

the **INDEPENDENT**

Volume XV Number 9

Manchester Essex Regional High School 36 Lincoln St., Manchester, MA 01944

June 8, 2009

GRADUATION 2009

96 seniors are last to graduate from current building

By **Hannah Daley**
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

After graduation was moved to the gym due to threatening weather, students, faculty, friends, and family gathered to honor the class of 2009, which was the last class to graduate from the existing school.

Assistant Principal Paul Murphy began the graduation by introducing the bagpipers who led the procession of the faculty.

After the faculty took their seats, Murphy introduced the graduates who entered to "Pomp and Circumstance" by Edward Elgar.

Following the procession of the graduates, senior Abby Burke sang "The Star Spangled Banner."

Murphy then addressed the graduates. "It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your assistant principal for the last four years. I have seen so much growth and maturity. You arrived as young timid 14-year-olds and now leave here as educated strong women and men," he said.

Superintendent Marcia O'Neil spoke after Murphy, saying that graduation is like a marker.

"Graduation is a marker – a milestone along the way. It denotes an end point and simultaneously, a beginning. The end and the beginning side by side for a moment. It's important to pause and look around, to take in the sight of the faces of your family, your classmates, and all of the adults that made the experience of attending Manchester-Essex

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NICK BOUWER PHOTO

Senior graduates (left to right) Dan Kelly, Dan Kamins, Max Wooding, and Anthony Cerullo stop for a photo on their way to the gym for their procession. Ninety-six seniors graduated, making them the last ones to graduate from the existing building. The ceremony lasted for about two hours, and the graduates gathered with their friends and family in the cafeteria after it was over. English teacher Koughan was the commencement speaker. (For more graduation photos, go to page 5.)

Stuart leaves legacy after 33 years of teaching

By **Kyle Marsh**
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

English department head and student council adviser Dr. John Stuart will retire after 33 years of teaching and leading extra curricular activities.

Stuart said he will miss many things about the school, but one aspect stands out in particular.

"Certainly the students and colleagues will be missed, but I will

miss the work the most. I will miss preparing lessons on new works and books. I love sharing the discovery of books with my students," he said.

Over the years Stuart has also taught at colleges, such as Salem State College, the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and the University of Maine.

"I may teach at colleges in the future, but at this point I am picky. I



John Stuart

would rather do something in-depth with a new work than a basic course," he said.

"Teaching at the high school has been a tremendous education for me. The belief 'the best way to learn is to be a teacher' is very true," he said.

Along with teaching at the school, Stuart was theater director for 15 years.

Among his accomplishments, Stuart has been a co-founder of the Diversity Alliance Club, as well as

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Priolo retires with positive views for future

By **Nick Bouwer**
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Dominic Priolo, former history teacher and current Learning Center development director is retiring at the end of this year.

Priolo grew up in a small town called Gloversville, NY. "I lived in a town where most people gravitated towards music or sports," he said.

This is where Priolo's passion

for guitar began; and he has done many things with music in the school.

"Music is one of my many passions. I have organized the Christmas concert we play every year for many years... The concert includes Rob Bilsbury, Dan lundergan, and me. Stephen Levinson is a new member to the band as well. I also play regularly at the Caffe Di Siena in Newburyport in a Duo with David Angelo... My plans are to teach guitar after retirement," Priolo said.

He taught middle school history for a few years but then transferred into the Learning Center program.

"The center was developed for kids that aren't in need of special education but still need help learning. Most students that I have helped benefited

PRIOLO, page 3



Dom Priolo

Contract negotiations continue

Teachers at day 270 with no new deal

By **Bobina Vander Laan**
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Teachers have been without contract for the past 270 days, and negotiations between the teachers' union and School Committee continue to reach a resolve.

"The Action Committee is eager and the School Committee is eager to come to a resolution," Superintendent Marcia A. O'Neil said.

The previous one year extension to the 2004 to 2007 contract ended over 10 months ago.

Although teachers still have the rights and privileges associated with it, the new contract has yet to be agreed upon.

Teacher demonstrations, such as standing outside the building before and after school every Thursday, are done by the Action Committee, according to Manchester Teacher's Association president and Essex Elementary

School librarian Susan Hardy.

The goal is to allow taxpayers to know how long the process has been going on.

"The members of the School Committee are elected officials and the people who vote for them should know how they are choosing to negotiate," Hardy said.

Negotiations have been taking place since November, with both parties meeting continuously throughout the school year.

The teachers' union is represented by seven or eight representatives from the Manchester Teacher's Association.

The School Committee has an attorney and the superintendent among others to supervise the process.

"Progress is continuing; it's slow on both sides," O'Neil said. "Both parties have been working vigorously towards a resolve."

"The teachers would like the School Committee to bargain in good faith, to treat us and the

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ARTS

"Godspell" provides bright costumes and clever sets

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Safety assembly urges students to make smart decisions

Students caught with alcohol at beach hours after program

By Julia Melamed
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

During the prom and graduation season, concerns about underage drugs and alcohol usage increase for administrators, teachers and parents.

On May 15, the school held an assembly to educate and remind students of the dangers of drugs and alcohol. Members of the towns' police departments and the Essex County Sheriff's Department attended the ceremony and encouraged students to make smart decisions.

A dog and his owner demonstrated how a canine unit sniffs out drugs to show students how police will know if they have illegal substances.

Zak Ryan, a 30-year-old inmate at the Essex County Sheriff's Department convicted of vehicular manslaughter, spoke. According to Ryan, as a teenager he drank

and smoked occasionally due to peer pressure.

Ryan and his girlfriend were celebrating her birthday, and Ryan estimated he'd had four shots of alcohol before leaving the restaurant. He said he considered himself a qualified driver and didn't realize how impaired his abilities were. On Route 128, he flipped his car. His girlfriend was strapped into the passenger seat but died instantly. He was also injured.

Ryan has an 8-year-old daughter (not with his late girlfriend), who lives with her mother and thinks her father is at school. "I've hurt my family more than I've hurt myself," he said. "Since 18 until now, I've been in and out of jail."

Ryan said he speaks to students because he wasn't educated about drugs and alcohol in high school. "I... come here so that at least one person can hear what I have to say... hopefully get my point across," he said.

Junior Matt Hoyle found the program informative. "Having people come in and share their life experiences with us helps convey the point of the assembly," he said.

Some students responded emo-



Freshman Shawna Allen, juniors Amelia Burke and Jim Finn, seniors Zeke Gillette and Kyle Donovan, math teacher David Alger, Spanish teacher Eric Magers, and Steve Driscoll of the Essex County Sheriff's Department line up to be sniffed for drugs (left). Lieutenant Karen introduces herself and her partner Buddy, a 3-year-old Chocolate Labrador (right). Buddy can sniff out nine different drugs.



MOLLY FRIEDMAN PHOTOS

tionally while listening to the speakers.

At the end of the assembly, students observed a rollover simulation to highlight seatbelt importance.

According to Assistant Principal Paul Murphy, the school does a similar assembly each spring. Past assemblies have included a

mock prom accident, skits, and alcohol awareness and substance abuse programs. "If it helps one or two kids, it's more than worth it," Murphy said.

Despite the assembly, about 60-80 students were caught on Singing Beach that night with alcohol; some were charged with possession and consumption. "I

was very disappointed in light of the programs," Murphy said. "But that doesn't prevent me from wanting to do more programs like this."

According to Principal Jim Lee, police estimated that 60 to 80 students were at the beach and gave the school seven or eight names.

District website provides virtual tour of new school

By Hannah Daley
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

With the end of the school year approaching, building staff is preparing for the move into the new school, and there is now a link on mersd.org with information about it, including a virtual tour.

According to Superintendent Marcia O'Neil, workers still need to install seats and the theater curtain in the auditorium. Staff members are also taking walk-throughs of each floor to determine any items that need to be fixed.

O'Neil said there are no big problems that will impact or change the schedule for the new school.

"There is no official date set for the end of the building project, but we have a timeframe for the end of June," she said.

O'Neil added a new link to the school district website at www.mersd.org on March 1, which has a video with a visual tour of the new school, answers to frequently asked questions, and information about the new facilities.

