



Knighly News

Glen Cove High School 's Student Newspaper

Holiday Issue

GC's Rendition of Almost, Maine Brings Relationships to Life

by Phoebe Pinder



photos by Lisa Viscovich

In late November, the theater department put on a beautiful performance of the play *Almost, Maine*. Directed by Mr. Ross, it was clear everyone involved put a tremendous amount of effort and care into it. It was heartfelt and emotional, exploring themes of love and loss through somewhat surreal occurrences in the small New England town that shares the same name as the title of the play. The experience of the play starts as soon as you walk into the auditorium, with two characters already seated on the red bench upon the stage, among the pine trees.

Almost, Maine, written by John Ciarani, is a series of vignettes (a collection of short scenes that all have a common theme or connect in some way). This non-traditional structure helped to connect all these different characters, while still telling all their unique and individual stories. Each one was emotional in different ways, showcasing a wide range of different relationships. Everything from romantic relationships to platonic relationships to unrequited love was depicted. However, these are not just regular stories. They each have an element of surrealism about them, from a woman carrying the broken shards of her heart in a small sack, to a couple exchanging the love they have for each other in large red bags.

The lovable characters each had their own

unique personalities and stories, not all of which ended happily, mirroring real life. This production featured many talented students who represented their characters beautifully. Among these talented actors was Aiden Rios, (playing the role of Pete), who when asked what his favorite part of being in the play was, said, "The acting. The acting is really fun, and also hanging out, when we're not acting." It seems like all the people who were part of this production grew very close.

Trinitee Chambers, the actress who played Gayle in the play, said "My favorite part of the play, and I know this sounds really cheesy, was the people. A lot of freshmen are in the show this year and I feel like just being able to meet new people, meet new kids, in a general sense, is like my favorite part of the whole play. You get to bond with people you've never talked to before." She had a wonderful experience with this production and others in the past, and wanted to tell other students: "If you have the chance to, or if you ever want to do the show next year, or even the musical coming up, *Chicago*, please do it! It's so much fun, I promise!"

The audience loved the play, and as the crowd sat in the dark auditorium, there were often gasps heard at surprising moments, and giggles at the comedic bits sprinkled throughout the play. It seemed like everyone loved it! One audience mem-

ber said, "There were a lot of emotional moments I really liked that were well done by the actors in the play. All the performances were great, it was a good use of my ten dollars!"

Not only were the performances good, but the technical aspects of this production were also amazing. Stage Managers Gianna Gonzalez and Barbara Benitez Vasco worked behind the scenes to make sure the play went smoothly. The lighting and effects were all great, and the backdrop of the northern lights that brightened at those magical moments when the love between characters was realized really helped highlight the themes of the play and make it an even more enjoyable experience overall.

In the end, this type of play makes the audience think about their own relationships, watch others unfold and ultimately blossom before them.



Q&A with GC's own Shye Roberts

by Jaden Bernard

Unless you've been living on the moon or under a rock, then you've probably been aware of the magical journey of former Glen Cove student Shye Roberts, who has been dazzling audiences on NBC's *The Voice* and has made it to the Final round of the famed show's competition with the winner taking home \$100,000 and a recording contract. Roberts recently returned home to Glen Cove to much fanfare and spoke to the *Knightly News* about her amazing journey. This is what she had to say.

Q. How has the journey been so far?

"The journey's been pretty easy so far. The hardest part was probably just dealing with emotions, like nerves. "

Q. What has been the process so far? How does one actually audition with *The Voice*?

"I think that it was pretty easy to audition. The first few rounds they like to ask you questions about yourself and see if you're the right fit for the show and get your voice and stuff, and yeah, it's been pretty easy like- you just have to worry about keeping your voice safe and keeping yourself safe."

Q. Have you met interesting people?

"Yeah, there was the coaches- but all of the other artists are all amazing singers, so all of those people stood out to me."

Q. What part of the process have you not cared for or don't like?

"No- I think I enjoyed it all, I don't think there was anything that I didn't like."

Q. What do you think this will do for your career?

"Either it won't at all, or it'll be pretty impactful- Like an all or nothing thing."

Q. Have you grappled with any emotions throughout the whole process?

"Yeah, mainly nervousness. It's pretty nerve-racking to get up on stage and sing in front of so many people, so that was something I had to get over."

War-Torn Homes to New Starts

By Aileen Castaneda

In the past few years, several factors have been affecting the country of Ukraine. American teenagers have little to no understanding of the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine. Furthermore, there isn't much being taught to American teenagers about how Ukrainian civilians, especially children, are being affected by the war. Tragically, many Ukrainian teenagers have been forced to become refugees, enduring life-changing experiences they will never forget.

