



Knightly News

Glen Cove High School's Student Newspaper

Homecoming Issue 2026

Homecoming Spirit Takes Over Glen Cove

by Nishka Baboolal & Wyatt George



School spirit filled Glen Cove High School's halls as students celebrated Homecoming, bringing together the student body for a day filled with tradition, excitement, and pride. From spirited outfits to packed hallways, students embraced Homecoming season, turning an ordinary school week into a celebration of GC pride.

While Homecoming did not go exactly to plan because of a nor'easter that moved the game from a Saturday to a Monday night, everyone cleared their schedules and made time to come out and support the team. The stands were packed; even with mentions of drizzle, everyone came out for a good night, and the weather held through.

In the first quarter, Big Red lived up to their name and scored big; the crowd burst into excitement. Despite an eventual loss, the team held together and took the game to its end, fighting with all their might.

During halftime, the Homecoming King and Queen were announced. As the whole court stood together, everyone waited tensely to find out who would be crowned GC royalty for the year. The nominated kings were Kevin Larocca, Ryan Lebowitz, Kosta Tsirkas, and James Pascucci. The queens that were nominated were Gianna DiMaggio, Kendall Benzinger, Sophia Gonzales, Gianna Gonzales, and Charlotte Dilgard-Clark. The fact that they were up in front of the town is proof of their impact on the community, and that is worth more than any crown.

Amidst a vibrant showcase of school spirit, senior Gianna DiMaggio was crowned the 2026 Homecoming Queen, alongside Ryan Lebowitz, who took home the title of 2026 Homecom-

ing King. The special crowning moment was a highlight of the game. Surrounded by peers, alumni, and celebratory performances from the Big Red cheer, kickline, and marching band, they stood at the center of an unforgettable community celebration.

Afterwards, the Glen Cove Marching Band performed NFL Countdown and Kings and Queens. They continued to ride the flow that a successful first quarter had left on the crowd. Their performance was followed by Kickline, which did a spectacular job and wowed the onlookers with their difficult routine.

Homecoming is bigger than just the game; it's about the student body and the entire town rallying together to show pride! The week before the Homecoming was just as fun as the game itself, as the school was brought together by this moment.

During this year's pep rally, even with the rough weather outside, Glen Cove High School made sure to show some school spirit for the Homecoming game. The pep rally is always held the day before the Homecoming game right at the end of spirit week. Yet this year, because of the weather, it ended up being a few days later.

During spirit week, the students, staff and teachers show their school spirit through different themes each day, usually starting off the week with Pajama Day on Monday. This builds up until Friday, when everybody shows their school spirit by wearing Glen Cove colors, clothing, and cheering on the team for the upcoming game. During that same Friday, all of the periods in the day are shortened in preparation for the

school's pep rally at the end of the school day.

The entire school went up to the gym, with many being dressed in Glen Cove attire. The whole gym was decorated in the school's colors, red and green. After the band's great performance of "Star-Spangled Banner," we all said the Pledge of Allegiance. Multiple team players and coaches went up and spoke at the microphone, cheering on the community and talking about what the season had been like so far. In between, these were more performances from multiple teams, including the cheerleaders, kick line, and marching band.

The TV and Podcast students had set up areas to film and record the entire pep rally while it was ongoing. The TV crew set up small interviews with team players and coaches on the side, asking them about how they feel about the season so far and what adjustments they have to make. Despite the harsh weather outside, the pep rally was still organized in a way that not only ran smoothly, but also raised the spirits of the school community to help cheer on the Glen Cove Knights and pump them up for the upcoming football game.



From Private to Public School: What I Didn't Expect

by Joe Cerrone

Going from a private school to a public school has been a bigger adjustment than I expected. I spent the last few years at Holy Trinity Diocesan High School in Hicksville, so I was used to a very specific way of doing things. Now that I'm at Glen Cove High School, I've realized that though both schools are still high schools, the actual experience can feel completely different.

The first thing I noticed was how much more freedom there is with clothing.