Students will probably not have a chance to tour the building before it opens because the final setup of classroom furnishings, unpacking of instructional materials and supplies, final cleaning and technology testing will take



WWW.MERSD.ORG

A link on the district website provides a virtual tour of the new school showing the dining hall, classrooms, faculty workspaces and other areas.

the full month of August, according to the district website.

New class schedules will be sent to each student in August, along with maps of the new building in order to help familiarize students with the layout of the building.

O'Neil said the building of the new school has progressed as planned.

"The project has really run smoothly - on time and on budget. We have had

a dedicated hardworking Building Committee to thank for that. Now we're looking forward to the big move and celebrating the opening of the new school in the fall," she said.

Sophomore Amy Fraser said she is excited for the new school but will miss the school she is in now.

"I'm excited for the cafeteria overlooking the gym and for the

new locker room, since the existing one gets overcrowded really quickly. The only thing I'll miss about the existing school is being able to find my friends so easily in the hallways," she said.

O'Neil said she thinks there will be lots of enthusiasm in the new school.

"There will be lots of excitement in the brand new building, including lots of incredible space for the classrooms, library, auditorium, science labs, music rooms, gym, and cafeteria. I think students, teachers, and staff will be delighted with the space," she said.

'The project has really run smoothly--on time and on budget.'
-MARCIA O'NEIL

To access the virtual tour, visit http://www.mersd.org/Pages/MESRD_BuildProject/NewBuildingFAQ

Advanced technologies in new school simplify, enhance

By Nick Bouwer
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Many new technologies will be presented in the school next year. According to school tech Steve Kwiatek, all machinery will be replaced with new and more efficient versions.

The normal school computers will be replaced with new models and software called VM ware.

90% of computers will be virtual machines, which means all servers will be unified so people can share resources. "The good thing about having this is we can add software to computers within a day. Updates will also be a lot easier because our central servers will all be in one area," Kwiatek said.

Phones will also be changed. "It will be a mixed system with a plain digital phone; however, all staff members will have one and instead of having to find voicemail over here; they can check it at home over email," Kwiatek said.

SMART Boards will also be replaced with the new "éno" board, a Polyvision product that is virtually indestructible. Using blue tooth technology, the éno board pen will send code to a computer to tell it where it is.

Projectors will join the new éno boards in every classroom. According to Kwiatek, the projectors will be hooked up to surround-sound speakers built into the walls, and all rooms will be designed for sound proofing.

"There will be so many new technologies in the school. It will be like switching from a three-way highway to a 10-way highway," Kwiatek said.

FAST FACTS

- All machinery will be replaced with new, more efficient versions

- 90% of computers will be virtual machines - all servers will be unified so people can share resources.

- Eno boards, an indestructible Polyvision product with Bluetooth, will replace SMART Boards.

- Projectors will be hooked up to surround-sound speakers built into the walls.

- All rooms will have sound proofing.

- Staff members will be able to use email to check voicemail at home.

- Updates will be faster.

Green Team helps raise awareness through concert and cleanout

By Molly Friedman
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

To raise environmental awareness, the Green Team has sponsored a few fundraisers, including a benefit concert and senior locker cleanout.

The Green Team also posted stickers on computers to remind students to turn off their computers to help save energy.

Along with the computer reminders, the Green Team sponsored the senior locker clean out and filled two barrels of recycled products.

One large bin was full of used binders that will be sent to underprivileged students in Jamaica.

The other was full of paper products that were recycled instead of thrown away.

Most years these materials are considered trash, but this year only one small barrel was full of garbage.

To help, the Green Team offers Gas-By-The-Sea has a recycling trailer that is collecting linens, shoes, clothing, and toys and donating all the money earned, about \$167 per ton, will be donated to

the Green Team.

"Students participation has been good, we hope for more as time progresses," adviser Eric Magers said.

On May 1, the Green Team held a benefit concert to raise money for their program.

Adviser Jeff Carovillano helped put the concert together and gathered all the bands to perform. Admission was \$5, and food was sold to raise money.

Over \$700 was raised for the team to go towards their next fundraiser.

Six bands performed for 20 minutes each.

According to sophomore Isolde Decker-Lucke, Magers often comes up with a lot of great ideas about how to help the school and get the ideas going.

The team is already brainstorming ideas to add into the school for next year.

This year, the team put together a slideshow showing the importance of recycling and keeping the planet green.

The show will be continuously displayed throughout the lunch block and at the end of the day.

On June 8, Magers organized an awareness assembly for recycling and how it will be practiced in the new school.

'Students participation has been good. We hope for more as time progresses.'
-ERIC MAGERS



MOLLY FRIEDMAN PHOTOS

Students listen to Magers at the Green Team assembly, which raised awareness of the Green Team's plan for making an environmentally friendly new school (top).

A recycling drop box is stationed at Gas-By-The-Sea for clothes, shoes and toys to be recycled (left). The station will raise \$167 per ton of clothing and donate proceeds to the Green Team.

The Green Team's school concert also helped to raise over \$700.



Continuations

GRADUATION Continued from page 1

Regional High School significant for you."

Senior Class President Kevin Butler followed after O'Neil and talked about how the class of 2009 is a special class.

"We all started our journey together in the ninth grade, and since then our teachers have been telling us that we are the special class, and in many ways we have proved them right."

Butler said that he is excited for the class reunions to come.

"I can't wait to see all of you in 10 years... I can't wait to hear all the stories and see all the old faces. I can't wait to see who's bald; my bets are on Dan Kelly, and who finally tied the knot - Ross and Stephanie," he said.

Class officers Butler, Bethy Cunningham, Daniel Ball, and Colin Rosso then presented their class adviser Gloria Tanner two Red Sox tickets to the Yankees game.

Murphy then introduced salutatorian Anne Osborne; however, he left her speech in his office. In the meantime, he presented valedictorian Stephanie Smith; her speech was missing as well.

Butler kept the program moving by announcing that the class gift, which did not arrive yet, was a podium for the new school.

Murphy came back with Osborne's speech, and she returned to the podium to give her saluta-

torian address.

Osborne said she struggled over her speech.

"I agonized over what to write about for months, but the only thing that I could think of that relates to our class is that the class of 2009 has been deprived of many rights of passage granted to every other class. Instead of taking limos to prom, we took a bus. We didn't get to do senior skip day - thank you class of 2008. And of course the big one, we are the last class to graduate from this distinguished old building," she said.

Without her speech on paper, Smith delivered her valedictorian address by memory.

"Some people would say high school is a preview for later life. Forrest Gump has said that life is like a box of chocolates, but in my time here, I have found high school to be more like a pimple than a box of chocolates," she said.

Smith compared each year in high school to a stage of a pimple, starting with freshman year as a red patch because the year is not bad.

She said during sophomore year pressure increases, causing a bump to appear.

Smith said that when junior year starts, the pressure of SATs and the college process causes the formation of a pimple.

"Then senior year starts. You are trying to write your best college essay while you are trying to keep up with clubs and sports, and the pimple is huge and painful.

The guidance office is like your second home, acting like a good acne cream to ease the pain. Finally, you take your midterms and your first semester is over, and you satisfyingly pop the pimple and begin your senior slide," she said.

Following Smith, Principal James Lee presented over \$100,000 in scholarships to students.

English teacher Daniel Koughan then taught the graduates a lesson about situational irony during his commencement address.

Koughan told the class to rise and raise their right hands to make a pact.

"Let's all raise our right hands. In your most passionate Emersonian voice, repeat after me. I will trust myself. I will be myself, my best self. I will not cower in conformity. I will not basely imitate others. I will not mindlessly parrot back the words of my commencement speaker," he said.

Koughan said to the graduates that the lesson was about situational irony.

"All of you dressed in those ridiculous identical outfits chanting in unison about being yourself - that's situational irony," he said.

Tanner, O'Neil, Lee, Murphy, and School Committee chair Susan Coviello presented the 96 diplomas to the graduates.

DR. STUART Continued from page 1

an adviser of the Student Council in all grades.

He founded the Diversity Al-

liance in 1998 with gym teacher M'Lena Gandolfi originally as the Gay-Straight Alliance.

Stuart was recognized for his work within the community.

"...In 1999 I received the Human Rights Award from the Massachusetts Teachers' Association... Another high point for me was that I was president of the local MTA; I am proud of my work," said Stuart, who was president of the MTA for six years.