Ukrainians have learned to adapt to life in their home country, only to be uprooted for safety reasons, such as bombings that disrupt education and daily life. They have lost the sense of normalcy they once knew. What was once natural and familiar has been replaced by a harsh new reality. Many are forced to move to foreign countries, like the United States, where they must adapt to a different way of life. Adjusting to new lifestyles, food, and culture has revealed how misrepresented European culture often is in the U.S. At the same time, many Americans hold misconceptions about war, lacking an accurate understanding of the horrors Ukrainians face daily. For those in Ukraine, hearing the words "we are officially at war" was surreal at first, but it quickly became an unrelenting nightmare.

Seventeen-year-old Vikulia has been a refugee in the United States for two years. She has lost family and friends, and she now lives with the understandable burden of PTSD from these traumatic events. Her life changed drastically as

she was forced to adapt to a new country, with little knowledge of the language, a different diet and the sorrow of losing loved ones. Accepting that war has turned her country into chaos and destruction has been unimaginably difficult.

At first, when Vikulia heard about people dying, she felt detached. She didn't know many of the victims personally, so the severity of the situation didn't fully sink in. However, everything changed when the war began to claim the lives of people she cared about. Hearing of her friends' deaths and remembering the last moments they spent together—never realizing those would be their last—brought the reality of war painfully close. This created deep emotional scars and left her haunted by the sounds of bombs and the devastating images of destruction.

Despite her struggles, like most teenagers, Vikulia is asked about her plans for the future. Though her PTSD has shaped her life, it has also inspired her. She now hopes to pursue psychology to help others who have faced trauma similar to hers. Having lived through these experiences, she feels uniquely equipped to support others in processing their pain and rebuilding their lives.

Mental health has been deeply impacted by the war, with PTSD being one of the most common conditions affecting refugees and soldiers alike. Many Ukrainians suffer from depression, anxiety, and even conditions like agoraphobia, stemming from the trauma of losing their homes, loved ones, and sense of stability. Studies suggest that roughly



30% of Ukrainians experience PTSD, with even higher rates among refugees living in foreign countries. This widespread mental health crisis underscores the urgent need for support systems to help Ukrainians cope and recover.

As time goes on, Ukraine must focus on providing critical help for its affected civilians. Efforts to address mental health can play a key role in helping people heal, rebuild their lives, as well as find a sense of stability and peace. Vikulia's story is just one among many that highlight the immense resilience of Ukrainians who have been forcibly thrust into unimaginable circumstances.

Hearing these stories allows us to better understand the true cost of war. For American teenagers, who may never experience such devastation, these stories offer a window into the lives of those impacted by conflict. By listening and learning, we can honor their experiences and offer support as they work toward recovery and rebuilding their futures.

College Can Be Free!...

The Excelsior Program at SUNY & CUNY Schools

Are you a driven Glen Cove High School student held back from your dream schools by a lack of funds? If so, you should really learn about the Excelsior Program, a program that allows those whose parents earn under \$125,000 per year to attend a SUNY or CUNY school tuition-free. Many Glen Cove students may qualify for the Excelsior Program without realizing. As a matter-of-fact, many of the students may have not even heard of the Excelsior Program.

The requirements for the program are an annual household income of less than 125,000 per year and a high school diploma. There are also residency requirements where you must be a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen, and you have to be a legal resident of New York State and have resided in New York State for 12 continuous months. Also, If you are an applicant of the Excelsior Program, you will also have to stay in New York after college graduation for the same number of years equal to the amount of years the program was applied for. Note: there is also the NYS DREAM Act for those that do not meet these residency requirements (<https://www.hesc.ny.gov/applying-aid/nys-dream-act/>).

On top of the benefits granted, the Excelsior Program is classified as a “last dollar” scholarship, meaning any federal or NYS granted scholarships will be applied first and the program will cover any remaining tuition expenses. In other words, the program is stackable with other scholarships, such as the PELL or TAP programs.

One question may be is this program really for everyone? As highlighted by Mrs. Anderson, a Glen Cove High School guidance counselor “Everyone’s path is different and you never know where it may take you. I encourage all students to explore their options, so they can make a more informed decision for their future. You can always look into the scholarship, apply and compare financial aid offers to see if the scholarship works for you. One of the drawbacks may be the requirement to stay and work in NYS for however long you received the scholarship for. If you plan on leaving New York, this may not be the option for you.”

This is a great point to mention since different people will end up in different places, so if you know that staying in New York isn’t in your future, then the Excelsior Program may not be for you.

It should be noted that being a New York State resident refers to having been in continuous

residence in New York State for 12 months or more, and that if you are to maintain your scholarship you must maintain a passing grade for your college courses as well as completing 30 credits per term. You are also eligible for the scholarship if you have already received your Associate’s Degree (two years), or are transferring from another non-SUNY or non-CUNY university, as long as other eligibility requirements are met before your transfer.

If you are a determined Glen Cove student who meets the criteria above, then the Excelsior Program may be worth acknowledging. Even if you are someone who is already going to receive financial aid, the overwhelming benefits of the Excelsior Program should not be overlooked.

