

Manasquan HIGH SCHOOL

ANOTHER FUN YEAR OF IMPROV FOR RON WHICH RAISES MONEY FOR SCHOLARSHIP

BLUE & GRAY



Mrs. Rice



Mrs. Mura

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NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION
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SENIOR LIAM STARKEY WINS SEAT ON BRIELLE B.O.E



CHEERS TO RETIREMENT!

ESL teacher Mrs. Rice and Special Education teacher Mrs. Mura are retiring this month. Thank you for all you have done at MHS!





The Blue & Gray
Manasquan H.S.

2023-2024

Issue Three

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Mock Trial Reaches Semifinals

By: Rose Behler



Above: The team is all smiles after winning their case.

Manasquan High School offers a wide variety of clubs and activities, with the Mock Trial club being one of the most interesting and educational ones. This club is designed for students who have an interest in debate or pursuing a career in law. In the club, students act out the roles of attorney, witnesses, or jurors in a simulated legal trial. The Monmouth County Trial Tournament is held in the month of February, where students compete against other high school teams. This year, the team has done extraordinarily well!

Advised single-handedly by Mr. Critelli,

the team holds the trials at the Monmouth County Superior Court in Freehold. The team meets once or twice a week for an hour in the history room to go over everything and practice. Many people are saying that the team is "in the semi-finals for the first time in school history," Mr. Critelli said.

Everyone gets assigned a role and the group focuses on one court case per session. Maggie Cohen, a junior at Manasquan, plays a witness. Juniors Ryan Rose and Julia Carson are the prosecution lawyers. Julia said that Ryan "plays his role very well and is "very passionate about being a lawyer." She said that he does an amazing job at "keep-

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Get Ready for it...MHS Drama Club Presents: *Into the Woods!*

By: Rose Behler

The 2024 Spring Musical at Manasquan High School will be a production of *Into the Woods!* Starting March 13th at 6 p.m., and continuing through Saturday, Drama Club will perform five shows which are sure to fill the auditorium with life.

The Drama Club has been preparing for this show since November, and is actually performing its spring production two weeks earlier than usual.

Into the Woods is a musical that combines several famous fairytales written by the Brothers Grimm. The main story is about a baker and his wife who are cursed by a witch and need to collect four items in order to break their curse and have a child. On their journey to find these items, they encounter Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk, and Rapunzel. The musical explores the consequences of the characters' actions and choices.

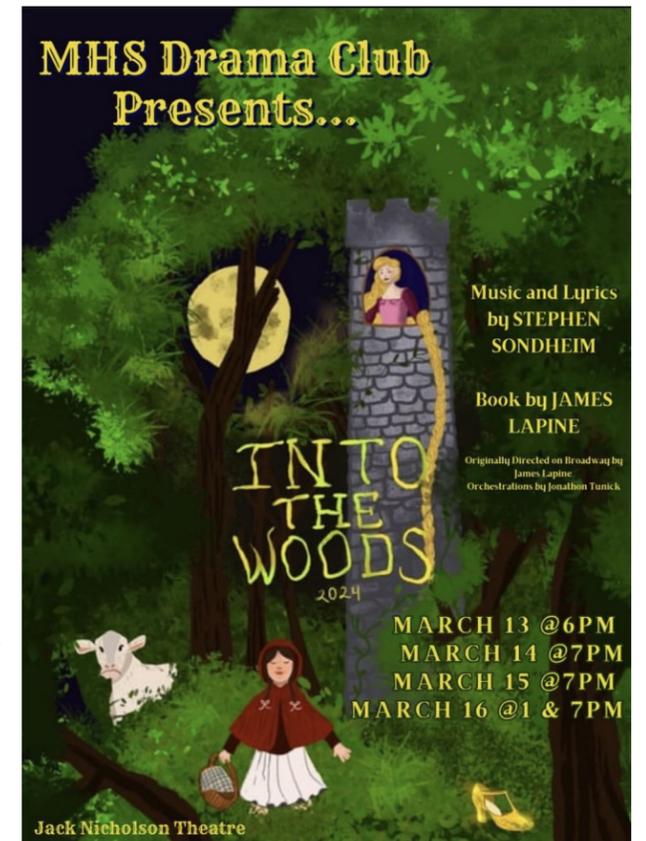
Members of the drama club worked extremely hard to prepare for this year's fall play. Many factors go into putting a play together: stage crew, lighting crew, actors, writers, directors. This year, there are about 40 students participating in the cast and crew. Ms. Schille, the drama teacher, has been at Manasquan for four years and has been the drama teacher since her start here.

Originally, the play was not going to be *Into the Woods*, and Mrs. Schille said that she "would have never imagined doing this amount because it is so difficult," however she has total faith in the cast's ability and "with the number of seniors and their experience" she is sure that everything will go smoothly. She is excited to take on a show this difficult and give the cast a challenge.

"Rehearsals consist of a lot of fun and hard work," senior Cormac Lawrence said. Cormac will play the narrator in *Into the Woods*. "The Drama Club brings people together—we're like a giant family," he added. Cormac adds that his favorite part of being in the Drama Club is "the people—and he's "made so many good friends doing the shows."

Rehearsals start at 2:30 and right away the cast does a warm up and everyone reviews their own material. Ms. Schille, Ms. Galizio and Jess Slovak, a senior, take notes on what they like and don't like and record what can be improved upon. "Sometimes we need to stop and fix something and keep going back, and then we just get as much as we can done until around 5 o'clock," Ms. Schille said.

"We've never opened the show on a Wednesday before...so we're losing one really important day," Ms. Schille said, and this year the show is happening two weeks earlier than usual. Despite these "setbacks," the cast has always done super well, and Ms. Schille is confident that the show is ready to be seen. Everyone is "ready to make it happen!"



Above: The *Into the Woods* flyer, showing the dates and times.

NHS Inducts 75 New Members

By Fernanda Morales

On Tuesday, January 23rd many students, parents and teachers filled the Jack Nickolson theater to honor and reward 75 students whom were recently inducted into the National Honors Society.

The National Honors Society (NHS) is a national organization established to recognize outstanding High School students. NHS serves to honor and reward students who have demonstrated excellence in the four pillars of: Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Character.

“The NHS, is only available to qualified juniors and seniors who have met the cumulative grade point average of an A and have passed at least one Honors/AP course,” said Mrs. Festa, who is the Advisor of NHS along with Mrs. McHugh.

Once a student becomes eligible, they are required to attend mandatory meetings where more information of the induction process are covered. “If students choose to apply there is an application process where they need

to have 45 hours of community service, including hours of leadership within the school community,” Mrs. Festa added.

During the application process, students must write character essays, include a re-

sume. From then on, the applications are sent to a panel of teachers, where they verify that they have completed everything in the application process. It then finally gets sent to another group of teachers that verify that the applicants meet all four pillars. Lastly, the Induction takes place.

“It was an awesome feeling getting inducted to NHS. It was always a goal of mine throughout my high school career,” Matteo Chiarella, a junior said. “It means a lot to me to be apart of NHS. My siblings were apart of NHS throughout their high school careers, and it feels great to follow in their footsteps.”

“My advice for students who one day hope to get inducted is to study hard and don’t putt off work for tomorrow that you can do today,” Matteo added.

Throughout the year, NHS members serve as peer tutors, raise funds for charities, and complete many service projects, some within the community.

Becoming a NHS member is not a small deal.

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Above (left to right): Ally Attardo , Cassidy Murray, Ella Condon, Megan Liggett and Joey Presbrey are pictured holding certificates. Below: Senior Charlotte Stroff speaks at the induction



Senior Spotlight

Squan Senior Liam Starkey Wins Seat on Brielle Board of Education

By: Peyton D’Andrea

Manasquan High School is filled with high achieving students who continue to impress our community. One individual stands out as being most influential in our community.

Liam Starkey, a senior at Manasquan High School, will be the youngest person to ever sit on the Brielle school district governing body. He got sworn in January 3rd and his next meeting will be the 24th of January. Meetings will continue once a month.

The Brielle Board of Education is a governing body responsible for the operation and management of a school’s district. Its primary role is to make decisions on policies, budgets and curriculum.

“I am honored to be given this opportunity to serve on

the Brielle Board of Education. I am grateful for all the citizens of Brielle that voted for me,” he says.

Liam saw on the ballot there were only 2 candidates for 3 seats so he decided to fun for the position, “I thought there might be an opportunity for me to be a write-in candidate. I think I can bring a young voice and a fresh perspective to the board,” he said.