At Holy Trinity, we had a uniform and a pretty strict dress code. You couldn't just wake up and decide to wear whatever you wanted. There were specific requirements, and you also had to wear your school ID. At Glen Cove, I can actually choose what I want to wear every morning. It's such a normal thing that I didn't realize how much of a difference it would make until I didn't have to wear a uniform anymore. It also feels different not having to worry about whether I'm wearing the right thing according to a uniform policy. At Holy Trinity, getting ready for school was basically checking if I had everything I needed for the uniform and remembering my ID. Now, getting dressed is just deciding what I actually want to wear that day.

The phone situation is another huge difference. At Holy Trinity, phones were taken very seriously. You weren't supposed to have your phone on you during the school day. If you were caught with it, even just having it in your pocket, you could get an immediate detention. Coming into public school, I expected the phone rules to be completely different. Public schools have actually gotten stricter about phones in recent years, so Glen Cove isn't just a place where everyone can sit around on their phones all day. Still, it feels different from what I was used to at Holy Trinity. At private school, there were very specific rules and consequences that I knew I had to follow. Coming into Glen Cove, I'm getting used to a different system and different expectations.

Lunch was another thing I noticed almost immediately. At Holy Trinity, lunch was something you had to pay for. At Glen Cove, school lunch is free. It's honestly one of those things I didn't appreciate until I switched schools. At Holy Trinity, you had to think about buying lunch. At Glen Cove, I don't have to worry about paying for a school lunch. It might seem like a small difference, but when you're at school every day, those small differences actually become noticeable. One of the biggest changes for me as a senior has been the freedom during free periods. At Holy Trinity, even if you had a free period, you couldn't just leave the school building because you felt like it. There were procedures for leaving, and students were generally expected to stay on campus during the school day.

At Glen Cove, seniors have the privilege to leave campus during their free periods to hangout with friends. That's a pretty big change when you're coming from a school where leaving the building during the day wasn't an option. A free period actually feels like a free period. The grading system is also different. At Holy Trinity, 70 was the passing grade. At Glen Cove, a 65 is passing. That might not sound like a huge difference, but when you're used to needing a 70 to pass a class, seeing a 65 as passing definitely takes some getting used to.

Then there's probably the biggest difference of all: religion. At Holy Trinity, religion was part of my schedule every year. It wasn't an elective that you could take if you wanted to; it was part of the graduation requirements. At Glen Cove, I don't have a religion class because public schools don't have that same religious requirement. And obviously, there was Mass.

At Holy Trinity, we went to Mass every Tuesday. It was built into the school schedule, so our regular class periods were shorter on those days. After doing that for years, it became completely normal. Now, Tuesday is just Tuesday.

There isn't a Mass taking up part of the schedule, there aren't shortened periods because of it, and religion isn't something that's built

into the school day. That's probably one of the biggest reminders that I'm not at Holy Trinity anymore.

Another thing I noticed is the difference in the overall environment. At Holy Trinity, there was a lot more structure. You had your uniform, your ID, your religion classes, Mass, stricter phone rules and specific expectations for how students were supposed to conduct themselves. A lot of things have already been decided for you. Going into public school gave me a sense of freedom that I didn't really have in private school.

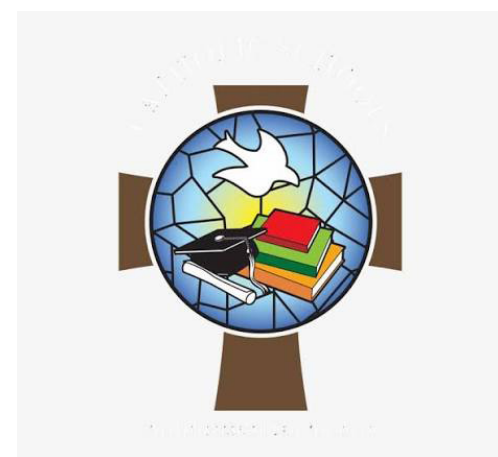
At Glen Cove, there's still structure and plenty of rules, but the environment feels more independent; there are more choices in certain parts of the school day, and I have more control over some of the things I didn't have control over at Holy Trinity.

Switching from private to public school has also made me realize how much you don't think about your school's rules when you're used to them. Wearing a uniform just becomes normal. Having an ID becomes normal. Going to Mass every Tuesday becomes normal. Having religion class every year becomes normal. Then you switch schools, and suddenly none of those things are part of your routine anymore.

At the same time, things I didn't really think about before now stand out because I'm experiencing them after coming from a completely different environment.