For additional information, below is a QR link to the NYS Excelsior Program Website, which may expand on some of the details above.



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Look Back by Fujimoto Movie Review by Mariah Cueva

Tatsuki Fujimoto, the creator of Chainsaw Man and Fire Punch, has adapted one of his hit projects into a movie. Look Back was originally released in July of 2021 as a manga and premiered in theaters in June of 2024. This one-shot web manga was greatly received by the media because of its connection to people in the art world.



The film follows a young girl, Ayumu Fujino, who is gifted with a talent in drawing comics. Every week her comic gets published in her school’s newspaper. Fujino enjoys the praise she gets from her fellow fourth grade classmates and teachers. That is until a homeschooled student, Kyomoto, gets her work published one morning. In comparison, Kyomoto’s artwork is beyond the ability of a fourth grader and even exceeds high school standards. Thus, a jealous Fujino pushes herself to work night and day in order to improve her artwork. As she works, she faces intense criticism from the people around her. Her teachers, friends and family all try to get her to pick up another hobby. Despite all her efforts, Fujino is still unable to enhance her skills to beat Kyomoto and quits altogether. Fujino returns to her normal routine, that is, before she heard of Kyomoto. Months later, Fujino is tasked with delivering Kyomoto’s graduation certificate because of their shared work on the school newspaper. Although they had never met before, Fujino reluctantly goes to Kyomoto’s house to drop off the certificate. She leaves a note and runs out of the house before they can meet each other. This causes Kyomoto to run after her and thank her for being a source of inspiration. A dumbfounded Fujino signs Kyomoto’s coat and answers all the questions she had, even why she ended up quitting. This answer snowballs into Fujino taking up drawing again, which leads to the future collaboration between the two girls. Creating art allows the girls to form a bond that blossoms into a long lasting friendship.

Look Back’s main characters, Fujino and Kyomoto, allow artists to relive parts of their youth. Fujino is more extroverted and is seen to be a diligent worker. In contrast, Kyomoto is more on the introverted side, constantly having hair in her face, as a way to hide. She is so afraid of people that it prevents her from going to school all the way up until university. Although the two girls are different, their shared love for drawing brings them together. They inspire each other to become better versions of themselves. For example, Fujino inspires Kyomoto to put herself out into the world, even if she doesn’t initially realize it.

Look Back tackles serious themes such as rivalry, love, violence, friendship and art. It also attempts to answer the question, “Why do we make art?” If you have watched or read some of Fujimoto’s other works, you will be delighted to see that this film includes hidden easter eggs of his past work. Including the mysterious door and manga panels from Chainsaw Man and even the names of the characters themselves, Fujino and Kyomoto are a nod to the author, Tatsuki Fujimoto. The story also hints at aspects of the author’s early life. For instance, how Fujimoto started drawing when he was a young kid in middle school, how he attended an art college and how he was obsessed with surpassing his peers’ art skills. For enjoyers of this movie, I would recommend Kurayukaba, Her Blue Sky and a Silent Voice. For people that enjoy reading manga, I would recommend reading other works that Fujimoto created.

Teacher Feature: Mr. Viera

by Isabella Dilgard-Clark

The teacher feature for this edition in the Knightly News is Mr. Viera or “Mr. V” as he is also known. He is the new art teacher here at Glen Cove High School and he teaches digital and studio art.

He was inspired to become a teacher after his English teacher Mrs. Barnheat showed him patience and kindness. She took the time to help him recite “We The People” and encouraged him to always do his best.

He wanted to be an art teacher because of his love for art and the joy it brings him. He enjoys hands-on projects because they are always creative and unique. Art for him is all about expression, creation, technique and the uniqueness of it all. Two people can have the same reference and see two different things and create two different things. Art is based on your view of the world, which is the beauty of it. This leads to his admiration for Andy Warhol, who overcame a less than ideal childhood to break down stuffy traditions and provide a voice for the voiceless. “I always like how Warhol proved art didn’t have to be perfect and polished or slick to be beautiful,” Viera said.

He has always wanted to become an art teacher, and after meeting all the staff and seeing student artwork, he knew he wanted to be an art teacher at Glen Cove. It was evident that kids in this school had a passion for art, so he decided to work on the north shore of Nassau County. The positive work environment, respect for art and the pride the kids showed when they created something were all factors that influenced his choice to work here and to create even more intricate, creative and unique art.

The youngest in his family, Mr. Viera grew up with plenty of siblings (three brothers and 2 sisters) in Queens and went to Queens College, but also spent some of his childhood in Texas and Kansas. Before walking the halls of Glen Cove, he also worked in Connecticut and New York before heading back to Long Island.

Mr. Viera is also a big fan of traveling and seeing new cultures during his spare time, with future treks to Japan and Italy on his list. Recently, he went to Barcelona and admired the architecture the city had to offer as well as the food and overall socialization and interaction he had with the friendly people.