Liam will be off at college next year so he had to think ahead on how he will attend the meetings. He plans on attending the meetings remotely, so he can continue to participate in college.

Liam is one of the youngest elected officials in the state. He says, “I think it doesn’t matter if you’re the



Liam Strakey doing his school work in Study Hall

oldest or the youngest. The important part is that people are willing to step up and participate. I’m going to do my part, but I hope that my success inspires people my own age to get involved.”

Liam Starkey is proud to be on the Brielle Board of Education and we at Manasquan High School are proud to have a student making a difference in the community.

NHS Induction

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“It’s a huge accomplishment, it helps build and show students the importance of academics and reaching to the community,” Mrs. McHugh said. “We do our annual trunk or treat, gift wrapping and tutoring,” Mrs. McHugh added.

Being part of the NHS, is a big responsibility. As Cassidy Murray, a junior, notes “it’s a very big responsibility because you need to keep up with all the requirements. I was super excited and proud of myself. We do have to complete five hours of community service, which are due at every monthly meeting.”

Cassidy also gave some advice to younger students. “Work hard in all your classes and take everything seriously because it will all pay off.”

MR. HOFFMAN AWARDED AS MHS GUIDANCE COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR!

By Gavin Duque

Mr. Hoffman, a guidance counselor here at MHS, has won an award and is being recognized as the support staff/guidance counselor of the year! This prestigious award is only given out to staff members that work their hardest to help their students find their best interests and successfully guide them to their desired colleges and careers.

As a guidance counselor, Mr. Hoffman works with juniors and seniors to help better prepare them for college and jobs after high school. On December 4th, when Mr. Hoffman found out he had won, he was utterly proud of himself.

He says, "It is always a proud moment when I get recognized for something I did at work or outside of school. Anytime I get recognized it is nice."

Since coming to Manasquan about 21 years ago, Mr. Hoffman has worked his hardest to help students achieve their greatest goals and best interests. Regardless of struggles and issues that can get in the way, Mr. Hoffman perseveres and is dedicated to guiding his students in the right direction.

Mr. Hoffman clearly enjoys helping students find what they want to do

after high school, and makes the process of finding your college and interests much smoother.

When asked what he enjoys most about his job, he says, "There's times when kids come back excited about the school they got into, and you can tell it's a good fit for them." He adds, "It shows we did a good job finding their careers and interests."

Students and staff around MHS respect and recognize Mr. Hoffman as an immensely helpful and dedicated guidance counselor. Senior Colin Tracy talks about how Mr. Hoffman made his process in finding colleges smoother.

"He has been extremely helpful and nice to me during the year. He helped me apply to colleges like Clemson, Auburn and others. Helped me fix and organize my SAAR and sent my SAT scores to schools of interest." Colin adds, "He does everything fast and organized. He also really helped with teacher recommendations."

Fellow senior Carley Tagliareni had this to say about Mr. Hoffman, "We frequently discuss my plan



Above: Mr. Hoffman smiling at his desk

and what fits my needs and interests. He was helpful in getting my applications all sorted out. He helped me apply to UNCW, URI, and TCNJ."

All students and staff of MHS appreciate and acknowledge Mr. Hoffmans hard work and dedication into getting his students to succeed. His solid work ethic and determination has helped various students get into their desired colleges and finding their career paths.

Congratulations, Mr. Hoffman!

Mrs. Eldridge Named New Vice Principal

By: Kelly Meza

She'll finish the year as a Spanish teacher; then take on new role July 1

MHS Spanish teacher Mrs. Eldridge is taking on the position of vice principal at the end of the school year.

Mrs. Eldridge has been teaching at MHS for a long time now and is a Spanish teacher. She has participated in extracurricular activities and is a coach.

"I feel like I am going to serve Manasquan High school in a different capacity, but I am excited for the change!" said Mrs. Eldridge. She decided to take on the role of vice principal because it is an exciting change in her career, and she wants to take more of a leadership role, and to make sure that every student that attends MHS has a great experience.

Mrs. Eldridge believes that the most challenging part for her will be leaving her profession as a Spanish teacher behind and transitioning into the administration role. Mrs. Eldridge says that she truly enjoys her job as a teacher and appreciates her students. She knows that her new job will be a completely different atmosphere.

"I don't think I am really nervous because I think that the administrators in the building are going to be very supportive. They have already been very supportive in helping me transition, so I just think it is like joining a different team."

MHS principal Mr. Goodall is thrilled that Mrs. Eldridge is going to take on the role of vice principal and this next step in administration. "She has a long-

standing passion and care for the students at Manasquan High School," Mr. Goodall said. "By talking to her you can see how meaningful it [MHS] is to her."

Mr. Goodall said that he had a number of eligible and very qualified people that work at MHS who applied for the position, and after a lengthy process, Mrs. Eldridge was the top candidate.

"Its due to her passion for being a staff member here at Manasquan High School, her long standing involvement in cocurricular activities such as student council, coaching lacrosse, and other activities," said Mr. Goodall.

Also, being a Spanish teacher, Mrs. Eldridge is bilingual, which is a welcomed skill to be able to speak with Spanish speaking families regarding school related issues or concerns.

High school administrative assistant Mrs. Winter has worked with Mrs. Eldridge for the past seven years. They've worked closely during the last few years as Mrs. Eldridge has wanted to get more involved with the school and move up to the role of the assistant principal.

Mrs. Winter states that she is happy for Mrs. Eldridge to receive this position. She thinks it is very exciting for anyone to get a promotion for something they genuinely want to take over.

"I am very excited for her. I think she will add a lot of positivity to the offices and she has great relationships with her students so I think that will be a very good positive reaction for us," said Mrs. Winter.

Mr. Goodall said that he knows that Mrs. Eldridge focus is to include all students at MHS, and that she will be a "helping hand and encourage kids to get involved so they have the best experience here."

MHS students and staff can welcome Mrs. Eldridge by congratulating her and supporting her as she takes on a new role.

"All the students here, the staff and the parents in the community know that her heart is always in the right place, and she will always do the right things by students," Mr. Goodall added.

Good luck Mrs. Eldridge!



Above: Mrs. Eldridge smiling

Below: Mr. Goodall looks forward to working in a new role with Mrs. Eldridge



Improv For Ron Celebrates Squan Hero

By: Angelina George



Above: Jess Slovak leads a dance in the game Flock Dance.

Some may remember Ronald Kubik for his infectious smile, green mohawk, or his unforgettably kind demeanor, while others remember him as a hero. Ron's life is commemorated during the annual show at MHS called Improv for Ron.

Ronald Kubik was 23 years old when he died saving the lives of 29 other people. Ron died a selfless hero in the war in Afghanistan. Ron was a student at MHS, and during his time here he was heavily involved. Ron took part in Journalism, wrestling, football, and improv.

In order to remember and honor Ron in 2012 English teachers Mr. Mawn and Mr. Harvey began Improv for Ron. Improv For Ron is a yearly im-



Above: Casey Finnegan leads students in the Flock Dance

prov show put on by Mr. Harvey's improv class/club along with many alumni. It's always a good time filled with lots of laughter and smiles.

"I love putting on the show every year. It's such a special event that I think Ron would really love. Ron would be so proud because we are taking such a big risk and Ron was very fond of not letting fear overtake you," explained improv teacher Mr. Harvey.

On Friday February 3rd at 7pm in the Jack Nickelson theater around 300 people watched the

improv stars perform. Although there were some empty seats the auditorium was full from the front row to the back row. They raised around \$3000 that will be used for scholarships that seniors can apply for. The show consists of several different games that the audience can participate in and the actors rose to the challenge and excelled in the spotlight.

Senior Casey Finnegan, who shined in one crazy scene playing a flirtatious cousin, loves the uniqueness of the improv show. "It is entirely on the fly! We have no plans going in, no scripts, no blocking, and it is also based upon audience participation! It is by far the most hands-on show to see at MHS, as everything is shaped on the spot."

Star performers were Corbin Flynn, Casey Finnegan, Liam Stratton, Jess Slovak, Janelle Slovak, Cameron Leib,

Improv For Ron

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Bridget Freeman, Terrance Marks, Luke Rudo, Quinn Chapman, and Jocelyn Fajardo. The students managed the pressure of performing on the spot very well.

"It's super nerve-racking going into a show with no lines, no script, no nothing but your imagination. A lot of people I know are going so it's just adding to the anxiousness. But I am still very excited to perform!" explained president of the Improv Club senior Jocelyn Fajardo.

