



# Knightly News

Glen Cove High School's Student Newspaper

May 2025 Spring Issue

## A Final Bow: Seniors Take Center Stage in Chicago

by Phoebe Pinder



Chicago: Teen Edition, directed by Mr. Ross and Mr. Norris, was performed on our very own stage at Glen Cove High School. This show is the result of months of dedication, passion and hard work. From its bold choreography to unforgettable songs to its satirical take on fame and justice, Chicago is no small feat, but our students delivered a show full of talent and style.

This musical, set in 1920s Chicago, centers on a murder case. Roxie Hart, a young woman who dreams of becoming a star, murders the man she was having an affair with. She becomes a sensation in the media because of her case and the help of a lawyer named Billy Flynn and the matron of the jail, Mama Morton. She competes with another murderer, Velma Kelly, for the media's attention. The stage of the high school was transformed to accommodate the glitzy and murder-filled world of Chicago. It was extended and had an added elevated platform for the live orchestra to play on, as they were actually part of the show. There was also a "VIP" section filled with tables that allowed audience members to be even closer and interact with the characters more. Just by looking at the auditorium, one could see that this show would be unique and interesting. As one member of the cast said, "Glen Cove has never done a production quite like this."

The students put on an absolutely breathtak-

ing performance, complete with beautiful vocals and lots of difficult choreography. Starring in the musical as Roxie Hart and Velma Kelly were Dakota Rios and Paloma Supica respectively. They dazzled the audience with their performances, showing so much passion and care for their roles.

Dakota Rios lit up the stage as Roxie Hart, captivating audiences and showcased her incredible talent and commitment. Dakota was able to capture Roxie's complexity very well, showcasing her character's emotions and motives beautifully. She said that "it was such a rewarding experience seeing the show grow from beginning to end, spending it with such hardworking and dedicated people."

Paloma Supica took on the role of Velma Kelly, delivering a bold and memorable performance. Reflecting on her experience, Paloma shared, "Playing Velma was very challenging. I've done a lot of theater, but this is the most dance-oriented role I've ever done, so it was very different, and it was a really good way to just challenge myself and get out of my comfort zone." As a senior, she saw this demanding role as the perfect way to close out her high school theater journey.

Valentina Canales stated, "I am very happy that I was able to be a part of this year's musical. I achieved a big role, as I was the character Mama Morton in Chicago. I was able to show off a different side of me that no one had ever seen before."

She was an essential part of the show that was enjoyed by everyone. Her first appearance in the show is a memorable one, as she starts out sitting in the audience, singing her solo number, "If You're Good to Mama". "I got to witness the whole cast put so much work and effort whether they were backstage or on stage. I am so proud of the outcome and I believe we put on an amazing show," Valentina remarked.

Highlights included "Cell Block Tango," which prompted thunderous applause, and "We Both Reached for the Gun," a cleverly-staged puppet-like song that showcased the students' precision and humor.

The choreography itself was amazing. It was clear that these were not easy moves to do and the cast executed them very well. With the help of Ms. Aliotta, they showed real artistry through dance that was integral to the story.

Not only were the actors and actresses exceptional, but the stage managers too. The amount of organization and direction needed to keep everything running is enormous, and takes someone with a lot of discipline to keep everything managed. Gianna Gonzales, the head stage manager, said that "the magic of stage management lies in how we bring order to chaos, keeping everything ticking while the actors shine."

For the seniors of the cast, this show was

*continued on pg 2*



# GC Masquers Teen Edition Chicago

photos: Lisa Viscovich

their last one. Closing night ended with moving speeches and tears that were both happy and sad. After all the work, many nights staying at school until 9pm, and countless hours of rehearsing, it is no wonder that the cast gets emotional. Dakota Rios said, "I'm really proud this was the last production I was a part of as a senior and wouldn't have wanted it any other way," a sentiment that many of the seniors share.



Reviews



## Album Review: Tales From Cazilor

by Natalie Macnow

Tales From Cazilor is a fantasy, Dungeons & Dragons-inspired album that pulls you into its world the second you press play. Not only is it filled with songs that tell stories, but there are scenes in between that give background knowledge, although the tracks are wonderful listens on their own. I myself had listened to some of the songs as singles before actually discovering the album. Cazilor is a fantasy land where humans live in between two kingdoms of giants. These giants have different views on the rights of humans and fight each other over whether humans deserve to live or die. The stakes are immediately set, allowing you to be drawn in and connect with the characters we are soon to meet. Instruments layer as the worldbuilding grows, and even with the danger, jokes bring us back to the reality that not everything is fantastical.



