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'The Complete History of America (Abridged)' cast, crew win State Finals



COURTESY OF CHANDLER KENNEDY

Junior Morgan Kennedy sheds tears of happiness after the cast and crew of "The Complete History of America (Abridged)" received their trophy at the State Finals.

Drama Club members achieve a year of firsts at Drama Festival

By Piper Browne
INDEPENDENT STAFF

For the first time in Manchester Essex history, the Drama Club advanced to and won State Finals in the Massachusetts Educational Theater Guild Drama Festival with its performance of "The Complete History of America (Abridged)."

After hosting the preliminary round, the club advanced onto semi-finals. "Although I had already advanced to semi-finals my sophomore year, the fact that we were moving on my senior year made it that much more special," senior Drama Club president Maura Driscoll said.

Although the group was very confident in their show, according to co director Gloria Tanner, when they announced their show was moving on to the state finals, Tanner and the group did not believe it. Part of their

amazement was due to the fact that for the first time in 27 years, the third time in history, St. John's Preparatory School did not advance to States.

"We always assume that St. John's is going to do very well, so the fact that we moved on and they did not was an amazing achievement for us," Driscoll said.

The club traveled to the State Finals on March 31 to April 2. "States was incredible. The whole experience was so amazing from seeing all the different shows, to hanging out with our Hamilton-Wenham friends, to staying at the Copley Marriot Hotel," junior actress Morgan Kennedy said.

The cast and crew were even more astounded when their name was called first at the award ceremony. "I was stunned. It was magical. I still don't quite believe it...not that we didn't deserve to win, but it is an amazing thing," Tanner said.

DRAMA FESTIVAL, page 3

Jail trip teaches seniors about consequences of bad choices

By Laurel Edington
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Seniors traveled to the Middleton Jail in two groups for the annual field trip that teaches students about poor choices.

Chemistry teacher Keith Gray, who has chaperoned the trip for five years, said, "I think the point of students in general going is to see that they're one bad choice away from ending up in a place like that. For seniors, I don't see it as scared straight. I see it as more of a matter of fact: this could happen, just don't make a bad choice."

The first group of students went on March 17 and the other group went on March 25.

As each group entered the jail, every student went through the metal detector and then Deputy Jason Faro and Lt. Steve Driscoll met them to talk about the jail. They talked about the importance of showing respect to the inmates, which included not yawning, sitting up straight, and not fidgeting.

Afterwards, the students traveled into the jail to the visitor's center to meet with inmates.

Two inmates, Willy and Coco, met with both groups. These two

men had over 50 years of time in jail combined because of drug use.

Each told about how their imprisonment had emotionally hurt their families and themselves. Neither can find a respectable job when they are released and they haven't seen family members in years. Bubba also met with the second group. He was in jail because he was involved in prostitution.

On March 17, the seniors weren't able to go to the control center and walk through the jail because an inmate had to be removed from his cell.

"The prison staff was going to do a forced move of an inmate, and that's something that the general public is not allowed to see. It can become violent with the inmate and the staff," Gray said.

Students found the trip enlightening.

I thought that it was a very realistic, tangible experience," senior Christine Walder said. "The trip made everything about jail more realistic. It also showed that, unlike many TV shows that exaggerate everything, jail is just as bad as it is made out to be, if not worse."

JAIL TRIP, page 3



MOLLY FRIEDMAN PHOTO

Greg Carroll presents on Liberia and its culture to students in the auditorium during International Week, which has been a part of the middle and high school curricula since 1996.

International Week informs students of foreign cultures

By Marian Siljeholm
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Since 1996, International Week has been a part of the middle and high school curricula with the goal of broadening students' understanding of other cultures.

This year, China, Ireland, and Cambodia, and the Dominican Republic, among others, were included in the curriculum.

In coordination with other lan-

guage department staff, department head Michelle Magana oversaw the planning and speaker assignments for the week, which incorporated new additions of Guatemala, Liberia, and China.

"It's been great having student help as well," Spanish teacher Robert Bilsbury said. "Freshman Charlie Hoff was instrumental in helping with technical aspects."

Among the speakers were Martha Cox, who presented about Spain, Tom Paradis (Dominican Republic), Greg Carroll (Liberia),

and Tamera Burns (Egypt).

Student speakers included seniors Olivia Peterson and Ben White, who spoke about their trip to Ireland, and junior Anny Carr, who presented on Spain.

Bilsbury especially enjoyed the China presentation, which Kevin Heffernan, freshman Anna Heffernan's dad, presented. He felt the presentation was both "informational" and "innovative" regarding the rapidly growing nation.

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BRIEFS

Gloucester Daily Times will use Independent staff's articles

The local newspaper the Gloucester Daily Times has begun to publish articles written by members of the Independent. Senior editor-in-chief Hannah Daley is excited that the newspaper is utilizing the articles. "I think it's awesome that they want to use our articles. It's a great way for journalism students to get recognized on a larger scale for our work," she said.

Library happenings

According to library assistant Cathy Hunt, the library now has jigsaw puzzles, Tangrams, and board games to offer students during study halls. Students may come to the library desk and ask to play the games for the full block. Hunt gave special thanks to gym teacher M'Lena Gandolfi and school adjustment counselor Karen Lucas for donating some of the games.

Prom tickets on sale!

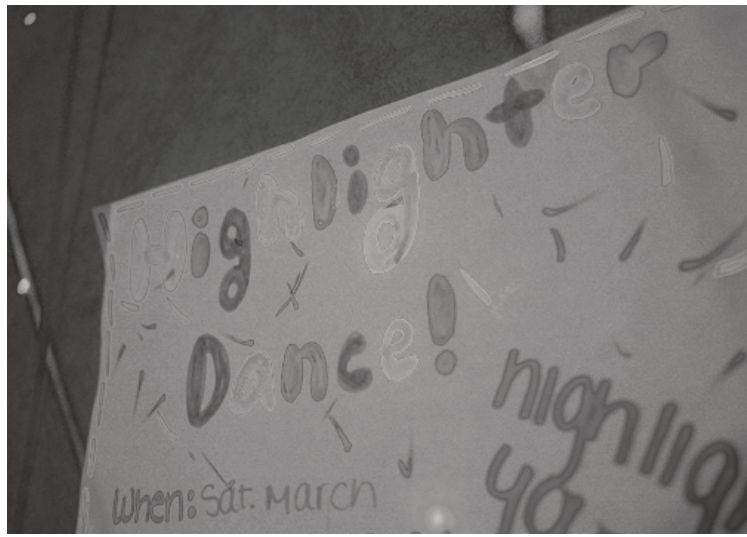
Prom tickets are currently on sale in the library. Tickets are being sold for \$70 for underclassmen and juniors and \$50 for seniors. The prom will be held May 28 at the New England Aquarium in Boston.

Students will walk for hunger

Juniors Nabila Mahmud, Brianna Malik, Anny Carr, Gina Caponigro, Ellen Burgess, Morgan Kennedy, Jelisa O'Hara and Julia Toby will walk for hunger on May 1. The walk, which is 20 miles, is sponsored by Project Bread.

Robotics update

On April 8 and 9, the robotics team participated in a state-wide competition. According to robotics member Ben Scarafoni, the team had to have its robot put rings on pegs. The team placed 43 out of 53 possible teams.

DECA hosts successful highlighter dance

With its second annual highlighter dance, DECA raised about \$350. Students enjoyed the "casual atmosphere" of the dance, as well as the popular songs played by DJBJAY, who also entertained students with "party favors" such as hats and shutter shades.

By Caroline Wood
INDEPENDENT STAFF

Students wearing white shirts covered in highlighter and neon paint filled the dining hall during DECA-sponsored highlighter dance, which was held on March 26. Around 120 students attended the dance, which raised around \$350, according to junior DECA student, Eliza Rohner.

Junior Anya Ciaramentaro said the dance was held to raise money for the DECA program and was an opportunity for the students to learn business and marketing skills.

"The reason we held the highlighter dance was because it was one of the most popular dances last year," Ciaramentaro said.

At the highlighter dance, students wear white or neon colors so that the black lights, or UV lights, make the colors look vibrant.

The highlighter dance also allows students to wear casual clothes. "It was a nice change to be able to wear shorts and a T-shirt. It was more fun to dance that way," junior Leanne Ciccone said.

According to senior Olivia Peterson, she loved the dance because she enjoyed the casual comfort of not having to get dressed up.

"The atmosphere was so cool it

made you forget you were in the dining hall," Ciccone said.

Student members of DECA decorated the dining hall with brightly colored balloons and covered the windows with black trash bags to make it darker in the dining hall.

Ciccone said, she liked having the tables set up to sit at when she needed a break from dancing.

Members of DECA also sold tickets for the dance in school, prior to the dance.

"Every student could sell tickets, and if we were able to sell 10 tickets, we could go to the dance for free," Rohner said.

The returning disk jockey, DJBJAY, entertained students.

"I thought DJBJAY mixed it up really well," Peterson said. "I thought he played a lot of popular songs that the students wanted to hear." Songs like "S&M" by Rihanna, "Born This Way" by Lady Gaga, and "Blow" by Ke\$ha, were requested by the students before the dance on DJBJAY's website or in person during the dance.

DJBJAY also gave out party gifts such as glow stick necklaces, plastic hats, and shutter shades.