That's what makes going from private school to public school interesting. It's not necessarily that one school has more or less of everything. It's that the priorities are different. Holy Trinity had a much more structured, Catholic-school environment. Glen Cove gives me a different type of independence and a different high school experience.

After being at both, I can actually see the differences instead of just hearing people talk about "public school vs. private school." You notice it in the way you get dressed in the morning, how you spend your free periods, what happens at lunch, what classes you're required to take and even what a normal Tuesday looks like. Coming from Holy Trinity in Hicksville to Glen Cove, I've definitely had to get used to a new version of what "normal school" looks like.



Movie Review: Toy Story 5

by Sarah Lee

Toy Story 5 is the latest movie of the widely loved Toy Story franchise made by Pixar, picking up after Toy Story 4, which came out nearly 7 years ago in 2019. Previously, in the last movie, Woody left Bonnie and the other toys to live with Bo Peep as a lost toy, while Buzz Lightyear became the new chief. Fans had already thought the main story was dragged on with Toy Story 4, but can Toy Story 5 prove to be a satisfying successor in the series?

In the latest edition, Jessie and the other toys face playtime’s newest and biggest threat: Lilypad, a LeapFrog-inspired tablet. Struggling to make friends due to her love for toys, Bonnie gets a new tablet called Lilypad to help her bond with her tech-absorbed dance mates, Chelsea, Heidi, and Kara, causing her to neglect Jessie and the other toys in turn. Hurt and at a loss for what to do, a desperate Jessie calls upon Woody for assistance to help win back playtime from technology and screen time.



However, the little progress Jessie makes is futile against Bonnie’s desire for validation after she becomes lost from home miles away. It’s only toward the end of the movie that Jessie overcomes her fear of being forgotten after she learns that she really did have an impact on her first kid, Emily, who named her own child after her. Jessie later learns that toys and technology can coexist together in harmony, rather than being against each other, by using Lilypad to help Bonnie connect with a friend who also has a shared love for toys.

Though Toy Story 5 wasn’t as plot-driven and action-packed as previous films, it still proves itself to be a bittersweet sequel in the series. Even though Jessie is forced to accept that all kids grow up and nothing lasts forever, she learns that the impact that a toy makes on their child while they are together matters much more. Unlike other films with similar toys-vs.-technology themes, Toy Story 5 doesn’t depict technology as pure evil. Instead, it shows how it can be an asset to help boost playtime, as long as it doesn’t absolutely replace it. All in all, Toy Story 5 is a great film for both new and old fans of the series to see, and a beloved film that the whole family can enjoy.



Movie Review: The Odyssey

by Nicholas Cueva

Approximately 2,700 years ago (between 750 and 650 BCE), the epic poem The Odyssey was written by the legendary blind ancient Greek poet Homer, who lived around 8th century BCE. He is also the writer of another well-known poem, The Iliad, which tells the story of the Trojan War. The Odyssey takes place after the Trojan War, where the main protagonist Odysseus, tries to take himself and his men home to his kingdom in Ithaca. His plans are constantly thwarted by gods and monsters which delay his way home. Odysseus’s main objective is to return home to his family no matter the cost which inevitably changes who he becomes.

The book is famously known for being one of the first books using non-linear storytelling and inspired many modern storytellers to make their own adventures. The Odyssey (2026) is a movie directed by Christopher Nolan who is believed to be one of the greatest directors of this generation and has won 18 academy awards. The movie has an all-star cast: Matt Damon as Odysseus, Tom Holland as Telemachus, Zendaya as Athena, Robert Pattinson as Antinous, and Anne Hathaway as Penelope, the list just goes on. This movie is a modern retelling of The Odyssey, Christopher Nolan took creative liberties while making this movie. For example, Nolan’s adaptation dramatically strips back



the supernatural element. So, Zeus and Poseidon never physically appear in this movie, they also change many of the events in the mythical encounters in order to fit the story better.

The Odyssey is one of the most visually breathtaking movies of this year. It was shot completely on IMAX, and it really shows because the set pieces and the costumes really stick out on the big screen. The director really wanted everything to be practical effects and tried his best to avoid using CGI. The acting is incredible, and every character feels real and it really immerses you in this movie. The actor that really stood out to me was Matt Damon as Odysseus. He gave such a raw performance, and really played his heart out in all his scenes. The audio is amazing and I highly recommend seeing this movie in IMAX, because it is really a once in a lifetime experience.