Many of the students did a good job of switching off between different roles on the fly. "Terrance Marks was good, he was so dynamic, and took the lead in a number of the games. In the game Press Conference, he played the role of Ken from the Barbie movie, where he shined," said Mr. Mawn.

This was the 12th year of Improv for Ron, and it seems to keep getting better each year. The show was a huge success which left everyone in the audience with a smile on their face. As the students and alumni are performing such a lively and vibrant show everyone who watches gets to carry a piece of Ron with them.



Above: Senior Terrance Marks leads the "flock dance" with other improvisers

MOCK TRIAL

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ing the witnesses on their toes." As well as practicing in a real courthouse, an actual judge decides the case. So far, Ryan Rose has done such a good job acting for his part that he cracked two people while cross examining them and securing Manasquan's win.

Julia Carson described Mr. Critelli as "a passionate and dedicated coach who deeply cares about Mock Trial." She adds that his enthusiasm "definitely makes it fun for the team." Mr. Critelli thinks that the team is going to win the whole competition. "We were predicted to finish dead last in the competition, and now we're in the final four cutting down the nets," he said. He reminds them that "anything is possible."

At first, the team was doubtful that they would ever make it this far. With their exceptional effort and dedication to their individual parts as well as working together, they have made it

farther than any other group has in Mock Trial history.

Below: The Mock Trial team: Chloe LaForge, Maya Poljack, Julianna Martell, Kathy Minchala, Julia Carson, Ryan Rose, Noah Mencer, Maggie Cohen and Mr. Critelli





Above: Mrs. Rice pictured at her desk, just a month away from retirement!

Mrs. Rice Is Retiring

By: Fernanda Morales & Kelly Mezza

helps whenever we are struggling. Mrs. Rice has helped improve my spelling.”

Mrs. Rice has always been close to the community here at Manasquan. Although Mrs. Rice is retiring from her teacher position, she will still help around at the “Kindness Café”

on Main Street. This is a coffee shop that employs those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The shop is a non-profit business and operates solely on donations. They offer fresh croissants, bagels, muffins, coffee, and tea. They are located at 140 main street in Manasquan. Mrs. Rice has always given back to her community, and she will be most remembered for that here at MHS.

Mrs. Rice graduated from Manasquan High School in 1987 and went to Villanova University in Pennsylvania, where she majored in Economics. “I always wanted to work in business,” Mrs. Rice said. She added, “I took this class called Economics 101 which is basically learning supply and demand, and I wasn’t a great student . My grades were really low, but I finished and got my degree in Economics.” Mrs. Rice graduated with

A devoted, inspiring hard-working teacher here at Manasquan High School is retiring from her ESL position. Mrs. Rice, who has lived in Manasquan her whole life, and graduated from both Manasquan Elementary and Manasquan High School, is saying her goodbyes. She will leave behind a legacy of helping students understand English who have relocated to the United States.

“I will miss my students and the routine of coming to MHS,” Mrs. Rice said.

Many of her students cherish Mrs. Rice for her kindness. “She’s very nice and sweet, and she helps a lot when it comes to learning English,” said Abdi Jared, who is currently a junior here at MHS and has been a student of Mrs. Rice for three years.

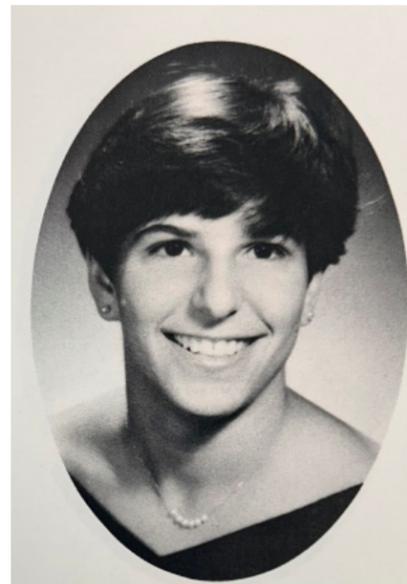
Dana Lopez added “I like how Mrs. Rice has a passion for teaching students and

a degree in Economics in 1991.

When Mrs. Rice got out of college, she landed a job where she sold office supplies, but she realized she did not want to do anything related to business. She decided to go back to get her teacher certification at Georgian Court University. She worked for four and a half years at Manasquan Elementary School from 1992 – 1996, until she was transferred to Manasquan High School. As her children got older, she decided to go back to Georgian Court University where she got her ESL certification.

While teaching Mrs. Rice has faced many obstacles, like not being able to commu-

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Above: Mrs. Rice is pictured from the 1987 MHS yearbook

Saying Our Goodbyes to Mrs. Mura!

By Sophia Evans

As of January 2024, beloved teacher Mrs. Mura will be retiring. Since 1996, she has been working at Manasquan School District. She started at the elementary school as a special education teacher, but soon transferred over to the high school.

Mrs. Mura attended Manasquan High School herself and graduated in 1987. She started her writing career working on the school newspaper, The Blue and Gray. Before becoming a teacher, she was a writer at the governor’s office in Trenton. After a new governor was elected, she decided to come back to Manasquan and become an English teacher. This is where she started, and where she will end.

Some of Mrs. Mura’s fondest memories are working as a special ed in-class support teacher in Mr. Mawn, Mr. Har-



Above, Mrs. Mura smiling for her 2023 yearbook picture; Below, Mrs. Mura smiling for her 1987 senior photo for Manasquan High School



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nicate with her students since most only spoke Spanish. “I think for me since I don’t speak Spanish and a majority of my students come from Spanish speaking countries, I think that is very challenging for me as a teacher.

“I am very excited but it’s a bittersweet feeling. I truly love my job here. Its like having another family here but I am a bit nervous ... Life is a bit too short, and you must take the risks to free up your own time to do things life has to offer,” Mrs. Rice added.

We want to sincerely thank Mrs. Rice for her hard work here at MHS, not only is she a devoted teacher, but she also always finds a way to give back to her community.

vey, and Mrs. Fenlon’s classrooms. She explained, “Mr. Mawn’s goofy personality set the class at ease. He allowed his students to have fun while still learning and it made me really love working with him.”

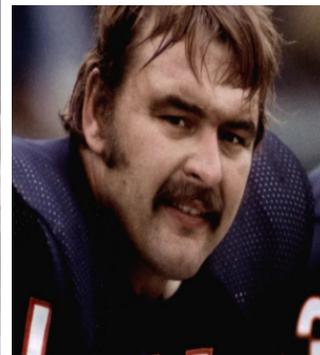
From a fellow colleague, Mr. Mawn explained a story, “Mrs. Mura loved to read different characters out loud, especially Blanche DuBois. She read Blanche with so much energy and enthusiasm that everyone in the room loved it.”

After retiring, Mrs. Mura plans to take a job as an executive assistant three days a week at a lobbying firm. She got this job from an old friend who is the CEO and is excited to step down from a five-day workweek to a three day. She was a friendly face around the school and will be missed very much. Thank you, Mrs. Mura, for a great past 27 years and we all wish you the best in the future!



Above: Students pose with Mrs. Rice outside MHS

HAIL AND FAREWELL: A TRIBUTE to THOSE WHO DIED in 2023



Jimmy Buffett, Margaritaville Rocker

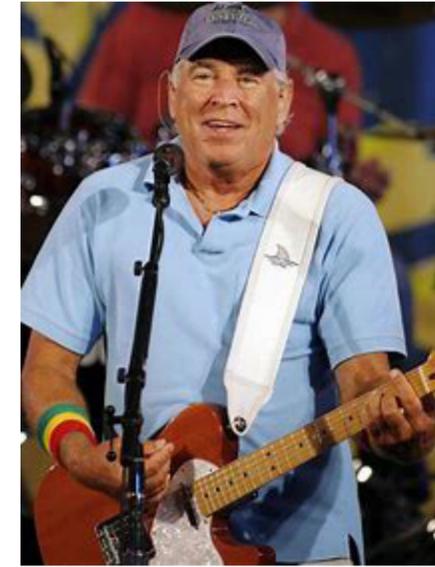
By: Gabby Boquel

Jimmy Buffett, the iconic beach lover and rock'n'roller who created the Margaritaville empire, died on September 1st, 2023 at his home in Sag Harbor, NY. He was 76.

The cause of death was a type of skin cancer that he has been battling for four years called Merkel-Cell carcinoma. He was surrounded by family when he died peacefully. His daughter wrote on Instagram "I will love you forever, and I will always keep the party going (responsibly, of course). His wife wrote, "Jimmy was love, every cell in his body was filled with joy. Jimmy was always the optimist, always twinking, always making us laugh."