"The dance was a huge hit for me and my friends. We enjoyed the whole casual atmosphere about it," Ciccone said.

'I thought DJBJAY mixed it up really well.'
-OLIVIA PETERSON

NAHS students raise money for Japanese citizens
Art teacher Caroline Epp organizes relief through art projects

By Marian Siljeholm
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

In wake of the destruction the 23-foot tsunami and 9.0 Richter scale earthquake caused, National Art Honor Society members decided to raise money for the devastated residents of Northeastern Japan by selling cards.

Currently the death toll stands at 10,102, with 17,053 still missing. Of the homes still standing, 4.4 million do not have electricity or access to clean water.

Despite this destruction, Japan is no stranger to earthquakes. For centuries the island nation has suffered the consequences of residing directly on top of the junction of three major tectonic plates.

After the 1923 earthquake, which destroyed 570,000 homes and lives as a result of insufficient

building practices, the Japanese began instituting stringent building regulations, which saved thousands in the recent disaster according to Japanese authorities.

In addition to destroying several villages, the tsunami's path covered a region that is home to several active nuclear power plants. At Fukushima, one of the three reactors at the Tokyo Electric Power Company plant failed to complete the necessary self-cooling process.

Faced with the possibility of nuclear meltdown and further irrevocable environmental damage, the Japanese government has sent workers to attempt to pump water into the reactors to cool them long enough fix the damage.

With each day the environmental cost rises as radioactive toxic wastewater from this cooling process is constantly being released, poisoning the scarce available drinking water.

These nuclear risks, combined

Currently the death toll stands at 10,102, with 17,053 still missing. Of the homes still standing 4.4 million do not have electricity or access to clean water.



MOLLY FRIEDMAN PHOTO

Seniors Alyssa Fabyan, Rachel Jones, and Amy Fraser sell NAHS-made cards to raise money for Japan. NAHS made over \$300 to donate to relief efforts after the earthquake and tsunami.

with devastation from the quake and tsunami, have made Japan an obvious target for aid.

In terms of assistance, Japan's situation is unique in that the amount and type of aid needed is a complex and debatable issue. Officials want to avoid a situation similar to Haiti's in which donations piled up, creating the need for a massive task force to sort and distribute goods.

In light of the devastation, members of the NAHS decided to take action. "We wanted to find a

way to help those in need while involving art, because NAHS is an art based group," senior member Alyssa Fabyan said.

At a recent meeting, the members each designed their own card to represent Japan. Members then sold hundreds of cards during the school day.

Not only has the initiative raised over \$300 for Japan, but the cards have "raised awareness by having those who purchased them wear them around on their clothing or backpacks," Fabyan said.

GUIDANCE UPDATE:

Senior class receives approximately 351 college acceptances

By Hannah Daley
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

After the senior class submitted approximately 815 applications to 228 schools, they received 351 acceptances, while at least 37 applications were waitlisted.

While the college process may have been stressful, the acceptance rates were quite good, according to Maguire, the guidance director.

"About 60 percent of the students did Early Action [when students apply early and hear their decision early, but their acceptance is not binding] and Early Decision [when students apply and hear early, but the acceptance is binding], and many students were accepted through these early

admission choices," she said.

Some students were accepted to top-tier schools such as Columbia University, Amherst College, Pomona College, Northwestern University, and Bowdoin College.

Even though Maguire said the acceptance rates were quite good, students were still surprised by some schools' decisions.

'Overall, there are definitely some really well-rounded and smart people that I would say I was surprised to see rejected from schools.'

-OLIVIA PETERSON

"I was surprised by the number of rejections. So many people seemed qualified to be accepted to schools they were rejected by, but I feel like a lot of it is luck," senior Joseph Musachia said.

"Overall, there are definitely some really well-rounded and smart people that I would say I was surprised to see rejected from schools," Peterson said.

Seniors Caroline Kiley and

Darcey Babikian said receiving rejection letters wasn't too difficult.

"Well, from the couple of schools that I got rejected from, I didn't feel that bad because they were my reaches. I was expecting to be rejected anyways, so in the long run, I wasn't too disappointed," Kiley said.

"It was difficult receiving a rejection letter because that meant that you weren't good enough to belong somewhere that you were interested in. Luckily, I knew which schools to expect rejection letters from, so I wasn't heartbroken—just disappointed," Babikian said.

According to Maguire, the college process was far more organized and easier than last year for teachers, students, and parents because of the Naviance Family Connection program.

"It was an extraordinarily smooth transition to go all electronic," she said.

Although Maguire said using Naviance made the process easier, students said it was still taxing.

"The first couple months of school are pretty stressful with all



MOLLY FRIEDMAN PHOTO

This year's senior class has submitted about 815 applications to 228 schools. While guidance counselor Sharon Maguire said the acceptance rates "were quite good," students were not quite as satisfied.

the forms you have to fill out, essays you have to write, recommendations you need to get, and applications you have to fill out," senior Olivia Peterson said.

"The college process was really stressful when I was doing applications just because I wanted to get everything done, but once I had my applications finished and submitted, it wasn't that bad," sen-

ior Phoebe Thorne said.

Maguire offered some advice for juniors who will be going through the same process next year.

"Be organized, take small steps, start over the summer, and be careful of your dream schools because it really is difficult to recover from rejection letters," she said.

Enrichment Fund provides technologies for younger classrooms

Organization grants support for Humanities Week, garden, ActivBoards

By Kyle Marsh
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

In addition to funding Humanities Week and the sustainable garden at the high school, the Enrichment Fund granted classroom technology in district elementary schools, according to advisory board chair Susan Beckman.

The Enrichment Fund approved a grant for \$40,000 in December 2010 to purchase interactive whiteboards for first, fourth, and fifth grade classrooms, according to Beckman. The boards were installed in January 2011.

The whiteboards, called ActivBoards, are interactive learning systems that allow students to an-



NABILA MAHMUD PHOTO

The ActivBoards have "invigorated [students]" according to Enrichment fund advisory board chair Susan Beckman.

swer teachers' questions using a cell-phone sized clicker, according to advisory board member Sandy Marsh.

Fourth-grade teacher Laurie Colpoys added that the clicker system is extremely efficient because teachers can create lessons

and questions on the spot, compared to the old system where clicker lessons had to be pre-designed.

The boards also allow teachers to manipulate images and words, customize text, and view videos using the "ActivPen."

The goal of the technology is to access all learning styles for students, according to Beckman.

"When you look at the 21st century skills, people clearly need to know how to utilize technologies. It engages all the learners and leaves no kids behind," Beckman said.

"It is enticing and interesting. It brings learning in front of kids in the classroom the way they are used to looking at a computer at home," Marsh said.

Beckman said the feedback from teachers has been positive.

"They say it has really invigorated them. It has gotten teachers that have been teaching for a while excited about teaching again," she said.

"[The boards] are unbelievable. They definitely have increased the kids' attention and interest. Everything is so efficient now," Colpoys said.

"All my lessons are right there; it really moves the lesson along quickly. I can't imagine teaching without it now," she said.

The boards are part of the Enrichment Fund's main plan to fund long term goals for the district through strategic initiatives in humanities, sciences, technology, engineering, and math, according to the Enrichment Fund's website.

CONTINUATIONS

DRAMA FESTIVAL

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"I mean, the decision is up to three judges, and it is all about who brings it. Our set wasn't as large or amazing as the other schools, but our work showed in our acting and clearly the judges saw that," she added.

Not only did the club win the state championships, but a few members also won awards. In the preliminary round, Driscoll, Kennedy, and senior Connor Hoff won awards for their outstanding acting performance. During semis, Driscoll, Kennedy, and Hoff won acting awards again; freshman Charlie Hoff won an award for excellence in lighting

design, and junior Ian Gillis won for his violin playing and acting. In finals, Driscoll, Kennedy, and juniors Matt Corwin and Katerina Eichenberger won outstanding acting awards.

The Drama Club consists of 31 members, including actors and tech crew. "The actors get all the praise, but the people who aren't seen are just as important. They are the ones who keep the show moving and who keep it together," Tanner said.

The next round, which is non-competitive, is New England. The event will be held at Andover High School from April 16-18. Finalists from each state competition advance to perform with the finalists from other New England states. It is not necessary to go

even if a school wins States, but the cast and crew will be traveling to Andover this year, according to Driscoll.

"Winning the entire competition still doesn't even feel real. I can't even describe how ecstatic I am with our performance and how proud of our cast and crew I am," she said.

JAIL TRIP

continued from page 1

Senior Noah Prince said the trip was fascinating.

"It was all very interesting, and some of it was very sad or disturbing. I couldn't really feel any connection to what they were saying, as I will almost certainly never be in their position," he said.

Assistant Principal Paul Mur-

phy said that the trip is a valuable experience.

"I think it's important for everyone, not just students, [visit] prison because one bad decision could send any one of us there," he said.

Freshmen will be visiting the jail on April 8 and May 6.

INTERNATIONAL WEEK

continued from page 1

The kitchen staff also played a role, offering meals planned to match each day's theme.

Conceptually, the idea originated under former department head Dr. Nicole Sherf, in an effort to incorporate community into the language department.

Junior Haley Woodman said the International Week assemblies

were beneficial.

"The assemblies are a nice break from regular class," junior Haley Woodman said. "The week gives a new perspective and teaches us to not define another country or culture by our own capitalistic standards."