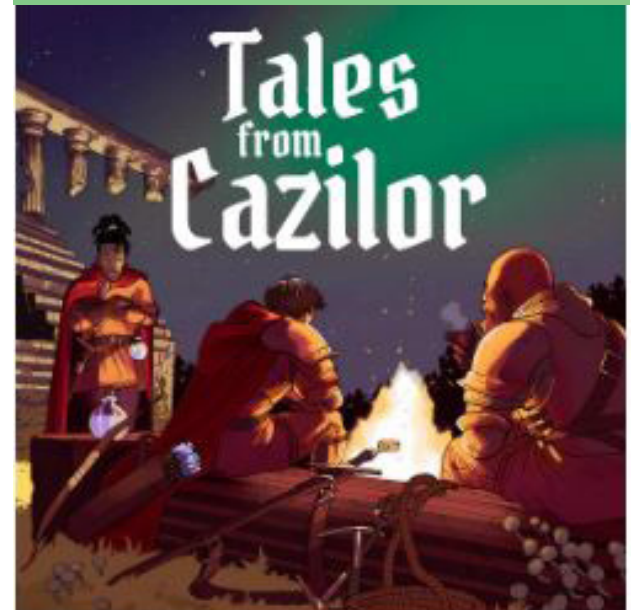
Even in such a world, things that can be almost considered "normal" occur. The genre may not be every listener's cup of tea, but it is so much more than just music.

Combining the two throws listeners in to connect with the main characters of Apollo, Arthur and Captain-all on night watch. The scenes set up the tunes, which describe memories and wishes of the characters, building onto their personalities and experiences. We pass into songs about standing up and freeing yourself from relationships that don't help you, showing how the songs are no longer only connected to the characters, but to ourselves as well.

The first song, Cannibal, is about freeing yourself from a toxic relationship, letting them emo-

tionally starve after the cut-off. It's slow in the fact that it takes pleasure in itself-methodical. Each line has an echo to it, which can be seen as almost taunting back against someone that used to drain you. You're Not Welcome Here gives a similar message of standing up to someone that used to scare you because you've grown to the point where you can push back. Facing your fears and adversaries head-on to save yourself and what you believe in. Both songs have almost a vengeful quality to them, taking back your place and identity.

Night Watch is different from the other songs, as it's more sentimental. Acoustic instruments play instead, along with a drum, helping to create the song of a calmer tone, and yet upbeat and hopeful. It's about doing everything they can before they eventually die, and going out their own way instead of by someone else's choice. The entire song is optimistic and playful, which is motivated by the Captain, and to listeners, as something to hold onto. The following song, Do What I Gotta, is an insight on doing whatever it takes to achieve something. This song has a rhythmic sense to it, which I see as helping show that fighting is anything but senseless; in fact, it's fairly logical. The next track, I Don't Get Sleep, introduces Arthur's not-so-healthy mindset. This shows complexity and wanting to be the best takes priority over getting sleep. Despite the rock quality, the message is overall depressing, and shows the coping mechanisms that Arthur struggles with, because he's too far gone to take care of himself. As a student, I unfortunately find it relatable with schoolwork and life outside of school, but with that sense it is similar to a reality check for me. We move on to the last song, Summer Night In Domita, and the last scene, Scene 7: Hope I Die Alone. The music in the last song starts with a romantic calm before the storm of tragedy striking. It's the feeling of the world crashing down as you try your best to hold onto safety, and it's gorgeously made in that aspect. Story-based albums have my heart because of scenes like Scene 7. At the end of the day, there's a sense of melancholy when it



comes to facing your fears and the truth. My heart stopped for a moment, when listening to it for the first time. It's such a change from what you would expect of Apollo's character. And yet, you expect it all the same, as someone that would do everything for their friends, just to wind up alone, if all it meant was keeping them safe. It's poetic, with the chords progressing to almost optimistic, yet sad undertones. The scenes in between, and the spoken moments in the songs allow better connections to the characters, with humor that makes them feel real. Naethan's unique vocal quality and lyricism makes the songs so fun to listen and connect to, with different approaches to each of them. Overall, I highly recommend this album with the messages it shares.

## WANTED

¡Saludos del equipo de The Knightly News!

¡Buscamos escritores y periodistas enérgicos y dedicados para unirse a nuestro equipo!

Escribir en otros idiomas es una ventaja, ya que buscamos que el periódico sea bilingüe. Si le interesa, por favor, pase por el aula 143 los martes por la tarde después de clases. ¡Esperamos verlos!

