

# the **INDEPENDENT**

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## Caps, gowns, diplomas: class of 2011 graduates

### Browne, Curatolo, Walder speak during first graduation on Hyland Field

By **Ellen Burgess**  
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

In a sea of white and green, the 108 graduates from the class of 2011 walked to the stage, received their diplomas, shook hands with the administration, and returned to their seats as official high school graduates.

The class of 2011 arrived at the Manchester Memorial School at 4:30 p.m. on June 3 for the ceremony, which began at 5:30. Led by bagpipes, drums, and the faculty, the class walked across the bridge to Hyland Field, where the Families and friends of the graduates awaited the class of 2011.

The high school band took over, first playing "Summon the Heroes," written by John Williams, for the faculty's procession and administration, followed by the "Fanfare and Processional" for the class.

Seniors Piper Browne, Tatiana Lyne, Nick Bouwer, Danny Munn, and Connor Hoff started the ceremony with a harmonized, a cappella version of the "Star Span-

gled Banner."

Assistant Principal Paul Murphy welcomed the families, friends and members of the graduating class.

"It doesn't seem possible that four years have passed since I welcomed this class of 2010 in an overly warm cafeteria in September 2006. It has been a pleasure to watch you make your way through the high school years. I've had a front row seat and witnessed many of your successes, and un-

fortunately, some of your sorrows. You should all be commended for being able to reach this point in your life through hard work, perseverance, and dedication," he said.

Following him, the new superintendent, Pamela Beaudoin, gave a speech talking about how, although

**'We've been with them [the class of 2011] all three years of our high school and now I can't imagine next year without them.'**

**-MELANIE TOGNAZZI**

this is her first year, she was grateful to come into the district to a class that was so accepting and full of individuals who are confident within themselves.

Class president Piper Browne succeeded Beaudoin, giving a speech to her classmates that credited many of the members of the class of 2011, predicted what they would do **GRADUATION, page 2**



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

The class of 2011 throws their hats in the air after assistant principal Paul Murphy officially declared them high school graduates. Seniors Piper Browne, Will Curatolo, and Christine Walder all spoke at the ceremony.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

Juniors Joe Burgess, Alex Clarke, Megan Gardner, Noah Brown, Anny Carr, Brianna Malik, Ellen Burgess, Kelly Dodge, Leanne Ciccone, Jelisa O'Hara, and Maeve MacEacheran pose with a Windsor Castle guard on their trip to England.

## Students visit England over April break

By **Caroline Wood**  
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

After the Icelandic volcanic explosion cancelled their trip last April, 14 students,

accompanied by English teachers Mary Buckley-Harmon and Allison Lane, toured England over April vacation.

According to Lane, the trip started out as a way to experience the city of London in a way that connected to the 10th-grade **ENGLAND, page 2**

## National Honor Society inducts 39 new members

By **Ellen Burgess**  
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Watching their sons and daughters light candles symbolizing their entrance into the National Honor Society, the families of the 39 inductees celebrated the NHS ceremony on May 23.

All inductees were required to fill out an application in early April. Students received the invitation to apply according to their GPA, one of the four pillars of the National Honor Society, which requires a GPA of at least 4.25.

Once receiving the invitation, students had to fulfill the other three requirements: community service, leadership, and character. They also needed to obtain two letters of recommendation from faculty members of their choice.

The applications were then submitted, and faculty members of the National Honor Society Council individually reviewed

them.

After the council made their decisions, they sent letters informing students whether they were accepted or rejected.

"I was surprised but yet exhilarated because the feeling of knowing I got something I worked really hard for was awesome," junior inductee Melanie Tognazzi said.

At the ceremony, Kay O'Rourke, the executive director of the Wellspring House in Gloucester, gave a speech to the new inductees about the importance of community service. They also received a certificate and pin while a current NHS officer read a complimentary passage taken from a recommendation letter.

"I thought the ceremony was very nice, and I liked how they read a little bit of each person's recommendation letters," junior inductee Max Gove said.

After all students received their certificate and pin, all members, new and old, recited the NHS pledge, vowing to uphold the **NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY, page 2**

### NEWS

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### ARTS

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# Graduated students offer advice to underclassmen

## Applying early, staying focused, among most popular suggestions

By Nabila Mahmud  
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Senior year is something students either cower away from or cannot contain their excitement about. There are three major focal points to senior year: simultaneously maintaining one's social life, applying to college, and balancing regular classes simultaneously.

Socially, spending time with people outside of your typical social circle will come to your benefit.

"Broaden your horizons by becoming active in more than one social group. This could very well be your last chance to get to know people you've never had the chance to speak with," senior Alex

Ray said.

The ever-so-dreadful college process is something everyone tries to warn you about. Easily, the best advice you can get is from a senior who is currently or just recently going through the process.

Senior Rachel Jones strongly advises finishing applications early on.

"Do everything early! Many of us underestimated the amount of regular work we would have which made applying to college very stressful, so do it early," she said.

Jones continued, "Also applying early decision or early action is really nice because you hear back sooner and don't have to wait for regular decision while everyone else is stressing and hearing back."

Balancing school work is just

one more stress factor during senior year. Senior Carina Taliaferro's advice is to stay on track.

"During the first quarter seniors need to stay organized and focus on the college process, but still work hard on their other school work. It is extremely easy to fall behind," she said.

Taliaferro also advised, "If seniors hear back from schools at the beginning of the year, I'd advise them to push through until they definitely know where they are going...and then they can enjoy themselves and have fun with friends!"

Taking a laid back approach can also lead to a happy, memorable senior year. According to Senior Alex Carr, "Enjoy it as much as possible. Don't worry too much about college; things will fall into place."



**'Applying early decision or early action is nice. Do everything early!'**

-Rachel Jones



MOLLY FRIEDMAN PHOTOS

**'Enjoy it as much as possible. Things will fall into place'**

-Alex Carr



FACEBOOK.COM PHOTO

**'Stay organized and focus on the college process'**

-Carina Taliaferro

### CONTINUATIONS

#### GRADUATION

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in the future, and reminisced about memories over their four years of high school.

"I want to ask you all to continue to do what you love and do it with the passion and intensity that I have seen many of you work with these last four years. Call me crazy, but I believe each and every one of you has what it takes to be successful in life and I have no doubt that one day I'll be hearing about all of the great things you have done with your life," Browne said.

Regarding her speech, Browne said, "I was really nervous because I wanted my speech to go over well, but at the same time I was excited because I was graduating high school!"

After Browne's speech, the other three class officers, Brittany Edwards, Grace Gillette, and Molly Friedman joined her at the podium and gave a Magnolia tree to be planted in the center of the circle at the main entrance of the school for students to remember the graduating class.

Salutatorian Will Curatolo and valedictorian Christine Walder followed Browne's speech with their own. Curatolo gave a classic reminiscent speech, while Walder incorporated the value of the human body, saying there is no possible way to place a value on

life.

Principal James Lee then presented the scholarships which totaled over \$100,000.

The last to speak before the graduating class received its diplomas was math teacher Richard Brown.

Brown focused on non conformity and originality. He urged students to continue their lives after high school as individuals, giving them the wise words of pop star, Lady Gaga, "Baby, you were born this way!"