Not only was Jimmy loved by his family and friends, but by millions of fans who loved his music. He was best known for his tropical rock sound and persona which could also be described as island songs. His most popular song was "Margaritaville" that he released in 1977. It reached number eight on the Billboard Hot 100 chart and soon became a classic, winning Jimmy new attention and status in the music industry.

Some of Jimmy's other popular songs are "Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes", "Come Monday", "Trying to Reason with Hurricane Season", "Son of a Sailor", "A Pirate Looks at 40" and "Volcano". But none of those brought Jimmy



Pictured clockwise from above: Jimmy Buffett looking casual as he performs in various concert appearances

the fame of "Margaritaville".

Margaritaville was more than a song, it introduced a way of life, the laid back, beach bum style that so many fans latched onto. One of his famous lyrics was "I'd rather die while I'm living than live while I'm dead."

Eventually, the song sparked decades of expansion for Jimmy from music into restaurants, hotels, and so much more. By the time of his death, the laid back, beach bum bar singer had become a billionaire.

James William Buffett was born on Christmas day, December 25th, 1946, in Pascagoula, Mississippi. He was the son of Mary Lorraine and James Delaney Buffett, who both worked for the United States Army Corps of Engineers. His family moved to Mobile and Fairhope, Alabama for part of his childhood. Jimmy attended Auburn University and then the University of Southern Mississippi, where he majored in journalism. After graduating from college, he moved to Nashville, Tennessee, to continue his country music career but didn't have good luck with music jobs at first. He got a job

at Billboard, working as an editorial assistant, while still trying to continue his career as a country singer. He moved to Key West, where he played in bars and small clubs, struggling to get attention. Finally, in 1970 he released his first album.

Seven years and a few albums later, Jimmy released Margaritaville, which changed his career and his life. His career took off. Before it was over Buffett had over 30 albums released, eight that are certified gold and nine are certified as platinum. In total he sold over 20 million certified records worldwide. This placed him amongst the world's best-selling music artists. He won two CMA awards during his career and was also nominated for two Grammy's. He was inducted into the Nashville Hall of Fame of songwriters in 2006.

Jimmy Buffett spent 30 years telling stories, recording music and singing songs. He spent more than 5 decades touring different cities around the world. He was an avid sailor, surfer, and even flew his own planes. He is survived by his wife Jane and three kids, Savannah Buffett, Sarah Delaney Buffett and Cameron Marley Buffett. Reportedly, his last words were "Have fun".



Beloved Football Star, Actor, and Civil Rights Activist, Jim Brown

By Sophia Evans

Jim Brown, an American football fullback, civil rights activist, and actor, died on May 18, 2023, in his home in Los Angeles, California. He was 87 years old.

The cause was natural. His death was announced through an Instagram post on the following Friday afternoon by his wife, Monique, who said he “passed peacefully”.

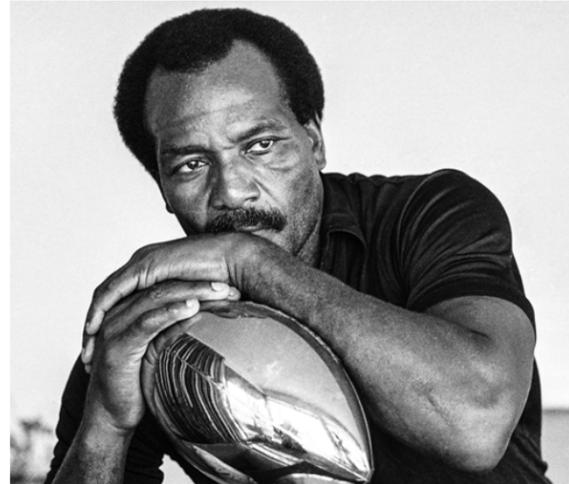
Jim was best known for being an outstanding American professional football player and some consider him the greatest running back of all time, or even argue that he is the best football player ever. His career lasted nine years, always playing for the Cleveland Browns. The Pro Football Hall of Fame’s Twitter account tweeted, “Although it’s been 58 years since Jim Brown played his final NFL game, his reputation as one of the most dynamic players to ever step on a football field transcends generations.”

James Nathaniel Brown was born on February 17, 1936, in St. Simons Island, Georgia. He was born to Swinton Brown, a pro-

fessional boxer, and his wife, Theresa, a homemaker. When he was nine years old, he moved to Manhasset, New York on Long Island. He went to Manhasset Secondary School in Manhasset, New York. While in attendance there, he earned himself 13 varsity letters from football, lacrosse, baseball, basketball, and track.

The 6’2, 228 pound football star took his career to Syracuse University. As a freshman, he was the only African American on the football team and endured racist taunts from his teammates and other students. As a sophomore, he became the second-leading rusher on the team. Junior year, he rushed 676 yards. In his senior year, he became first-team All-American, and set school records for highest season rush average and most rushing touchdowns in a single game. He also excelled in basketball, track and especially lacrosse. He is in the Lacrosse Hall of Fame, and was so good that rules were changed because of him.

Brown was picked in the first round of the 1957 NFL Draft by the Cleveland Browns and was the sixth overall selection. During his professional career, he won NFL



Above: Jim Brown from September 19, 1984, in his home in Los Angeles

Champion (1964), 3x NFL Most Valuable Player (1957, 1958, 1965), NFL Rookie of the Year (1957), 8x First-team All-Pro (1957-1961, 1963-1965), Second-team All-Pro (1962), 9x Pro Bowl (1957-1965), 8x NFL rushing yards leader (1957-1961, 1963-1965), and 5x NFL rushing touchdowns leader (1957-1959, 1963, 1965). There are many more records he has broken and awards he has received as well.

Although he was a great football player, he retired at the peak of his career and became an actor and civil rights activist. He obtained 53 acting credits along with several leading roles. His best-known movie was “The Dirty Dozen”.

Jim Brown’s legacy is left on not only football, but also the world, and he will never be forgotten. He is survived by his wife, Monique, and children, Kim, Kevin, James Jr., Aris, and Morgan.

Left: Jim Brown, during his collegiate career at Syracuse University



Farewell Matthew Perry!

By: Angelina George



Above: An image of Matthew Perry several months before his death.

Matthew Perry, America’s beloved TV star, was found dead in his home on October 28th, 2023. He was 54.

Perry’s cause of death was found to be “acute effects of ketamine” according to Captain Kelly Muniz of the Los Angeles police department said. Perry was found unresponsive in his hot tub by a witness. His death was a shock to everyone.

Matthew Perry was best known from the American TV show *Friends* where he played the role of Chandler Bing. Perry was beloved by all of America. He gained his fame in the infamous TV show “Friends” which ran on NBC for 10 seasons. The show ran from 1994 to 2004. Perry explained in an interview with *Business Insider* before his death that several weeks before being cast on the show, he prayed to God to make him famous. “God, you can do whatever you want to me. Just please make me famous,” said Perry.

Although on television Perry was always seen as a character of comedic relief, he was battling his own war. During Perry’s time on the show he was dealing with the horrors of alcoholism and drug addictions.

After going through several rounds of rehab Perry is currently in remission with a big goal of his being able to help other people going through the same thing. Perry explained, “The best thing about me is that an alcoholic can come up to me and say ‘can you help me?’ and I can say, ‘yes I can’.”

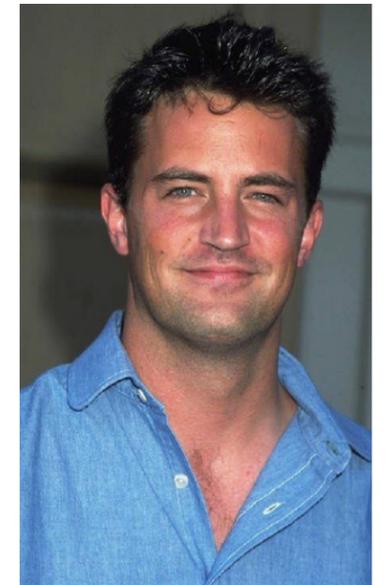
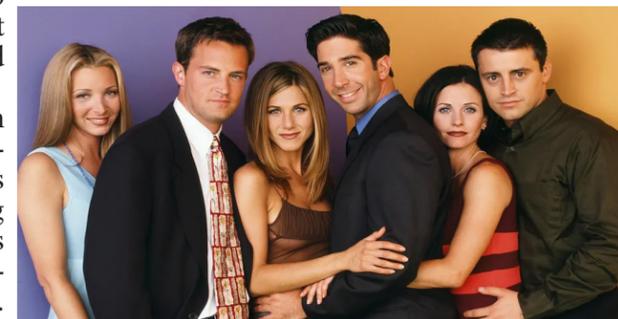
Matthew Langford Perry was born on August 19th, 1969 in Williamstown, Massachusetts. His mother was Suzanne Perry Morrison, and his father John Bennett Perry. At a young age Perry was a top ranked junior tennis player in Canada, and at the age of 15 he moved to Los Angeles for his Stepfather, Keith Morrison’s, career.