Sra. Palazzo y Sr. O'Donnell





## Quickfire Throwback Edition: Manny's Summertime Must Watches

by Emmanuel Aschalew

### The Shawshank Redemption (1994)

The Shawshank Redemption is an exquisite meditation on hope and human resilience set against the bleak backdrop of Shawshank prison. The plot charts Andy Dufresne's quiet rebellion against a life of unjust incarceration, forging an unbreakable bond with the soulful Ellis Redding. At its core, the film explores the transformative power of friendship and the redemptive nature of patience, weaving a tapestry of themes like freedom, despair, and the enduring belief in second chances. The characters, beautifully portrayed by Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman, come to symbolize the contrast between human frailty and strength, with Freeman's narration infusing the film with an almost poetic gravitas. The cinematography, in its understated brilliance, uses light and shadow to emphasize the prison's oppressive nature, yet contrasts it with moments of liberation that burst through like rays of hope. In the end, The Shawshank Redemption is a soul-stirring journey towards redemption, both personal and collective.

### A Fistful of Dollars (1964)

Sergio Leone's A Fistful of Dollars stands as a gritty and evocative reimagining of the Western genre, characterized by its sparse dialogue and searing tension. Clint Eastwood, as the "Man with No Name," delivers a performance that is as enigmatic as it is iconic, embodying the very essence of stoic vengeance. The plot unfolds as he cunningly plays two warring families against each other, but at its heart, it's an exploration of survival and moral ambiguity. Themes of justice, retribution, and the inherent violence of the human spirit dominate, as Eastwood's character navigates a desolate world of betrayal and greed. The cinematography is both haunting and captivating—Leone's trademark use of wide shots and tight close-ups creates a sense of vast emptiness, where every flicker of tension is magnified. The iconic score by Ennio Morricone amplifies this atmosphere, infusing each scene with a sense of raw, existential danger.

### Apocalypse Now (1979)

In Apocalypse Now, Francis Ford Coppola orchestrates a surreal and harrowing odyssey through



the heart of the Vietnam War, plunging the viewer into a feverish nightmare of madness and violence. The plot follows Captain Willard (Martin Sheen), dispatched on a mission to eliminate Colonel Kurtz (Marlon Brando), a man whose descent into insanity mirrors the war's unrelenting toll on the soul. At its



core, the film examines themes of moral corruption, the fragility of the human mind, and the profound disillusionment of war. Sheen's performance is a study in internal decay, while Brando's Kurtz stands as a haunting symbol of the war's dehumanizing power. The cinematography, masterfully crafted by Vittorio Storaro, turns the jungle into a character of its own—lush yet suffocating, vivid yet decaying. Surreal moments, such as the haunting helicopter attack to the strains of Ride of the Valkyries, blur the line between reality and madness, leaving an indelible mark on the viewer's psyche.

### Chinatown (1974)

Roman Polanski's Chinatown is a masterpiece of neo-noir, weaving a labyrinthine narrative of corruption, betrayal, and tragic inevitability against the sun-drenched backdrop of Los Angeles. The plot follows Jake Gittes (Jack Nicholson), a private detective whose investigation into a seemingly mundane case unravels a complex web of deceit, revealing the underbelly of a city built on power and greed. At its heart, Chinatown delves into themes of moral decay, the fragility of truth, and the destructive nature of ambition. Nicholson's performance is a perfect blend of sharp wit and emotional vulnerability, while Faye Dunaway's haunting turn as the enigmatic Evelyn Mulwray imbues the film with an air of melancholy mystery. Polanski's direction is visually impeccable—each shot composed with precision, using shadows and light to create an atmosphere of brooding tension. The film's devastating conclusion serves as a poignant reminder of the inescapable consequences of human folly, leaving an indelible impression of loss and hopelessness.



## TV Review: Daredevil: Born Again - "Welcome Back, Daredevil"

by Dante Talisaysay



In November of 2018, one month after the release of Season 3 of Netflix's Daredevil, the streaming service unexpectedly canceled the beloved show after a dispute with Disney, who were in the development of their own streaming service for a year by that point (which as we know will become Disney+ and dropped in 2019). Disney owned Marvel, and thus, wanted to reclaim their rights to Marvel characters. Not helping matters is that Netflix and Marvel had disagreements over the budget and episode count for possible future seasons.

With Netflix then going on to cancel their other shows including Luke Cage and Iron Fist, chances for Charlie Cox to return as the lawyer by day, vigilante by night, looked slim. However, things then looked hopeful for Cox's return as the devil from Hell's Kitchen, albeit in his lawyer getup as Matt Murdock. Then there was online speculation that this would be a rebooted version of the character separate from the Netflix series. In early 2022, Daredevil was removed from Netflix and transferred over to Disney+.