"Mr. Brown's speech was really good. I really liked how he used personal experience to give the class advice for what happens next. I also really liked how he wore a bowtie outside of his robe," junior Anny Carr said.

After all graduates received their diplomas, Murphy directed the class as they switched the tassels on the hats from left to right, signifying the class' official graduation from high school. Immediately after, green and white hats flew into the air.

The band ended the ceremony with "Raiders March," also by John Williams, and the class left its seats and walked out to the open turf to their class song, "The Show Goes On" by Lupe Fiasco.

"It was really weird seeing that class graduate. We've been with them all three years of our high school, and now I can't imagine next year without them," junior Melanie Tognazzi said.

#### ENGLAND

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British literature class. When the volcano erupted, however, the trip was cancelled.

"The tour company we were using, EF Tours, rescheduled the trip for this year, and then the English classes were switched around, so the connection to British literature class. When the volcano erupted, however, the trip was cancelled.

"The tour company we were using, EF Tours, rescheduled the trip for this year, and then the English classes were switched around, so the connection to British Literature was not the point of the trip anymore; because of that, we were able to open up the trip to any student," Lane said.

The group stayed at a hotel in Greenwich, England, which was about 15 to 20 minutes away from London, according to Lane.

"The hotel supplied breakfast every morning, while the tour company supplied us with a variety of foods for dinner every night. We were on our own for lunches," Lane said.

According to junior Leanne Ciccone, she and a couple other students "lived off of Starbucks."

"The food wasn't great, but the city itself was so interesting," Ciccone said. "We'd be walking down one street, and it would look just like Boston, but then you'd turn the corner and see Big Ben or the Parliament building."

Junior Alex Clarke, agreed that the city looked similar to Boston. "There were obvious differences that threw me off at first, such as driving on the other side of the street and the accents, but other than that, it seemed very close to America," he said.

According to Lane, the group toured different parts of London. They saw St. Paul's Cathedral, Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey, Piccadilly Circus, the Tower of London, Trafalgar Square, and the Thames River. The group also saw the changing of the guard ceremony and went to a theatre production of Alfred Hitchcock's "The 39 Steps."

"There was an exciting atmosphere around the city due to the Royal Wedding, and you were really able to understand the magnitude of the event while also having large amounts of free time to walk around the museums and see the different parts of London," Lane said.

The group also visited places such as Oxford, Stonehenge, and Bath, Lane said.

"My favorite part of the trip, however, was visiting Stratford-upon-Avon, which is Shakespeare's birthplace and where Shakespeare's wife, Anne Hathaway's, cottage is located," Lane said.

Buckley-Harmon said visiting Stratford-upon-Avon with Lane was special since Lane had been a student in Buckley-Harmon's British literature class.

"We were having our picture taken in front of Shakespeare's house, and I said to her 'Did you ever think we'd be here together?'" she said.

In addition to visiting sites in London, Buckley-Harmon's favorite part of the trip was driving through the countryside, seeing the farms and villages on the way to Bath, Stratford, and Oxford.

According to Ciccone, the whole trip was very enjoyable. "My favorite part, however, was when we toured Bath. There was delicious pizza, and it was so beautiful," she said.

Junior Emily Gonzales liked the free time where she could explore the cute shops in Bath.

She said the weather in London was very agreeable during the trip and the students enjoyed their time walking around.

"The weather was almost perfect - it was sunny just about every day. However, as a whole, the trip was breathtaking because we saw so many historical sites and the atmosphere in London was simply amazing," she said.

#### NHS

continued from page 1

four NHS platforms during their involvement in the society.

"It was really exciting to induct new members into NHS, especially because this is my first year running it. I was overjoyed that so many students were able to get in," Burgess said.



**Left: Seniors light candles at Baccalaureate and pass the flame to their classmates. Once everyone's candle was lit, the seniors walked out of the auditorium and to the front of the school where they stood in a circle and blew them out.**

NABILA MAHMUD PHOTO

**Right: Seniors Nick Bower, Connor Hoff, Tatiana Lyne, and Piper Browne sing SoundWaves at their Baccalaureate celebration**

MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

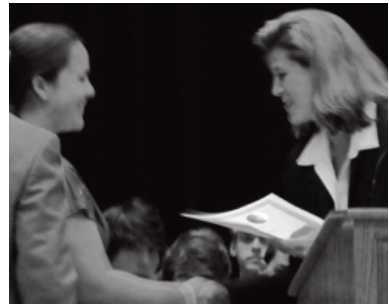


# High school students recognized for academic excellence



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

A representative and graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point honors senior Connor Howlett at the awards ceremony. Howlett will be attending West Point Academy next year.



NABILA MAHMUD PHOTO

Superintendent Pamela Beudoin awards senior Christine Walder.



NABILA MAHMUD PHOTO

SoundWave members Leanne Ciccone, Caroline Wood, Katerina Eichenberger, and Piper Browne sing Toto's Africa.



NABILA MAHMUD PHOTO

Assistant Principal Paul Murphy presents junior Peter Goulakos with the Yale book award, which was one of Peter's three awards.



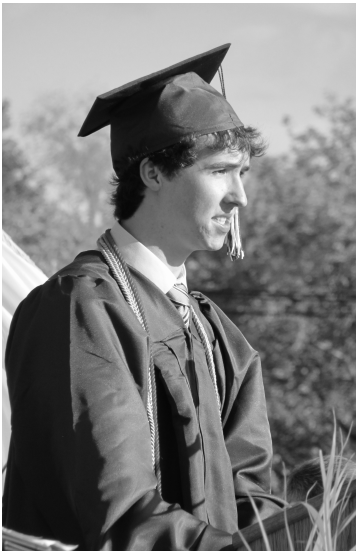
NABILA MAHMUD PHOTO

A representative from Smith College presents junior Emily Gonzales, a junior scholar, with the Smith College book award.