Perry was a tall, brunette man with glistening eyes. Throughout high school Perry grew increasingly interested in acting and comedy. His early works were seen in guest spots on TV shows such as “Charles in Charge” and, after graduation, was offered the lead on the sitcom “Boys Will Be Boys,” which aired on Fox from 1987 to 1988.

Perry auditioned for the role of Chandler Bings in 1994. After nailing multiple auditions he finally claimed the role that he would later note saved his life. Perry was struggling with addiction all throughout his acting career which made landing jobs difficult.

Perry felt a very strong connection to the character Chandler

Below: A photo of Matthew Perry to the left with the “Friends” cast.



Above: An image of young Matthew Perry.

Bings. According to CNN Perry said, “When I read the script for *Friends Like Us* it was as if someone had followed me around for a year, stealing my jokes, copying my mannerisms, photocopying my world-weary yet witty view of life. One character in particular stood out to me: it wasn’t that I thought I could play ‘Chandler,’ I was Chandler.”

Perry was an unforgettable actor who constantly made other smile and laugh even while experiencing his own difficulties. “We are all so utterly devastated by the loss of Matthew. We were more than just cast mates. We are a family,” the sitcom’s famous main cast said in a statement shared to ABC News on Monday. Perry is survived by his father, actor John Bennett Perry, his mother, journalist Suzanne Morrison, his stepfather, Dateline correspondent Keith Morrison, and five siblings—Caitlin Morrison, Emily Morrison, Will Morrison, Madeline Morrison and Maria Perry.



Welcome to this year's special edition of College Acceptances! While some seniors are still awaiting regular decision announcements on April 1, and others do not plan to go to college next year, many MHS seniors have already earned acceptance to outstanding colleges and universities across the nation.

Our list is based on student feedback. Some seniors did not respond to our request for acceptances. We'll update the list in April with more acceptances, and again in June with each senior's college choice.

CASSIDY ACCORDINO
James Madison University
Florida Atlantic University
University of Tampa
Elon University
College of Charleston
Seton Hall University

HOLDEN BECKER
University of Rhode Island

GRACE BUCKLEY
Seton hall
Rutgers University
University of Vermont
Penn State
Quinnipiac university
Sacred Heart university
Marywood university
West Virginia university
Wagner university
UMass Amherst
High Point University
James Madison University
Monmouth University

BRAD CHAPMAN
Brookdale

KANE CHAPMAN
Monmouth University
Rowan University
Montclair University
West Chester University
University of Kutztown
Villanova University
The College of New Jersey

SAMANTHA ARBEIT
University of New Hampshire
Monmouth University
University of South Florida
Florida Gulf Coast University
University of Rhode Island
Virginia Tech
University of Tampa
University of Delaware

CATHERINE BONNER
Providence College
University of Rhode Island
Marist College
Sacred Heart University
Quinnipiac University
Catholic University of America
University of Connecticut
Loyola University Maryland

SYDNEY CACCAMISE
University of Alabama
University of North Carolina at Charlotte
University of Delaware
James Madison University
Old Dominion University
East Carolina University

QUINN CHAPMAN
Kutztown University
Monmouth University
The College of New Jersey
Villanova University
Rowan University
West Chester University

ROBERT BADENHAUSEN
Kean University

TIMOTHY BOUCHER
Providence College
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Denver
University of New Hampshire
University of North Carolina
Wilmington
University of Wilmington

ANTHONY CHERMARK
University of Tampa
University of South Carolina
University of Tennessee
University of Georgia
Florida State University
Auburn University
Clemson University
Alabama University

KEIRA BERLIN
College of Charleston
Purdue University
Rutgers University
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Michigan
Virginia Tech.

NICK BOUNASSI
High Point University

TESS CALZARETTA
Northeastern University
University of Delaware

BIANCA CHIARELLA
Rutgers University

Stephen Bird
Rutgers University
University of Maryland
Penn State University

MACKENZIE BRENNAN
Community College of Baltimore County

TEDDY CAMPI
University of Miami

BILLY COSGROVE
Mount Saint Mary's
Seton Hall University
Rutgers University
College of Charleston

Brielle Bocchino
University of Tampa
University of North Florida
Florida Gulf Coast University
Florida Atlantic University
Louisiana State University

ASH BROPHY
American University
Loyola University
University of Maryland

JOSEPH CARABETTA
Drew University
Arcadia University

JAMES BURNS
University of Colorado Boulder
University of New Hampshire
Loyola Marymount University

NICK CARABETTA
Drew University



KATIE COLLINS
University of Pennsylvania

BRIAN DETTLINGER
Rowan University
The College of New Jersey
Penn State

JOCELYN FAJARDO
Arcadia University
DeSales University
Quinnipiac University
St. Cloud State University
Towson University
University of Massachusetts
Hood College
Widener University

ADDY FLAUM
University of Maryland
University of Tennessee
Pittsburgh University
Rutgers University
University of South Carolina
University of North Carolina
Wilmington
University of Rhode Island

PEYTON D'ANDREA
College of Charleston
James Madison University
University of Delaware
University of Rhode Island
Louisiana State University
Florida Atlantic University

AMANDA DINGLER
Michigan State University
Arizona State University
University of Arkansas
University of Utah
Purdue University
University of Kentucky

CAITLIN FALKOWSKI
Michigan State
Penn State
Virginia Tech
Clemson University
Florida State
University of Miami
University of Maryland
University of Georgia
University of South Florida
Rutgers University
University of South Carolina

RYAN FRAUENHEIM
Babson College

LIZ DeLEON
Penn State University
West Chester University
Rowan University
Stockton university
University of Pittsburgh
Fairleigh Dickinson University

LUKE DOWD
Roger Williams University

ZACH FREIDMAN
Bucknell University
Virginia Tech
Marist College
Penn State Harrisburg
College of Charleston
Fairfield University
University of Delaware

PETER DEBENEDETTO
University of Delaware
McDaniel College
Virginia Tech
High Point University
James Madison University
Florida Atlantic University

DYLAN ELDRIDGE
Virginia Tech
University of Delaware
Florida Atlantic University

HANNAH FALLON
College of Charleston
University of North Carolina
Wilmington
University of Rhode Island
Bryant University
Johnson and Wales

FRANK FURFARO
University of Alabama

KAITLIN DELLEGRIPPO
Quinnipiac University
Coastal Carolina University
Sacred Heart University
High Point University
Baylor University
Monmouth University
Saint Joseph's University

RYLIE ELDRIDGE
Michigan State
West Virginia
East Carolina

JULIANNA FARINACCI
University of Delaware

DOUG GANSLE
Manhattan College
University of Vermont

DANTE DENTINO
University of the Pacific

ABIGAIL ELLERY
The College of New Jersey
Monmouth University
Montclair State University
Rowan University
Rutgers University

AMBER FARRINGTON
Innovative Academy

MASON GARDNER
Virginia Tech
Penn State
Fairfield University
Stockton University
Wentworth Institute of Technology
Florida Atlantic University
James Madison University

CHARLOTTE DERY
University of Vermont
Savannah College of Art & Design
Montclair State

MIRABELLE ELLIOT
University of Vermont
New Haven University
Florida Southern College
Seton Hall
Monmouth University

MICHAELA FAY
Brookdale University

PATRICK GEBHADRT
Brookdale College

KAYLANIE FAGAN
Stockton University



JAMES GILMORE
Franklin and Marshall
Ursinus College
Widener University
Wilkes University

HUDSON GORHAM
University of Mississippi
Oklahoma State University
Catholic University
Randolph College
Macon State College
Bridgewater College

MAGARET GRABLE
The College of New Jersey
Monmouth University
Montclair State
Rowan University
Rutgers University
University of Rhode Island

HELEN GRECO
Manhattan College
Penn State
Rowan University
Rider University
University of New Haven
Thomas Jefferson University
Scranton University
Rutgers
Stonehill College
Quinnipiac College
Seton Hall College