Later that year, Murdock appeared in the, well, less positively received She-Hulk show. But his suit noticeably had yellow accents now, further amplifying reboot rumors, but again, the dedicated fans pointed out how this new paintjob made sense considering events back in Daredevil season 3, which I will not spoil. His appearance was really the only reason why people watched the show, and a saving grace he was considered.

Finally, it was confirmed with his appearance and ditching of the yellow accents in Echo, that it was indeed the same Daredevil we loved from the Netflix show. With an announcement for Daredevil: Born Again, a continuation and sequel of the original Netflix show in January 2025, fans were highly anticipating the return of Cox as Daredevil, as well as Elden Henson returning as Foggy Nelson, Murdock's best friend, Deborah Ann-Woll as Karen Page, and of course, Vincent D'Onofrio as Wilson Fisk, better known as Kingpin.

This show really pulled no punches with its first episode, which I will again, not disclose. Offering a revitalization to the franchise by staying true to the roots while introducing fresh elements that captivate audiences. All nine episodes of the first season are now available to watch on Disney+.



# Un Viaje Epico: Explorando Twilight Princess

by Diego Henriquez Martinez

The Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess es un juego de acción y aventuras de 2006 desarrollado y publicado por Nintendo para las consolas Game-Cube y Wii. El jugador controla a Link, quien intenta evitar que Hyrule sea absorbido por una dimensión paralela corrupta llamada el reino de Twilight. Link adopta la forma de un hyliano y un lobo, y se alía con una misteriosa persona llamada Midna. Con 8,85 millones de copias vendidas, The Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess sigue siendo un referente en la combinación de creación de mundos y jugabilidad para ofrecer una experiencia de juego increíble.

The Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess es un juego de acción y aventuras centrado en la exploración, el combate y la resolución de rompecabezas. Link usa espada y escudo en combate. También puede usar objetos que adquiere en las mazmorras. Estos objetos ofrecen diversas oportunidades de juego. Hay un total de 11 objetos que se adquieren en las mazmorras, como las botas de hierro y el arco del héroe. Divertidos de usar, estos objetos son importantes para recorrer Hyrule y resolver rompecabezas. Las mazmorras son una parte esencial de la saga The Legend of Zelda, Twilight Princess incluye algunas de las mejores de la franquicia. Cada mazmorra tiene un diseño único con rompecabezas creativos, combates cautivadores y ambientaciones atmosféricas increíbles que enriquecen la aventura. Desde el inquietante “Terreno del Inquisidor” hasta la imponente “Ciudad en el Cielo”, cada mazmorra presenta nuevas mecánicas que mantienen la jugabilidad fresca. Las batallas contra jefes son grandiosas y cinematográficas, y hacen un uso excepcional de los objetos de las mazmorras. Con ideas innovadoras, Twilight Princess ofrece algunos de los juegos más memorables y satisfactorios de la serie.

La historia de The Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess es una de las más oscuras y emotivas de la serie, impulsada por fuertes interacciones entre personajes. El viaje de Link comienza cuando su hogar es atacado, lo que lo lleva a descubrir el reino de Twilight y a transformarse en lobo. Su compañera, Midna, comienza como una persona misteriosa y poco confiable, pero gradualmente desarrolla un profundo vínculo con Link, revelando su trágico pasado y sus verdaderas motivaciones. La princesa Zelda tiene un papel más reservado, pero sigue siendo crucial en la historia, mostrando sabiduría y sacrificio en la lucha contra Zant y Ganondorf. La relación entre estos personajes añade profundidad a la aventura. Todo esto concluye en un enfrentamiento épico donde Link y Midna se enfrentan a Zant, exponiendo su ciega lealtad a Ganondorf, antes de enfrentarse finalmente al señor oscuro en persona, lo que conduce a la derrota final de Ganondorf y a la emotiva despedida de Midna. su atractiva jugabilidad.

La música juega un papel fundamental en The Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess, aumentando su atmósfera oscura. Las bandas sonoras, las piezas orquestales, los temas inmersivos de las mazmorras y las emotivas melodías dan vida al mundo. Desde el inquietante Reino de Twilight hasta el heroico



The annual Red and Green District Games are when members of the community come together and compete against each other in several fun activities. Applause fills the air as the Green team wins for the second year in a row. After multiple years of losing, the Green Team has now strung a few wins together and the proverbial bragging rights that come with it.

Elementary students played various relay races, where they needed to work together with friends to balance objects while running back and forth across the gym. To complete the task, they would also need to run around cones and pass objects to their friends without dropping them. Another competition consisted of working in teams to carry a small ball down a plastic Hot Wheels track.