SELECTMEN'S CITIZENSHIP AWARD: Darcey Babikian  
 SUPERINTENDENT'S AWARD: Christine Walder  
 BROWN BOOK AWARD: Benjamin Scarafoni  
 CLARKSON UNIVERSITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Sean Halloran  
 CLARKSON UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP AWARD: Eric Wright Sean Halloran  
 COLBY BOOK AWARD: Kirsten Coale  
 CORNELL BOOK AWARD: Alden Burnham  
 DARTMOUTH BOOK AWARD: Joseph Burgess  
 HARVARD BOOK AWARD: Melissa Moore  
 UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA BOOK AWARD: Alexandra Freed  
 SMITH BOOK AWARD: Emily Gonzales  
 ST. LAWRENCE BOOK AWARD: Eliza Rohner  
 ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE BOOK AWARD: Olivia Prentiss, Ian Gillis  
 WELLESLEY BOOK AWARD: Daria Shnider  
 YALE BOOK AWARD: Peter Goulakos  
 SERVICE ACADEMY AWARD: Connor Howlett  
 MANCHESTER ESSEX SENIOR SCHOLARS AWARD: Amy Fraser, Amy Needham, Christine Walder, Hannah Daley, Kyle Marsh, Laurel Edington, Margaret Cellucci, Matthew Melamed, Michael McCollum, Natalie Warren, Olivia Dumont Samuel Cushing, William Curatolo,  
 MANCHESTER ESSEX JUNIOR SCHOLARS AWARD: Alden Burnham, Alexandra Freed, Benjamin Scarafoni, Ellen Burgess, Emily Gonzales, Ian Gillis, Joseph Burgess, Kirsten Coale, Matthew Corwin, Nicholas Douglas, Paul Pennoyer, Peter Goulakos,  
 MAGOON BOWL AWARD: Calvin Cook  
 DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AWARD: Kyle Marsh  
 JEWISH WAR VETERANS GOOD CITIZENSHIP AWARD: Brittany Edwards  
 MASSACHUSETTS GIRLS STATE PROGRAM AWARD: Ellen Burgess, Morgan Kennedy  
 MASSACHUSETTS BOYS STATE PROGRAM AWARD: Maxwell Rodier, Paul Pennoyer  
 EXCELLENCE IN PHOTOJOURNALISM: Kaitlin McDonagh  
 EXCELLENCE IN THE VISUAL ARTS: Alex Clarke  
 JAMES NACHTWEY SPIRIT OF PHOTOJOURNALISM AWARD: Aryanna Tiberii  
 ANDREAS GURSKY SPIRIT OF DIGITAL ARTS AWARD: Megan Gardner  
 EXCELLENCE IN VISUAL ARTS: Nicholas Boucher  
 THE STIEGLITZ ART AWARD: Jamie Rynkowski  
 EXCELLENCE IN VISUAL ARTS: Matthew Boucher  
 RUTH DUCKWORTH SPIRIT OF CLAY AWARD: Ashley Deschenes  
 NATIONAL CHORAL AWARD Piper Browne, Connor Hoff  
 CHORAL DIRECTOR'S AWARD: Morgan Kennedy, Savannah Repucci  
 OUTSTANDING MUSICIANSHIP AWARD: Tatiana Lyne  
 COACH'S AWARD: Maxwell Rodier

SPECIAL DISTINCTION – NATIONAL FORENSIC LEAGUE: Erik Arnsten, William Curatolo, Darcey Babikian  
 DISTINCTION – NATIONAL FORENSIC LEAGUE: Isolde Decker-Lucke, Caroline Kiley  
 SUPERIOR DISTINCTION – NATIONAL FORENSIC LEAGUE: Matthew Melamed  
 MOST VALUABLE PLAYER – DEBATE: Matthew Corwin, Alden Burnham  
 MOST VALUABLE PLAYER-SPEECH: Jared LaFontaine  
 QUALIFIER-NATIONAL CATHOLIC FORENSIC LEAGUE TOURNAMENT: Matthew Corwin, Alden Burnham, Fiona Davis, Anne Gonzalez, Jacob Martz, Maxwell Rodier  
 QUALIFIER – NATIONAL FORENSIC LEAGUE TOURNAMENT: Jared LaFontaine, Jacob Martz  
 OUTSTANDING NINTH GRADER: Fiona Davis  
 ROOKIE OF THE YEAR: Alden Burnham  
 SEASON HIGH POINTS 0- NATIONAL FORENSIC LEAGUE: Matthew Corwin  
 SEASON CAREER HIGH POINTS – NATIONAL FORENSIC LEAGUE: Brittany Edwards  
 DISTINCTION-NATIONAL FORENSIC LEAGUE: Carina Taliaferro  
 SPECIAL DISTINCTION-NATIONAL FORENSIC LEAGUE: Connor Winn  
 OUTSTANDING BUSINESS MANAGEMENT STUDENT: Miranda Johnson  
 OUTSTANDING MARKETING STUDENT: Caroline Bernier  
 OUTSTANDING DISTINCTION-NATIONAL FORENSIC LEAGUE: Brittany Edwards  
 ENGLISH EXCELLENCE 9 AWARD: Lindsey Duff  
 ENGLISH EXCELLENCE 10 AWARD: Calvin Lamothe  
 ENGLISH EXCELLENCE 11 AWARD: Melissa Moore, Marian Sijeholm  
 ENGLISH EXCELLENCE 12 AWARD: Corey Bradley  
 HERBERT HAHN MEMORIAL BOOK AWARD: Melissa Moore  
 WINDHOVER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN WRITING: Vanessa Kelly  
 THE INDEPENDENT MOST VALUABLE STAFFER AWARD: Hannah Daley  
 THEATER PERFORMANCE AWARD: Connor Hoff, Maura Driscoll  
 TECHNICAL THEATER AWARD: Charlie Hoff  
 THE ROBERT MCCAMMON PRIZE: Sarah Beckman  
 MOST IMPROVED ENGLISH 9 AWARD: Sean Gutierrez-Schiefer  
 MOST IMPROVED ENGLISH 10 AWARD: Ben Shopper  
 MOST IMPROVED ENGLISH 11 AWARD: Emmett Snyder  
 MOST IMPROVED ENGLISH 12 AWARD: Frank Davis  
 FRENCH II EXCELLENCE AWARD: Taylor Meek  
 FRENCH III EXCELLENCE AWARD: Fiona Davis  
 FRENCH IV EXCELLENCE AWARD: William Andrews  
 FRENCH IV AP EXCELLENCE AWARD: Isabelle Zink  
 SPANISH AP LITERATURE EXCELLENCE AWARD: Christine Walder  
 SPANISH I EXCELLENCE AWARD: Sophie Neligan

SPANISH II EXCELLENCE AWARD: Lindsey Duff  
 SPANISH III EXCELLENCE AWARD: Calvin Lamothe  
 SPANISH IV EXCELLENCE AWARD: Kirsten Coale  
 SPANISH IV AP EXCELLENCE AWARD: Melissa Moore  
 SPANISH V EXCELLENCE AWARD: Sam Cushing  
 THE DAVID DOOLEY LANGUAGE AWARD: Patrick McDonah  
 DR. NICOLE SHERF LINGUIST AWARD: Peter Barth  
 THE VIRGINIA MACDONALD FOREIGN LANGUAGE AWARD: Christine Walder  
 ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN WORLD HISTORY II: Erik Rajunas  
 ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN UNITED STATES HISTORY I: Calvin Lamothe  
 ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN UNITED STATES HISTORY II: Morgan Kennedy  
 ACADEMIC IN AP UNITED STATES HISTORY: Maxwell Rodier  
 ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT: Erik Arnsten  
 ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN AP COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT: Peter Barth  
 ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN AP PSYCHOLOGY: Christine Walder  
 ALGEBRA I EXCELLENCE AWARD: Neil Henry  
 ALGEBRA II EXCELLENCE AWARD: Dominique Noriega  
 GEOMETRY EXCELLENCE AWARD: Lindsey Duff  
 PRE-CALCULUS EXCELLENCE AWARD: Joseph Burgess  
 CALCULUS EXCELLENCE AWARD: Connor Howlett  
 THE RENSSELAER MEDAL: Sean Halloran  
 MOST VALUABLE MATHLETE: Matt Melamed  
 BAND DIRECTOR'S AWARD: Piper Browne  
 WOODY HERMAN JAZZ AWARD: Sam White  
 JOHN PHILLIP SOUSA BAND AWARD: Emmett Snyder  
 LOUIS ARMSTRONG JAZZ AWARD: Rebecca Lynch  
 ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY: Maddie Huleatt  
 BIOLOGY: Christine Pries  
 AP BIOLOGY : Daria Snider, Paul Pennoyer,  
 AP PHYSICS ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Michael McCollum  
 HONORS PHYSICS AWARD: Laurel Edington  
 BAUSCH & LOMB SCIENCE AWARD: Joseph Burgess  
 COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN & DRAFTING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Eliot Duff  
 PHYSICS FIRST ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Madeline Dahlin, Lindsey Duff  
 HIGHEST CUMULATIVE AVERAGE IN CHEMISTRY: Chris Xavier  
 ROBOTICS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Tyler Burnham, Dustin Ferzacca, Julien Gilbert, Sylvie Goldsmith-Solomon, Nathaniel MacLeod, Chrissy Pries, Kevin Tofuri, Eric Wright  
 ROBOTICS CLUB LEADERSHIP AWARD: Peter Goulakos, Sean Halloran