MIA GRILLO
Seton Hall
Montclair State University
Rutgers University

AUSTIN GRIFFIN
Susquehanna University

AVA HARTNETT
Elon University
Virginia Tech
University of Rhode Island
Fairfield university
Tampa University
Indiana State University
University of Delaware
James Madison University
Loyola Maryland University
Penn State

JACKSON HERMAN
University of Delaware
University of Rhode Island
Penn State

NICHOLAS HORVOT
Florida Gulf Coast University

CARTER LEHR
Brookedale

NEOL JESKULSKI
Penn State
University of South Florida
College of Charleston
University of South Carolina

HOPE LOCKWOOD
Penn State
Mercyhurst
Michigan State
Stockton
University of Rhode Island
Louisiana State University
University of Alabama
Rutgers
University of South Carolina

CASEY HOLMES
Belmont Abbey College
Charleston Southern Univ.
Clemson University Coastal
Carolina University
Converse University
East Carolina University
Elmira College
Jacksonville University
Maine Maritime Academy
New Jersey City University
Northern Michigan University
Oklahoma City University
Rutgers University
St. Andrews University (NC)
Stockton University
UNC-Greensboro
University of South Carolina
Columbia University of Tampa
Winthrop University
Mount Olive
Iowa University
High Point University

BRIAN LEE
Florida Atlantic
Coastal Carolina
University of Rhode Island
Penn state Abington
Stockton University

JASON LARNED
University of Tennessee
Michigan State
University of Tampa
Misericordia
Penn State

ASHLEY LOPEZ
Rutgers
Stockton
Rowan
Westchester
University of Pittsburgh

ANDREW MARTUCCI
Seton hall
Coastal Carolina
Rutgers U at Camden
University of Maine

HOPE MASONIUS
Bucknell University

JUSTIN LOPES
Florida Atlantic University

NOAH MAMMERI
Widener
Kings
Kean
Stockton

JACK MAAGS
University of West Virginia
Florida Atlantic University
Salve Regina

JOEY LEPORE
Rutgers University
University of Delaware
University of Pittsburgh
St. Joes University
University of Rhode Island
Marist College
West Chester

MADELINE JOHNSON
Wesleyan University

JOSHUA JONES
Drew University
Rowan University
Rider University
Montclair State

ISABELLA JUSKA
University of Tampa



SADIE KINN-GURZO
Arizona State University
West Virginia University
High Point University
University of Rhode Island
Penn State- University Park
University of Colorado Boulder
Virginia Tech

ANTHONY LOFFREDO
Stockton University
Westchester University

RYAN McBRIDE:
Rowan University
Rutgers University
New Jersey Institute of Tech.
Stevens Institute of Tech.

ELIZABETH McGARRY:
Penn state University
Virginia Tech University
College of Charleston
University of Rhode Island
Delaware University

EMMA McGIRR:
Rutgers University
West Chester University

WILLOW McGOVERN:
Georgian Court

RYAN McLAUGHLIN:
University of Miami
University of Virginia Tech
Georgia Tech University
University of Georgia
University of Wisconsin
University of Maryland
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Pittsburgh

JACK MEAD
Michigan State University
Louisiana State University
Delaware University
Salve Regina University
Florida Atlantic University
University of South Florida,
Coastal Carolina University

MORGAN MECHLER
University of Miami

SOPHIE MECHLER
University of North Dakota

JAMES MICHKO
Alvernia University

BRENDAN MILLS
Mount Saint Mary College
University of Delaware
High Point University,
Stevens Institute of Tech.
Loyola University
Virginia Tech University
UNCW

WILL MINERINI
Virginia Tech University

JULIA MONTALTO
Providence College
James Madison University
University of Delaware
Catholic University
Loyola University

TREY MORGAN
University of South Carolina
Washington University
Stevens Institute of Tech.

XAVIER MORGAN
Brookdale college

SCARLETT MORTON
Duquesne University
Penn State University
University of South Carolina
Rutgers University
Villanova University

RYAN MULVANEY
University of Miami
University of Georgia
University of Tennessee
University of South Carolina
Providence College
Indiana University
College of Charleston

BRODY MULY
Lehigh University

DECLAN MURPHY
Rutgers University

SHEA NEILSON
West Chester University
Stockton University
Lynn university
Radford University

MIKE NITTO
Ole Miss University
Louisiana State University
University of Alabama
College of Charleston

KIKI NOE
Texas Christian University
Southern Methodist University
Arizona State University
University of Nebraska
University of Colorado Boulder
Creighton University
DePaul University
Marquette

VIOLET NOLAN
University of Texas

LUKAS NORDELL
Rutgers University
Penn State University
College of Charlston
UMass- Amherst
James Madison University
New Jersey institute of Tech.
Clemson University

JULIA NOWAK
Marist college
Moravian University
TCNJ
DeSales University

ELLIE O'SHEA
Stonehill College

SAMMI PALMIERI
Clemson University

ALEX PASSES
Fairfield University
Providence College
Pepperdine University
University of South Carolina
Clemson University
University of Miami

ALISSA PATERNO
East Carolina University
Indiana University
James Madison University
Quinnipiac university
Saint Joseph's University
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Delaware
University of New Hampshire
Westfield State University



AVA PILATOS
Florida Atlantic University
Penn State University
University of Delaware
East Carolina University

AVA PIZZONIA
Monmouth University
Stockton University

EMILY PLOSKONKA
East Carolina university
University of Delaware
University of Alabama
Rutgers University
Monmouth University

MAYA POLJAK
Rutgers University,
Penn State University
Elon University
Drew University
Virginia Tech University

BROOKE PRICE
La Salle University
Mount St. Mary College
Susquehanna
McDaniel College
University of Scranton
Monmouth University
Sacred Heart University
Rollins College
Commonwealth Univ. of Pa.
Misericordia University
Penn State University
West Chester University
College of Charleston
Loyola University
University of Pittsburgh
Mary Wood University
Quinnipiac University
Marist College
Coastal Carolina University

ISABELLA PORAZZO
Jacksonville University

AINSLEY PRICE
Rowan university

CALEB QUATRONE
Elizabethtown College
Drew University

CORMAC ROBEDEE
University of Montana
University of Wyoming
Montclair State University

CADE SAITO
Villanova University
Fordham University
University of Pittsburgh
Rutgers University
Catholic University
Suffolk University
New York University

KALI SAITO
Temple University

MAX SALERNO
University of Indiana
Penn State
University of Alabama
Virginia Tech
Gardner-Webb

PARKER SASS
University of Pittsburgh
Arizona state university
East Carolina university
San Diego State University
University of Tampa
Auburn university
College of Charleston
University of Mississippi

DIANA SCHIPANI
Monmouth University
University of Arkansas
Lynn university
Rider university
Stetson university
Montclair State University
Rowan university
Belmont university

ALEX SCHMIEDER
Bucknell University
Marist College
Saint Joseph's University
Providence College
Fairfield University
Muhlenberg College

COLE SCHWARTZ
University of Oregon
LSU
University of Alabama
Penn State Abbington
University of Delaware
Michigan State
Rutgers

REAGAN SCIME
The University of Alabama
College of Charleston
Elon University
Georgia Southern University
High Point University
Rutgers University
University of Mississippi
University of South Carolina

DAVID SEELEY
Penn State
University of Rhode Island
Louisiana State University
Stockton University
Florida Atlantic University

THOMAS SHARPE
St. Jones
Xavier University
University of Alabama
Virginia Tech
University of Tennessee
University of South Carolina
Auburn University

SOFIA SHEEKS-RUSSELL
Widener University
Fairleigh Dickson University
Seton Hall University
William Patterson

SADIE SITAR
University of Georgia
Florida State University
University of Wisconsin (Madison)
Indiana University
University of South Carolina
University of Tennessee (Knoxville)
Auburn University
University of Colorado (Boulder)
Louisiana State University
University of Alabama
Virginia Tech

HANNAH SNYDER
Geroge Mason University
Clarkson University
McGill University
McMaster University
Hobart and William Smith
Susquehanna University
University of Scranton
Stockton University
University of Alabama Huntsville

KYLIE SPALT
Worchester Polytech Institute
Colorado College



LIAM STARKEY
Clemson
Penn State
Auburn University
University of South Carolina
UMass Amherst
Virginia Tech
University of Tennessee

JACQUELYN STEWART
Auburn University
Penn State
University of Maryland
Virginia Tech
Savannah College of Art & Design (SCAD)
Loyola University NOLA
Louisiana State University
High Point University

MAE STOLL
University of South Carolina
University of Rhode Island
Providence College
Catholic University
East Carolina University
University of Delaware