For the high school and middle school students, there was a new addition to the activities. The mattress relay race was added, consisting of placing mattresses on the ground and using

them as sleds to slide across the floor.

The participants anticipated the success of this event, and it was delivered. Some other games that were played were dodgeball and tug-of-war. The tug-of-war lasted for an extended period of time compared to past games. With each side determined to be victorious, they decided the winner would be the team that won the best of three games. Needless to say, we are looking forward to next year's games!

Mr. Hudson's summation perfectly encapsulated the evening's festivities. "The Red and Green Games were absolutely awesome! I loved seeing our GC Knights having fun and bringing the heat in a super competitive showdown," he exclaimed! "A huge shout-out to the Green Team for repeating as champs, but major kudos to the Red Team for giving it their all. The energy was electric from both sides—but the air mattress races were epic!"

hasta el heroico campo de Hyrule, la música de cada zona crea la atmósfera ideal. “Midna’s Lament”, una triste pieza de piano, captura la urgencia y la desesperación, reflejando las luchas de Midna y el viaje que le espera. Juntas, estas canciones crean una experiencia inmersiva que profundiza en las emociones y la atmósfera del juego.

En general, The Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess ofrece una experiencia inolvidable a través de su rico mundo, personajes memorables, historia profunda y, lo más importante, su atractiva jugabilidad.

# Poetry Corner

Art Everywhere  
By Isabella Dllgard-Clark

Spring has sprung  
A new day has begun  
Art and paint in everything

Pearl white Indian jasmine  
Clear blue polka dot rain  
Plants so creative  
Venus traps innovative  
Tall strong oaks  
Sun light covers all like a cloak  
Hydrangeas bloom  
Cast out the gloom

Spring has sprung  
Sports have begun  
Persistence and passion in everything

Running fast  
Water gun blast  
Jumping hurdling flying free  
Cooled off by a summer breeze  
Smacking bats  
Curled up cats  
Always out side  
Sunburned, skin fried

Spring has sprung  
A new day has begun  
A future in everything



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:



Ella Nossa  
Solitaire  
by Alice Oseman

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

*I would recommend this book to anyone who has felt outcast and disconnected, and has struggled with their mental health, which is an unfortunate majority of teens.*

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 this book for its relatability, the intriguing mystery/adventure the main character Tori finds herself on, and the relationships between the characters (not all romantic). “Heartstopper” fans especially might enjoy it because there is overlap between this novel and the Fourth Volume of the graphic novel series. But this time, you get to see it through Charlie’s older sister, Tori’s, perspective. However, it’s not as much a fun, easy, comfort read like “Heartstopper” is.*

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

*This book is definitely targeted towards teens and young adults, since that’s the age the author was when the first edition of this book was published. Readers who enjoy realistic fiction, positive queer representation, and don’t mind some cliches would like this book.*

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

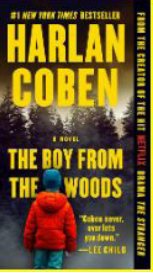
*I was first introduced to Alice Oseman’s work through the graphic novel series, “Heartstopper,” that was gaining popularity through its Netflix series adaptation. As I started researching that series, I found out that Oseman had a book written from the perspective of one of the characters, Tori, who just so happened to be one of my favorite characters. The thing that surprised me the most about “Solitaire” was the writing style and how pessimistic the main character is. Sometimes it gets a bit obnoxious, but it’s understandable considering the circumstances of the story and her character.*

**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?**

*Reading this book was very eye-opening to mental illness, since Tori struggles with undiagnosed depression. Though it is never explicitly said or diagnosed in the novel, she has many of the symptoms, and Alice Oseman herself has confirmed it. “Solitaire” also has good representation of asexuality, with quality platonic relationships between characters who would’ve definitely become a couple if it wasn’t written with this in mind. Oseman has said that she came to terms with her own asexuality a bit later in life, and Tori was a projection of how she was feeling before then, though she didn’t know it had a label at the time.*

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

*This book is one of my favorite comfort books because there are so many aspects that make me feel seen or give me an idea of what I wish to obtain in the future. I loved how it correlated with “Heartstopper” and it was quite fun to piece that together and get a fuller picture on that story as well. However, this story mostly focused on Tori, and her own inner and outer turmoils that I appreciated because I got to know her as a character better. My least favorite part about this book was that at times, Tori felt like a “not-like-the-other-girls” trope. She would start hating on popular things and would separate herself from the other girls in her year. This can be defended with the fact that she was going through a really hard time mentally, so she was isolating herself from pretty much everyone. Personally, that made me cringe a bit, but it didn’t make up the bulk majority of the book and there are too many things I like about this book to make it have any real effect on my general opinion.*