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO  
Senior salutatorian Will Curatolo gives a speech during the 2011 graduation ceremony.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO  
Seniors Nat Hughes, Trevor Attridge, Haig Caviston, Sam Cushing, and Eliot Duff pose for a picture before graduating. The seniors met at the Manchester Memorial Elementary School before walking to the Hyland Field to graduate.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO  
Seniors Hannah Beardsley, Peter Barth, Corey Barstis, Darcey Babikian, Trevor Attridge, Erik Arnsten, and Jessica Appletoft, sitting with junior marshal Anny Carr, wait to receive their diplomas. Junior Casey Weld was the other marshal.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO  
Seniors Danny Munn, Nick Bouwer, Tatiana Lyne, Piper Browne, and Connor Hoff perform the "Star-Spangled Banner" at the commencement of the graduation ceremony.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO  
Senior Rebecca Lynch receives her diploma, officially graduating high school.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO  
Seniors Nick and Matt Bouwer pose for a picture as they wait to receive their diplomas and graduate high school.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO  
Senior valedictorian Christine Walder speaks at graduation.



NABILA MAHMUD PHOTO  
Seniors begin to file in and walk down the aisle to their seats at the commencement of graduation.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO  
Senior Maura Driscoll jokes around before going to the graduation ceremony.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO  
Senior Hannah Daley walks off the stage after receiving her diploma at graduation.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO  
Seniors begin to walk towards the stage receive their diplomas.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO  
Seniors decorated their hats.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO  
Seniors Brittany Edwards, Molly Friedman, Piper Browne, Will Curatolo, and Christine Walder applaud as their classmates receive their diplomas.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO  
Senior class president Piper Browne gives her speech about the class' past and future.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO  
Senior graduate Olivia Dumont and her sister Hannah Dumont smile after Olivia graduated. Hannah graduated from Manchester-Essex with the class of 2009 and returned to see her sister graduate two years later.



# Prom 2011

## Penguins, Boston Harbor skyline, large aquatic organism tank, bring 'Under the Sea' theme to life

By Morgan Kennedy  
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Held at the New England Aquarium, the prom's location was the best part, according to junior Graham Shaw.

After honoring the tradition of taking photos at Tuck's Point, students met at the school at 6 p.m. where they boarded four coach buses that took them to Boston. In the tent on the aquarium's back deck, students were held over by an assortment of cheeses, crackers and soda until dinner was served.

"When I first got there I thought our only food was the cheese and crackers, but then when I found out we were eating inside and could walk around and look at all the fish, I was super excited," junior Julia Toby said.

According to Toby, the students then went inside the aquarium where they had time to enjoy a buffet style dinner including pastas, hamburgers, and Chinese food.

Toby was satisfied with the available food choices.

"I thought it was delicious," she said, "and there was a lot more than I expected there to be."

During and after they ate, students could admire the penguin exhibit as well as the main tank, filled with various types of fish and sea turtles, according to junior Jennifer Gallagher.

"It was a really cool setup, getting to eat around all the fish," she said.

According to Gallagher, students moved outside to the tent area after dinner where DJ Max Baun kept everyone dancing.

"I thought the DJ was pretty good. I was happy that he played at least one dubstep song," she said.

Toby agreed that the DJ was a success.

"He was way better than that of another prom I went to because he played music that we could ac-

tually dance to," she said.

The deck's cement ground posed problems to students who decided danced barefoot because of uncomfortable shoes.

"I would have like a different dance floor because I had to take my shoes off, and my feet were killing me by the end of the night," Toby said.

Tickets to the prom cost \$70 each, and students were not happy when they were asked to pay an extra \$10 after they had already purchased tickets.

Junior Megan Gardner said, "It was really annoying having to pay extra, especially because not everyone did. Prom is so expensive to begin with, and I didn't even know what my extra money was going toward."

According to senior class president Piper Browne, more people bought tickets than expected, and each person over the expected amount cost the class an extra \$50. The abundance of prom-goers also cost an extra \$1,200 in bus fuel, and in order to make up the difference, the class added an extra \$10 to the cost of tickets.

This year's prom happened to fall on the same night of game seven of the NHL playoffs, preventing students from watching it; however, they left the aquarium just in time for the game's end.

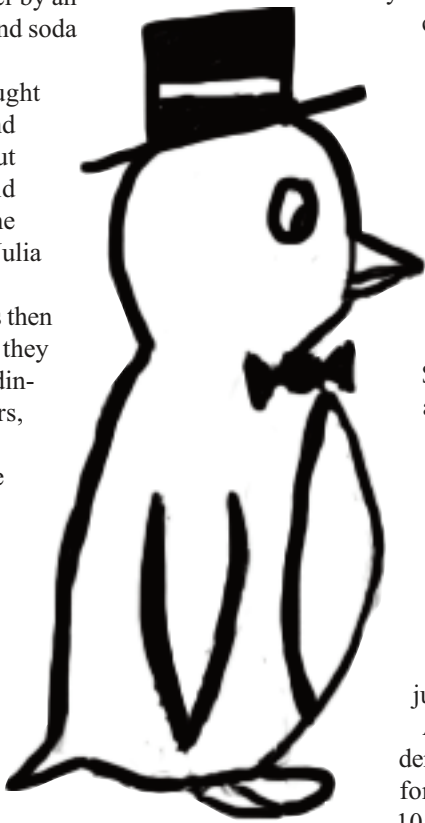
According to junior Emmett Snyder, students boarded the coach buses for the ride back to Manchester at 10:30. Once on the bus, the driver turned on the radio and students listened to the final minutes of

the game, soon hearing that the Bruins had won 1-0 and were headed to the Stanley Cup Finals for the first time since 1990.

"It was really exciting to hear that the Bruins had won," Snyder said, "It was a great ending to an even greater night."

Overall, the prom was a huge success, according to Shaw.

"I had a lot of fun. Everything about it was great," he said.



ELLEN BURGESS ILLUSTRATION



COURTESY OF ALLISON LANE

Juniors Sam Lauredant, Austin Lyne, Connor Bergmann, Anny Carr, Ben Lauredant, and Ellen Burgess.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

Junior Jeff White and freshman Birttany Smith.