Senior Annie Osborne also recognized his accomplishments. "Dr. Stuart has helped the school in many ways... I think that everyone will have a strong memory of him at the school," she said.

Senior Stephanie Smith agreed. "He has been a generous teacher who has always been willing to listen to his students; this generosity will live on," she said.

English teacher Debra Isensee agreed. "Dr. Stuart will be missed by faculty and students alike for his ready smile, his sense of humor, and his love of literature," she said.

PRIOLO Continued from page 1

extremely from it," he said.

Over his years at the school, Priolo has seen the school change in many ways. "I feel as though there is more of a collective personality in the school now. When I came here in 1982, it was not as exciting... I wish I had had teachers like this during my education," he said.

Many people will miss Priolo. "He has been there for so many

people. That's a quality we don't see often enough in others, and we will miss him for it," art director Marion Powers said.

"He's helped me get my homework done every day, and my grades have improved greatly because of this," junior Patrick Turner said.

"He's helped me become more independent with my work, and I have better study habits now. So, yeah, I'm definitely going to miss him next year. I think we all will," seventh-grader Lukas Janer said.

CONTRACTS Continued from page 1

the process with respect," Hardy said.

Both O'Neil and Hardy hope the process will close as soon as possible. Conflicts are in part due to the economic status. The details of the contract cannot be discussed until the process is over.

Hardy said outsiders are able to affect negotiations. Parents can help by asking a teacher, attending School Committee meeting, and contacting committee members to urge a conclusion.

According to Hardy, all parties hope to divert their energy towards the contract to opening the new building.

"We expend a GREAT amount of energy into this that we could be expending in preparing for the move and celebrating the end of the year," Hardy said.

"The staff here are excellent educators. I'd like a win-win resolution," O'Neil said



NICK BOUWER PHOTOS

Commencement speaker, English teacher Daniel Koughan, asked the Class of 2009 to rise and make an oath regarding non-conformity. He then explained how the situation embodied the definition of situational irony.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

Principal Jim Lee watched as graduate Abby Burke sang the National Anthem to begin the commencement ceremony. Burke will be attending Berkley College of Music in the fall.



NICK BOUWER PHOTO

Graduates Jordan Berger, Mere Crofton, Ali Sandler and Shane Gordon posed for a photo in the cafeteria before the ceremony.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

Graduates Alison Nitkiewicz and Charlotte Cheshire waited to sit as the Class of 2009 enters the gymnasium.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

Graduates Andrew Loy, Jeff Kimball, Bryan Reed, Erik Walder and Ross Frazier waited to sit at the beginning of the ceremony.



NICK BOUWER PHOTO

Graduates Zak Brown, Ryan Sibulkin, Breezy DiPietro, Taylor Rogers and Lee Stroman waited in the middle school corridor before the graduation ceremony.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTOS

Salutatorian Annie Osborne and Class President Kevin Butler addressed the Class of 2009 during the ceremony. Butler said he can't wait to see all the graduates in 10 years.



NICK BOUWER PHOTO

Graduates Peter Crofton, Chris Thomas and Ysee Gedeon walked down the middle school hallway before graduation.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

Graduate Clinton Nesbit



NICK BOUWER PHOTO

Graduates Carolina Merrow and Dawn Kerrigan posed in the middle school hallway while waiting for the commencement ceremony to begin.



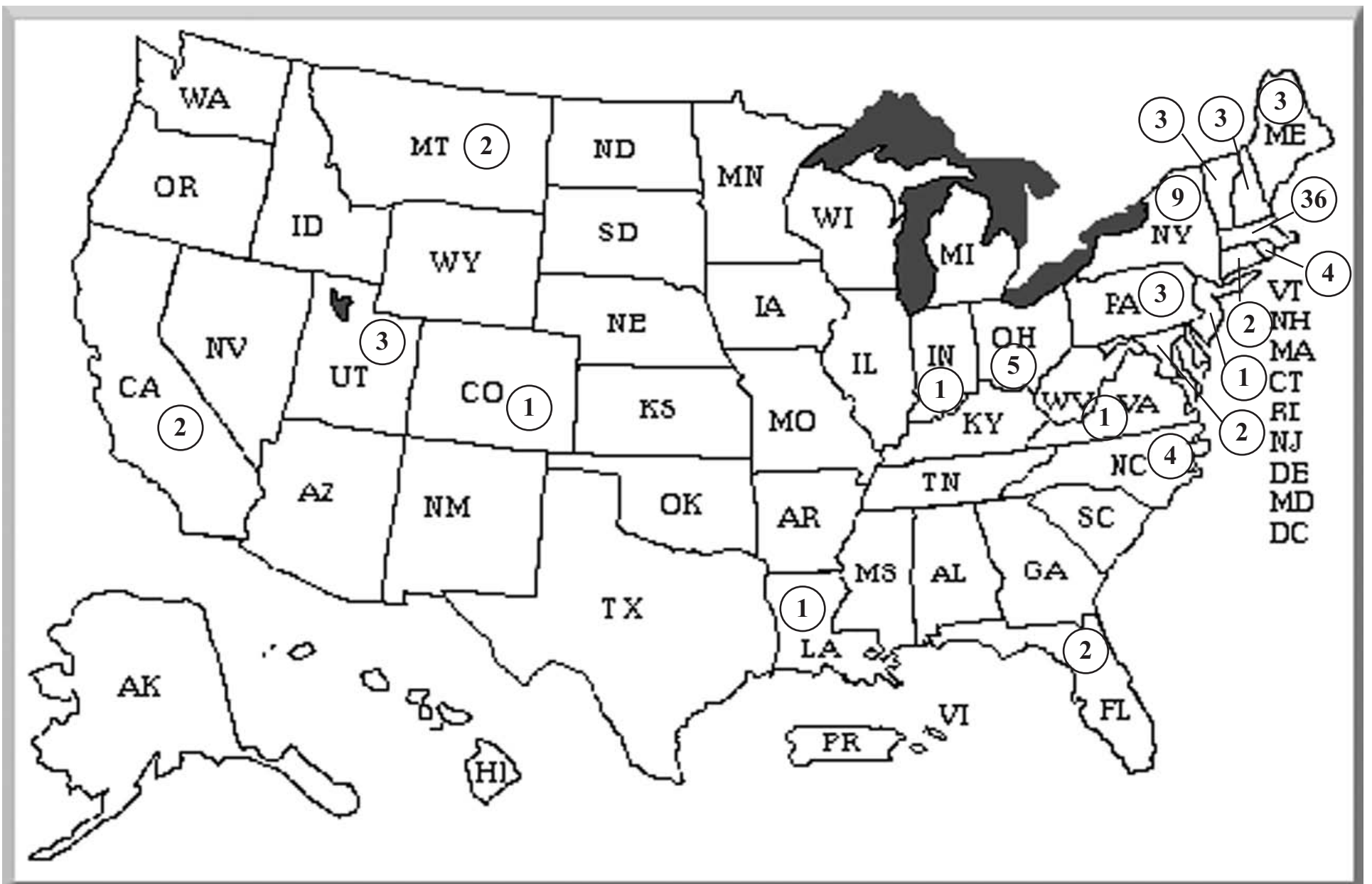
MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

Graduate James Rainone



NICK BOUWER PHOTO

Commencement speaker Daniel Koughan watched as English teacher and class adviser Gloria Tanner hugged valedictorian Stephanie Smith after the latter completed her speech without her notes.



What's next for the Class of 2009?