To leave you off, a couple of quotes to help inspire Mr. Viera. “Choose something you love, stick to it, do it well”. “Be kind people may have different thoughts and opinions”. Last but not least “ Work hard, follow directions and accept differences.”



DECA Students Go To NYC

By Ibaad Naqvi

DECA is a non-profit student organization and provides many different volunteering and business opportunities all across the world. An example of a business opportunity they provided to forty DECA and Business students is the recent field trip that happened to Rockefeller Center. Students left early in the school day to visit the Bryant Park Holiday Market and Rockefeller Center to observe how businesses sell their products during the holiday season. The trip was very informative and taught students about how businesses can market during the holiday season to give them a sales advantage. Places in the Bryant Park Holiday Market such as the North Pole and Whoopie stands serve food items such as hot chocolate, pies and their advanced stores back at the ing outside how the tree businesses are attracted Rockefeller Center will be more tions are also good for pictures that can provide publicity for Bryant efferer Center which can boost the businesses as more people may this trip provided insight to students on how businesses can have ad-their environment such as the weather and their location of business. factors allow them to have an increased revenue and profit and have so future customers may potentially consume their product. DECA is learn about business, increase your skill sets, meet new people and become a leader, as well as receiving business opportunities such as the field trip you have read about in this article.



A Christmas Show

Nishka Baboolal

It's Christmas time
I have but a dime
To put to my name
Yet life is not the same
It might be the mistletoe
Or the pine leaves in the snow
But there's something about this season
I forget all reason
Ornaments hang on simple string
The wind blows and bells ring
Icicles hang down windows
The bells ring and wind blows
I give my gifts wrapped in red and green
Have I painted the scene?
It's Christmas time
I have a bell that chimes
And an ornament on a simple string
Now all I need is a friend to bring
Come all, come now
Let loneliness take a bow
Let's close the curtains
Hand off our burdens
It's the season for love
Oh and look above!
It's begun to snow
I think I like this show

I fell in Fall

Nishka Baboolal

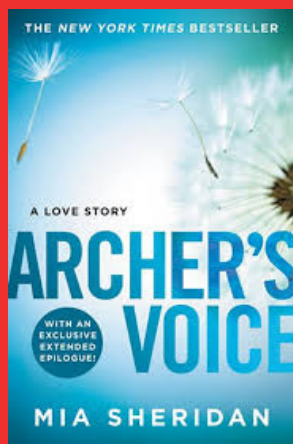
Just like how leaves fall
The gravel started to call
Not many leaves were hanging
And I was as red as fall could bring
I was apart of the last few
I fell down into you
There was no sound
When I hit the ground
And as people stepped over and on me
As I no longer was in the safety of a tree
But I was okay with it
Since it meant next to you I would sit
It meant there was something more
The more I have always been looking for
At the top of my tree branch
Which had always been mine to attach
I have unassumingly searched
For something to quell my thirst
My bones ached for touch
And your veins were ready for such
When I was ready to hide you taught me to unfold
You held me in the cold
Showed me how to water myself
How to reach the candles on a high shelf
I was once kept away, I just was alive
Living was something bees did in a hive
Some birds did on my branches
Something caterpillars did on leaves
But this certain Fall came along
And now I can't stop singing your song

English classes at the high school use a portion of their class time for Independent Reading, where students and teachers select a book of their choice to read freely. Each month the Knightly News will talk to one teacher and one student to share their thoughts about what they're currently reading. Here's what they had to say:

Archer's Voice

by Mia Sheridan

Ms. Ashbahian



Would you recommend this book to someone? Why or why not?

Yes absolutely I would recommend this book to someone because it is such a well written masterpiece and is different then most books I have read

Why do you think other readers would enjoy it? Why did you enjoy it (if you did) or why didn't you (if you didn't).

I think other readers would enjoy it because it is a different story then we are normally used to. It also exposes the reader to disabilities that aren't talked about enough and how different people communicate. It also exposes how people can learn who they truly are with the help of others

What ages or types of readers do you think would like the book?

I think anywhere from like 16+

How much did you know about this book before picking it up? What surprised you the most about the book?

I only knew what I had learned on #BookTok and what people were saying about it. It was nothing even close to what I was expecting and so much better than expected

How thought-provoking did you find the book? Did the book change your opinion about anything, or did you learn something new from it? If so, what?

It really got me thinking about the idea that you can't judge anyone by the way they look and that people may need to look deeper to find out who someone truly is. It also taught me that someone's disability does not have to stop them from being successful in their own way

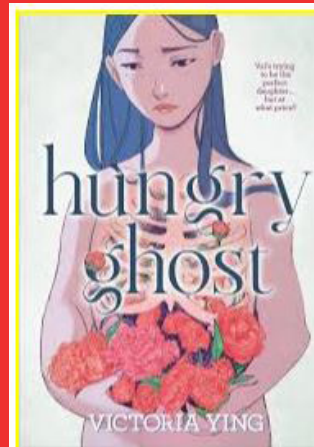
How did the book make you feel? Did it evoke any emotions? Make you laugh, cry, or cringe?