Mr. Bieder  
The Boy From The Woods  
by Harlan Coben

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

*I would absolutely recommend this book to anyone here at GCHS.*

**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).**

*This book has it all: mystery, suspense, romance, and action. The story follows what happens after a highschool student goes missing. With a background of political unrest, this novel takes twists and turns that will delight any reader.*

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

*I would say anyone from 15 and up would enjoy it... Those younger than 15 would miss some of the key elements.*

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

*I just knew that I was a fan of the author... The biggest surprise for me was that the book wasn’t really about a girl that went missing from high school! (I don’t want to say more).*

**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?**

*This is a fun book, a beach read so to speak. If you want a book that is going to open your eyes you should check out Skinny Legs and All by Tom Robbins. The Boy from the Woods is best described as a page turner, but it does explore the impact of bullying in highschool.*

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

*The book made me feel like I was right there with the characters. There are some funny witty bits sprinkled throughout the pages, but this book is mostly going to make you feel excited.*

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## Teacher Feature: Mr. Campione

by Nishka Baboolal

This year marks Mr. Campione’s third year teaching special education at Glen Cove High School. He grew up on Long Island and went to Commack High School, where he played for their football and track teams. Outside

of school, he played basketball and baseball. For his bachelor’s, he went to Kutztown University in Pennsylvania, which is down the road from the famed Dorney Park. Campione was a part of the field and track team for four years while at Kutztown, and served as the captain of his team for three years. He considers this as one of the most incredible experiences he’s ever had. Interestingly, he competed against individuals who participated in the Olympics. Later on, during the pandemic, he earned his master’s from Hofstra virtually.

Upon entering this school, he recalls a memory: “Ms. Sanchez and Mrs. Corrigan invited me into their room my first year and gave me a desk, and I’m forever grateful about that,” which illustrates the community at this high school. Another part of his job that he loves is coaching, which he has done since he started here. His favorite season is football because he loves working with the Varsity and the JV teams. In his two years as a JV coach, he has seen the team improve from 3-5 to 6-2, facing tough competition in the process. In his free time, he plays golf and loves to watch his beloved Mets or Jets. Proof of his loyalty to the game: “I’ve had season tickets with my uncles for the last ten years and even have gotten my fiancée hooked on the Jets.”

Mr. Campione has a touching story about how he became interested in his current career. As a child, he was very energetic, making it difficult for him to settle down and focus in class. However, a particular fifth-grade teacher changed his life, embracing his character and being someone he could rely on for help. Additionally, his cousin, who has autism, has also influenced him greatly, as being able to help him navigate challenges was very rewarding for him. All of this directed him toward his current path, which he deeply loves.

An admirable trait about Mr. Campione is that his love for his students is both genuine and evident. He likes to think of his room as having an open-door policy, showing how passionate he is about helping everyone and anyone with anything and everything.



# Eid-al-Fitr Now a Recognized Holiday at Glen Cove



by Nawar Ahammed

Ever since I’ve been going to Glen Cove High School, I always felt like our district never honored Eid-al-Fitr as a school holiday. It never felt right that so many students from our community were celebrating this day, but it was never recognized. I didn’t simply want a day off—I wanted students like me to be heard, included, and valued. I wanted our holidays to be recognized just the same as everyone else’s.

So I took matters into my own hands. I planned a petition, going around school explaining to kids why Eid was significant, and they signed it. But getting the Board of Education to listen wasn’t quite as easy. It felt like no matter how hard I tried, my voice wasn’t being heard. But I was not about to give up.

I wrote essays and letters. I recorded a video, interviewing students from across our school about why they believed Eid should be celebrated. I collected written statements from students who described their views and gathered everything—every letter, every petition, every testimony—into a file. I presented it all to my principal, members of the community, and the Board of Education. Finally, I received a call to go to a Board of Education meeting.

That evening, I stood before the board and gave a speech from my heart. They watched the video, listened to my words, and finally, for the first time ever, I was heard. At that very moment, they granted my petition. I did it. I created change. I ensured that students like me would never again feel invisible on Eid.

Now Eid-al-Fitr is an officially recognized holiday through our school district. I stood up for those who could not, and I fought for what was right. It wasn’t ever about me—it was about making sure that every single student, regardless of their background, felt like they belonged.

dom. Each piece ranged from soft lulls to beautiful crescendos. The musical renditions by the orchestra demonstrate a celebration of diversity and the influence of culture in the world of music. In contrast to the instrumental performances by the orchestra, the Masquers Club also gave a preview of their upcoming musical Chicago. The group presented some of the highly anticipated songs and dance numbers, including “All That Jazz” with Paloma Supica starring as Velma with the ensemble cast members. The suave style of the dance, inspired by Bob Fosse’s original choreography, demonstrates the unique culture that emerged from the rise of Jazz. Music and dance offer cultural connections through a universal language we can all understand.

