.cbo.gov
 - ReasonTV on Youtube

$-\mathbf{D}$ I V E R S I O N S -

Stay Tuned: Next issue, keep an eye for a national ball survey



~From the Desk of the Editor-in-Chief ~ — LINDA HO –

want to thank all of those who read our previous issue, those who complimented our work, those who contributed their words to this issue of the Aviator News, and most of all, those who contributed their writing and artwork – the staff members. This second issue is loaded with even more content than the first and reflects the expansion of the Aviator News. I would like to reiterate that anyone can send

in their opinion – it can even be one sentence long - about any article to me, linda_ho14@hsdstudent.org, or Op-ed Editor Dax Capangpangan, dax_ca14@hsdstudent.org. As always, I wish you happy reading.

We received exactly one letter-to-the-editor, but it's not too shabby.

November 6, 2013

Ms. Linda Ho Editor-in-Chief Aviator News

I just wanted to let you know that your first edition of the Aviator News was absolutely remarkable! All of the Staff Writers did an outstanding job reporting the news, which covered every aspect of a larger newspaper...current events, arts & entertainment (I loved the book reviews), sports, and opinion-editorials. This was just another example of why the Hawthorne Math & Science Academy has been recognized throughout the country as an outstanding high school. I can hardly wait for the next issue!

Shelley Rose Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Hawthorne School District

AVIATORS NEWS STAFF:

Editor-in-Chief: Linda Ho

Staff Writers:

~Welcome to the DAX Side~

HMSA: Helping Many Students Achieve Success in college and further -DAX CAPANGPANGAN-

HMSA is a collegeprep school, but there are some students who don't think they are re-

ally being prepped for college. They think HMSA has strict rules to just restrict the students, but this is completely wrong: HMSA prepares us for college, and to a greater extent, our future, more than any other school in Hawthorne.

HMSA's strictness is all to simulate the strictness of what the real world will be like. In the real world, the rules are even more prevalent, and the world's punishments are a lot worse than a log entry. If someone makes a mistake or tries to test the boundaries of the rules, that person is punished with fines, loss of property or jobs. Log entries and lunch detention words may seem devastating now, but they are nothing compared to punishments one could get in the future if the same mistakes are made.

All of the school is dedicated to helping you follow the path to your future. All of the staff is dedicated to helping you, and no, they are not "out to get you." They have all gone to college and have very helpful advice and want to help you make it to college (as much as your grade in that class may differ), so don't hesitate to talk to them and ask questions.

how your low grades here make it so colleges won't recognize you, but the fact is colleges love HMSA, and we have a high percentage of students who go to college after high school (and actually stay and graduate). Colleges even understand that this school is a challenge, so they accept lower grades from this school (that doesn't mean you should just aim for those grades). HMSA is *meant* to be a challenging school. Would this school be half as stimulating as it is now if it wasn't challenging? I'm sure that for most of you, every year up until high school was a breeze, but because HMSA is more difficult, does it mean it is less fun? Of course not. Mankind has always found entertainment in challenges and curiosity, so why would our generation be any different? It's time to stop giving up and whining when something seems impossible. If you don't know it immediately, it doesn't mean it is impossible. It could be possible with a friend or a staff member. It always feels twenty times as satisfying to solve a problem that has been stumping you, than to quit and complain for twenty minutes to a very unfortunate friend (turns out that's not fun for both sides).

HMSA is known as a college-preparatory school for one plain and simple reason: it prepares you for college.

Now, some of you complain about

Arts&Entertainment

Rowling's Magical Creatures

-SARIA KHAN-

Under the pseudonym of Newt Scamander, J.K. Rowling writes a Hogwarts textbook, Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them. A movie will be based on the Harry Potter-affiliated book. It is not a sequel or a prequel to Harry Potter but an extending counterpart to The Wizarding World of Harry Potter. made especially for those fans who seek a bit more knowledge about the fantasy of that life.

exclaims, "I am definitely excited for another masterpiece made by J.K. Rowling."

Although fans were expecting a sequel to the series, they readily accept another movie even related to Harry Potter as a miracle

Fans will receive an insight on animals such as the Basilisk from The Chamber of Secrets. the evil mermaids from The Goblet of Fire, and the Hippogriff from The Prisoner of Azkaban.

Movie watchers are advised to read the textbook novel, Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" or better yet, read the entire series before they see the movie.

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*All images (excluding photos) are drawn by Zunera Akram except where otherwise noted.

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The story takes place 70 years before Harry Potter is born, making it accessible to non-Harry Potter fans as well. The writer Newt Scamander is known to be a writer for Hogwarts textbooks and has insight to the different creatures from all his adventures in his lifetime.