The themes for the week depend largely on speaker availability and the cafeteria's capabilities. This year, Bilsbury was especially pleased with the efforts saying, "The foreign language department is so happy about how well the cafeteria does; they go all out and it's really amazing."

Speakers are all voluntary, mostly responding to the school's online advertisement.

Next year, the Rotary Club will sponsor foreign high school exchange students as speakers.

Health Matters



Soothe, prevent chapped lips during dry weather

By Nabila Mahmud
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Chelitis, also known as chapped lips, is a commonly complained about nuisance. What causes chapped lips? How can you fix it? What are the best products to temporarily solve a life long struggle with dry lips?

Before you decide to invest in a new lip balm, take a look into why dry lips occur and how you can prevent the problem.

Contrary to popular belief, chapped lips are not just a result of chilly weather and crisp winds. This condition stems off of a deeper issue rooted in dehydration. Lips become dry from dehydration, which leads to painful cracking and peeling.

Commonly used products to solve the cracked lips problem include lip balms. Typically, when people do not have lip balm, the reaction is to lick their lips and saturate them in saliva.

Licking your lips is the worst thing you can do when suffering from cracked lips. The moisture in saliva is transferred onto the lips and proceeds to evaporate which further dries the lips.

So what are the best products to use? If you do not mind the honey, eucalyptus smell, Burt's Beeswax is the prime choice for you. Burt's Beeswax has numerous different colored tints, shines, and flavors including clear to cater to each



CARMEX.COM

Carmex

Carmex lip balms range in price from \$2-10. They're a good option for boys because they are moisturizing and they don't leave lips with a girly shine



NEUTROGENA.COM

Neutrogena

Neutrogena lip balm typically costs \$8.99. It's a good option because it is moisturizing but doesn't need constant applications. It also comes in a variety of colors.

boy or girl's needs while still moisturizing lips. Normally, the price range is \$3-10.

If you do not desire a shine or if you are a boy, then a fantastic choice for you is Carmex, typically \$2-10. The balm hydrates lips without adding a girly shine.

Another lip quenching balm is Neutrogena's balm which is typically on sale for \$8.99. Neutrogena's product leaves the lips moist without constant applica-

tion. The worst, but surprisingly popular, lip balm you can use is Soft-Lips which ranges from \$2-10. The narrow shaped applicator requires numerous applications to cover the full surface of the lips. The coated balm moisturizes the lips for an extremely limited time. The attractive exterior distracts from the quality of the actual balm which is unable to satisfy chapped lips.

New sustainability course connects students with community

By Nabila Mahmud
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

A new pilot course titled "Green Scholars" is immersing students in the logistics of sustainability while they interact with the community. Founded by curriculum director Scott Morrison and Green Team founder Eric Magers, the honors level class assigns different projects to each student.

"It is an outstanding program that exposes students to the importance of recycling and taking care of our environment. It is very forward thinking. There are very few school districts across the Commonwealth that are taking part in this type of program. I'm pleased that we are on the cutting edge," Assistant Principal Paul Murphy said.

The course allows students to independently work during a school block. The grading system is based off of Status Reports where students explain what their accomplishments were throughout the work. Also, active participation is graded along with attending weekly meetings.

According to Magers, the course is designed to engage and motivate students to become



COURTESY OF ERIC MAGERS

Green Scholars work independently on eco friendly projects.

"proactive, innovative and entrepreneurial problem-solvers" who are able to address environmental challenges while employing critical thinking and leadership skills.

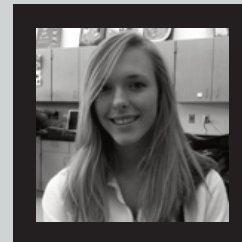
The Green Team is a part of the green school alliance whose "mission is to create greener and healthier learning environments through education and awareness."

The class utilizes students by giving them each an individual task or project. Each student is assigned a community partner who he or she can connect with. "Community partners are a crucial component of the Green Scholar program because they provide to the scholars a level of expertise in a specific content area. Working in concert with the school, our community partners help the scholars to engage in skill build-

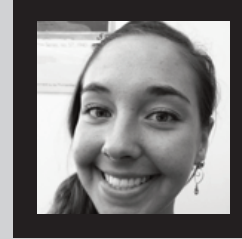
ing and allow the school and the community to work together toward a common goal," Morrison added.

The partners are specific to the project each student is assigned. Projects range from interacting with the community with tasks such as planting gardens, aiding restaurants in becoming more eco-friendly, and reducing waste in public areas. In order to raise awareness about the program, there are projects where students engage in business ventures such as producing environmental documentaries, and writing grants.

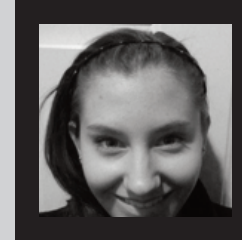
"The program allows students to work independently on projects that have a clear purpose. Green Scholars allows students to feel as if they are actively learning something imperatively useful," junior Shauna Rice said.



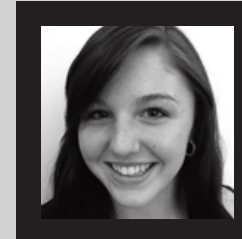
Senior
Caroline Kiley:
Horseback riding on
a beach at sunset...



Senior
Jessie Appelftoft:
Have it written
on a blimp.



Junior
Megan Gardner:
Have a sign written
somewhere where it
would surprise me.



Junior
Jen Gallagher:
I don't really care. I
asked my date over
Facebook.

Student Speak

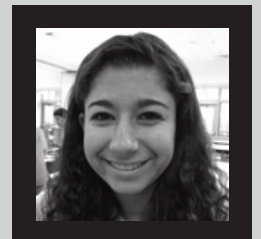
How would
you like to be
asked to
prom?



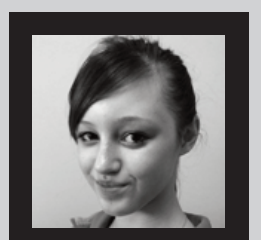
Sophomore
Ellie Mortillaro:
It would be cool if they
performed a song.



Sophomore
Laurel Barrie:
Have it written
in the sky.



Freshman
Alex Valenti:
I would want it
in private, not public,
but something special.



Freshman
Lizzi White:
I want to be asked
on a jumbotron
at a sports game.

BY PIPER BROWNE

Tech Talk

iPad 2

Now faster, thinner, and lighter, offering FaceTime and Smart Covers, Apple's innovative iPad 2 is on sale.

Compared to the first iPad, the iPad 2 has nine times the graphic performance and consists of two cameras, one on the front and one on the back.

In addition to the 9.7 inches of high-resolution display with a 178-degree viewing angle, the iPad 2's LED backlighting serves as a main component, making every image crisp, vivid, and bright.

The back camera also serves as a convenient way to show something to a video-chat friend while still seeing his/her face.

The camera on the front is used for video chatting, which is known as the feature "FaceTime," and the back camera is used to take videos.

Although sold separately, the iPad Smart Cover serves as an accessory and protector.



FLICKR.COM/GLITTERINGSHOP99 PHOTO

iPad2 Case

Thirty-three percent thinner and 15 percent lighter, it also makes traveling easier.

With a dual-core A5 chip, the iPad 2 can do twice the work at once, making multitasking even smoother. Owners can also use it for 10 hours before having to charge it, according to Apple.com.

Sold in leather or polyurethane in 10 colors for \$39, the Smart Cover folds in several different ways and contains built-in magnets that cling to the iPad for a perfect fit.

By Hannah Daley, Independent Editor

Student

Profile

Isabella Zink



MORGAN KENNEDY PHOTO

By Morgan Kennedy
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Grade: 10

What would be the title of your biography?
"From A to Zink."

What is the most important thing you want to do before you die?
Meet Amy Adams.

Describe your weirdest dream.
I was admitted to Beverly High through School Choice and was attacked by a mob of students.

What has been your most embarrassing moment?
My first grade teacher called me a chatterbox.

If you could go anywhere in the world right now where would it be?
England.

What is your favorite Lady Gaga outfit?
The egg.

What is your favorite movie?
"Edward Scissorhands."

When was the last time you laughed so hard you cried?
At the beginning of the year, my friends took a "How to Say No to Sex" pamphlet from the nurse's office and read it out loud at lunch.

What is the best advice you've ever received?
To never listen to my dad.

What is your favorite childhood memory?
When I was seven years old, I lost my tooth in my friend's cereal.

Band members venture to Montreal for performance, tour during weekend in Canada

By Morgan Kennedy
INDEPENDENT STAFF

Led by director Joe Sokol, 64 band members traveled to Montreal, Canada on March 18 for a weekend trip and performance at the Olympic Stadium.

The band left Manchester on Friday at 6:30 a.m. and arrived in Montreal at 12:30 p.m.

After arriving, the band ate lunch and prepared for a 40-minute set at the Olympic Stadium, home to the 1976 Summer Olympics.

The band performed for passing tourists in the lobby of La Tour de Montréal, a tower at the Olympic Stadium.

They played a set of nine songs including "O'Canada," "Eagle Mountain Overture," and

"A Beatles Medley," Sokol said.

According to senior Grace Gillette, the performance was a success.

"We had a great concert this year. There were more fans than we expected, and Mr. Sokol was asked to sign his first auto-

graph," she said.

According to Sokol, the rest of the weekend included various activities and tours.