COURTESY OF ALLISON LANE

Seniors Danny Munn, Alyssa Fabyan, and Reed Parkhurst



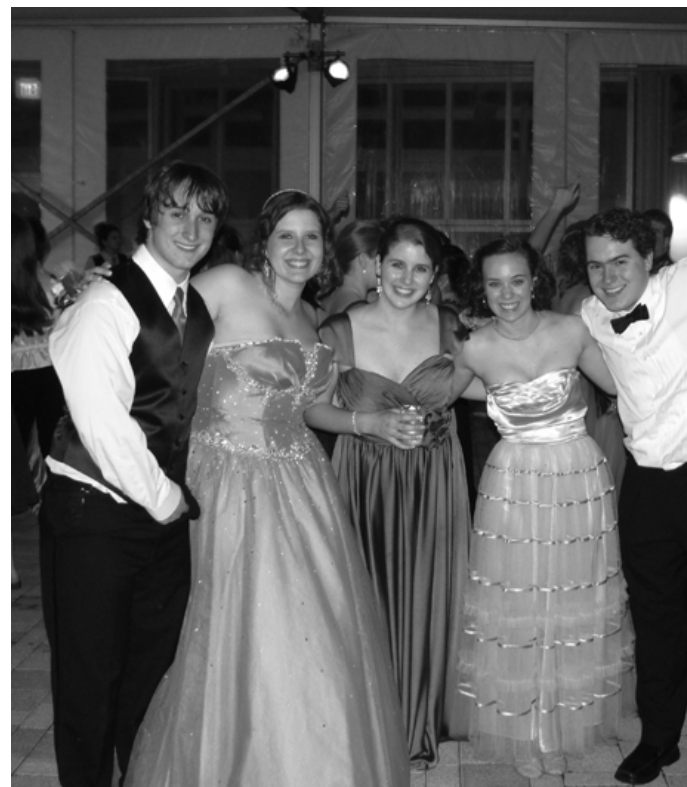
COURTESY OF ALLISON LANE

Juniors Joe O'Neil, Kayla Reed, Jaimie Rynkowski, Peter Liquori, Kayla Mulloy, and Shawna Allen.



COURTESY OF ALLISON LANE

Seniors Hayley Parsons and Patty Wright.



COURTESY OF A

Juniors Ian Gillis, Savannah Repucci, Caroline Wood, Jaclyn Jermyn, senior Hoff, and junior Emmett Snyder.



Juniors Seb Trippe Reind



Chaperones

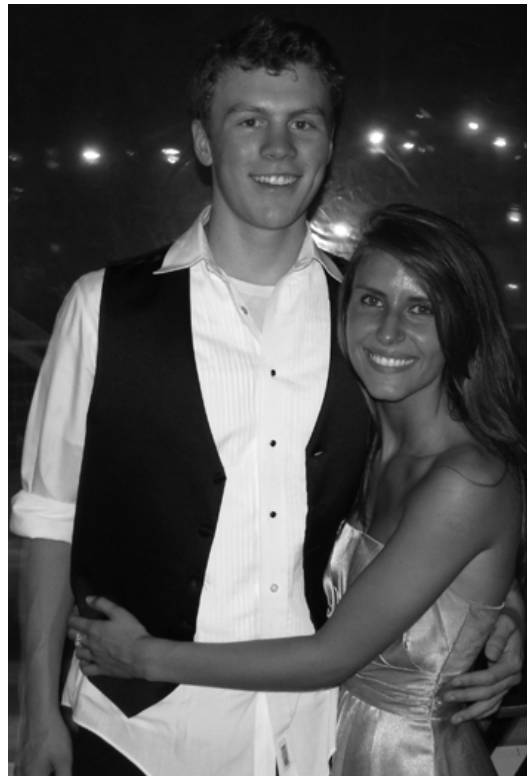


Seniors Moll juniors Case



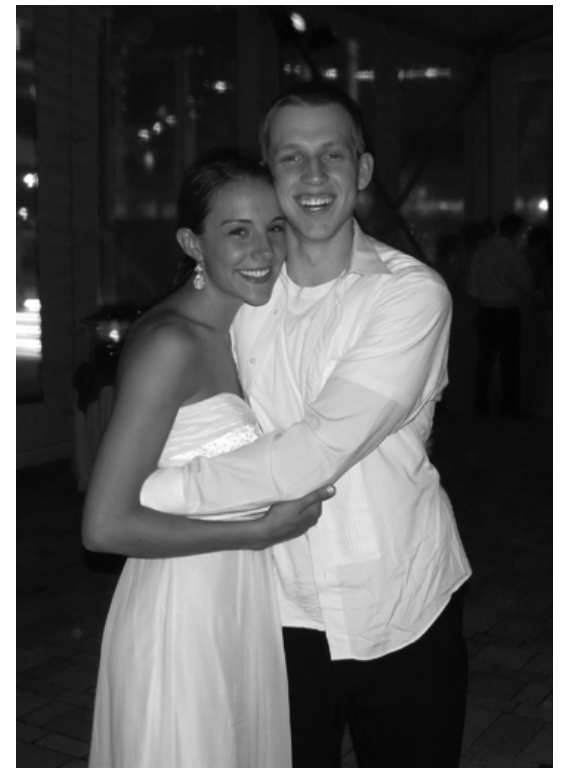
MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

Wooding, Ian Martin, Eric Wright, Noah Brown, Ben Lauredant, [unclear], and Connor Booth.



COURTESY OF ALLISON LANE

Senior Alex Porter and junior Caroline Bernier.



COURTESY OF ALLISON LANE

Seniors Kyle Marsh and Connor Howlett.



COURTESY OF ALLISON LANE

Abby Donnelly, Jennifer Coleman, Lauren Dubois, and Allison Lane.



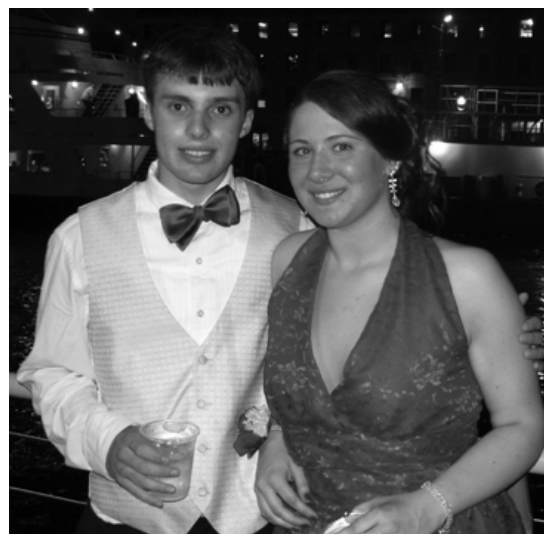
COURTESY OF ALLISON LANE

Seniors Sean O'Donnell, his date Patrice, and Sam Cushing, freshman Mia Rodier, seniors Miranda Johnson, Haig Caviston, and Cole Caviston.



COURTESY OF ALLISON LANE

[unclear] Friedman, Dylan Parlee, Hannah Beardsley, and Olivia Colpoys, with [unclear] Weld and Taylor Coons.



COURTESY OF ALLISON LANE

Seniors Ben White and Stephanie Houde.



COURTESY OF ALLISON LANE

Seniors Drew Gosnell and Misha Berkrot.