Ms. Enger, a Harry Potter Series fanatic,

Corrections from Issue I (September/October):

• Credit given to Michael Salazar who worked on the Pokemon article with Leanette Estrada.

• AMC's Chart Topper Returns for a Fourth Season. Sergio Rizzo is a junior who was quoted in the article.

Sources of images:	A&E:
Teaser:	1) http://theblissreport.wordpress.com
1) http://agentsofgeek.com/	SPORTS:
2) http://nyulocal.com	1) http://www.5thquartermag.com
CAMPUS NEWS:	2) http://www.boston.com
1) http://www.acswasc.org	Op-Ed:
	1) http://cdn.zmescience.com

THE DULL AMONG THE SHARP

ook.

- Omar Amer -

**ATTENTION! ** This review may spoil bits of the novel that readers might find disappointing to know before actually reading it. But hey, what is there to spoil? So read on, my fellow bookworms!

Every once in a while there comes a writer who is destined to go down in history for his/her work in a specific genre. Isaac Asimov is one of those writers. As one of the best, if not *the* best, science fiction writers of all time, Asimov has created numerous novels to dazzle science geeks and even science haters alike. Sadly, there is a low point among the great. And that low point is "Foundation and Empire".

This is the second book in the *Foundation* series, but based on the book's in-world chronology, it's considered the fourth book. In a world of psychohistory (the use of certain mathematics to predict the future) various worlds fight to obtain the upper hand. The main adversaries: the Empire and the Foundation. Jumping ahead one hundred years from this current conflict, the Foundation is left as the survivor. A bit annoying, considering one hundred years of the plot has been ripped out of the book, leaving the reader to wonder what exactly happened in that *small* fragment of time.

From this, the book follows the adventures of a newly married couple that is traveling between different worlds, protecting the Foundation from a new ruler called The Mule (no one knows who he/she/it is). With the power to manipulate the feelings of others, it is an advantage above all else. However, the structure of the story was set to bore and puzzle the reader. Read a few pages, become accustomed to the situation and then BAM! New setting and different characters totally not related to the last pages. It takes quite a struggle to keep up with the story, and once you actually begin to understand the story, the book ends! Sure, you find out who the Mule is, but that does not compensate for the rest of the book. At some parts, it was fairly easy to guess what was going to happen, which took away the thrill of the unexpected.

Coming to an end of this review, there is a solution I would like to propose. Simply don't read the book. Skip over it and read what's next in line in the series. You'll thank me.

DYSTOPIAN LETDOWN

eviews

<| PAGE BURNERS |X|

- Monique Ejenuko -

Matched by Ally Condie is a book worthy of being hurled out of a window. Knowing the book was dystopian, a genre that seems to rocket in popularity in the young adult genre thanks to the success of *The Hunger Games*, I came in with low expectations of any originality that could separate it from its counterparts. The novel definitely met my prediction.

Matched is the first installment in the *Matched* trilogy. The novel is set in a post-apocalyptic, dystopian future where everything is decided and chosen for its inhabitants, including when they die and whom they marry. All of this is undertaken by the "Society" to provide a harmonious existence. When a glitch occurs in the Matched system, which is designed to pick each person's deal match, the heroine, Cassia, starts to question her oh-so perfect Society.

Condie went a little heavy handed on the romance. The overpowering love triangle that plays out throughout the novel was unnecessarily made a central arch in the book, which ultimately overtook what little plot that the book had. Condie's repetitive writing only served to highlight the novel's bleak and action-less plot. The majority of the book was simply Cassia repeating the flaws in the "Society." Not only were the characters one-sided and forgettable, but they also lacked effective character development to flesh them out and make them impressionable.

Cassia peeved me the most. She repeatedly made pointless and poor decisions that made me want slam my head into a brick wall in frustration. The development of the setting leaves much to be desired as well. Some aspects in the Society were not fully worked out and lack well thought-out logic. This dystopian novel follows the same pattern as many current dystopian novels – young teens who try to rise up against their villainous government, society, or district.

Matched is nothing more than another dystopian book you can throw into the already growing pile. Save yourself the trouble and effort in reading such predictable novel that is not worth the 13 A.R points. You have a better chance of finding "plot twists" in a dictionary.



MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN – Samantha Gutierrez –

Many people begin to accept, sooner or later, that their lives will be nothing but average. But there comes a time where few of us, although deceivingly normal, realize just how different we are.

The thrilling fantasy novel *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* by Ransom Riggs revolves around a sixteen year-old boy named Jacob, who leads a painfully dull life. His childhood was filled with fantastical stories told by his grandfather, who fought in World War II. He told him of adventures on a small island off the coast of Wales, where he lived with eclectic children during the war. He had boxes of old black-and-white photographs to show to him. And young Jacob, of course, believed him.