The group took a guided tour of Montreal on Saturday, and band members were given time to shop and eat lunch on their own afterwards.

On Saturday afternoon, 10 students visited a museum with art

teacher Marion Powers, a chaperone on the trip, while the rest of the group went ice skating.

Junior Brianna Malik enjoyed the freedom to choose which activities she wanted to do.

'We had a great concert this year... and Mr. Sokol was asked to sign his first autograph.'
-GRACE GILLETTE



REBECCA LYNCH PHOTO

The band performed at the Olympic Center, where the Olympic Games were held in the summer of 1976. The band also got a tour of the building, visited the Biodome inside, and rode up the tower.

"I liked that we had options on this trip. Whether you went to an art museum or ice skating was entirely up to you," she said.

Sokol said other activities included dinner at a sugar shack and a visit to Montréal Biodôme to see animals in a variety of ecosystems.

Gillette said the weekend was well spent.

"The whole trip was a blast. We all had fun going out to dinner, walking around the city, and just hanging out in the hotel," she said.

Sokol said his favorite part of the trip was watching the stu-



COURTESY OF GRACE GILLETTE

Seniors Grace Gillette, Carina Taliaferro, and Piper Browne pose in front of a city mural.

dents have fun together.

"One night at dinner I looked at the students and thought, 'This is what it's all about, being together like this.'"

"The students are always practicing, and it was neat to kick back, have fun, and enjoy each other," he said.

Boys invite dates to prom in innovative, unique ways

Excitement for dance heightens as couples unite over public proposals

By Kyle Marsh
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Although prom is still two months away, boys began to ask their dates far in advance – and in extremely creative, cute ways.

Every year students attempt to find interesting ways to ask their special someone to the prom, but this year, students are creating elaborate, even time-consuming plans to ask others to prom.

Junior Casey Weld was of the first to ask his desired date to the dance. In order to ask senior Olivia Colpoys, he had to involve the school administration.

According to Colpoys, she was in AP Government when she was called down to the main office.

“Mrs. Lumsden was there and quietly said to me that I needed to go to the auditorium to see Mr. Lee. I was really confused. Then I walked in and the first thing I saw on the projector was ‘Will you go to prom with me?’ and I saw Casey with flowers and gave him a big hug,” she

said.

In order to ask his senior girlfriend Rachel Jones, senior Alex Ray created a scheme that also involved advanced planning.

According to Jones, she was on her way home from the gym when she started to see eight different signs on Route 133. The first said “Rachel Jones,” the next said, “will,” until the signs put together said, “Rachel Jones will you go to prom with me?”

“I held the last sign in her driveway with a rose. She was so excited and very, very happy,” Ray said.

Senior Alex Porter asked his girlfriend, junior Caroline Bernier, in an equally creative way.

According to Bernier, Porter asked her to go to Friendly’s for dinner. In the fence on the bridge over Route 128, Porter placed red plastic cups that spelled out “Prom?”

“The bar was set really high after Casey asked Olivia. I think that pushed Alex to get creative, and he did really well; I loved it,” Bernier said.



COURTESY OF CAROLINE BERNIER

Senior Alex Porter spelled out “Prom?” with cups in the chain link fence on the bridge over Exit 16.



KAITLIN MCDONAGH PHOTO

Senior Erik Arntsen got a sign and balloons for senior Kaitlin McDonagh.



KAITLIN MCDONAGH PHOTO

Senior Dylan Parlee asked senior Carina Taliaferro during half time at one of the boys’ basketball games.



COURTESY OF WILLIAM COOPER

Juniors Matt Corwin, Alden Burnham and Jared La Fontaine qualified for the national tournament in Dallas, Texas.

Debate team qualifies three students for national tournament in Texas

By Nabila Mahmud
INDEPENDENT ASSISTANT EDITOR

Over the past debate season, the debate team has qualified over 20 different students for larger tournaments.

Two different public forum debate teams received a bid which qualified them for a spot at the Tournament of Champions.

National tournaments include the Catholic Forensic League Grand National tournament and the National Forensics League tournament.

Juniors Matt Corwin and Alden Burnham were first seeds at a debate tournament at the University of Pennsylvania, and Graham Shaw and Andrew Randall placed second at Lexington High School.

“I’m glad to see that we’re picking up from last year. We did not see as much advancement as we would have liked to see, so being able to pick up the pace will help the team,” Shaw said.

In congressional debate, junior

Max Rodier and sophomore Jacob Martz both qualified for the Catholic Forensic League Grand National tournament. Martz also qualified for the National Forensics League tournament and Rodier qualified as third alternate.

“We worked incredibly hard this year, and I’m proud of our successes that show for it. I think both Jake and I have paid our dues and put our time in; the only thing left is to perform,” Rodier said.

Junior Jared La Fontaine qualified for the National Forensics League tournament in Dallas, Texas.

“I’m very excited to travel to Dallas and see my friends from all over the country and partake in something I love to do,” he said.

Coach William Cooper is “overall pleased with the success.”

“This year’s success positions us very well for the National tournaments this year and for next year,” he said.

Class of 2011 savings allow for more activities during senior week

Funds top \$42,000, one of highest in school’s history

By Piper Browne
INDEPENDENT STAFF

Due to the “boatload” of money the senior class has made over the last four years, their senior week is going to be full of fun activities, many for free, according to the senior class advisor Eric Magers.

Most classes are advised to make around \$25,000 in order to pay for things like prom and a white water rafting trip, but this year’s senior class has made more than \$42,000 due to an abundance of very successful fundraisers, according to Magers.

“It’s the most amazing fundraising this school has ever seen,” Magers said. “The parents have really united over the years, and students have always been there to help. We wouldn’t be able to do the things we are about to embark on without everyone’s help.”

Senior week starts on Friday, May 27, with a mandatory Memorial Day assembly at 8:30 a.m. After the assembly, seniors are free to leave until 5:30 p.m., when the buses leave for prom. This year, prom will be at the New England Aquarium. Tickets are \$50 for seniors and \$70 for underclassmen.

“I have been getting a lot of complaints about the pricey tickets, but we decided it was worth it for the new, more interesting and exciting venue,” Magers said.

The senior class will travel to Prince Pizza in Saugus on Sunday, May 29 for a pizza and comedy night. The night is \$25 per person and \$250 for each bus, but it is all paid for with the money made by the class. Magers received good feedback about the comedy night. “I’ve heard it’s very funny and age appropriate,” he said.

Next on May 30 through May 31, the class will be going on a white water rafting trip on the Kennebec River in Maine and will be staying at the Northern Outdoors lodge in Forks. The trip costs about \$12,000.

“It is a great way for the class to really bond. There is a lot of ‘remember when’ conversations and a time for the Manchester and Essex kids to reminisce,” Magers said.

“I am definitely looking most forward to the white water rafting trip,” senior class vice president Molly Friedman said. “The bonding aspect is what really makes me most excited. We are all going to be a lot closer after the two days.”

The senior class begin the day with a mandatory graduation practice on Wednesday, June 1. Then at 10 a.m., the seniors will leave for their Six Flags trip until 8 p.m. The class funds cover the cost of about \$29 per person.

A mandatory athletic and academic awards ceremony is held on Thursday, June 2. After the ceremony, seniors will attend another graduation practice and then a potluck lunch at Tucks Point, put

on by the senior parents. Later that night at 7 p.m., the Baccalaureate ceremony will take place in the high school auditorium.

Graduation will be held at the Joseph Hyland Field on Friday, June 3, from 5:50 to 7:30 p.m.

“The time we have all been waiting for will finally be here. I cannot wait to walk across that field in my cap and gown,” senior class secretary Grace Gillette said.

SENIOR WEEK ACTIVITIES

• May 27: Memorial Day Assembly and Prom

• May 29: Pizza and Comedy Night

• May 30-31: White Water Rafting Trip

• June 1: Graduation Practice and Six Flags Trip

• June 2: Athletic and Academic Ceremony, Graduation Practice, Potluck Lunch, and Baccalaureate

• June 3: Graduation

Conflict in Libya:

Should the United States have become involved?

Pro

Kaitlin McDonagh

When President Obama announced the U.S. was willing to take military action against Colonel Muammar al-Qaddafi of Libya, it was easy to jump to a conclusion: the country is getting involved in another war. This idea, however, is not as inevitable as some may believe.

The United Nations Security Council voted on March 18 to authorize a no-flight zone over Libya and to “take all necessary measures” to protect the Libyan citizens.

The no-flight zone, according to the BBC, “establishes a ban on all flights in Libyan airspace to help protect civilians,” with exceptions for flights the U.N. states enforces the band and humanitarian flights.

On March 19, France, Britain, and the U.S. began a series of air raids on Qaddafi’s forces to aid the Libyan rebels. Without this air raid, the rebels would have been overrun.

According to the New York Times, rebel forces were able to gain control of the city of Ajdabiya on March 27, a city in eastern Libya, a day after allied airstrikes against Qaddafi’s military in eastern Libya. Clearly, foreign aid has helped the African country.

Despite the success, opponents of U.S. involvement in foreign matters may criticize the Obama administration: Why should the U.S. get involved in crises that do not pertain to this country?