The score, composed by Ludwig Göransson, was made without using a 19th - century orchestra. Nolan thought that since there was no 19th century orchestra in the Bronze Age, it should not define Odyssey’s journey. So, Ludwig got creative and built an entirely new sonic landscape using historical research, experimental sound, and reconstructed ancient instruments. Ludwig and researchers reconstructed this ancient double-reed Greek instrument to capture the historical music. The Lyre was also used to mirror the physical action of Odysseus drawing his bow. The movie deals with the grief that Odysseus has because of the sacking of Troy, and the countless lives he and his men took. Odysseus returns home with a new perspective and is changed forever. This movie is a must see for all those who yearn for an epic adventure with incredible acting. Hardcore action movie fans will enjoy this movie and also those who love drama and suspense will also enjoy it.

I give this movie a 5/5, it is rare to see a movie perfectly execute exactly what it set out to do but Christopher Nolan’s The Odyssey stands as a monumental triumph of large-format, practical filmmaking and delivers a masterclass in slow-burn mythological world-building.

Song Review: ‘Good Bad and Ugly’ -GIVEËON

by Aliana Garcia

“Good Bad and Ugly” by Giveon is a strongly emotional song about the different sides of a relationship. The track talks about how a person can still care about someone even when the relationship has good and bad parts. It has a very emotional and almost sad feeling to it, which fits Giveon’s music really well. Instead of making the relationship seem completely good or completely bad, the song shows how relationships can have both good and bad moments.

One of the most noticeable parts of the song is Giveon’s voice; his deep voice gives the song more of an emotional and serious sound. The slower music also helps the lyrics stand out more and makes it feel very personal. When he sings, it almost sounds like someone is sitting down and expressing exactly how they feel instead of just performing a perfunctory song. The music isn’t too complicated, which works well because the main focus stays on his voice and the meaning of the track itself.

The biggest message of the song seems to be that someone can recognize both the good and bad parts of another person while still having feelings for them. Someone can have great memories with another person while also remembering the things that hurt them. The song shows that feelings can be complicated, especially when someone still cares about a person who has also caused them pain. This makes the song feel more realistic because relationships aren’t always black and white.

Overall, “Good Bad and Ugly” is a song that gives off a very emotional and thoughtful feeling. Giveon’s voice, the slower production, and the meaning behind the lyrics all work together really well. Even though the song has a sadder feeling, that is part of what makes it memorable because it focuses on the good, bad, and ugly parts of loving someone instead of only showing one side of the relationship.



Album Review: In Rainbows - Radiohead

by Sophia Penafiel

In Rainbows by Radiohead is a studio album that was self-released on October 10th, 2007 as a download and was later internationally released through XL Recordings on December 3rd, 2007. Though released long ago, In Rainbows made a comeback in the 2020’s and is well known worldwide. This album introduces genres like experimental rock, art rock, and alternative rock with occasional orchestral elements added into songs to add a grounding warmth.

Personal favorites

“Faust Arp”

Starting with acoustic guitar patterns that cycle the same chords, this song gives you a down and gloomy feeling at first. Radiohead’s intention with the introductory mood was to capture the feeling of being stuck in patterns and being so “stuck in your own ways” that you end up feeling left behind. Although “Faust Arp” remains steady, it adds orchestral melodies that illuminate the tension from the whisper-like vocals, stringy guitar, and harmonizing cello that built the former foundation of the song. This song is one of my personal favorites from this album because of that precisely: how it alternates

and manipulates the vibe of the song in a way that makes the listener question what the true message of the song is.

“All I Need”

is a calm piece that reassures the listener. “All I Need” introduces a slow tempo with a glorious and rhythmic piano melody nearing the end.

The organization of the song tells the listener that the song was constructed with the intention of reaching the conclusion of a ‘regretful’ feeling all along. This song really stands out to me compared to other songs in the album because it makes me feel contained and sluggish, but the addition of little breaths of ‘chings’ that come from a glockenspiel makes it feel almost childish and reminds me to take a deep breath.