California: 2

Loy, Andrew: Westmont College
Nadai, Morgan: Humboldt State University

Colorado: 1

Thomas, Christopher: Colorado Mountain College

Connecticut: 2

Daley, Leo: Trinity College
Doyle, Alexandra: University of Connecticut

Florida: 2

Ault, Corey: Full Sail University
Reed, Bryan: University of Miami

Indiana: 1

Gedeon, Ysee: Purdue University

Louisiana: 1

Needham, Emily: Tulane University

Massachusetts: 36

Aldrich, Chandler: University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Baker, Celena: North Shore Community College
Bishop, Jennifer: University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Burke, Abigail: Berklee College of Music
Cheshire, Charlotte: Emerson College
Congdon, Nicholas: University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth
DiPietro, Brianna: Babson College
Donovan, Kyle: University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Dumont, Hannah: Northeastern University
Eaton, Annelise: Boston College
Frazier, Ross: University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Gaffney, Brian: Boston University
Gallagher, Jonathan: Endicott College
Gurley, Hannah: Boston University
Hammond, Emily: Stonehill College
Green, Lauren: University of Massachusetts, Boston
Kelly, Daniel: Wentworth University
Kerrigan, Dawn: North Shore Community College
Kimball, Jeffrey: Northeastern University
Kleindienst, Jacob: North Shore Community College
LaGrassa, Jennifer: Bridgewater State College
Migdalski, Gabrielle: Boston University
Morris-Haaker, Julian: Middlesex Community College
Nesbit, Clinton: Newbury College
Pasquine, Courtney: Wheelock College

Pellegrini, Nicholas: University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Perrigo, Emily: Fisher College
Peterson, Spenser: University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Rainone, James: North Shore Community College
Randall, Emily: University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Ream, Holly: Boston University
Rogers, Taylor: Wheelock College
Shejuty, Jannat: Suffolk University
Smith, Stephanie: Bard College
Stroman, Lee: University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Walsh, Casey: North Shore Community College

Maine: 3

Cerullo, Anthony: University of Maine
Kimball, Eric: Bates College
Macintosh, Jacob: Bates College

Maryland: 2

Blachford, Eliza: McDaniel's College
Rosso, Colin: Peabody Conservatory

Montana: 2

Crofton, Meredith: University of Montana
Crofton, Peter: University of Montana

New Hampshire: 3

Butler, Kevin: St. Anselm College
Ferm, Erik: University of New Hampshire
Orlando, Patrick: St. Anselm College

New Jersey: 1

Gillette, Zeke: College of New Jersey

New York: 9

Booth, Devon: St. Lawrence University
Davis, Carter: Ursinus College
Gordon, Shane: Ithaca University
Gudonis, Peter: Cornell University
Jordan, Timothy: Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Kackley, Megan: Syracuse University
Kamins, Daniel: Binghamton University
LaChance, Sylvan: Sarah Lawrence College
Wooding, Max: Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

North Carolina: 4

Berger, Jordan: High Point University
Keefe, Elsa: Elon University

Lange, Spencer: Coastal Carolina University
Osborne, Anne: Duke University

Ohio: 5

Biggar, Jordan: Cincinnati Christian University
Elder, Max: Kenyon College
Gordon, Phillip: Quinnipiac University
Kobus, Philip: Quinnipiac University
Martin, Caroline: Oberlin University

Pennsylvania: 3

Baun, William: York College
Cunningham, Elizabeth: Penn State University
Golden, Sean: Penn State University

Rhode Island: 4

Merrow, Carolina: University of Rhode Island
Nitkiewicz, Alison: Rhode Island School of Design
Sandler, Ali: University of Rhode Island
Walder, Erik: University of Rhode Island

Utah: 3

Doane, Cameron: University of Utah
Dodge, Michael: University of Utah
Sibulkin, Ryan: University of Utah

Vermont: 3

Elder, Luke: Middlebury College
Saco, Anna: Green Mountain College
Somach, Reilly: Green Mountain College

Virginia: 1

Posfai, Dora: University of Richmond

Canada: 1

Pine, Allison: Montreal University

Scotland: 1

Ball, Daniel: University of St. Andrews

Other: 4

Brown, Zak: Playing music
MacEwen, Thomas: Taking a year off
Sands-Milsom, Graham: Taking a year off
Schennum, Vicki: Taking a year off

Prom 2009

Students attend 'Big Apple' bash

By Skylar Coons
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Seniors and juniors, and some underclassmen celebrated the graduating class at the Hellenic Center in Ipswich for the annual junior-senior prom, which lasted from 7 to 11 p.m.

This year's theme was "Night in the Big Apple" with a New York City setting.

"The decorations were so much better than last year," junior Jasmine Bailey said.

White and gold balloons with flashing lights decorated the tables with 2009 glasses placed around the table settings.

Each table was given the name of a New York City street. A silhouette of the New York skyline, decorated with lights, bordered the dance floor.

Students said this year's prom was better than the previous year's at the Seaport Hotel because of location, food, and music.

"I like the Hellenic Center a lot better because the shorter bus ride gave us more time to get ready and it was really beautiful," Bailey said.

"It was a lot more fun than last year. I

like the sunglasses and there was actually room to dance unlike last year," senior Emily Perrigo said.

Despite the fact that the food wasn't ready to be served for a while, students liked the food. The non-vegetarian meal included chicken with potatoes and vegetables. Lasagna was offered as a vegetarian option.

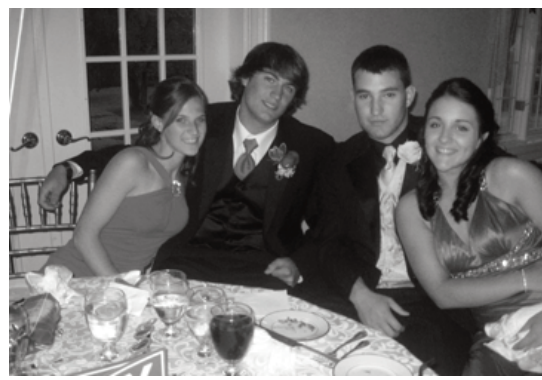
"I was happy that they offered a vegetarian option. It was lasagna and really good," junior Justine Kane said.

The DJ played mostly songs for fast pace dancing, but he did play more than one slow song unlike last year when a different DJ played only one slow song.

"The DJ was willing to take requests. He seemed really excited to be there and everyone was dancing," junior Liza Dudley said.

Nominations of a king and a queen were elected by fellow students and then put into a hat. Seniors Zeke Gillette and Alli Pine were picked from the hat later in the night.

They danced together in the center of the floor to "I'll Be" by Edwin McCain alone until the rest of the students joined them.



Seniors Eliza Blatchford, Dane Hoffman, Phill Gordon, and Breezy DiPietro.



Seniors Pat Orlando,



Juniors Ruby Allen, Bobina Vander Laan, and Sarah Goddard.



Teacher Lauren DuB
Debra Isensee, Gloria



Seniors Anna Saco and Lauren Green.



Senior Dan Kelly and junior Jenny Hersey.



Juniors Norah Flynn and Jasmine Bailey



Senior Emily Hammond.



Sophomores Maura Driscoll and Molly Friedman.



Seniors Jeff Kimball and Taylor Rogers.



Juniors Matt Bulfinch, Chandler Kennedy, Sophie Hagburg, and Greg Neff.



Sophomore Caitie Pallin and juniors Alex Harris, Garin Sweet, and Sam Christopher.



Juniors Eliza Cody, Jimmy Finn, Jack Kaneb, and Tavia Pomazon.

BOBINA VANDER LAAN ILLUSTRATION



Spenser Peterson, Sean Golden, Nick Pellegrini, Erik Ferm.



Juniors Lisa Goddard, Erin Snyder, and Heather Jordan.



Juniors Tasla Feuerbach, Justine Kane, and Caitlin Parker.



ois, juniors Alessia Guerriero, Hillary Doucette, Katie Gavin, teachers Tanner, Michelle Magana, Cathy Hunt, junior Amelia Cohen.



Seniors Jordan Bigger, Eric Kimball, Bethy Cunningham, Elsa Keefe, Phil Kobus, and Annelise Eaton.



Seniors Chandler Aldrich, Hannah Dumont, Alexandra Doyle, and Kyle Donovan.