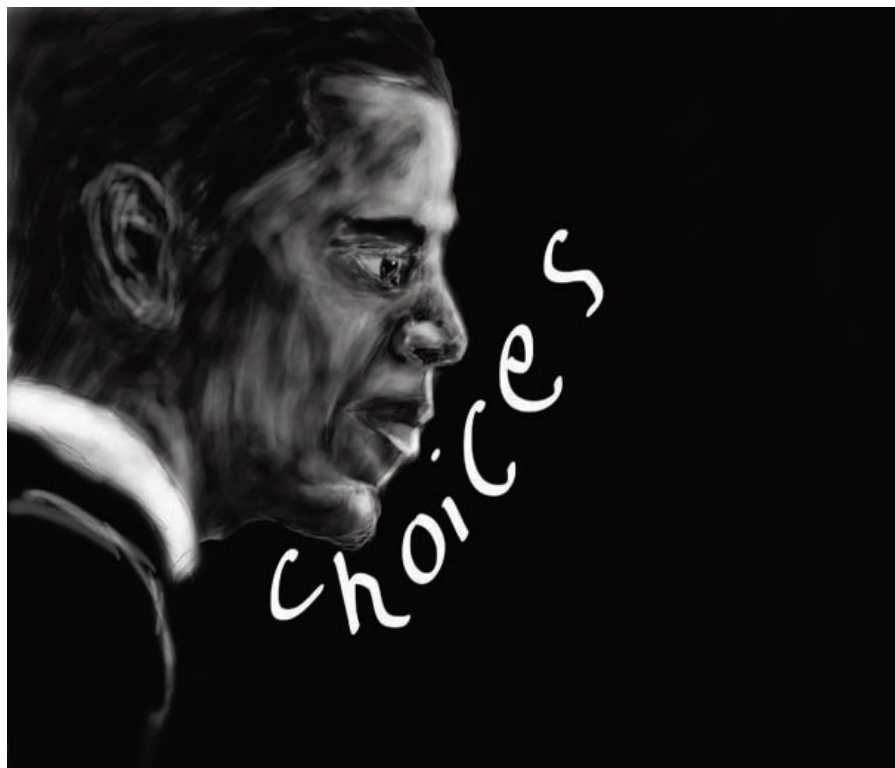
It doesn’t matter whether or not the U.S. has any stakes in Libya; the issue became international once Qaddafi began attacking his own people. It’s impossible to ignore the immorality of this act; hundreds of citizens were dying, often in peaceful protest, because a tyrant ordered his military to murder them.

If something as horrific as this were to occur in the United States, the government would have no qualms about sending in troops to resolve the situation.

At this point in the Libyan revolution, politics should take a backseat to protecting the lives and basic rights of human beings, regardless of the different nationalities.

For those who still believe the issue is a matter of diplomacy, not morality, consider this: the United States has relinquished control of the entire campaign to NATO. The Obama administration is already preparing to remove several U.S. warships from Libya. The situation won’t get out of control; the U.S. is not the only country involved in protecting the Libyan citizens, and the government is already preparing to lessen its presence.

According to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, the U.S. will be finished with the situation in Libya from anywhere between a few months to a little over a year. To protect the lives of innocent Libyan citizens and preserve their rights to life and liberty, this is a small price to pay.



NICK BOUWER ILLUSTRATION

Con

Melissa Moore

Korea. Vietnam. Iraq. All these countries are prime examples of American involvement that ended in nothing more than a cease-fire with few to no true results.

The situation in Libya will end no differently. Even if Muammar al-Qaddafi is ousted, little will be altered with American involvement.

The United States’ interference in foreign countries throughout history proves that any success in Libya is unlikely.

Korea’s separation at the 38th parallel after World War II directly caused the Korean War. America, supporting South Korea, entered the war too strong, causing China to enter the conflict to assist fellow Communist country North Korea. The war ended in a stalemate and the country remained split.

In Vietnam in the 1960s, the United States supported the unpopular, pro-Western leader Ngo Dinh Diem, causing the majority of Southern Vietnamese citizens to despise America. John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson strived to avoid involvement in Vietnam.

Johnson maintained a policy of limited warfare; however, the conflict quickly escalated to a full-blown war. Few Americans supported the war, the United States ended the fighting with a cease-fire, and Vietnam was re-united under Communist rule after the Americans left.

The conflict in Iraq began with American beliefs that Iraq was collecting weapons of mass destruction.

Though dictator Saddam Hussein was overthrown in 2003, the country remains in turmoil.

These examples directly relate to the situation in Libya today. The Korean War is a prime example of what could happen if Americans strike Libya too hard. Qaddafi would not hesitate to call in any allies he may have to preserve his power.

The Vietnam War shows how the policy of limited bombing and involvement is not successful. Barack Obama plans on utilizing this strategy in Libya. He wants to show that Americans will support the revolution with arms, but he does not want to commit many troops to the cause; however, this involvement could easily escalate to America being committed to supporting the cause with a large number of troops.

As in Iraq, Americans hope to oust a dictator. However, since Iraq is still in turmoil without a strong leader, the same is likely to happen in Libya. Even if America is successful in helping Libya, many coups d’état will likely take place.

Premature prom stress causes unnecessary drama

By Ellen Burgess
INDEPENDENT STAFF

Prom season has already begun, and maybe a little too early. This year more than ever, people are becoming more obsessed with what they will wear and who they will attend with.

Recently, there have been several situations where a boy heard that a girl he wanted to ask to prom is going to be asked in a unique way, but he decided to get to the girl first, usually asking impersonally, such as on the phone. This has created an immense amount of drama throughout the high school.

Asking someone to prom

should not be considered a race. It is not fair for a girl or boy to ask someone simply because he or she heard someone else was going to do it too. If the original person already has something planned, it is unfair to take that away from him or her just because it’s now considered a “race” to see who can ask another person to prom first.

Along with the race to ask someone to prom, there have been numerous incidents regarding girls and their dresses. If someone wants a dress another girl already has, it is considered “off limits.”

When it comes down to it, prom is a high school dance. Being formal could minutely change the value of the dance, but numerous people becoming stressed out is ridiculous. People should have the

goal to just have fun at prom and not worry about how they are going to do their hair, which dress to wear, or who they will attend with.

Prom is about having fun, and if someone wants to go with another person that they genuinely enjoy, it shouldn’t matter whether or not going to the dance is considered an actual date. Taking a date to prom is not the most important thing in the world. People shouldn’t consider going to prom with a friend as out of the ordinary.

The stress about who to go to prom with, who is wearing the same dress as someone else, and how a girl is going to do her hair adds unnecessary stress to what is supposed to be a fun school event.



PHOTO COURTESY SEAN HALLORAN

Senior Drew Gosnell asks fellow senior Molly Friedman to prom in a creative way, adding to the pressure felt by boys to ask their dates in the same unique and interesting manner as the others.



Invisible Children raises awareness, touches students

MAURA DRISCOLL

In a time where the human race is seemingly growing more selfish than ever before, Invisible Children's eye-opening presentation and the overwhelming response that followed it was a breath of fresh air for the school community.

On March 11, representatives from the Invisible Children organization visited the school to inform people about the turmoil taking place in poverty-ridden Uganda, a country where brutal war and violence has plagued its inhabitants for years.

The "roadies," as they are affectionately called, donate their time and effort into spreading awareness about the situation in Uganda.

In their presentation, the roadies showed a film called "Tony," which tells the story of a young Ugandan man whose education and eventual trip to America was supported by Invisible Children.

News of Invisible Children's efforts had yet to reach the ears of students, and when it was announced that an assembly would be held during the day, students were excited because they would be missing class.

However that carefree sentiment evaporated from the auditorium as the mood shifted drastically to a serious, emotional atmosphere.

As an avid supporter of Invisible Children and the individual responsible for their visit to our school, I was overjoyed that this urgent cause was receiving such a positive reaction from students and faculty alike.

After the presentation, the roadies set up tables selling merchandise. Based on the crowd surrounding the group, asking questions, and offering donations, it was obvious that students had not viewed this assembly as just a way to cut class.

Not only did Invisible Children raise awareness, but it also educated and touched the student body in a way never seen before.

On April 25, Invisible Children is sponsoring the 25 campaign, where participants will be silent for 25 hours to raise awareness for the thousands silenced by the Lord's Resistance Army in Africa.

All proceeds will be used to fund the Invisible Children Protection Plan in Africa, a project aiding communication and rehabilitation to the victims of the LRA.

Please visit www.invisiblechildren.com/25 for more information on how to join the movement.

STAFF EDITORIAL

College process should start earlier

With the May 1 deadline rapidly approaching for seniors' final decision on which school to attend next year, many are still waiting to hear from top choices or deciding between multiple schools. Most would not be in this position had they started the college process sooner.

According to guidance counselor Sharon Maguire, freshmen and sophomores are introduced to their Naviance account and provided with personality and interest surveys to help them focus on prospective college and career path.

Some students choose to begin to discuss secondary planning, such as college.

"While we do introduce the topic of college, we are aware that we don't want to present this to stress or worry our students. We want them to enjoy their high school time and get involved in activities that they're interested in," she said.

Starting to figure out where one might be interested in applying is an intimidating task for freshmen or sophomores, but the more familiar they are with different schools and what factors students

should look for, the easier the process will be during junior and senior year.