“Weird Fishes/Arpeggi” is one of the most famous Radiohead songs today. This song contradicts the other songs on the album, In Rainbows, because of the very predictable and calm instrumental. Throughout the song, Thom Yorke sings lyrics that refer to falling, sinking, and being eroded by worms and weird fishes. This song takes its next step with a brief fade of the song’s incubative instrumental that truly makes the listener feel that they’re underwater. I interpret this song as freedom that is depicted through the end of the looping guitar, which I think represents anxiety within the metronome. Ending on a heavy note, the listener knows that they have reached the bottom of the ocean floor and are in the process of vanishing into the most beautiful and promising freedom: death.



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Students Pack Gallery at Annual Fall College Fair

Finding the College that Fits You!

by Savannah Pierre

On September 17th and 24th, Glen Cove High School hosted its annual college fair. Students from all different grades clustered in the gallery asking the colleges their questions and aspirations. Some colleges/organizations that attended this event include: Hofstra, Adelphi, NROTC (Navy Reserve Officers Training Corps) Lincoln Tech, and New York Tech. The Knightly News had the privilege to speak with these college representatives and Dr. Moorer who addressed the benefits of going to the fairs and preparing yourself for the future.

Why College Fairs?

GCHS hosts its annual college fairs in fall, winter, and spring. This is a great way for students who want an early start or are still not sure about what to do next. When talking with Dr. Moorer about how college fairs benefit the students and the community, she stated, “I believe that college fair is a benefit to the Glen Cove Community because sometimes parents and guardians don’t know what their child’s options are once high school’s over.” This is important since the distant future might seem farther than it is, and so it is always good to have some foresight on the endless possibilities. She also mentioned, “As you start planning in the 12th grade some students start planning in the 9th grade, 10th grade, and even in the 8th grade! For the students, I feel as though it also gives them just the different options to look at what’s local, what’s away. Also, they can talk about financing options.”

Some Advice

One thing all these colleges have in common is that they look for students who are willing to learn and push themselves beyond what they think they are capable of. We should always be looking for ways to make ourselves better even if the road presents challenges. For all grades, freshman to senior always do what you can now to have a successful future, and go to the next GCHS College Fair!



WANTED

Greetings from the staff of The Knightly News!
We are looking for energetic, dedicated writers and journalists to join our newspaper team!
Writing in other languages is a bonus as we are looking to make the newspaper bilingual! Please stop by Room 143 on Tuesday afternoons after school if you are interested! We look forward to seeing you then!
Mrs. Palazzo & Mr. O’Donnell

Reflection: Transition from Freshman to Senior Year

by Ibaad Naqvi

It's been almost four long years since I first walked through the doors of this high school as a student and wrote my first article for the Knightly News: an advice column. A lot has happened throughout this time, and I have grown both personally and academically. I want to compare and contrast this article with my first "What Are the Most Important Things to Do as a Teenager?" advice column to reflect on my growth and experiences, both in my mindset and in my writing ability.

In my first advice column, I discussed the most important things to do as a teenager. I explained that although school and education are important, it is also essential to maintain your mental health and experience life, especially since high school only happens once in your lifetime. I still believe this is very important. Maintaining a balance between focusing on academics and experiencing life is crucial. Maintaining good grades is important because they can influence your future, especially during sophomore and junior years. However, grades don't define you or determine how intelligent you are. They may reflect your work ethic, but they don't necessarily reflect how smart or skilled you are.

Graduating from this high school feels surreal. I always knew this day would eventually come, but it still feels like it arrived so quickly and unexpectedly. I honestly don't think I put too much thought into it at first. However, the closer senior year got, the more I thought about finally graduating and how this experience would only happen once. This is a huge milestone because this year is essentially the culmination of everything you've experienced, dating all the way back to kindergarten and preschool.

Being a senior has caused me to look back on the past few years I've spent here and reminisce about the experiences I've had, the people I've met, and the material I've learned. However, this is bittersweet because I often regret not doing more during my time here, such as joining more clubs earlier. I was sometimes too afraid to put myself out there or talk to more people. I feel like this is a common sentiment, especially within our generation.

We often miss how things used to be and wish we could return to when times were simpler and we were younger.