MICHAEL STOLL
University of Delaware
University of Bolder
University of Tennessee
Virginia Tech
University South Carolina

CHOLE STRANG-WOLF
Fairfield University
James Madison University
University of Delaware
Umass Amherst
NC State
Virginia Tech

CHARLOTTE STROFF
University of Chicago

CARLEY TAGLIARENI
Montclair University
Penn State Harrisburg
University of Rhode Island
James Madison University

GABRIELLA TIENKEN
The University of Michigan
The University of Delaware
Saint Joseph's University
Sacred Heart University
Ithaca College

COLIN TRACY
Elon University
Penn State University
Stevens Institute of Tech.
Virgina Tech
Highpoint University
Louisiana State University
University of Hartford

ISABELLA VALORI
Catholic University
Monmouth University
Rider University
Rowan University
Rutgers University
Saint Joseph's University
Seaton Hall
Wagner University

JEREMY VILAGRA CASTRO
Brookdale

KRISTINA WALTHALL
Miami University
University of Cincinnati
Tiffin University
Ohio University
Rowan University
Ohio Dominican University
Wilberforce university
Xavier University
Central State

ELENA WEINSEIMER
Harvard University

OLIVIA WANNER
Clemson
Coastal Carolina University
College of Charleston
East Carolina University
Elon University
Penn State University
The University of Alabama
University of Delaware
University of North Carolina
Wilmington
University of Rhode Island
University of South Carolina

EMMA ZAZZARINO
Brookdale Community
College

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MHS Winter Track is Breaking Records

By: Payton Siano

Girls and Boys Winter Track has had a very successful season so far. After competing in meets such as the Monmouth County Meet, The STCA Winter Meet, and the Monmouth County championships, they have set many records and come out with a lot of wins.

For the first time ever the girls 4 by 4 relay came in second place at the Monmouth County Meet.

Many members of the track team have been setting records, led by junior Angelina George. At the meet in New York Angelina was able to add another victory to her resume. She won the 1,600 after placing second last year. Angelina let her opponenet set a quick pace at the start before making a big move with three laps left to take over the lead.

After being hurt during the Cross-Country season and not able to get many races in, Angelina luckily recovered right in time for Winter track.

At the meet in Staten Island many of the runners made big accomplishments. Kat Keefe took third place in the 400 meters with a time of 1:00.98. Chris Reyes was sixth for the Warriors in the boys 800 with a time of 2:03.49. Henry



Chris Reyes (Junior) During one of his races

Terlizzi was 7th in the shot put and throw of 44-1 ½ and Julia Cavanagh was ninth in the shot put with a throw of 28-10.

Junior Logan Cupo was 10th for the Warriors in the triple jump with a leap of 37-5. Mia Moore was 10th in the girls triple jump of 29-4 ½. Charlotte Stroff was fifth in the 3,200 with a time of 11:49.07, and Rose Healy was 14th in the 1,600 for the warriors in 5:52.28.

At the Monmouth County Championship meet Angelina was able to repeat her title in the 1,600 pulling away from the field to win with a time of 5:12:05. She took fifth place in the 800 later in the meet with a time of 2:20.45. She changed her strategy during the race and also after it. She was happy to win the 1,600 Shore Conference title for the second year in a row.

Mia Moore took fourth in the high jump for the warriors, clearing 4-10. Kat Keefe took 8th place in the 400 meters with a time of 1:02.23, Keefe was the 13th in the 800 in the 2:26.12. Charlotte Stoff was ninth in the 3,200 with a time of 11:58.43. Violet Nolan was 14th in the 55-meter hurdles in 9.68.

Overall, the track boys' and girls' team has had an amazing season! Hopefully there will be more to come for the team.

Mia Moore (sophmoore) in the High Jump



Squan Swimmers Win Division, Advance to States

By: Sophia Evans

Manasquan High School Swim has and will continue to be one of the top teams in the school. The girls and boys have been on a roll, with an 11-0 record for the girls, and 9-1-1 for the boys. Coached by vice principal, Mr. Murin, and elementary school English teacher, Ms. Ward, who used to be on the Manasquan swim team herself.

Their overall goals of this season were to win division, qualify for states, and make some noise at Monmouth County and Shore Conference Championships, which all got checked off. The team is very diverse, having 20 seniors, 19 juniors, 18 sophomores, and 7 freshmen coming from both



Above: Dante Dentino swimming the 500 yard freestyle during the 2024 Shore Conference race.

Manasquan and Point Pleasant Beach High School.

Coach Murin loves having the co-op team saying he "cannot imagine not having them as part of Manasquan Swimming!"

A few will continue their athletic careers in college including Dante Dentino who has signed his National Letter of Intent to the University

of the Pacific, and Kylie Spalt who has verbally committed to Colorado College. Both are outstanding swimmers, finishing first in almost every race so far this season.

The environment of the whole team overall is a great community to be a part of, and that is what makes them all succeed so well together. Junior Maddie Ireland said, "The team is very fun and exciting. Since we all get along well, it makes practices and meets more enjoyable, since we all want to be there."

As always, Manasquan's biggest rival is Wall. Going into the meet, both the girls' and boys' team were nervous to see the competition they might encounter. The girls finished with a huge win, defeating them 124-46. Some other winners included Kylie Spalt,

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Above: The girls' team after coming in 4th at Shore Conference.

Boys Basketball Overcomes Loss of Star Players and Fights on

Dramatic comeback against Rumson helps Squan win Central Jersey Group II Championship!

By: Rose Behler

The 2024 Boys Basketball Season at Manasquan High School has been one of the best yet! Despite the transfer of last year's star sophomore Darius Adams and the knee injury suffered by the team's heart and soul Ryan Fraunheim, the boys have stayed strong, reaching the Shore Conference finals and winning the Central Jersey Group II state championship!

Facing Rumson on Friday, March 1 in front of a big home crowd, the Warriors played their hearts out. In a tough battle, Squan trailed throughout the game, and with only four minutes left, the score was 30-23. Rumson in the lead. That's when Squan caught fire.

A 3-pointer by Alex Konov, a couple of defensive stops, and another 3 pointer by Jason Larned and suddenly the Warriors had the lead. Clutch free throw shooting by Griffin Linstra pushed Squan ahead by three, then four and finally, by six.

When it was over, the Warriors had scored the final 13 points of the game to take the sectional title by a score of 36-30.

The entire season has been an uphill battle



for the Warriors, so winning their fifth consecutive sectional state championship was extra sweet. Junior Griffin Linstra, a starter since his freshmen season, is now the team captain. He always encourages teamwork and hardwork before each game.

Freshmen Rey Weinseimer commented on Linstra's attitude, saying that he "is a great leader and an even better captain." Before each game, the boys "play music loud and dance" to get the energy flowing, Rey adds.

Back in February, Linstra said that the boy's



Manasquan Girls Basketball Takes on Tampa and Tackles the Shore!

By: Ellie O'Shea

The Manasquan Girls Basketball team finished their regular season with a record of 17-3, which included a huge upset, beating the number one team in the Shore Saint John Vianney. Since then there have been ups, a down, and more ups!

After defeating rival RBC in the Shore Conference semifinal, Squan lost to St. John Vianney in a rematch from the regular season. That disappointment stung for the girls, but they quickly bounced back to make this another season to remember.

The win against Saint John Vianney showed everyone in the

Shore how strong of a team they are. Manasquan used their superior defense to take down Saint John Vianney's skilled offense. SJV was number one in the Shore until the warriors took them down. "You always want to beat the best and compete with the best" said Coach Kukoda. The Warriors took down the Lancers with a 46-40 win.

Unfortunately, later in the week the Warriors had to put up another fight against Red Bank Regional. Just 24 hours after beating the number one team in the Shore, the warriors fought hard but lost 42-41. It was the



first loss to a Shore Conference public school in 39 games for the warriors. After a week the war-

continued on next page

Boys Basketball

continued from previous page

season "is going good. Our record is 16-3." He said that the team is "getting better everyday and [they] are focused on winning a state championship."

His favorite game of the season so far was "College Achieve because they were a highly ranked team and we beat them." He described it as "a great atmosphere."

Rey Weinseimer's favorite game so far was also "College Achieve because [they] won even though Alex got hurt, there was a lot of pressure." Rey adds that the team they were playing was "ranked high in the state and a lot of people came out to watch, so that win meant a lot."

On the contrary, the team thinks of their game against Toms River North as their worst game, because "[they] didn't play good, but will defiantly play better if we play them again," Rey Weinseimer said.