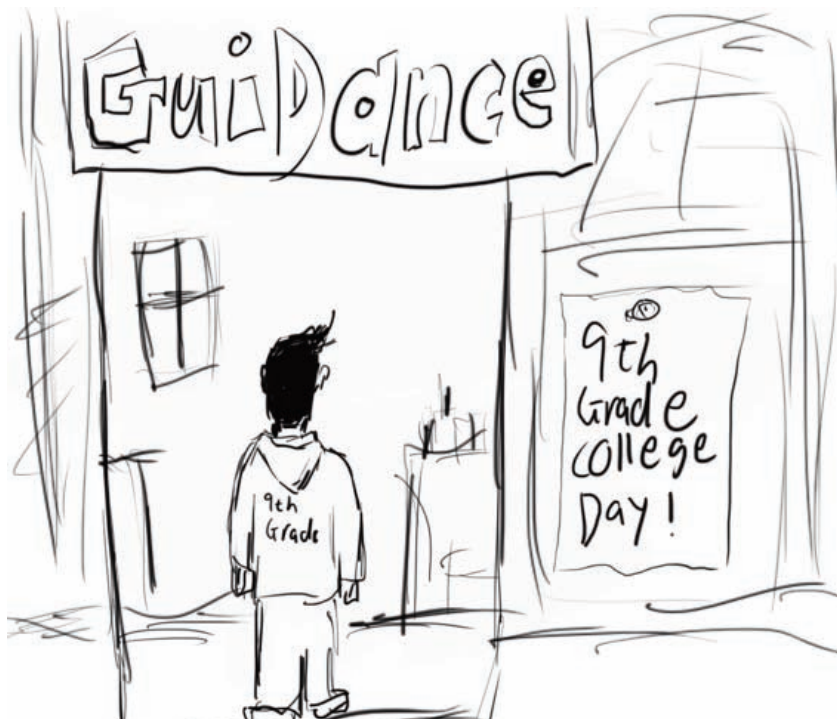
Students will have a better chance at getting into reach schools if they know what

Guidance gives great tools to students through Naviance, but the intimidation of the process makes students wait until junior year to start looking at schools.

Current seniors should be brought in to talk to underclassmen about strategies for searching for colleges. The process is fresh in seniors' minds, and underclassmen need specific tasks they can do to start figuring out what schools they might be interested in. Merely signing up for Naviance is not enough.

Some students take initiative and start the process early. Others blow it off until the application deadlines arrive. The ones who need help are those who want to start looking but are not sure how.

Increased guidance interaction during freshman and sophomore year will largely benefit these students and reduce stress later throughout the application process.



NICK BOWER CARTOON

Underclassmen should have at least a few meetings with a guidance counselor to discuss not only types of colleges they are interested in, but also to establish academic goals.

grades they will need for all four years of high school. This will inspire them to work harder and help them choose what level of classes and number of APs they want to take as upperclassmen.

Juniors in senior classes should take seniors' final

By Laurel Edington
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Underclassmen who are either looking for a challenge or want to double up in a subject and are taking classes with seniors should be able to take the final early with the seniors before S.C.O.R.E. starts.

Once the third quarter is over, seniors are no longer in school full time—they are on S.C.O.R.E. and only come back to school to take their AP classes.

When seniors are gone, teachers either have no students to teach or very few underclassmen left in the class.

After the seniors are on S.C.O.R.E., the other students in the class should do other educational activities for fourth quarter grades, but they should not have a final on that material at the end of the year.

Teachers shouldn't force these students to be tested on more than the rest of the class since these students have already chosen to

push themselves intellectually.

The underclassmen in these classes have done everything the seniors have done and should be tested as such. It's not fair if they have to take a final on more material with more to study later in the year and have it count the same amount as the final the seniors take.

Every student in senior classes should review at the same time and take the final at the same time.

Younger students should only

take the final with the seniors, however, if the class is specifically a senior class.

For example, honors physics is a class typically for seniors that some juniors take to challenge themselves. On the other hand, precalculus is an honors class for juniors, but some seniors take it based on their schedules from the past three years. The juniors in the physics class should take the final with the seniors, but the juniors in the precalculus class need to take it as a normal final.

the INDEPENDENT

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Editorial space is available to all MERHS students, faculty, and community members.

All submissions must be signed and put in the newspaper mailbox in the front office of MERHS.

The Independent reserves the right not to print letters and to edit the content for clarity and length. While letters can be critical of an individual's actions, they cannot slander or libel.

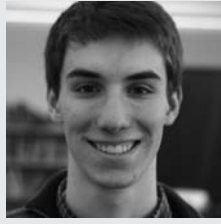
The staff editorial may be considered the opinion of the staff of The Independent. By-line opinions are written by individual staff members and should not be considered representative of the entire staff.

The Independent staff hopes that all Manchester and Essex citizens will take advantage of this forum. The paper is meant to serve the school community, and we are open to suggestions to help it better serve its purposes.

BOYS' TENNIS



Connor Howlett



Matt Melamed

Coach: Robert Bilsbury

Captains: Seniors Connor Howlett and Matt Melamed

Players to watch: Melamed, Howlett, junior Ben Scarafoni, sophomore Calvin LaMothe, eighth-grader Mike Fuca

Goals for this year: To play our best tennis with every match

Coach's quote: "I think we're all in agreement that we'd like to put another year of Cape Ann Champions up on the banner."

Captain's quote: "We have a young team but at the same time our starting line up is really strong." -Connor Howlett

GIRLS' TENNIS



Eliza Rohner



Hannah Daley

Coach: Garth McKinney

Captains: Senior Hannah Daley and junior Eliza Rohner

Players to watch: Rohner, Daley, freshman Michelle Fuca

Goals for this year: To qualify for tournament and to win

Coach's quote: "The girls are a group of students and close team members."

Captain's quote: "The season is shaping up to be just about the same as last year, although because one of our strong players from last year is no longer playing, other players will have to step up into bigger roles." - Eliza Rohner

Boys' Tennis Schedule

Wednesday 4/6	3:45PM	vs.	Lowell Catholic High School
Friday 4/8	3:30PM	vs.	Marblehead High School
Monday 4/11	3:30PM	@	Lynnfield High School
Wednesday 4/13	3:30PM	@	Pentucket Regional High School
Friday 4/15	3:30PM	vs.	Swampscott High School
Monday 4/25	3:30PM	vs.	Hamilton-Wenham Regional High
Wednesday 4/27	3:30PM	vs.	Amesbury High School
Friday 4/29	3:45PM	vs.	Chelmsford High School
Monday 5/2	3:30PM	@	Masconomet Regional High School
Wednesday 5/4	3:30PM	vs.	Newburyport High School
Thursday 5/5	3:45PM	vs.	Pentucket Regional High School
Monday 5/9	3:30PM	vs.	Ipswich High School
Thursday 5/12	3:30PM	vs.	Wilmington High School
Friday 5/13	3:45PM	@	Chelmsford High School
Monday 5/16	3:30PM	@	North Reading High School
Wednesday 5/18	3:30PM	@	Hamilton-Wenham Regional High
Monday 5/23	3:30PM	@	Triton Regional High
Wednesday 5/25	3:30PM	@	Marblehead High School
Thursday 5/26	4:00PM	@	Lowell Catholic High School

Girls' Tennis Schedule

Tuesday 4/5	3:30PM	@	North Andover High School
Monday 4/11	3:45PM	vs.	Lynnfield High School
Wednesday 4/13	3:30PM	vs.	Pentucket Regional High School
Monday 4/25	4:00PM	@	Notre Dame Academy (Worcester)
Wednesday 4/27	3:30PM	@	Amesbury High School
Friday 4/29	3:30PM	@	Andover High School
Monday 5/2	3:30PM	vs.	Masconomet Regional High School
Wednesday 5/4	3:30PM	@	Newburyport High School
Friday 5/6	3:30PM	vs.	Andover High School
Monday 5/9	3:30PM	@	Ipswich High School
Thursday 5/12	3:30PM	@	Wilmington High School
Monday 5/16	3:30PM	vs.	North Reading High School
Wednesday 5/18	3:30PM	vs.	Hamilton-Wenham Regional High
Friday 5/20	3:30PM	vs.	Marblehead High School
Monday 5/23	3:30PM	vs.	Triton Regional High
Wednesday 5/25	3:30PM	@	Rockport High School

BOYS' LACROSSE



Dylan Parlee



Drew Gosnell



Reed Parkhurst

Coach: Nate Levie

Captains: Seniors Dylan Parlee and Drew Gosnell, Reed Parkhurst

Players to watch: Parlee, juniors Connor Bergman and Nick Douglas, freshman Miles Wood

Goals for this year: To make it to playoffs

Coach's quote: "Although we lost a lot of offense, we have guys who can make up for it. We have really great defense. It's stacked. We have a pretty good team."

Captain's quote: "We're expecting to make it to the tournament. Our defense looks very strong and our offense is improving as the season goes on." - Drew Gosnell

GIRLS' LACROSSE



Kyle Marsh



Molly Friedman



Grace Gillette

Coach: Sarah Holch

Captains: Seniors Kyle Marsh, Molly Friedman, and Grace Gillette

Players to watch: Friedman, Marsh, Gillette, seniors Vicky Grimes and Hannah Beardsley, and sophomore Maddi Bistrong

Goals for this year: To improve upon last year's record and to come together as a team

Coach's quote: "I hope that we have fun and we win, but I also hope that we develop more of a team play where we are helping each other out and supporting each other on the field."