As the years go by and his grandfather's mind begins to go, Jacob grows out of those "fairy tales" he once held so dearly to his heart. It isn't until a terrible accident claims his grandfather's life that Jacob begins to see that maybe – just maybe – his stories were more than just tall tales. His grandfather's dying words are a seemingly unsolvable riddle, muffled by his labored last breath.

Desperate to find answers, Jacob travels miles away to the island where his grandfather lived as a child. It's an old, run-down town that's always gloomy and runs on noisy generators, not nearly as friendly as his grandfather had made it out to be. With much effort, Jacob eventually finds the house that his grandfather, Abraham, once made wonderful memories. But the house is decayed and mostly destroyed. Among the wreckage, Jacob finds more than he could have ever imagined.

Ransom Riggs' first novel, *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* is so whimsical, you'll be drawn to Jacob's world like a bee is to honey.

Yes, there is an AR test for this book. Its level is 5.7, with a total of 13 points (though I hope you will enjoy it instead of just reading it for quick points).

"I used to dream about escaping my ordinary life, but my life was never ordinary. I had simply failed to notice how extraordinary it was." – Jacob, *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*

CLASSIC DOESN'T MEAN DIFFICULT

- Brian Moncada -

The Red Badge of Courage is one of many classic books from which people have an inclination to shy away from unless they are forced to read them in English class. Most people, including myself, have difficulty picking up and finishing famous literary works like this one, not because they're difficult reads, but because it is intimidating to read something labeled as a "classic". This book should break that mindset.

The novel was written by Stephen Crane, an American writer known for accurately capturing the human mindset in a variety of situations. *The Red Badge of Courage* focuses on the people's concepts of war and the harsh reality of it. This isn't some wishy-washy war novel that portrays the protagonist as a dashing hero who unfalteringly overcomes everything that gets in his way.

This is a novel about a young boy who had aspirations to become a war hero, about a young boy who gets a real dose of reality. Crane magnificently captures the physical harshness, the brutality, and the mortality of war, but what really makes this novel great is his accurate depiction of the thought process. When we get a glimpse of what soldiers during the Civil War had to go through, we may think "This is horrible" or "How sad," but when we understand what was going on in their heads, their hopes and aspirations, it hurts more when a character dies.

I won't go into any more detail, because that would spoil the book, but I'm sure this little description will be more than enough to convince people to try a classic novel.

This is a fairly short book, only about a hundred or so pages depending on the version, but it captivates you. It's an 8-point book, and that may turn a few of you off, but it's certainly a great novel for the avid reader to try.

THE 13 ½ LIVES OF CAPTAIN BLUEBEAR – Kamera Ford –

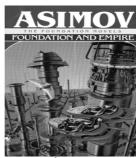
Tired of sailing the ocean blue just to search for a book that you'll actually enjoy reading? Well, your search has officially ended! Unlike other chloroform-covered books that excel in putting you right to sleep, *The 13 ½ Lives of Captain Bluebear* is a book that you'll have to force yourself to put down. Walter Moers does a fantastic job of making sure the reader is entertained with the wild circumstances that seem to transpire on every page.

As somewhat explained in the title, this novel is about Bluebear, the main character, telling us about the events that occurred throughout the first thirteen and a half years of his life. Within the first chapter, you begin to feel as if you're there with Bluebear and experiencing the same things that happen to him. Moers takes us on a journey of Bluebear's action-packed life, from when he was a Minipirate who couldn't even speak, to when he was a full grown bear with an exceptionally high vocabulary. The places he goes, the trouble he gets into, and the way he gets out of that trouble really draw the reader to the novel.

Unlike other adventure books, *The 13 ½ Lives of Captain Bluebear* doesn't have your everyday obstacles and challenges that characters in other stories face. Instead, Bluebear battles spooky Hobgoblins, nasty Trogotrolls, sewer dragons, and must survive age-accelerating tornadoes, sugar fluxes, dimensional hiatuses, and inhabitant-devouring islands. With twist and turns at every corner, the reader will always be anxious to find out what happens next.

Not only is this novel that best book you'll ever read, but it is also an AR book, with a 6.0 book level, that gives out a whopping 28 points. HMSA gives us the opportunity to choose from a wide range of books to read, but it's our job to pick out the fascinating ones. This, my friend, is one book that you will not regret choosing.

Featured Books;



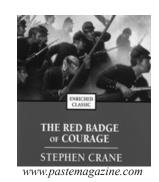
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