Through the help of several department coordinators, Glen Cove Schools’ first Multicultural Night was a great success. Students were allowed to explore cultures from around the world and learn about the importance of celebrating a diverse community like our own.

## Student Comic

byBarbara Benitez



## 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



## Multicultural Night Takes Center Stage at Glen Cove

by Peyton Angalet



In recognizing the diversity of our community and cultures around the world, Glen Cove High School hosted its first Multicultural Night on a Wednesday in March. Different events were set up so that students and families could experience a variety of cultures on a tour through the hallways. With many stations of countries sharing their culture, the night resembled taking a trip across the globe.

After entering through the main doors, families were greeted by student volunteers from various clubs and honor societies helping with the event. Families were given the chance to select a passport, with a coloring station to decorate their travel pass. With each country or continent they traveled to, students would receive a stamp on their passport. Volunteers welcomed people into their classrooms, which served as workshops for different countries, and gave presentations about the culture of each nation. Each classroom held decorations

with patterns and items commonly represented in each culture, such as red lanterns in China or beaded strings in Africa. Additionally, different objects from parts of the world were put on display to be admired as volunteers explained their cultural significance. These workshops provided the audience with the opportunity to learn about cultures across five different areas around the world. Moving into the gallery, music from various cultures flowed from the speakers and instructors taught different styles of dancing to anyone brave enough to join. Latin music and dance styles, such as bachata and merengue, drew many students to participate with its lively sound and quick steps. Originating in Latin America, these dances are a great way to engage with Latin culture and recognize the large community in Glen Cove.

Following the dances in the gallery, families were encouraged to try various cultural dishes, snacks, and drinks in the school cafeteria. Parent volunteers served different foods from countries around the world, and would stamp passports based on the food’s country of origin. The delicious spread included arepas from Colombia and Venezuela, Greek or horiatiki salad from Greece, tiramisu from Italy, Basmati rice from India, and many more. For those not interested in a full meal, volunteers brought assortments of sweet and salty snacks, like tortilla chips and mochi bites. The pleasant environment of the cafeteria let families savor the taste of each dish they tried and discuss their favorites.

Throughout the night, select students from the orchestra and Masquers Club performed in the auditorium. Conducted by Mr. Kwak, the orchestra performed a diverse arrangement of pieces by various musicians around the world. One of the most recognizable pieces was “Remember Me” from the movie Coco (2017), which is a movie that celebrates Mexican culture and traditions, as well as the importance of family and music. Another song that was played was a song about African free-



# One to Watch: Guiliana Portaro

by Furkan Efe Ozdemir

Full Disclosure: If you’re being featured in the Knightly News and you’re only in middle school, then you are definitely “one to watch.” Case in point: fledgling 8th grader Guiliana Portaro is already turning heads on the track and turning her back on her high school opponents as she leaves them in the metaphorical dust.

Portaro, already in her 2nd year running varsity, is a fierce competitor who was an All-State (and All-County) in the 600 meters of the inter-sectional relay. She has the 3rd-highest 600 meters time in the entire country, proving her star will only get brighter as she leaves middle school. To top it off, she has a personal best of 58.8 seconds in the 400-meter dash, which is a school record.

As a 7th grader, last year, she placed one spot away from All-County. This year, she came back with plans of redemption to take her well-deserved spot, and well, she got it in style. Coupled with her exploits in track, Portaro also grabbed All-County Soccer honors this past fall. Described by coaches as a competitor, Portaro “hates to lose” and “gives it her all” every time she steps onto a track or field. Her soccer game is no joke either, as GC Girls Soccer Coach Pete Falen would attest to. “She plays multiple positions for the high school team, but she has a great first step, can dribble the ball effortlessly with both feet and shoot with both feet,” Falen remarked. “She dances on the field with the ball at her feet.” Not bad for a middle school co-captain, who led her team to an impressive 10-5-1 record and received All-County Honors in the process. Needless to say, Guiliana Portaro will be “One to Watch” as she makes her way to high school.



# Inaugural Varsity GC Swim Team “Makes Waves”

by Jaden Bernard

The Glen Cove High School Boys Varsity swim team has recently concluded their first season with the combined efforts of Locust Valley and Carle Place, and have been boasting amazing results and new outstanding personal bests—some of which are listed below.