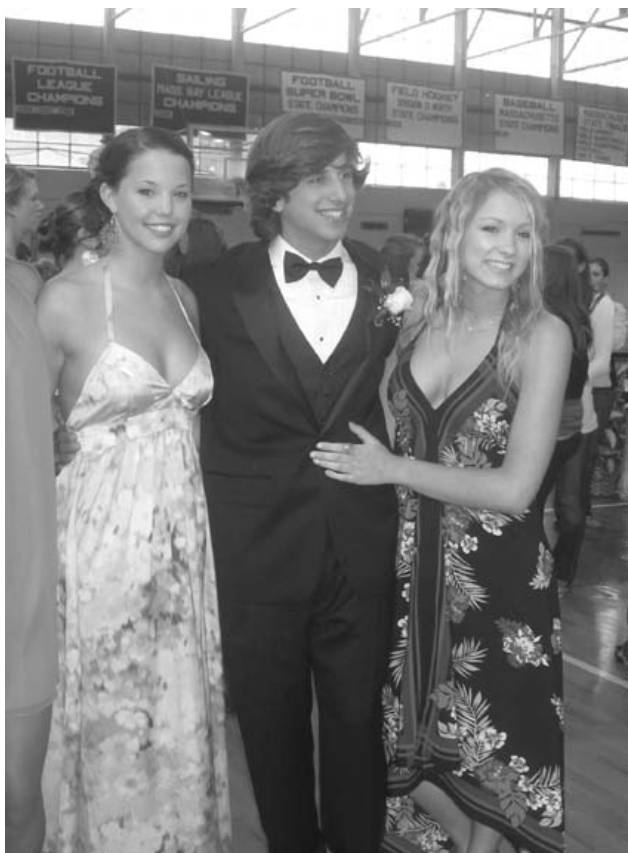
Seniors Emily Needham, Charlotte Cheshire, and Gabrielle Migdalski.



Seniors Ross Frazier and Stephanie Smith.



Bishop, Brian



Seniors Meredith Crofton, DJ Ball, and Vicki Schennum.



Senior Peter Crofton, sophomore Sarah Brown, juniors Yuri Klypka-Simpson, Alicia Volpe, and Caroline Cummings.



Beauty pageants thwart a normal childhood

SOPHIE HAGBERG

From January to June, little girls around the country are busy putting on tons of makeup, wearing revealing clothing, and dancing to provocative songs. They prepare for months, being subjected to six-hour-long dance rehearsals, makeup preparation, and endless practice at home learning how to walk, talk, turn, and answer questions. All of this occurs in the name of beauty pageants.

The main issue with beauty pageants, or any kind of talent-based competition, is that it takes away from the time children have to be children. A little girl can't run and play with her friends after school because she might fall down and skin her knee, and a skinned knee shows through pantyhose. This is assuming that the child even has time to play after school.

Instead of having free time, girls who compete in beauty pageants are required to go to rehearsals for modeling, dancing, and singing. They go to bed late and get up early, just so they can practice. They miss

school to compete. But the most fundamentally wrong concept about these competitions, besides that they steal the innocence of little girls, is that these kids don't choose to join these pageants.

A baby is not born choosing to dance and sing songs with explicit lyrics and dance inappropriately. All these choices are made not by the participant, but by her parents.

These children are molded by their parents to participate in these competitions, to become the perfect participant from birth. The mother or father who forces the child to compete may argue that the child enjoys it and would be upset to quit. But the child does not participate because she loves competing: she participates because competing is the only life she knows.

By forcing participation, parents are denying their children the right to a normal childhood. A logical solution to this loss of innocence would be to simply prohibit participation in beauty pageants before a certain age. This would allow children to develop their own personal likes and dislikes and decide for themselves whether or not a pageant life is the kind they want to lead.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Focus on your efforts, not on your accomplishments

In the haze around graduation, many seniors are taking time to look back over their high school accomplishments. Throughout high school, students join various athletic teams, clubs, student groups, and experiment with classes of varying subject and rigor, mostly in an effort to pad their resumes, rather than from true interest or devotion.

Resume-padding places too much emphasis on what was accomplished rather than what was attempted.

At the end of our high school careers, we have come to realize that the effort put in to pursuing a dream becomes far more rewarding than whether the dream is actually achieved.

We live in an individualistic society that focuses on instant gratification, whether in the classroom, at the workplace, or on the athletic field.

For example, teammates are quick to criticize the player who will take risky shots and sometimes miss them; however, the practice and skill she gains from putting forth her utmost effort and allowing for improvement, rather than sticking to "safe" shots a player knows she can make, could give her the opportunity to make the game-winning goal at the state tournament.

Many successful students also experience this hesitation to take academic risks, shying away from

enrolling in AP classes in fear of receiving their first C or C+. What they fail to realize is the potential growth they deny themselves by sticking with safe honors classes. Even if they receive a C for the year and a 2 on the AP test, students should focus on their personal growth and the fact that colleges will probably look favorably upon their decision to challenge themselves.

Many students convince themselves that academic success correlates directly with pure intellect,

when in reality, the biggest factor contributing to a student's success is effort. Don't let the fear of difficulty in a certain class be a way of rationalizing not applying yourself or enrolling in the course.

So often, you can never see the product of your labors until much later, so you can't aim for instant gratification; but if you put in the work over a long period of time, you'll get the reward in the end, even if it isn't the one for which you initially aimed.

Don't be afraid of disappointment or failure; in the end you'll never know what you could have accomplished because you were too afraid to allow yourself to try at all.

As Dr. Robert Schuller once said, "What would you attempt to do if you knew you could not fail?"

Don't be afraid of disappointment or failure; in the end you'll never know what you could have accomplished because you were too afraid to allow yourself to try at all.

Life outside technology: The grass is really greener

By Bobina Vander Laan
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

You hear small ping noise and instantly look for the source. A text message? An instant message? A video game? Out of all these possibilities, the sound is likely coming from a) your computer, b) your cell phone or c) your television.

Technology: it surrounds us daily and fuels our way of life. We eat, sleep and breathe through electronics, ignoring the actual act of LIVING and interacting with other people. There's no denying that the grasp of technology is tight on humanity; however, what if one were to try to separate man and machine?

The challenge: forgo as many electronics as possible for one week. Wait, you say, you mean give up going on Facebook for

five hours a day? My precious 1,000 text messages a week? NO E-MAIL?

Don't worry; it's not as hard as it sounds. Just take a deep breath, step away from the cell phone and read the following basic tips.

Pick a hobby—any hobby, be it reading or painting. Reading expands your mind like no reality TV show ever could, and finding a hidden talent is worth the effort. You could be the next Andy Warhol and not even know it because you spent all your time watching viral videos on Youtube.

Exercise—in a world full of preservatives and Big Macs, exercise is more important than ever to live a healthy lifestyle. Take a run, join a friend at a gym—whatever gets you moving. Also, studies show that teens who exercise are less likely to participate in risky behavior, according to WebMD.

Plan the homework you will do on the computer. Too often it is



NICK BOUWER CARTOON

heard "I went on the computer to write an essay, then checked Facebook and now I've been on for seven hours!" If you know what you're going to do, then it's easier to get right down to business instead of veering off to another task. Unplug the Internet if

needed.

Reducing the use of technology is a way to detach the connectedness everyone strives for through Facebook/Twitter/etc, but at the same time to truly connect with people directly, person-to-person. Life is waiting for you to log off.

Editor in Chief
Hannah Daley

News Editors
Kyle Marsh
Julia Melamed

Features Editors
Laurel Edington
Rebecca Lynch

Opinion Editor
Sophie Hagberg

Sports Editor
Hannah Daley

Arts Editors
Skylar Coons
Bobina Vander Laan

the
INDEPENDENT

Manchester-Essex Regional High School
36 Lincoln St, Manchester MA 01944
978-526-4412
newspaper@mersd.org
online at www.merhs.mersd.org

The Independent is published monthly throughout the school year. It is a product of the Manchester-Essex Regional High School Journalism class.

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.

Photography Editors
Nicholas Bouwer
Molly Friedman

Assistant Editors
Maura Driscoll
Kaitlin McDonagh

Staff
Brittany Edwards

Faculty Adviser
Mary Buckley-Harmon

Prom assembly fails to deliver message to students

By Kaitlin McDonagh
INDEPENDENT ASSISTANT EDITOR

Although the student body attended an assembly May 15 about drunk driving and the consequences that result from it, 60-80 students were found at Singing Beach with alcohol the same night.

It's bad enough that amount of kids were caught, but what makes it even more embarrassing is that it occurred the same day as the assembly.

You would think hearing Zak Ryan's emotional story of how he killed his own girlfriend while driving drunk would make people want to stay away from it so they wouldn't get into similar situations. Instead, some students responded by going out drinking the same night.

Not only is it disrespectful towards the people who took the time to share their personal stories and inform us about the effects and consequences of alcohol, but it is also an embarrassment for the



BOBINA VANDER LAAN CARTOON

school.

Whenever something happens that involves a large amount of Manchester Essex students, it's going to reflect on the school. This includes the party at the beach, which is a negative reflection.