ALLISON LANE  
Senior Connor



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

Juniors Emily Gonzales, Marian Siljeholm, Maddie McNamee, and Olivia Prentiss.



COURTESY OF ALLISON LANE

Juniors Chloe Gothie, Tyler Keating, Jen Gallagher, Tucker Oppenheim, and Amanda Gilson.

# Summer Employment:

## Should students seek jobs over vacation?

### Pro

Morgan Kennedy

Responsibility. Leadership. Maturity. Independence. These are only a fraction of the benefits that come with having a summer job.

Entering one's second or third year in high school is the perfect time to apply for a first job, because work experience as a teenager is immensely helpful in preparation for college and a future career.

Having a summer job promotes responsibility. A position as a camp counselor for example, requires constant focus and cooperation. The sense of being responsible for the safety of young children evokes immediate maturity and leadership skills that may otherwise lay dormant.

With responsibility comes rights. Summer employment is a great way for students to prove that they are deserving of certain privileges.

By getting and keeping a job, a student-employee takes on new responsibilities and thus deserves new rights, creating a sound argument for a later curfew or a cell-phone upgrade.

Summer employment also provides necessary training for future job and educational opportunities. Many professional careers require hands on involvement, working with a team, and strong social skills, all of which can be built up through common summer jobs such as ice cream scoopers or grocery baggers.

Such skills are viewed highly by college admissions officers as well as future employers. It is always comforting to know that the newly hired worker has prior experience with and knows how to handle difficult customers and conflicting personalities.

One of the most rewarding aspects is the independence gained from a summer job. With a steady paycheck, the dependence on Mom and Dad for cash quickly diminishes. Along with a paycheck comes the need for money management, a skill that proves to be much more beneficial when learned early on in life.

Through successful savings, a high school job can ease the pain of future college expenses. By saving a portion of their paychecks early on, students can cover the cost of application fees, books, or a new laptop when the time comes.

Summer jobs give students an opportunity to support themselves and provide the independent base necessary to avoid crawling back to Mom and Dad after leaving home.



COURTESY DANCING LEMUR/FLICKR.COM

### Con

Melissa Moore

Though summer jobs elicit revenue for students, they also can contribute a large amount of stress to a time designed for teenagers to relax. Summer vacation is supposed to allow students to recover from a stressful year and prepare for the one to come; however, if kids have jobs during this time, they are not taking the necessary time to rejuvenate their brains. Therefore, they will be less relaxed and prepared entering into the upcoming school semester.

For those entering their junior and senior year, a critical time in people's lives to figure out their future, summer vacation is an integral time to look at colleges to figure out which school they may want to attend. If people have summer jobs, this time is extremely diminished and their schedules are far less flexible. Unemployed students have more time and opportunities to visit universities and determine their future.

Though most students take jobs to make money, other ways of obtaining capital exist. Casual babysitting can provide a higher salaries.

Instead of working, students' time would be more beneficial spent applying for scholarships. This money will go straight to their higher education rather

than a shirt they will wear a few times.

Instead of working to make money for oneself, students would be better off volunteering for something they believe in. Opportunities to volunteer exist everywhere and in every facet of life; people just have to figure out what area they would like to help in. This benefits not only the person being helped but also the volunteers, since helping others makes people feel good.

The summer, being about two months, is also a perfect opportunity to travel abroad and see the world. People can gain very provincial mindsets by living in the same place their whole life; however, journeying abroad allows students to learn about and explore other cultures that can later benefit them not only in the classroom but in the real world as well.

## Morning announcements, pledge of allegiance disappear from school day

By Morgan Kennedy  
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Morning announcements provide crucial news for students' schedules and school days; however, they were recently switched to being read through email rather than over the loudspeaker, and both the announcements and the pledge of allegiance were moved from first to second block, which has proven to be of more harm than good.

Since the enactment of the new system earlier in the year, morning news slowly began to get lost in translation.

Oftentimes, teachers would forget to read the announcements, leaving students unaware of important information regarding sports, clubs, and academics. This seemingly insignificant but common mistake stirred frustration among students, as meetings were

missed and opportunities unknowingly passed.

As time went on the problem only got worse. Recently, the announcements as well as the pledge seem to have disappeared altogether.

In past weeks, Ms. Lumsden's familiar voice reciting the pledge over the loudspeaker has faded, and teachers regularly forget to read the email announcements to their class, if they are even sent in the first place.

After first block, most students have managed to fully open their eyes and even transition into engaged, learning mode, while teachers have started gaining the necessary momentum to teach four classes in a row. However, the fact that this momentum must

be broken in order to receive the day's announcements gives a valid reason to forget about and ignore them altogether, which likely attributed to their recent disappearance.

**'The problem in missing announcements and the pledge has been prominent for weeks now.'**  
-JAMES LEE

taken lightly; however, its recent vanishing act has given the impression that it is of minimal importance.

The problem in missing announcements and pledge has been prominent for weeks now, but the issue seems to have been put on

the back burner, as it has yet to be resolved. Clearly the importance of communication to a strong, unified school community has been overlooked.

In order to ensure that students receive this vital information and regain their daily structure, the announcements and pledge of allegiance must be moved back to the beginning of the first block of everyday.

Principal Jim Lee agreed that the system needs revising.

"Because it is so close to the end of the year, we will most likely resolve the issue over the summer and come up with a better solution for next year. Some ideas have already been considered though, like the possibility of running the announcements all day on the television screens outside of the main office and cafeteria," he said.

On the disappearance of the pledge, Lee agreed that and "we



NABILA MAHMUD PHOTO

**Senior Carina Taliaferro recites the pledge of allegiance. Administration is working on a way to restore the pledge and morning announcements.**

obviously need to work on it,"

"It's unfortunately been lost in the chaos of the end of the year," he said.



**Juniors feel pressure of college process**

**MARIAN SILJEHOLM**

Despite what college brochures and websites claim, beginning the college application process has become little less than an excuse to pay absurd sums of money to feel inadequate.

For some, the future presence of the process begins to take its toll as early as elementary school, when thousands of dollars are shelled out to elite private institutions in exchange for a promise to teach ABC's with more "excellence" and "rigor."

The cycle becomes more competitive in high school, fueled by an influx of students who now feel the need to play catch-up for years squandered on being a kid instead of becoming bilingual or learning to play several musical instruments.

The statement, "It will look good on your college application" suddenly becomes a justifiable cause to sign up for clubs with which you share no real common interest in the hope that when the application process finally arrives, the shortcomings of your academic persona will be sufficiently padded by a dedication to the community.

No, you didn't play a sport three seasons out of the year; you were afraid your inability to complete a push-up in gym class would hinder your success against girls who were apparently born muscular.

And then come grade point averages. These are the most sobering of all as they encompass four years of frustration, exuberance and tears in one number. For some, seeing that number will be a moment of pride; for others it marks a solemn end to ivy-covered dreams; and for many, it's a moment of resentment toward the idiot who spread the rumor about freshman year not mattering.

Finally come the SATs, which in most cases will fall within a few days of AP tests, ACTs, and SAT subject tests, to create perhaps the most sleep-deprived week of junior year. It is one test to prove your entire academic worth, but no pressure.