It made me cry a lot especially with the plot twist at the very end of the book. It came out of nowhere and I couldn't stop crying.

Hungry Ghost

by Victoria Ying

Adrianna Argueta



Would you recommend this book to someone? Why or why not?

Yes, because it talks about a girl with eating disorders and loss in this heartbreak story about learning to love yourself. And is heartbroken, hopeful, and frank about figuring out how to love yourself and even the people in your life who might stand in the way of that self-love. It's a beautiful, compelling book.

Why do you think other readers would enjoy it? Why did you enjoy it (if you did) or why didn't you (if you didn't).

Yes I enjoy it because it is an uplifting story about friendship and love. I wish I could have read this when I was a kid, but I'm also grateful that I've read it now.

What ages or types of readers do you think would like the book?

I think between the ages of 11 and 15

How much did you know about this book before picking it up? What surprised you the most about the book?

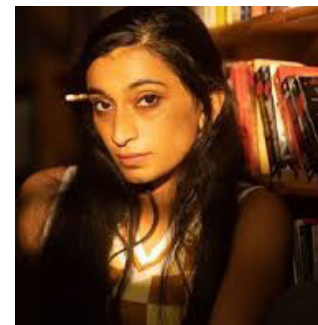
I didn't know anything about the book. Then read it, and it was so good. I learn about an eating disorder and to love yourself and the people in your life who might stand in the way of that self-love.

How thought-provoking did you find the book? Did the book change your opinion about anything, or did you learn something new from it? If so, what?

I have learned all of the new things like to love yourself and not to be mean to people body shape and eat what you want.

How did the book make you feel? Did it evoke any emotions? Make you laugh, cry, or cringe?

This book made me feel to be myself and to not be mean to people and to not think too much. And her mother who constantly reminds her of what will happen should she ever become fat.



Song Review
Janani K. Jha

Gladiators
by Natlie Macow

Janani K. Jha, previously known as J.

Maya, is a 26 year-old who had started releasing music on Youtube in 2021. She had grown popular with even her first song, Achilles Heel, currently with 1.5 million views on YouTube, and taking part in EPIC: The Musical as the voice of Aphrodite in the Wisdom Saga's song God Games, which had been released to the public on August 30, 2024. EPIC is also how I had first discovered her, and I'm extremely grateful I did. EPIC on it's own is marvellous and a huge recommendation of mine as well. Quite different from her schooling, which includes receiving a National Scholastic Award in Writing, competing and winning in a pun-off in Texas, and graduating from Harvard University, her choice to pursue music had definitely been in good judgment in herself and her work.

Gladiators is an empowering song inspired by female gladiators from ancient Rome. Also known as Gladiatrix, they had been forced to fight each other or animals for the entertainment of an audience that had no care for them. In the case of this song, it shows the alliance of three Gladiatrix who fight against the king that had pit them against each other.

In the eyes of who they fought against, they could be considered villains, especially when rising up against a tyrannous leader. There was reason for the fight, a reason for what could be seen by the rage of those fighting for so long that they had forgotten that they could be their own saviors.

The song is one of the singer's newer releases, having come out in September 2024, with a music video pairing premiering later that month on Youtube. The song's tone is expressive in taking back roles for yourself, which is shown in the music video with leads to a sword fight between the characters of a Gladiatrix and the king, played respectively by Janani K. Jha, and Jorge Rivera-Herrans, one of the lead creators of EPIC. The video also takes small details to have bigger meanings, such as the king's rolling of dice to decide fate and lead back to him. The simple act of two Glaiatrix, Talya Sindel and Tyra Thompson, watching on

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Game Review

God of War New Era, Same Kratos

by Dante Talisaysay



Following the ambiguous ending of 2010's God of War III, it was left unclear of how the story of the titular God of War himself would continue, as the following entries were all just prequels to either the original 2005 game, or God of War II. Finally, after six years, a sequel to GOW 3 was announced at the 2016 Electronic Entertainment Expo (E3) with a gameplay demo titled "God of War" like the first game. However, this was NOT a reboot. But the setting has now shifted away from Greece to a more Norse setting that we know today as Norway.

In that time, Kratos has considerably gained more control of the infamous temper he had in the original games set in the Greek Era, as well as grown a full beard in place of the goatee he used to have. He also remarried to a woman, Laufey, or how she's usually referred to, Faye. They raised a son, Atreus. But unfortunately, as soon as the player starts the game, they find out that Faye had died sometime before the events of this game. So now, Kratos is left to raise Atreus on his own. He teaches his son how to hunt, but keeps Atreus in the dark about his past or his godly nature.

His life in solitude is interrupted by a stranger with god powers, much like Kratos himself, and what results is an absolutely brutal melee that sees our protagonist seemingly beat this stranger. Following this, Kratos takes Atreus with him on a journey to spread Faye's ashes at the highest peak in the nine realms, which was her last wish before she died. Along the journey, they encounter characters like Brok and Sindri, who help Kratos (and the player) to upgrade his weapons.