The school spent time and money to put together an assembly to advise students against drinking and to inform them about the consequences, which is why it's an embarrassment for the school that some students paid no

heed to the important topic.

The event shows that many students did not appreciate why Ryan came to tell us about his experience, which must have been hard for him to revisit, let alone talk about it to a congregation of people. The fact that students would go out drinking after hearing his story is disturbing.

Something needs to be done about getting students to understand the dangers of drinking alcohol underage. Not only could they hurt themselves, but they could also harm or kill friends or family like Ryan did.

The best way to enforce this message is to take disciplinary action when students decide to drink alcohol.

Something like this should not be taken lightly, but students should know that if they decide to do something illegal, then there are going to be consequences, such as suspension from a sports team.

Unfortunately, it seems the only way people will take underage drinking seriously is if something they care about is put in jeopardy. Clearly the message that drinking underage has consequences is not getting through to some people, which is disappointing because at this point, after hearing a first-hand account, you would hope they would take their and their loved ones' lives into account.

Something needs to be done about getting students to understand the dangers of drinking alcohol underage. Not only could they hurt themselves, but they could also harm or kill friends or family.

Help someone else by donating prom dresses to charity

By Kyle Marsh
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

A few days after prom, you are standing in your closet, looking at your beautiful, shiny dress, reliving the magical night.

Although your prom dress will always be a memoir of your high school years, you are avoiding the undeniable truth – your dress will collect dust in your closet for years to come.

In a few years at a reunion, your dress may be a remembrance of the fun time you had, but you will

most likely wear it only once.

The best alternative is to donate your dress. By donating a dress, you can be assured that you are getting full use of your gown.

In today's economy, finding an affordable yet stylish prom dress is not an easy task.

Many teenagers are finding that buying a used dress is a cheap and chic way to find their "dream dress."

Consignment shops and organizations such as donatemydress.org

are a few places that will take used prom dresses so that others can purchase your dress.

When you donate your dress, although you may lose a small piece of memory, you will be making another girl's night, and you will help to make someone else feel as special as you did.

By donating your dress, you know that it will be going to a good cause. Every year, girls are preoccupied about finding a dress that is affordable and beautiful.

When you donate your dress, although you

may lose a small piece of a memory, you will be making another girl's night, and you will help to

make someone else feel just as special as you did.

So, you can leave that dress of yours in your closet to collect dust, or you can make someone else feel dazzling as well.

PLACES TO DONATE

- The Fairy Godmother Project of Massachusetts.
- HAWC of the North Shore.
- The Commit to a Girl Project (Girl Scouts).
- Becca's Closet.



JULIA MELAMED PHOTO
Some students choose to donate their prom dresses to charity.

Students should resist urge to cheat, rely on selves to succeed

By Brittany Edwards
INDEPENDENT STAFF

Dwelling on the rising expectations from colleges, the daily pressures to excel, and dealing with constant academic competition, students are now opting to use cheating as their competitive edge instead of just using original study styles such as flashcards and memory tricks to do well in school.

During May, over 50 percent of the students enrolled in freshman honors history were caught cheating on a test. Students were meant to write an essay on laptops from memory, but most had sent themselves notes, pre-written the essay, or looked up information online during the test period.

After the tests were completed, teachers and other students heard students bragging about the cheating at lunch and reported it to history teacher Jeff Carovillano. One would think that such sneaky people would be able to at least keep a secret.

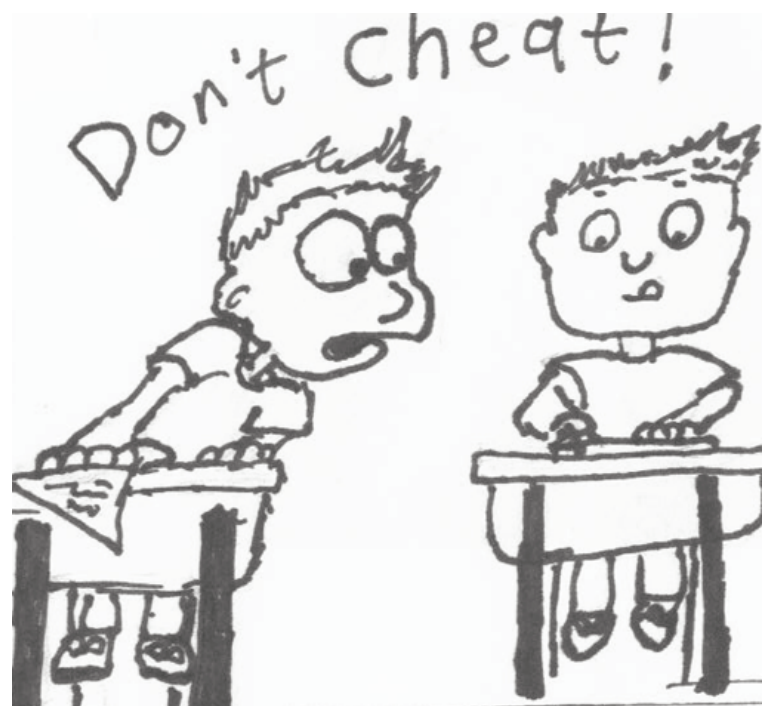
The issue of cheating expands much beyond just a few freshman classes. Girls have written formulas or definitions on the skin under their skirts, students scribbled answers on their desks, and the daredevils leave notes beside them on the ground.

Two things can easily be the cause of the mass cheating: the trust given by teachers to students and the lack of moral compass that students seem to be suffering from.

In the beginning of the year,

teachers seem to crack down on students, but then their intensity begins to fade as the year goes on, and the trust in their students grows. Homework is checked less often, tests seem to get easier, and the atmosphere in each classroom seems to calm down. With that comes a sense of security for students, which puts them more at ease to use the perfect grade-booster: a cheat sheet.

Besides the shock-factor of half of an honors class cheating, perhaps the most frustrating part manifests in the overall idea that students care more about one test percentage than the promise that they make to their teachers, peers, and family. This promise is to intellectually engage themselves, push their work ethic, and expand their mind frame to a new level.



NICK BOUWER CARTOON

Nalley retires after 31 years as athletic director

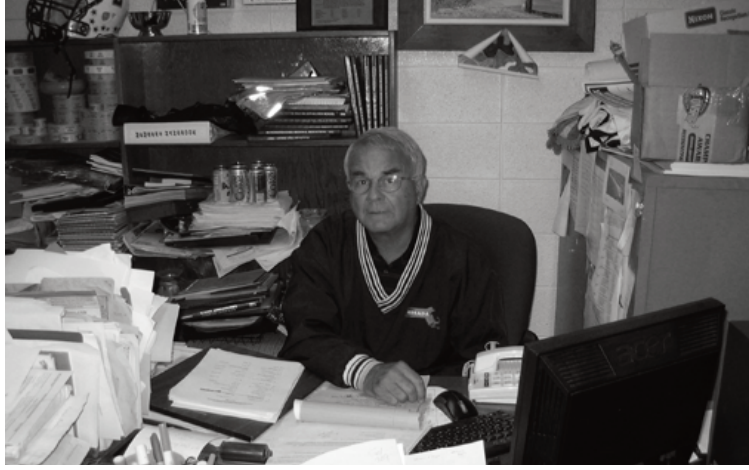
By Rebecca Lynch
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

After 31 years, Hardy Nalley is retiring as athletic director, taking his experience and humor with him.

"He's put his heart and soul into the programs, and he's made sports accessible to many students," Spanish teacher and varsity soccer tennis coach Robert Bilsbury said.

According to Nalley, the school has seen 58 championships during his tenure. He graduated from Manchester-Essex in 1962. He taught social studies and science in various grades for 35 years, retiring from teaching eight years ago.

"Everything will be different.



NICK BOUWER PHOTO

Athletic director Hardy Nalley poses for a photo. Nalley worked for 31 years as athletic director, working in the school system for 43 years as both a teacher and an athletic director. Nalley said the school has seen 58 championships during his tenure.

Not only will his irreplaceable knowledge be gone but also his wit and humor. He's gained so much experience through

longevity," administrative assistant Chris Horne said.

Along with championships, Nalley has enjoyed overall growth

in sports.

"I like watching teams go from club to JV and varsity status and seeing the programs flourish," he said.