College fairs only further fog the already muddy water with hundreds of emails which are flattering until it is made clear that colleges are businesses, less interested in your academic potential than the economic potential of your interest in them.

In the end, the only sanity in this process is found by remembering that colleges are trying to fill a picture of their ideal environments, and whether or not you fit into this picture is dictated as much by hidden quotas and chance as by your own ability and dedication.

# EDITOR'S FAREWELL

## Daley looks back, thanks staff, adviser

Dear Journo Inferno,

Although I might have dreaded going to a few Monday night classes, written some articles that nobody wanted to write, received minus 10 points for spelling somebody's name incorrectly, spent some late nights fixing pica measurements and breakout quote boxes, these last four years have consisted of memories and newly obtained knowledge that I will take with me throughout college and life after graduation.

Learning the ropes of journalism as an intimidated freshman was difficult because of the huge differences between English class writing and journalistic writing, but with the help of Ms. Buckley-Harmon, the editors, and the journalism "Bible," the AP Style Book, everything became easier.

I was able to get my work done faster and strategically write my articles before coming to class so that I could enjoy the company of people like DJ Ball, who provided comic relief every class with his sassiness and inevitable energy.

With the transition of moving from the old building to the new building, which we watched in its development from the library windows, came the passing of the editor-in-chief baton from Annelise Eaton and Stephanie Smith (both from the Class of 2009) to me.

I knew it was going to be tough to fill their shoes with my junior-to-be feet, but once the fall of 2009 came along, the transition was easy.

We have all formed memories that—although I'm about to break a journalism rule and sound cliché—can't be taken away from us.

Journo Inferno, when I reminisce about all the Monday nights we've had, my favorite ones by far have been at layout night.

They—admittedly—make the week go by slowly, but they are still my favorite because of the crazy energy we accumulate from being overly tired.

I'll never forget the domino effect that happened when one person had a random burst of energy and that energy would transfer to



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

**Students work to finalize pages at layout. The staff will lose nine seniors, leaving five juniors to make up returning staff for next year. Senior Hannah Daley served as editor-in-chief for two years. Replacing her will be junior Melissa Moore, who is in her second year on the Independent staff.**

the rest of us. Before we knew it, we'd be laughing uncontrollably while rolling around on the "w h e e l y chairs" until our energy depleted.

Not only were our random hyper outbursts uncontrollable, but so was our Facebook use.

While we all eventually wrote our articles by the deadline, it wasn't a complete journalism class if we didn't look at Dior's and "Boo's" page or watch some hilarious videos. (I think you all can remember some of the ones I'm talking about.)

Although Facebook was fun until we got caught abusing the privilege, food was something we could always fall back on.

Having food at journalism got to the point where the class was like a sport, and we even needed to make a snack schedule for

those late layout nights. This was great, I'm sure you'll all agree, but the only problem was that typing and walking to the printer probably didn't fully burn those extra calories.

**Well, Journo Inferno, it's been a great four years of Mondays, and I've had a blast with each and every one of you. Thanks for all the GTMZs!**

Although I'd love to sit here and describe all of our other wonderful memories, I know I'm just making the job harder for whoever is laying out this opinion page, so I'll just fly through the rest.

I will never forget attempting to memorize current events minutes before the quiz, Julia Melamed being asked to prom while conducting an interview on the phone during class, going to the Fortune Palace banquets or our field trips to Boston, rushing through assignment night so that we could get home to watch "Pretty Little Liars," gossiping about our lives, and of course, all of the silly

things Ms. B-H said. Maura, you can't say I have some "brown on [my] nose," since I'm officially done with journalism class, but I think you'll all concur that Ms. B-H is an amazing journalism teacher.

We have no idea how much time she actually spends organizing the year's plan, coming up with lessons, making comments on and grading our article drafts, responding to all of our emails, hunting us down in the halls when she has a question, taking some of the photos for the paper herself, and making the class comfortable and enjoyable for all of us.

There's no way to thank you enough for everything you've done for me for the last four years, everything you've done for all the graduating seniors, and all that you will do for your current and prospective students as a teacher, mentor, and as a friend.

Well, Journo Inferno, it's been a great four years of Mondays, and I've had a blast with each and every one of you. Thanks for all the GTMZs!

Love, Your Ed-in-Chi '10-'11 (Hannah Daley)

### the INDEPENDENT

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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.

## GIRLS' LACROSSE

**Coach:** Sarah Holch

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

**Impact players:** Seniors Hannah Beardsley, Molly Friedman, Kyle Marsh, Grace Gillette, and freshman Taylor Meek

**Goals next year:** "Next year I hope to better develop our stick skills, increase our intensity in practices and beat teams like Winchester, and North Andover."

**Record:** 12-4

**Coach's quote:** "Our biggest accomplishment is that we really played like a team, every girl out there played her hardest and grew together as players."



MELISSA MOORE PHOTO



COURTESY OF ANDREW RANDALL

## BOYS' LACROSSE

**Coach:** Nate Levie

**Captains:** Seniors Dylan Parlee, Reed Parkhurst, Drew Gosnell

**Impact players:** Seniors Dylan Parlee, Reed Parkhurst and juniors Connor Bergmann, Nick Douglas

**Goals next year:** "Our goal is to make the tournament, and play our best every game."

**Record:** 4-8

**Captain's quote:** "I had a great time with [my team], but I wish we got to finish the season like we should have and made it into the tournament," Parlee said.

## SOFTBALL

**Coach:** Michael Mullarkey

**Captains:** Seniors Patty Wright, Corey Bradley, and Rebecca Lynch

**Impact players:** Seniors Patty Wright, Rebecca Lynch, junior Kelly Dodge, and sophomore Kelsi Field

**Goals next year:** "Our goal is to fill the loss of seven seniors."

**Record:** 5-14

**Captain's quote:** "We've been playing together for so long with so many memories. It was so great to come into this season knowing each other so well. We had a lot of laughs and more wins than past years, so it was a great way for seniors to end the year," Lynch said.



REBECCA LYNCH PHOTO



ELLEN BURGESS PHOTO

## BASEBALL

**Coach:** Robert Garrett

**Captains:** Seniors Alex Ray and Danny Oliver-Munn

**Impact players:** Juniors Matt Corwin, Adrian Frattini, sophomores Max Nesbit and Jake Fitzgerald

**Goals next year:** "We want to win more games than last year."

**Record:** 1-19

**Captain's quote:** "I would have loved to have won more games, but the new coaching staff allowed for us to all improve individually," Ray said.

## SAILING

**Coach:** Kevin Dooley

**Captains:** Senior Nate Jermain

**Impact players:** Seniors Nate Jermain, Sam Cushing, Natalie Warren, Connor Winn and Matthew Bouwer

**Goals for next year:** "Our goal is to be in top ten and just be competitive like this year."

**Record:** 14-1

**Coach's quote:** "We have five soon-to-be freshman who we hope to integrate into the team for next year. I think that we will pick up right where we left off."



COURTESY OF SAM CUSHING



COURTESY OF PERRY BURNHAM

## GIRLS' TENNIS

**Coach:** Garth McKinney

**Captains:** Junior Eliza Rohner and senior Hannah Daley

**Impact players:** Senior Hannah Daley, junior Eliza Rohner, and freshman Michelle Fuca and Rachel Daley

**Goals next year:** "We want to make it to States."

**Record:** 14-3

**Coach's quote:** "I am very proud of our team this year and they have a great opportunity to do well in the state tournament! Go Hornets!"