Again, I'm not one to give spoilers. So you'll have to play the game on your own to learn more about the story. But I will tell you, it's worth your while. Despite the new setting, it's still the same guy from the original trilogy. Furthermore, he's still as awesome as he was even if he's tamed his infamous temper. Follow him and his son Atreus, as they try to reach the highest peak in the nine realms to honor Faye's final wish.

Song Review

Gladiators

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by Natlie Macow

as another is hurt, helping her up and joining forces through a closeup of being handed a sword, and a mutual sense of respect and promises as they hold each others' arm to assure that neither would betray, the slight smiles on their faces as they come to an agreement of what to do.

These small details take the cinematography of the video to another level, with every movement in the acting making expressions and feelings more believable through the screen of the viewer.

The song itself holds slight tension not in the vocals themselves, but in the meaning of the words. That the singer is so powerful, her legacy will go down in history and gold. The instrumentals add to this even more, growing in volume as the beats of the drum paired with the melody is enough to set the scene of a fight. The bridge is more vulnerable than the rest of the song, almost a call to not give up in the face of defeat along with a sense of desperation laced in the belief of the battle paired into the slow crescendo.

I find myself catching relations to Janani's newest song, Royal We, which takes on the more vulnerable side of a mental and emotional fight, and realizing your self-worth. I enjoyed the vocals and many harmonies. Overall, the song is a gorgeous fit to listen to while setting out on your own personal fights, which is a call to not let down your guard in the face of issues. I adore the work of the video and instrumentals of the song, along with the fact that there was fight choreography created for this piece. The work is shown to be more in-depth with every watch, which I appreciate as someone that loves discovering new details.

WANTED

Greetings from the staff of The Knightly News!
We are looking for energetic, dedicated writers and journalists to join our newspaper team! Writing in other languages is a bonus as we are looking to make the newspaper bilingual! Please stop by Room 143 on Tuesday afternoons after school if you are interested! We look forward to seeing you then!
Mrs. Palazzo & Mr. O'Donnell: Club Advisors

“Going Digital” in the AP World

by Furkan Efe Ozdemir

The school year is barreling towards Advanced Placement Testing season and most AP students are furious due to College Board changing their traditional ways that they were so used to. If you are not an AP student, no offense, but this simply isn't a concern of yours. On the other hand, if you are an AP student and you haven't heard the news, you must be living under an enormous rock.

The College Board is now switching their AP tests online. Yes folks, the AP Tests in May will no longer be on paper; instead students will be using their Chromebooks and probably other digital devices to take their tests with some tests being partially and some completely digital. So this year, we will be staring at our screens for 3 hours to take an important test we've been working towards all year. Students all over the country are protesting against the College Board's cost-cutting actions and even though the College Board rejects these accusations of taking the cheaper path. Critics point out the amount of profit that will be made from the switch since expenses on paper will drop considerably.

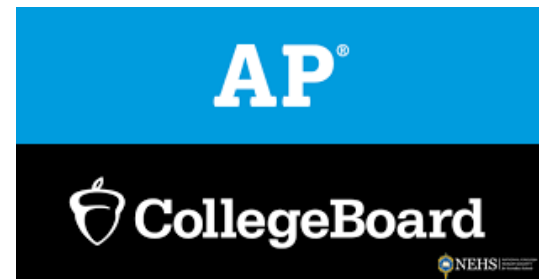
This isn't just a problem with AP tests changing. Few people realize that education institutions like universities and independent programs like College Board are private businesses and basically monopolies built around profiting off of students. Even though College Board is officially a non-profit organization, it is hard to put a reason to their recent changes. After high school, students spend thousands of dollars on education for just a diploma that only represents

an individual's history with education. Going forward, one can foretell that this isn't going to be the final straw either.

During the pandemic, schools needed an urgent solution to allow children their right to a proper education. Our Chromebooks have now been with us for almost a decade, and starting in 2022, digital SAT Exams are now being offered by the College Board. The College Board recently announced that 28 of the AP Exams offered will be completely digital, while some math and science courses that require free response questions will have a separate sheet of paper as part of the complete test. These online tools are designed to prevent disarray, although this might have positive and negative side effects.

So all critiques, jokes and sweaty nationalism aside, let's look at the situation logically. The transitions were made because of the convenience and security that the new Bluebook digital exams provide. Digital systems like exams can be encrypted easily and can prevent cheating, not accusing anyone of course. Digital exams can also prevent any errors from occurring during the test and blocking the students from taking the test they paid for.

While there will certainly be benefits environmentally with less paper, students who are afraid of technology and change may find this a scary challenge. Ms. Prudente, the school's former assistant principal and school's AP Director, answered some of the concerns of the students. "At first, we were nervous because



it could be problematic for students, but over the years, when we had to give digital exams here at Glen Cove, we were more comfortable with the system," she said. "I think students will find that they prefer digital exams, even though some might be skeptical."