After seeing its seven-game winning streak get snapped by St. Rose on Monday, January 22nd, Manasquan rebounded with a 64-47 victory over Point Pleasant Boro. Griffin Linstra posted a double-double in the victory for the warriors with a game-high 20 points and 12 rebounds. Alex Konov tailed 13 points for Manasquan and Luke Roy finished in double figures as well for the team with 10 points for the win.

Captain Griffin Linstra's favorite part of the season so far has been bonding with the team. "We have gotten the chance to get to know each other a lot better, and it makes it a lot more fun," he said. This team surely understands the power of working together and working hard to see the best results possible. And now they have a championship banner to prove it.

****NEXT ISSUE: READ ABOUT THE CAMDEN DEBACLE!****



Above: tough defense has been the Warrior's trademark this year

Swimming

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Katie Petrella, Kali Saito, Ryan McLaughlin, Kaylee Porter, Zoe Petrella, and Maddie Ireland. The boys also put up a good fight, and ended up tying Wall, 85-85. The winners for them include Tanner Vellio, Joseph Dettlinger, Christian LaForge Donovan Brown, James O'Toole and Connor Cole.

Shore Conference took place on Friday the 2nd for the boys, and they came in 11th place. The girls competed the next day on Saturday the 3rd and came in 4th place. The boys will have a bye for the first round of states, then have a meet on Thursday the 8th. Who it is against is based on whoever wins on Monday the 5th, RBR or Lawrence. The girls have a bye in the first and second rounds of States, then have a meet on Monday February 12. They hope to secure the title of state champions!

Girls Basketball

continued from previous page

riors were playing another challenging team. Saint Rose has been a challenge for both the girls and boys for the past few years. Manasquan was up 16-4 in the first quarter, but St. Rose jumped back and attacked them with their defense. This was another hard loss for the team, but now they are ready next time they see them!

The girls' basketball team did something they had never done before. They went to Tampa, Florida to be in a basketball tournament with some of the best teams in the country. This tournament took place from December 26th to the 31st. The tournament they played in was called the Tampa Bay Christmas Invitational. Your team had to be selected to play in this tournament, so it was a huge accomplishment for this team!

The girls had three games then ended up losing in the championship to Colonial High School from Orlando Florida. They were challenged during this tournament especially since they are playing teams

from all around the country. This made their team better in the end and able to fix different critiques in their playing.

While the girls were in Tampa, they didn't just play basketball the whole time. One thing they did was go to an escape room. This was a team bonding activity that also played with their brains. There were two teams with different players with all mixed grades. "We were really lucky that we not only get along on the court but are best friends off the court as well. Not many teams can say that" says Mckenna Karlson.

Another thing the girls did a lot of on this trip was sit by the pool and swim in the pool. It being December and cold at home the girls took total advantage of this and made sure to get as much sun as they could!

Two of the teams that they played was from Florida and the other was from Georgia. This was very good exposure to different levels of teams around the country and for the girls playing in college the different types of skilled players.

There are four senior players graduating this year. Every one of them are furthering basketball in college. Hope Masonius is playing at Bucknell university, Mckenna Karlson is playing at the University of New Hampshire, Katie Collins is playing at UPenn, and Carlie Lapinski is playing at Jefferson College. All four of them have made a huge impact on this team and will continue to do that until the end of their season.



NEXT ISSUE! Read about the girls' GROUP II STATE CHAMPIONSHIP!



Warriors Picking Up The Wins

Saturday Sweep starts February off right

By: Yami Urbano

Playing sports keeps our body and mind healthy. There are many kinds of sports just like wrestling. Wrestling is a test of physical strength and skill. They are often organized for public entertainment.

Wrestling happens to be one of the very popular sports at our school district, Manasquan High School.

Mr. Barowski, our wrestling coach who overlooks the entire program and coaches all wrestlers from kindergarten to seniors in high school, states that his team goals for the season are to improve every match and send seven wrestlers to regions. Mr. Barowski has been coaching for nine years and seems to be very grateful to continue to do so.

Christian Canseco, a junior who has been wrestling

for three years, says that Mr. Barowski is a good and self-disciplined coach, "he is very skillful and teaches step by step for us to improve more and more."

On January 12th Brian Lee came up with a 8-1 decision

Noah Mammeri started the match at 190 with a pin for the Warriors but then Toms River South came in with a pin and a decision at 215 and 285. Toms River South ended up winning by major decision and a pin at 120 and 126, leading to the exciting finish for squan.

Then came our match against Toms River North. The Warriors defeated them on Monday by a score of 49-23. Charlie Hunt won by a pin at 138 and Michael O'Conner won by a pin at 150.

So Manasquan Wrestling is having a strong season so far. Mr. Barowski states "we are continuing to improve each match."

Although the wrestling team has faced problems at times this season, Mr. Borowski's positive attitude. He says helps the team that all wrestlers preach gratitude for problems because they end up allowing them to become better people by figuring out how to overcome them.

As the season winds down, a few wrestlers are still alive in the individual competitions. Junior Michael O'Connor shined the brightest, winning the region at 138 pounds. He is Manasquan's first regional champion in 25 years! He finished the season with an outstanding record of 36-5.



Above: Senior Brian Lee ready for his match. At bottom: big crowd watches Warriors during the match.

at 175 pounds for Manasquan to give the Warriors wrestling team a 38-37 walk-off win against Toms River South.



MHS Hockey Reaches Championship Game



By: Gabby Boquel

learned to play hockey in Bayonne, New Jersey and plays as a Center on the team. Jack has a total of 22 goals, 15 assists and 37 points.

The team sadly lost their game against Wall on Friday night with a close score of 2-1. Strider Carhart scored the first goal during the 1st period with 25 seconds left to the period. He had help from Brendan Shaughnessy and Valentino Scaglia.

The Game was tied 1-1 during the second and third period causing the game to go into overtime where Wall scored the final shot, giving them the final score of 2-1. The Goalie Aidan DiStefano saved 38 goals that night.

Early in the season, Manasquan-Point Beach Hockey team was apart of the Winding River Holiday Tournament during Christmas Break. The Team took home 2 victories and 1 lose against Wall. On December 26th, the team played Freehold Borough during the first round of the Winding River Holiday tournament and won 17-6. The next round was held on December 27th, where they went against Wall and lost 11-2. The final game they played was on December 29th, against Toms River East where they took home a win with a score of 6-4.

Strider Carhart, a freshman on the team has been playing hockey for 9 years. This is his first year playing for the Manasquan Team and he hopes good things are to come. Strider plays left-wing. "I learned to play hockey after I learned to ski, I started skiing and after that I wanted to play hockey."

The team consists of 25 members, from both Manasquan High School and Point Pleasant Beach High school. The players



are, Connor Kelly, Dylan Ryan, Matthew Titner, Lucas Titner, Nick Horvot, Chris Carhart, Sam Iannella, Jack Buonato, Meghan Grace, Valentino Scaglia, Michael Stoll, Giovanni Scaglia, Quinn Vogel, Brandon Kobes, Justin Lopes, Shay Jardine, Brendan Shaughnessy, Connor Keelan, Luke Rudo, Colin Costello, Dylan Vowteras, Strider Carhart and goalies Aidan DiStefano, Tommy Reynolds and James Fogarty.

Justin Lopes, a senior on the team is leaving at the end of the year to start his college experience at Florida Atlantic where he plans to play club there. Justin plays as a Winger or forward for the hockey team. "I'm going to miss the aspect of the team and how well we all get along, the coach is very knowledgeable and has great input. He has a certain system when it comes to us playing and if we play it, it works."

Overall, the team has accomplished many goals and plans to move forward into the next round of the Shore Conference.



The Manasquan Ice Hockey team started their season early in December of 2023 and is hoping to end their season by winning their last game and advancing into the Shore Conference. Their team consists of 22 players and 3 goalies.

Their first round of shore conference is on February 7th against Middletown North. The team is hoping to win this game and advance into the next round playing either Rumson Fair-Haven or Middletown South. Go show the team some love and support and cheer them on

The Manasquan-Point Beach Ice Hockey team has 9 seniors leaving the sport at the end of the year. Some of the players plan to continue to play through their college years or outside of school for travel teams. The team has definitely improved this year with a record of 14-4. It's their best record in over 4 years. The team has had some bumps in the road with not having a full roster and with injuries, but they have managed to bounce back and finish their season on a high note with a streak of 10 wins in a row.

Jack Buonato, A senior on the team has been playing hockey for a total of 9 years for the school and travel team. "My brother was my inspiration for playing ice hockey." Jack