Captain's quote: "We have really great team energy. We are competitive, yet we have fun." - Kyle Marsh

Boys' Lacrosse Schedule

Tuesday 4/5	3:45PM	@	Georgetown MS/HS
Friday 4/8	3:45PM	@	Lynnfield High School
Saturday 4/9	7:00PM	vs.	Swampscott High School
Tuesday 4/12	3:45PM	vs.	North Reading High School
Saturday 4/16	7:00PM	vs.	Gloucester High School
Monday 4/18	3:45PM	vs.	Dracut High School
Thursday 4/21	7:00PM	vs.	Newburyport High School
Saturday 4/23	7:00PM	vs.	Peabody Veterans Memorial HS
Wednesday 4/27	3:45PM	@	Pentucket Regional High School
Friday 4/29	7:00PM	@	Ipswich High School
Friday 5/6	7:00PM	vs.	Wilmington High School
Friday 5/13	3:45PM	@	Triton Regional High
Tuesday 5/17	7:00PM	@	North Reading High School
Thursday 5/19	3:30PM	vs.	Lynnfield High School
Saturday 5/21	4:00PM	@	Gloucester High School
Tuesday 5/24	7:00PM	vs.	Georgetown MS/HS

Girls' Lacrosse Schedule

Tuesday 4/5	3:30PM	vs.	Beverly High School
Thursday 4/7	3:45PM	@	Pentucket Regional High School
Monday 4/11	3:45PM	vs.	Ipswich High School
Thursday 4/14	3:45PM	@	North Andover High School
Wednesday 4/20	3:45PM	vs.	Wilmington High School
Monday 4/25	3:45PM	@	North Reading High School
Thursday 4/28	3:45PM	@	Georgetown MS/HS
Monday 5/2	3:45PM	@	Newburyport High School
Thursday 5/5	7:00PM	vs.	Masconomet Regional High School
Friday 5/6	3:45PM	@	Ipswich High School
Monday 5/9	3:45PM	@	Hamilton-Wenham Regional High
Thursday 5/12	7:00PM	vs.	Triton Regional High
Friday 5/13	3:45PM	@	Marblehead High School
Monday 5/16	7:00PM	vs.	Lynnfield High School
Tuesday 5/17	4:00PM	@	Swampscott High School
Thursday 5/19	7:00PM	vs.	Georgetown MS/HS
Wednesday 5/25	4:00PM	vs.	Swampscott High School

SOFTBALL



Corey Bradley



Patty Wright



Rebecca Lynch

Coach: Michael Mullarkey

Captains: Seniors Patty Wright, Corey Bradley, Rebecca Lynch

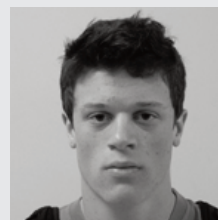
Players to watch: Wright, Bradley, Lynch, junior Kelly Dodge, and sophomore Kelsi Field

Goals: Compete in the Cape Ann League and win more games than last year

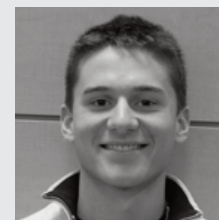
Coach's quote: "We have a big group of seniors who have played together for a long time. They know each other very well and play to each other's strengths."

Captain's quote: "The girls on the team are like a family." - Patty Wright

BASEBALL



Danny Oliver-Munn



Alex Ray

Coach: Robert Garrett

Captains: Seniors Alex Ray and Danny Oliver-Munn

Players to watch: Juniors Matt Corwin and Adrian Frattini and sophomores Max Nesbit and Jake Fitzgerald

Goals for this year: Win more games than last year

Coach's quote: "These players, along with the captains, will provide a solid core and will show the new players making the varsity team what it takes to succeed on the varsity level."

Captain's quote: "We need to work on setting feet and throwing, not hesitating. As far as the first game, we're ready to hit some homeruns."
-Danny Oliver-Munn

Softball Schedule

Thursday 4/14	3:45PM	@	Newburyport High School
Friday 4/15	4:00PM	vs.	Mount St. Joseph Academy
Tuesday 4/19	3:30PM	vs.	Amesbury High School
Wednesday 4/20	TBA	@	Nazareth Academy
Monday 4/25	3:45PM	@	Rockport High School
Saturday 4/30	11:30AM	@	Martha's Vineyard Reg High
Saturday 4/30	2:00PM	@	Martha's Vineyard Reg High
Monday 5/2	3:45PM	vs.	Ipswich High School
Wednesday 5/4	3:45PM	@	Lynnfield High School
Friday 4/8	3:45PM	@	Ipswich High School
Monday 4/11	3:45PM	vs.	Georgetown MS/HS
Thursday 4/14	3:45PM	@	Newburyport High School
Friday 4/15	4:00PM	vs.	Mount St. Joseph Academy
Tuesday 4/19	3:45PM	vs.	Amesbury High School
Wednesday 4/20	TBA	@	Nazareth Academy
Monday 4/25	3:45PM	@	Rockport High School
Saturday 4/30	11:30AM	@	Martha's Vineyard Reg High
Saturday 4/30	2:00PM	@	Martha's Vineyard Reg High
Monday 5/2	3:45PM	vs.	Ipswich High School
Wednesday 5/4	3:45PM	@	Lynnfield High School
Friday 5/6	3:45PM	vs.	North Andover High School

Baseball Schedule

Tuesday 4/12	3:45PM	@	Georgetown MS/HS
Thursday 4/14	3:45PM	@	Somerville High School
Friday 4/22	11:00AM	vs.	Mystic Valley Regional Charter
Saturday 4/23	10:00AM	vs.	Rockport High School
Tuesday 4/26	3:45PM	@	Amesbury High School
Thursday 4/28	3:45PM	vs.	Newburyport High School
Saturday 4/30	10:00AM	@	Ipswich High School
Tuesday 5/3	3:45PM	vs.	Lynnfield High School
Thursday 5/5	3:45PM	@	North Andover High School
Saturday 5/7	3:00PM	vs.	Pentucket Regional High School
Tuesday 5/10	3:45PM	@	Wilmington High School
Thursday 5/12	3:45PM	vs.	Masconomet Regional High School
Saturday 5/14	10:00AM	@	Triton Regional High
Monday 5/16	3:45PM	vs.	Somerville High School
Tuesday 5/17	3:45PM	vs.	Georgetown MS/HS
Thursday 5/19	3:45PM	@	Hamilton-Wenham Regional High
Saturday 5/21	10:00AM	vs.	North Reading High School
Tuesday 5/24	6:30PM	@	Rockport High School
Thursday 5/26	3:45PM	@	Greater Lowell Tech High School

FRISBEE



Misha Berkrot



Ben Zwart

Coach: Eric Magers

Captains: Seniors Ben Zwart and Misha Berkrot

Players to watch: Seniors Misha Berkrot, Ben Zwart, Zach Sergeant, and Aiden Ostrowski and sophomore Ellie Mortillaro

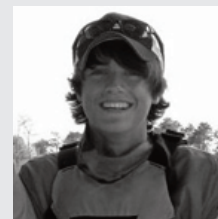
Goals for this year: To defeat St. John's Prep and get more people involved in the program

Coach's quote: "Everything has changed so much, we have diversified and taken on a lot of new players."

Captain's quote: "We have a lot of fast runners, which is an advantage, but we need to improve our communication and organization."

-Misha Berkrot

SAILING



Nate Jermain

Coach: Kevin Dooley

Captains: Senior Nate Jermain

Players to watch: Seniors Natalie Warren, Connor Winn and Sam Cushing

Goals for this year: To compete in the New England team race competition. To do this, the team must have a good season record and win the O'Day trophy, which is won at the New England Fleet Racing Regatta and will qualify them for the competition.

Coach's quote: "We are steadily increasing the degree and difficulty of our practice sessions in preparation for our upcoming matches."

Captain's quote: "We have had the same three skippers since sophomore year, so we get better every week, every year."

-Nate Jermain

Ultimate Frisbee Schedule

Wednesday 4/13	3:30	@	Rockport
Thursday 4/14	3:30	vs.	Pingree
Monday 4/25	3:30	vs.	Somerville
Wednesday 4/27	3:30	vs.	Winchester
Thursday 4/28	3:30	vs.	Andover
Tuesday 5/3	3:30	@	Rockport
Wednesday 5/4	3:30	@	North Reading
Thursday 5/5	3:30	@	St. John's Prep
Tuesday 5/10	3:30	@	Andover
Wednesday 5/11	3:30	@	Rockport
Friday 5/13	3:30	vs.	North Reading
Tuesday 5/17	3:30	vs.	Rockport
Wednesday 5/18	3:30	@	Pingree
Thursday 5/19	3:45	vs.	Concord Carlisle
Tuesday 5/24	3:30	@	Phillips Andover
Wednesday 5/25	3:30	@	North Andover
Thursday 5/26	3:30	@	Rockport

Sailing Schedule

Tuesday 4/12	3pm	vs.	Duxbury
Thursday 4/14	3pm	@	Winchester
Saturday 4/16	12pm	vs.	Cheverus JV
Saturday 4/16	8am	vs.	O'Day Qualifier
Sunday 4/17	8am	@	Tabor vs. O'Day Championship
Thursday 4/21	3:30pm	@	Brookline
Friday 4/22	3:15pm	vs.	Belmont Hill
Monday 4/25	3pm	@	Wellesley
Wednesday 4/25	3pm	vs.	St. John's Prep
Thursday 4/28	3pm	@	Gloucester
Saturday 4/30	10am	@	Sharon Invite JV
Saturday 4/30	12pm	vs.	Cape Elizabeth
Sunday 5/1	8am		DBMS for MBL TR Invite
Tuesday 5/3	3pm	vs.	Hornet JV Team Trophy
Thursday 5/5	3:30pm	@	Sharon
Saturday 5/7	9am	@	Mallory & Wild Card
Sunday 5/8	9am	@	Mallory & Wild Card

For full schedule see <http://hornetsailing.blogspot.com/>

Prepare your closet with spring fashion trends

Spring is in the air, and it's not only the tulips that are in bloom but also the new spring fashion trends.