The digital exams might get changed back to preferred paper, but that's only if the reactions of the students directly reach the College Board. It is important to remember that the customers are always right. However, there is no guarantee that a non-profit organization like College Board will even pay attention to the cries of their customers. Ultimately, protests may be futile.

The idea of potential digital state regents testing could be in the future for New York, although there is talk of getting rid of regents programs altogether and replacing them with more productive systems. Ultimately, if we look at the current digital AP Exams that were inspired from digital SAT's, it is likely that we will be seeing more technology in the future. With that being said, good luck in May!



Un legado de éxito del equipo de fútbol de Glen Cove

by Diego Alejandro Henríquez Martínez

Cuando sonó el pitido final de un partido muy disputado. El equipo de fútbol de Glen Cove High School, puede que no haya conseguido el título, pero lo que ha conseguido esta temporada es nada menos que extraordinario. Esta temporada ha estado llena de momentos inolvidables y un record impresionante. El equipo de fútbol de Glen Cove High School terminó la temporada con 12 victorias, 6 derrotas, y 1 empate. Un logro que no habría sido posible sin la increíble alineación de jugadores, y el delicado cuerpo técnico. Enry Hernandez, delantero, compartió sus pensamientos sobre el éxito del equipo. "Estoy orgulloso del grupo de muchachos que tuvimos este año y quiero agradecer al cuerpo técnico por un año increíble." Estas palabras de Enry Hernandez demuestran la unidad entre los jugadores y el cuerpo técnico.

Esta temporada, los jugadores de último año realmente han brillado. Demostrando una habilidad, un liderazgo y una determinación excepcional en el campo. Su experiencia y dedicación, no solo han elevado su propio rendimiento, sino que también han inspirado a sus compañeros de equipo a esforzarse por alcanzar la grandeza. Los defensores de último año Hector Flores, Jordan Flores,

y Adrian Olivera recibieron All County Honors por su increíble defensa durante toda la temporada. El portero Christopher Hernandez, que termino una temporada increíble con 116 paradas, recibió premios de All County Honors & Scholar Athletic award. Máximo goleador, Enry Hernandez terminó la temporada con 30 goles y 4 asistencias. Por su destacada temporada, Enry Hernandez recibió All County y fue merecidamente nombrado jugador del año del condado de Nassau! El entrenador en jefe, Brian Smith comparte su opinión sobre la temporada de los jugadores de último año. "La clase de último año es un grupo increíble de jóvenes que demuestran unión, deportividad, que son increíblemente talentosos y han logrado mucho. Este grupo ha participado en 4 semifinales del condado, 3 finales del condado y han sido coronados campeones del condado. Sus logros los convierten en uno de los grupos más exitosos en la historia del condado." El legado de estos jugadores de último año refleja su pasión e inspira a futuras generaciones de atletas. Alcanzando la final, los jugadores de segundo, y tercer año también han hecho contribuciones significativas al equipo. Aportando energía y un gran deseo de aprender

y crecer. Algunos jugadores destacados son Miguel Rivera, que terminó la temporada con 5 goles, y 2 asistencias, y Danilo Gonzales, que terminó la temporada con 3 goles y 8 asistencias. Es seguro decir que el equipo de fútbol de Glen Cove High School estará en buenas manos durante los próximos años. Esta temporada del equipo de fútbol de Glen Cove High School fue un testimonio del arduo trabajo, la unidad y el talento de todos sus jugadores. Aunque no lograron el título, el equipo dejó un legado increíble en la historia del condado gracias a sus logros y dedicación. Con un grupo tan talentoso, el futuro del fútbol en Glen Cove se ve más brillante que nunca.



GC Shines on the Gridiron/Pitch

by Ben Brenner

The goal for fall sports is to still be playing in late October and early November. Thankfully, Glen Cove varsity football and soccer teams did so.



Despite starting the season slow, the soccer team picked up the pace and turned in yet another stellar season under the tutelage of coach Brian Smith. By having a mix of seniors up top and a slick ball-playing style at the back, Glen Cove were able to go far into the playoffs. Wins over New Hyde Park, second-seeded Calhoun and third-seeded Jericho had them inching towards the annual monumental clash with archrival Garden City in the Nassau County Final, but unfortunately, the Knights came up short and the team's dreams were dashed.

All-American senior, Enry Hernandez, ran the show throughout the season with 30 goals and 4 assists, making All-County, while also being named the Nassau County Player of the Year and First Team All-Long Island! This incredible achievement is a testament to his hard work, talent and dedication both on and off the field.