Junior Nicolas Chicvak finished with a season best time of 1:39.41 in the 100-yard backstroke.

His brother, sophomore Michael Chicvak, finished with season best times of 2:48.57 in the 200-yard individual medley, 1:09.26 in the 100-yard freestyle, 1:22.25 in the 100-yard backstroke and 1:28.40 in the 100-yard breaststroke. He was also a part of all three relay teams, 200-yard medley, 200-yard freestyle and 400-yard freestyle, that currently hold our program record times. Michael also swam on the county team this season.

Sophomore Nicholas Cueva finished with season best times of 32.11 in the 50-yard freestyle, 1:13.06 in the 100-yard freestyle and 2:43.29 in the 200 yard-freestyle. He was also named as the Most Improved swimmer this season!

Eighth-grader Michal Prokop finished with season best times of 2:40.90 in the 200-yard freestyle, 1:42.30 in the 100 yard backstroke, 7:13.77 in the 500-yard freestyle, 1:16.06 in the 100-yard freestyle and a 36.10 in the 50 yard-freestyle. Michal was also asked to join the county team as an alternate. As the varsity swim team stands as something

relatively new, there was some pressure on the members. When Michael C. Chicvak was asked about how his first year went on the swim team, he had this to say: “My first year on the swim team was good. The most interesting aspect to me of it was how tightly knit the team was.”





# Girls Flag Football “Tackling History”

by Ben Brenner



Football is deemed a male-dominant sport, but the times are changing. The concept of girls playing flag football has gained mainstream acceptance and enthusiasm on Long Island and around the country. Locally, Girls Flag Football at Glen Cove has been anticipated for a few years and has finally come together thanks to the support of the Glen Cove Community.

Fast forward to spring and the buzz only increased around the building thanks to the Big Red tallying wins in six of their first seven games, coupled with Mr. Hudson highlighting the girl’s exceptional achievements during morning announcements the next day.

“We are so excited to have this sport now integrated into our high school,” said Kim Riso, GC’s Athletic Director. “We had petitions signed and girls just wanted to be a part of this. The overall growth of this sport throughout Nassau and Suffolk County is super strong and district approval was able to kick off our first season for the spring of 2025.”

The team is full of athletes with different sport backgrounds and the team make-up has been solid. Still, plenty of heavy lifting needed to be done, but thanks to senior Aurora Seery, the sport

became a reality. “By handing out papers to teachers and asking them to tell their girls to sign up if interested, I went around to cafeterias asking girls if they wanted to participate with all of the pamphlets,” said Seery. “They were brought to Ms. Riso and that began the process of the creation for the team.”

For a senior like Paulina Fonfara, who is known for her soccer prowess, the curiosity in flag football has certainly been worth it. “I just wanted to see what it was all about. I was excited when they brought it up and was pretty upset when they didn’t have it last year, but I wanted to see how it would be and try something new,” she said. “The biggest difference is throwing since I don’t use my arms much in soccer for anything other than balance.”

Head coach Brett Rubin is very much excited to coach the first year of the GC Girls team, stating, “It’s a wonderful opportunity that I always wanted; the girls are absolutely phenomenal. It’s totally amazing the amount of girls that wanted to play and the diversity is awesome.”

Rubin elaborated on the challenges of getting the girls to understand the game of football since some have never even watched a game before. As well as teaching why you do certain things in certain situations, with everything having a pur-



pose to achieve a certain objective.

Needless to say, the “coaching up” as they say, is paying off. Led by Fonfara, Makaylaa Chestnut and Sarah Aiyku, the Big Red have already upset the second-ranked team in the county in Massapequa, and have waxed Hempstead and Locust Valley by 30 and 21 points respectively. Throw in a 21-0 blanking of West Hempstead and you can see why the proverbial buzz is palpable.

Early success aside, Coach Rubin has a checklist going forward in terms of goals that include building a successful program that includes a JV team next season that creates a viable pipeline of future players, making the playoffs this season and dare we say it, winning a playoff game in the team’s inaugural campaign.

The team has been given help by some of the boys varsity football players, who were encouraged to develop the team. Seniors Peter Satchell and Jordan Billings were one of the first players to stick their hand up and help this sport grow. “I think this (girls) team has huge potential to go far and make it to the playoffs,” said Satchell. “The team has progressed really well and they have a great shot this year.”

Assistant coach Rachel Sheridan has big admiration for this sport as she picked up football in her youth and wanted one day to have a team made up of all girls. “They are so enthusiastic about playing and are so thankful for the support this team has been given and breaking down gender barriers for football,” she said.

Well Nassau County, you’ve been put on notice!