The school has about a 70 percent sports participation rate, according to Nalley.

"The sports participation is staggering. Hardy Nalley really understands the positive force athletics can be for students," Bilsbury said.

Besides his direction, his personality has been influential.

"He's my boss and my friend and I'll miss him terribly. I enjoyed his conduct, humor, and the witty 'Hardyisms,'" Horne said.

Principal James Lee said, "He's the biggest wise guy I know. One time we were in a MIAA meeting and someone asked him for the

tournament money we had made. He replied, 'I've got it all in cash, just the way the MIAA likes it.'"

Students also benefited from his presence. "During my first years, I would talk to him after a bad game, and he always cheered me up," junior Julia Martz said.

Nalley said he has no future plans yet.

"Retirement won't hit me until double sessions start, and then it'll be rough. I'm sure I'll drive by a field and pull up to see how the Hornets are doing," he said.

In total, Nalley has worked in the school system for 43 years.

"It's been a nice journey. The kids have been great both on the field and in the stands. The fans support their teams in a classy manner. It's been a pleasure being athletic director of this school," he said.

Girls' tennis team loses to Lynnfield in Div. 3 North State Finals

By Kaitlin McDonagh
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Continuing their success from the regular season, the girls' tennis team beat Hamilton-Wenham 5-0 on June 1 in the quarterfinals of the 2009 MIAA Girls Tennis North Div. 3 tournament.

Before this, the team had a bye in the first round of the tournament.

Last year the team lost 4-1 in the semifinal round to Winchester High School, but this year the team beat Weston 3-2, advancing them to the finals where they played Lynnfield.

In the semifinals, eighth-grader Brittany Collens (No. 1 singles), won 6-4, 6-1; senior Annelise Eaton (No. 2 singles) lost 6-4, 6-3, and sophomore Hannah Daley

(No. 3 singles) won 6-0, 6-2.

Seniors Hannah Gurley and Courtney Pasquine (No. 1 doubles) won 7-5 in the first set No.1 and lost, 6-3 and 6-4 in the next two.

Seventh-grader Michelle Fuca and freshman Eliza Rhoner (No. 2 doubles) won 6-1, 6-1.

According to coach Jeanne Stanton, they often meet Lynnfield in the finals.

During the season, the team lost 3-2 to Lynnfield. "We were hoping to meet them in the States to get another chance at them," she said.

Although the team lost 3-2 in the final round on June 4, Daley said they all played very well.

'The doubles really became a team instead of individuals, and the singles were very mentally tough.'
-JEANNE STANTON

"We all tried our hardest, and the match could've gone either way. They just happened to be lucky this

time," she said.

Collens lost 6-1, 6-3 to Sarah O'Neill, who is going to Cornell to play tennis next year and was voted Player of the Year for the Cape Ann League.

Eaton lost 6-2, 6-1 and Daley won 6-2, 6-1. Gurley and Pasquine won 6-2, 7-6, 7-1, and

Fuca and Rhoner won 6-0, 6-1.

Not only did they play well in the finals, but Stanton also said the team has improved greatly over the course of the season.

"The doubles really became a team instead of individuals, and the singles were very mentally tough," she said.

The girls finished their regular season with three 5-0 wins against North Reading, Newburyport, and Rockport.

Stanton also had praise for the seniors Annelise Eaton, Courtney Pasquine, and Hannah Gurley.

"I enjoyed working with them and they will be greatly missed by the team for their leadership and sportsmanship. I know they will be successful in whatever they pursue. They are very determined and caring young ladies and wonderful people," she said.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

Senior captain No. 2 singles player Annelise Eaton prepares to hit her first serve in a recent Div. 3 State Finals match against Lynnfield in Peabody. The girls lost 3-2.

Boys' tennis loses in second round in States to Weston 5-0

By Laurel Edington
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

With a regular season record of 10-4, the boys' tennis team qualified to play in the annual tournament but lost in the second round.

According to coach Robert Bilsbury, their regular season matches prepared the team.

They played Hamilton-Wenham, Swampscott and Marblehead, all of which were "solid teams. The strength of the Cape Ann League

contributed to close matches and awesome tennis," he said.

The boys won the first match 5-0 against Saugus.

Senior co-captain Erik Ferm "played his best match in the whole season" and beat Saugus'

No. 1 singles player 6-4, 6-1, Bilsbury said.

No. 2 singles player, senior co-captain Peter Gudonis won 6-4, 6-1 and No. 3 singles player, senior co-captain Leo Daley won 6-0, 6-0.

First doubles seniors Eric Kimball and Willie Baun and second doubles eighth-grader Calvin Lamothe and junior



COURTESY OF LEO DALEY

The boys' tennis team (top left) coach Robert Bilsbury, seniors Erik Ferm, Peter Gudonis, Eric Kimball, Willie Baun, Leo Daley, junior Ollie Spaulding, and eighth-grader Calvin Lamothe gather for a photo after defeating Saugus 5-0 at Rockport.

Ollie Spaulding also won 6-0, 6-0 against Saugus.

In the second round, the boys played Weston but lost 5-0 and

were eliminated from the tournament.

According to Bilsbury, Weston is in the Dual County League,

which is made up of Division 1 and Division 2 teams, so Weston is "battle tested." Weston's No. 1 singles player is ranked No. 4 in New England.

Bilsbury said Ferm lost 6-0, 6-0 against the No. 1 player, but he played "amazing tennis." Gudonis had "great rallies" but lost 6-0, 6-0. Daley lost 6-2, 7-5.

Kimball and Baun lost 6-1, 6-1 at first doubles. Lamothe and Spaulding won 6-3 then lost 6-1 at second doubles and "in lieu of the third set, the Weston coach chose to play a 'super tie breaker,'" but Weston won 10-6, Bilsbury said.

According to senior Eric Kimball, "We played well. Every position gave it their all and everyone should be proud of their performances."

Next year, the team is losing seniors Ferm, Kimball, Daley, Gudonis, and Willie Baun.

Sailing team competes at MBSA State Championship

By Brittany Edwards
INDEPENDENT STAFF

Out of 24 teams, the sailing team placed seventh overall at the Massachusetts Bay Sailing Association State Championships.

Junior co-captains Erin Snyder, Norah Flynn, junior Julia Melamed, sophomore co-captain Nate Jermain, sophomores Sam Cushing, and Erik Arnsten all competed in the two-day regatta on May 21 and May 22 at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Pavilion on the Charles River.

Each team sailed in nine races

with the team separated into two fleets.

Fleet A was comprised of the top 24 teams in the league. This included Jermain as skipper along with Melamed and Flynn alternating as the crew.

The team took eighth in their division.

"We did best the last day. It was exciting to find out how we did," Jermain said.

Fleet B, comprised of skipper Cushing, with crew members Snyder and Arnsten alternating as the crew, took fifth place in their division.

"Fleet B was absolutely phenomenal," coach Cherylanne Kirschenheiter said.

Conditions at the regatta made it hard for the sailors to execute their strategy, she said.

"It was so breezy and hot. The conditions were very shifty; the kids went into it with a lot of heart and kept their focus. They had to make a lot of decisions on the water, and along with that, it is very hard to sail with a large fleet of boats," Kirschenheiter said.

According to Kirschenheiter, the teams capitalized on their teamwork on the recollected together on the shore.

"Overall, the team came together on the water, on the docks, and ashore. This ended the season on a high note for the team. They should feel proud," she said.



COURTESY OF ERIN SNYDER

The sailing team took eighth place in their division and seventh in the overall race on the Charles River.



NICK BOUWER PHOTO

Senior captain Annie Osborne receives the Principal's Award for High Scholastic and Athletic Achievement 2009 from Jim Lee.

Girls' lax falls to Georgetown in second round of States

By Maura Driscoll
INDEPENDENT ASSISTANT EDITOR

After a winning season of 10-7, the 11th seeded girls' lacrosse team fell 18-11 to the Georgetown Royals in the second round of the state tournament.

Sophomore Kyle Marsh scored five goals while junior Hillary Doucette and senior captain Annie Osborne both scored two goals apiece.

Senior Lee Stroman and junior Caroline Moore each scored a goal as well.

"It was a tough loss. Georgetown beat us twice during the regular season, and we really wanted to beat them during the tournament," senior captain Jen Bishop said.