Defenders Jordan Flores and Adrian Olivera (both seniors) had an impactful season slotting in comfortably with Hector Flores (senior), who all earned All-County Honors. The big man in between the sticks was Christopher Hernandez (senior) with over 100 saves and an 11 impressive clean sheets, deservedly receiving All-County and Scholar Athlete awards. Danilo Gonzales (junior) had a great season completing the season with 8 tallies."The team started off very slow, but eventually, we took off and became a threatening side," said Smith. Enry Hernandez said in a viral interview that his hard work is dedicated to the huzz, which is slang for his girlfriend. Classy work-all around!

Not to be outdone, the football team had a season for the ages, sporting a 7-1 regular season record, a 36-21 playoff home win over Baldwin and a conference semifinal game at Hofstra, where the Big Red succumbed to a stout Mephram side. Furthermore, the Baldwin game was GC's first home playoff game since 2015.

Leading the way was All-County star Devon Gonzalez, who finished in the top 5 in

the county in rushing and set the single season mark for Glen Cove football with 1,400 yards, not to mention grabbing MVP Honors in the after-season Senior Bowl. The senior also posted 200-yard rushing outputs in four straight games. Others rounding out All-County honors were star quarterback Jadyn Johnson (senior), shifty running back Taha Waly (senior), and trench warfare specialist Derrick Brown (senior), while big-play wideout Pete Satchell (senior) and junior line-backer Gamar Letellier grabbed All-Conference Honors. The offensive overall averaged a hearty 27.5 points per game and the defense held opponents to single digits in five games-no easy feat.

Stacking back-to-back playoff seasons can only be a plus going forward for head coach Steve Tripp, who feels there is positive momentum going forward. "We are hoping that our underclassmen have seen the effort and work that our seniors put into the last 2 years and will strive to continue the success that we have accomplished these past 2 seasons," said Tripp.



Glen Cove Winter Sports Preview

Boys Varsity Basketball Coach Falen

Key Players/Captains: Devon Gonzalez, Peter Satchell, Mark Reeves, Angel Basile

Key Games/Opponents: League games against Garden City, Sewanhaka, and Roosevelt

Coach's Take/Season Expectations: Senior led varsity team with majority of players coming off successful football season and looking for that energy to translate into basketball success.

Girls Varsity Basketball Coach Freitag

Key Players: Brooke Simmons, Isabel Basil, & Sophia Gonzales.

Key Games/Opponents: Oyster Bay Holiday Invitational Tournament (we finished 2nd place at this tournament last year, and would like to take home first place this season). All league games are key to us this season as we look to compete for a playoff berth.

Coach's Take/Season Expectations: "We look to continue playing competitive basketball, growing the program, and ultimately competing towards a playoff berth. This year we had the most girls tryout for the program in many years, and that is a testament to the growth and success our program has had. Girls Basketball is the place to be!"

Varsity Wrestling Coach Peet

Top Wrestlers:

Giorgio Valenzuela, Gamar Letellier, Gio Galo, Aiden Ham

Key Matches/Tournaments:

Cove Cup 1/4 (2nd place last season), Charles McCullough Tournament 12/27 (2nd Place last season), Jericho 1/17 (Senior day). All Home Matches

Coach's Take/Season Expectations: (Quote Please) "The Wrestling team returns key starters with All-County Senior Giorgio Valenzuela. Other leaders such as Letellier, Ham, Galo, and Davlatshoev look to build a strong foundation for the younger wrestlers in the room. The goal this season is for everyone to improve on their game and continue building a tough Glen Cove culture."

Boys and Girls Track Coach Dottin

Top Runners/Captains: Kailey Yanes, Giuliana Portaro, Makayla Chestnut, Letisha Perkins

Nico Parodis, Calogero "Charlie" Guastella

Key Matches/Tournaments: 3 invitationals at Ocean Breeze Complex Staten Island

Coach's Take/Season Expectations: (Quote Please) "We expect to grow and become even more competitive, building off a 4th place finish in the spring for the girls' 4x400m relay. Anytime you have four returning relay legs, you have to be excited about what's to come. We also expect more individuals from the boys' side to qualify for counties. With record numbers coming out for Winter Track and Field it seems that everyone has bought into the training and that's a great sign."

Rifle Team Coach DeCarlo

Top Marksman/Markswoman: Grace Guillen and Jason Basil

Key Matches/Tournaments: Valley Stream / County Championship

Coach's Take/Season Expectations: "With only 2 returning shooters, we are hoping to get back to the country championship."

Varsity Cheerleading Coach Gehnrich

Top Members/Captains: Mayleen Chavez, Angele Serrano

Key Competitions/Tournaments: Freeport / Massapequa

Coach's Take/Season Expectations: (Quote Please) "We left a lot on the mat last year, we expect to step in right where we left off and finish stronger this season."

Kickline Coach Ashbahian

Top Members/Captains: Michelle Pinilla and Isabella Damiano

Key Competitions/Tournaments: Long Island Dance Team Association (LIDTA) Competitions in January and March.

Coach's Take/Season Expectations: "Hoping to finally get Glen Cove another trophy for the first time in a few years."