## BOYS' TENNIS

**Coach:** Robert Bilsbury

**Captains:** Seniors Connor Howlett and Matt Melamed

**Impact players:** Senior Matt Melamed, Connor Howlett, junior Ben Scarafoni, sophomore Calvin LaMothe, and eighth-grader Michael Fuca

**Goals next year:** "We want to play our best tennis with every match."

**Record:** 14-8

**Captain's quote:** "We had a really great season this year. We have a very young team, so there's a bright future. Although we weren't Cape Ann Small Champs, we were very close," Howlett said.



NICHOLAS BOUWER PHOTO



COURTESY OF TIFFANY VANDER LAAN

## ULTIMATE FRISBEE

**Coach:** Eric Magers

**Captains:** Seniors Mischa Berkrot, Ben Zwart, Jake Lauber

**Impact players:** Seniors Mischa Berkrot, Ben Zwart, Jake Lauber and junior Seb Wooding

**Goals next year:** "We want to gain more middle school and female players."

**Record:** 12-4

**Coach's quote:** "The A-Team did exceptionally well, winning almost every match."

# Students enjoy art show despite lack of display boards

**Melissa Moore**  
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Despite a lack of display boards forcing a new format, the art show depicted students' "tremendous growth," art teacher Tamera Burns said.

According to her, the growth is in part thanks to the new middle school art curriculum.

"Our students are entering our high school courses much better prepared in terms of their growing design sense," Burns said.

This year, the art show has been extended to last seven weeks: one week for each middle school grade, one week for each teacher, and one week for senior exhibits. The art is displayed throughout the hallways instead of, as in previous years, filling the gym.

"Our art program has outgrown our given display needs," art teacher Marion Powers said. "We worked with what we had so that we could highlight as much student art as possible."

Despite display difficulties, Powers is still "very proud" of the artwork being displayed.

"I see a strong group of art students emerging from the middle school ready to enter high school," she said.

According to freshman Taylor Meek, students still enjoy seeing their fellow peers' art displayed despite the lack of display boards.

**'[The art show] has made me want to become a more artistic person.'**  
-TAYLOR MEEK

"The art show is awesome this year," Meek said. "It's always nice to come to school in the morning and see all the pieces."

Meek said that being exposed to all the art over the many weeks has surprised her. She learned of her peers' artistic skills and realized "how talented" Manchester-Essex students are.

"[The art show] has made me want to become a more artistic person," Meek said.

Despite the success of this year's art show, both Burns and Powers agree they would prefer to return to the typical art show format with a one-week display period for all art; however, they need display boards to achieve this goal.

The art teachers "will await a decision on the purchase of display panels" in upcoming years.



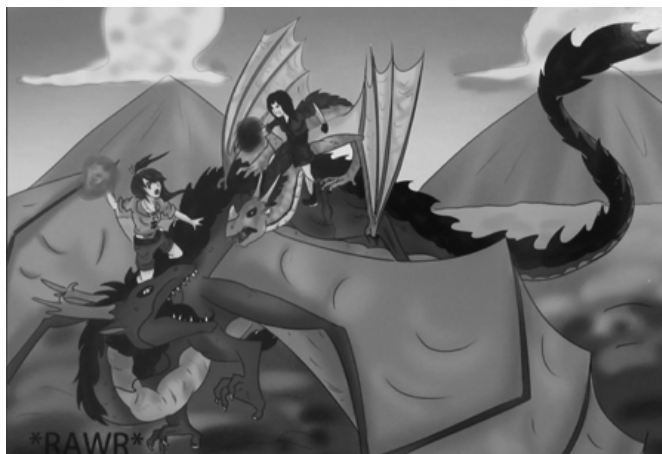
MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

Senior Nick Bouwer's self portrait entitled "Nostalgia" was one of many paintings on display in the hallway during the art show. Despite lack of display boards, students enjoyed seeing the artwork.

"This format brings in the entire community in Manchester and Essex," Burns said. "Artwork needs to be properly displayed. This year's art show was set up with the best display units available to us."

Junior Jamie Rynkowski's comic art (left) entitled "The Chase," was awarded the Silver Key in the Boston Globe Scholastic Art Award Contest

MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO



CAROLINE WOOD PHOTO



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTOS

Matt Bouwer's ceramic artwork (above left) and Lindsey Duff's dress (above right), made of paper towels and ink, contributed to the multiple displays of artwork along the main hallway.

# 'Score: The Musical' performed as spring musical alternative

**Marian Siljeholm**  
INDEPENDENT STAFF

After three weeks of rehearsal, drama teacher Gloria Tanner directed "Score: The Musical," the first ever musical revue production.

The show incorporated Broadway production such as, "Hair" from "Hair," "You Can't Stop The Beat" from "Hair-spray," "Money Makes The World Go Round" from "Cabaret," "Dear One" from "Kiss of the Spider Woman," "Seize The Day" from "Newsies," "Do You Hear People Sing/One Day More" from "Les Miserable," "Try To Remember" from "The Fantasticks," "I Don't Know How To Love Him" from "Jesus Christ Superstar," "Coffee

Break" from "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying," "Easy Street" from "Annie," "Cool" from "West Side Story," and "Cell Block Tango" from "Chicago."

In addition to fulfilling a sense of responsibility Tanner felt to those students who "waited all year to sing and dance in the spring musical," Tanner said she looked forward to the review for the opportunity it would provide to perform numbers from musicals that the school would not otherwise be able to perform due to a lack of actors or inappropriate show content.

Junior Leanne Ciccone, a performer in the production, felt that the short preparation time acted as a motivation for the performers, saying, "The sense of urgency cre-

**'I am excited to be able to prove that we can put on a great show in almost no time'**  
-KATERINA EICHENBERGER



PIPER BROWNE PHOTO

Juniors Ellen Burgess (far left, not seen), Caroline Wood, Savannah Repucci, Leanne Ciccone, sophomore Laurel Barrie, juniors Katerina Eichenberger, Morgan Kennedy, and Allie Freed pose during the musical number, "Cell Block Tango" from the musical "Chicago." The show, which incorporated songs from several popular musicals, ran from May 20 - May 21.

ated by having only three weeks to prepare really pushed everyone to work hard. As a cast we work really well together and that has really helped us be successful."

Filling the position of music director was Tanner's sister, Loli Marquez-Sterling, who has extensive professional experience in singing and acting.

In casting, Tanner ensured that everyone who tried out was not

only incorporated in the production but also given a substantial part.

Junior Katerina Eichenberger, was excited in the lead up to the performance. "It is extremely nerve racking to perform because we only had three weeks to rehearse; however, I am excited to be able to prove that we can put on a great show in almost no time," she said.

The show was put on by 24 actors and actresses, and was "a success, especially the more risqué numbers such as cell block tango," she said.

Overall the production would not have been possible without "the band members for their work putting together all the music, Mr. Sokol and Mrs. O'Neill for sharing practice space, time, and equipment and, of course the techies," Tanner said.