Osborne agreed, "Going into the last game, we had already lost

to them twice, so we were a little nervous, but we thought that we could win. Plus, our rivalry with them made it worse."

In the end, it came down to the fact that Georgetown, 14-5, was the better team. "They just have an amazing goalie and a couple girls who score six or seven goals a game. They are a really good team, and we played our hardest, so that's all you can really do," Osborne said.

Both captains agreed that the season was a great one. "We did so well with a new goalie and a very young team. I think that next year they will do well, too. I'm sad to be leaving!" Osborne said.

"I'm definitely sad this year is over. We had a great group of girls and we're all very close. Next year the team will do fine because there are a lot of talented underclassmen and incoming freshmen," Bishop said.

Boys' lacrosse goes to States for first time

By Molly Friedman
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

For the first time ever the boys' varsity lacrosse team made it to the state tournament and lost in the second round of the playoffs against Swampscott 12-10.

With a final record of 10-10, the players were able to accomplish coach Nate Levie's goal of making it to States and coming together as a team.

"The team definitely accomplished my goals. They all played hard until the end and had great leadership from their captain Cam Doane," he said.

"The season was a success; we were able to do something that has never been done by making it to

tournament. If we played differently we would have had a chance to make it to the finals," Doane said.

During the Swampscott game, the team showed improvement from the previous defeat to that team when they lost by 10. According to Levie, the team was able to complete every task given to them; they hustled to every ground ball and played strong until the end.

"We all worked well together and were able to pass the ball more and move it around the net," sophomore starter Dylan Parlee said. Parlee said the coach was able to bring the team together,

which helped them remain positive.

"We didn't feel much pressure going into the game. We just wanted to win and reach the next level," Parlee said.

Levie said both teams played great and each made a few mistakes that resulted in the other team gaining ball possession.

Levie said the main goal right now is to find the next "Cam Doane" for captain.

He needs the right person to step up and lead the team exactly how Doane did.

"The season was awesome, we had great kids, a great team, and a great coach," Doane said.

'The season was awesome... we had a great team,'
-CAM DOANE



NICK BOUWER PHOTOS

The boys beat Ipswich 14-11, one of the games that helped them advance to States (left). Sophomore Matt Bouwer carries the ball up the field.



NICK BOUWER PHOTO

Principal Jim Lee presents an award during the Athletic Awards.

Athletic Award Winners

Donald Curran Athletic Service Award 2009 – Sean Golden

Robert S. Palinski Memorial Leadership and Sportsmanship 2009 – Lee Stroman

Athletic Directors Award 2009 – Jen Bishop

Hardy Nalley Athletic Award – Hannah Dumont

Craige McCoy Volunteer Service Award 2009 – Mike Powers

Principal's Award for High Scholastic and Athletic Achievement 2009 – Anne Osborne

William Gates Memorial Trophy Outstanding Scholastic and Athletic Achievement 2009 – Zeke Gillette

'Godspell' brings Bible stories to life



By Sophie Hagberg
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

"Godspell," this year's spring musical, presented the stories of Jesus in a fun, creative way by working in pop-culture references and bright, bubbly music and costuming.

The music itself was excellent, with a fantastic mix of upbeat and serious. The highlight of the first act was the number "All For the Best," which stood out because of the clever use of strobe lighting. The pantomime in which the cast acted out a parable in shadow was a cute and presented a well-placed break between two songs.

The second act outshone the first act, mostly because of the songs "Turn Back, O Man," "We Beseech Thee," and "Finale."

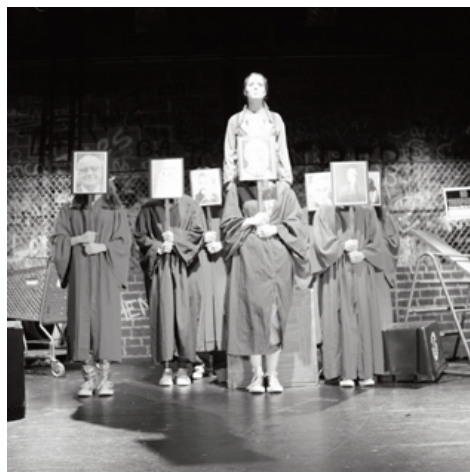
"Turn Back, O Man," put a parody on classic cabaret singing. Freshman Allie Freed, playing Sonia, had a strong voice that was perfectly suited for the song. On top of that, each verse was punctu-

ated with flirtatious interjections ("Is your seat comfortable mister?"). Director Gloria Tanner incorporated these little sayings by having Freed walk up and down the aisles, directing them to various audience members.

"We Beseech Thee" is as literal as the title suggests: during the song, half the cast, led by Ian Gillis as Jeffrey, are begging Jesus (played by Piper Browne) for forgiveness. The song is upbeat, lively, and contains one of the best dance numbers in the show. The signs that spell out the words "hear us," when used correctly, were a creative touch.

"Finale," in which Jesus is crucified, is a ruefully beautiful song. This, out of all the numbers, is where Piper Browne really shone. Her acting was outstanding: she seemed genuinely torn and grief-stricken. Her voice did not betray this image: she sang clearly and sweetly, but with an edge.

With bright costumes, clever sets, and great singing, this show definitely deserved the standing ovation it received.



The cast danced multiple times (top). Piper Browne gave a monologue as Jesus (bottom).



CAROLINE EPP PHOTOS

The show opened with the cast holding masks of famous philosophers (left). Ian Gillis sang in his part of Jeffrey (right). Cast members acted as sheep to illustrate a fable (bottom).



Art Show allows students to see each others' talents

May 13 was the induction night for many students into the National Art Honors Society. That night also included live music, baked goods, and drinks for guests to enjoy while observing students' art work.

By Skylar Coons
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Art students collected their art together for the May 11-14 Art Show in the gym where seniors had their own boards full of artwork and other students had their works scattered around the gym.

Marion Powers, art teacher, said the students had many different disciplines such as drawing, painting, photographs, and 3D in the show.

"As for the quality of work, I thought there was very high quality," she said.

On Wednesday night, the Art Show was open until 8 p.m. Snacks and refreshments were available. The National Art Honors Society inducted 40 new members that night.

Three candles were lit while Powers spoke about how art is becoming more recognized by the government and growing into many different job opportunities.

To become a member, students must be in an art class and say the pledge at the ceremony, agreeing that they would continue to in-

volve art in their lives.

Senior Alex Doyle, who spoke at the induction ceremony, said, "The ceremony itself ran really nicely. A lot of people came and participated in it."

Doyle said the National Art Honors Society "encourages and spreads awareness about art, and it encourages students to continue

doing art further into their lives."

The Art Show not only had pieces of work to look at, but music was available, also. Senior Daniel Kamins played with his band Lucid Enigma. The band covered "Good Lovin'" by the Young Rascals

and improvised original jazz.

"As a band we were trying to make good background music," Kamins said, "and we just wanted to be another piece of art."

The Art Show was also open during school hours. The elementary students were sent over one class at a time to look at the art.

"I think it's important for them to see what they're going to be doing when they come here," Powers said.

'As a band we were trying to make good background music, and we just wanted to be another piece of art'

-DANIEL KAMINS

INDUCTEES

Ruby Allen
Jessica Appeltofft
Lizzie Ball
Darcy Babikian
Taylor Barth
Misha Berkot
Matthew Bouwer
Nick Bouwer
Corey Bradley
Ryan Brewster
Sarah Brown
Skylar Coons
Will Curatolo
Sam Cushing
Hannah Daley
Liza Dudley
Laurel Edington
Alyssa Fabyan
Tasla Feuerbach
Amy Fraser
Molly Friedman
Kyle Gardner
Pietro Gaudiano
Jenny Hersey
Stephanie Houde
Nat Hughes
Rachel Jones
Heather Jordan
Daniel Kamins
Elizabeth Kirker
Karyn Kirker
Sarah Kirker
Jason Lane
Kyle Marsh
Caitlin Pallin
Caitlin Parker
Haley Parsons
Noah Prince
Alica Volpe



NICK BOUWER PHOTOS

Students pledged to become members of the National Art Honors Society (top). Boards of art filled the gym with different disciplines (right). Senior Hannah Gurley had a separate table for her ceramic work (left). Lucid Enigma played on induction night (bottom).