It's time for everyone to come out of their winter hibernation of sweatpants, jeans, UGGs, and winter jackets and transition to a more "springy" wardrobe.

This season has been struck with a multitude of new trends including flowy dresses, sandals, shorts, bright colors, and fun accessories. These new fads have taken over fashion websites and blogs in preparation for the spring lines.

Dresses

A dress is a great way to put together a simple cute outfit in a hurry. Delias has a great purple ruffle dress for \$44.50 that is included in their Tropical Paradise spring line. Pair it with some earrings, a layered necklace, and a pair of strappy sandals and you're set for a day out under the spring sun.



WWW.DELIAS.COM

Shorts

No one wants to have their ghastly white winter legs forever, so invest in a pair of high waisted jean shorts from Free People for \$117 and pastel chino shorts from J.Crew for \$49.50 to allow some sun to color your skin.



WWW.FREEPEOPLE.COM

Shoes

Gladiator sandals, flip flops, and wedges are all great shoe options and can be used both during the day and at night.

Urban Outfitters has a wide shoe. A nude color shoe is a necessity to any closet because it goes with every color and can be dressed up or down. Their Cooperative Canvas Strap Wedge, \$48, is the right amount of height and comes in orange, nude, and black.



WWW.URBANOUTFITTERS.COM

Accessories

Accessories add to any outfit and can sometimes be the missing link needed to complete the look.

Anthropologie has a great selection of necklaces and bracelets ranging in price and styles. Their nuances necklace, \$48, is a bold statement that can stand alone on top of a tank top or paired with a strapless dress.



WWW.ANTHROPOLOGIE.COM

Spring Concert

Soundwaves, band, chorus to showcase talent, songs at spring concert

By Rebecca Lynch
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Featuring an array of songs, the band, chorus, and a capella groups will perform tonight at 7 p.m. All students will showcase talent that has improved throughout the year, according to band director Joe Sokol.

"The band is playing better as a group now. They've gotten better at balancing and observing dynamics. It's great to be able to perform when we're playing at our highest level of the year," he said.

According to Sokol, the band will perform the same setlist as they did in Montreal, including "Beatles' Gold" and "Raider's March."

"We've added a medley from 'Grease,' which is turning out to be really nice. I think it's going to be a great concert. The band and chorus all have a lot of good music," he said.

Choral director Donna O'Neil agrees.

"The students have been dedicated and working for excellence, and I have no doubt that it will pay off," she said.

According to O'Neil, the chorus will sing a "beautiful and dramatic" rendition of "There Will Be Rest." The piece is a musical translation of the poem by Sarah Teasdale. They will also sing "Down to the River" from the movie "O Brother Where Art Thou" and "Let the River Run" by Carly Simon.

The Soundwaves will perform "No Rain" by Blind Melon, a Billy Joel piece, and "Africa" by Toto.

This concert marks the last major performance for many seniors.

"Band is such a family. We've had so much fun, and it's going to be really hard to say goodbye. I can't wait to give our epic senior speech, with Mr. Sokol quotes included," senior Grace Gillette said.

Sokol will likewise miss this senior class.

"As far as leadership goes, the seniors set great examples musically. The younger players really learn from them. It's been a blast over the years, I'm going to miss their big personalities," he said.

"The senior class has some amazing talent and their shoes will be very hard to fill, both musically and in spirit," O'Neil said.

The Soundwaves will also hold a concert on April 28 at 7 p.m. in the school auditorium to fundraise for the junior class. The event will include refreshments and multiple songs.

This concert marks the last major performance for many seniors.

CONCERT SETLISTS

Band setlist

- "O'Canada"
- "Star Spangled Banner"
- "An English Celebration"
- "Summon the Heroes"
- "Grease"
- "Raider's March"
- "Beatles Gold"

Chorus setlist

- "Down by the River to Pray"
- "There will be Rest"
- "Let the River Run"

Soundwaves setlist

- "No Rain"
- "Lullaby"
- "Africa"

Spirit Week: Students dress up for daily themes



MOLLY FRIEDMAN PHOTO

Senior Drew Gosnell dresses up as a cheerleader.



NABILA MAHMUD PHOTO

Seniors Brittany Edwards, Carina Taliaferro, Grace Gillette, Kyle Marsh, Piper Browne, Maura Driscoll, Vicki Grimes, and Dylan Parlee dress up on toga day.



ELLEN BURGESS PHOTO

Juniors Mav MacEachern and Joe Burgess dress up as The Blues Brothers on twin day.



KATILIN MCDONAGH PHOTO

Seniors Matt Bower, Connor Winn, Olivia Rice, Laurel Edington, Christine Walder, and Kaitlin McDonagh dress up for decade day.



KAITLIN MCDONAGH PHOTO

Junior Max Gove and science teacher Deb Nolan dress up for school spirit day .

‘Femme Fatale’ sure to be fan favorite, lacks appeal needed for non-Spears fans

By Maura Driscoll
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

On her third album since her triumphant, post-breakdown, return to music, Britney Spears proves once again that she’s not going away anytime soon.

Though bound to be a highly successful album, “Femme Fatale (Deluxe Edition),” is nothing out of the ordinary or outside of Spears’ comfort zone. It has the same feel as her most recent albums, “Blackout” and “Circus,” and there are no surprises with this new set of tracks.

Spears delivers her standard music, which for diehard fans is just what they were looking for, but those who have never been supporters, or are disgusted with the music industry, will undoubtedly

turn up their noses at the music.

Auto tuned to death and digitally edited to the point where Spears often sounds robotic, “Femme Fatale” brings nothing more to the table other than sugary, computerized songs fit for nothing but remixes and the club scene, playing into the current dubstep craze.

Pre-released singles “Hold It Against Me” and “Till The World Ends” rapidly spread across radio stations and climbed the charts within the first week of their respective releases.

Despite the fact that it’s cluttered with many of the same sounding tunes, “Femme Fatale” does have a few hidden gems worth checking out.

“I Wanna Go,” an upbeat song that you can’t help but want to

dance to, is one of the bright spots on the album. Its addictive hook and fun whistle effect make for an enjoyable track, despite being severely computerized.

Another song off the album that fans are sure to love is “Gasoline,” which is typical Spears. The transitions from upbeat and catchy verses to a darker and edgier hook makes for an enthralling, though somewhat redundant, track.

If listeners are willing to look past the heavy handed editing, autotuning, and regrettable introduction of dubstep in almost every one of the album’s tracks, “Femme Fatale” provides party perfect songs but lacks the depth and range of talent Spears is sure to still possess; the reintroduction of which would have been a welcomed change of pace.



WWW.BRITNEYSPEARS.COM

Britney Spears’ new album “Femme Fatale” was released on March 29, 2011. Spears’ voice is auto tuned, but her pre-released songs climbed the charts. Although her diehard fans are sure to enjoy the album, it fails to impress skeptics since its just her standard music.

‘The Source Code’ captivates, intrigues audience, elicits wide variety of emotions

By Melissa Moore
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Many people dream of being able to go back in time to fix a formerly bad situation. In “The Source Code,” this is Captain Colter Stevens’ assignment.

Stevens (Jake Gyllenhaal) wakes up on a train in the body of an unknown man. He does not know who he is or how he got there. Eight minutes later, the train blows up. He then finds himself strapped in a capsule with a woman talking to him.

The captain is a part of a new government program called the source code. It allows people to go back and live the last eight



WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SOURCECODE

“The Source Code,” starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Michelle Monaghan, is an action packed with Gyllenhaal going back in time repeatedly to identify a bomber on a train.

minutes of a person’s life. Stevens’ job is to identify the bomber of the train, since this

man is known to be plotting a much larger-scale bombing in downtown Chicago.

Through trips back and forth Stevens must gather the clues necessary to determine the assassin.

While on the train, the captain meets many characters, including a woman named Christina Warren (Michelle Monaghan), to whom he gets very close over his many eight-minute visits.

“The Source Code’s” soundtrack keeps the movie going and draws viewers into the movie, and the music beautifully parallels the events.

All the actors play their roles commendably with few to no lapses in the credibility of the characters. Each person seems genuine and stays true to his or her persona.

The script was well-written.

Despite the impossibility of the situation ever occurring, realistic lines make the characters come alive.

Gyllenhaal, Monaghan, and Vera Farmiga (playing Colleen Goodwin) excel in their acting, supporting each other and making the movie both believable and intriguing.

Through unexpected twists and turns of the plot, viewers are incapable of guessing what might happen next. Once the mystery of “The Source Code” unfolds, one will want to see the movie again to fully understand it and pick up on nuances that may have originally been missed.

“The Source Code” is rated PG-13 for violence and language.