It is okay to feel regretful or wish you could go back, but it is imperative to stay focused on the present. Some things, such as the past, are beyond our control, and worrying too much about them will do us no good. Now, as seniors, we are so focused on college applications, work, school, and other responsibilities that take up our time. We have responsibilities and people depending on us. I think senior year is a very unique experience, not just in high school but in our lives as a whole. It is a time when we are still kids, yet we have matured enough to reflect on the past while managing our responsibilities in the present. It is okay to feel overwhelmed and nervous. Senior year is also an important time in our lives when so much change is happening, and that is completely normal.

For most seniors, the next step is college, but others are pursuing different endeavors, such as serving our country or following their passions. Either way, it is a time of great transition and change. I believe the most important thing to do is take everything one step at a time and remember that slow and steady progress matters. We have our whole lives ahead of us, and I think high school, despite its many flaws, has provided a good foundation and platform on which to build our futures.



LOOK
who's In the
SPOTLIGHT



A

Akira Yamaji

To Her, Love me

Annonymous

Oh how I love her,
How I crave even a glance
Every love song makes me think of her
And makes me want to hold her hand

Every time she looks my way
Every thought just leaves my brain

I love her smile and the way she laughs
I just hope it's me
Who makes her happy like that

Every time I think of her I start to blush
Every time I see her my heart starts to rush
Every time I'm near her I turn into mush

I seek out her heart
Though I know I will fail
It's the way she makes me feel
It's so unbelievably real

I know she will never know
Know it is me
I will always fall short
For that is the way it must be

Always to Her,
From me

The Lamp

by : *Stephany Guardado*

I illuminate the darkness everyone runs from,
But who lights the shadows eating away at me?
Summoned once the black creeps in,
Demanded only to shine.
Wanted only for the glow I give,
Burning from the inside just to keep the room alive.
A quiet buzz, a sudden flicker.
Useless the second the light starts to waver,
I'm easily replaced once I give out,
Forgotten in minutes,
Left cold as my value fades,
Becoming invisible and unnoticeable,
As if I had never come or gone.
I saved them from the gloom,
Yet in the void I stay,
Still being consumed,
Alone.



GCHS America's 250th Anniversary Mural

by Julyssa Mendez

In the freshmen wing of Glen Cove High School, next to room 110, there is a striking mural of a woman with long, beautiful, flowing blue and red hair, titled "VOTES FOR WOMEN." Commissioned by local faculty Mr. Viera, Ms. Treder, and Ms. Murolo, senior artist Julian Henderson painted this tribute to American democracy and female suffrage. The central figure in the painting is based on the late Inez Milholland, who was an influential American social activist, suffragist, and lawyer. Milholland famously served as the iconic herald for the 1913 Women Suffrage Parade in Washington, D.C., where she wore white robes and rode a white horse named Grey Dawn. While earlier drafts mistakenly dated this massive march to March 13th, history records that this pivotal event actually took place on March 3, 1913, intentionally scheduled for the day before President Woodrow Wilson's inauguration to maximize national attention and political pressure.

Beyond honoring the fight for women's voting rights, the mural aligns with a broader spirit of historical commemoration, weaving local pride into the national fabric during the United States' celebrations of freedom. The mural honors the legacy of early freedom as the Second Continental Congress took major steps toward independence. Although the traditional narrative focuses heavily on the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, it was actually on July 2, 1776, that the Continental Congress formally voted to approve the Lee Resolution, legally severing the American colonies from Great Britain.

This spirit of remembrance directly mirrors recent festivities across the community, such as the Glen Cove America 250 Waterfront and Downtown celebrations, which brought families together for a massive Fireworks Spectacular at Morgan Park. This mural represents Glen Cove High School's creative and talented students. The school's creative legacy continues to blossom through events like the Glen Cove Fall Family Festival and public art collaborations in Village Square. By integrating these foundational moments of government and civic protest, the artwork inspires students passing through the freshmen wing to consider how modern liberties were forged through centuries of struggle of women's suffrage and democracy.



GC Gets Rolling With BMX's Message of No Hate

by Nishka Baboolal

A viral sensation came to our very own Glen Cove High School gymnasium on October 13th. A new sport that has taken over: BMX racing! Experts come to perform cool tricks and spread motivation to high schoolers around America; this group of anti-bullying bicycle motocross (BMX) racers put on an unexpected show. Currently on a 13-week tour (like a band) that started in Detroit and traveled across the Northeast, the tour then finally ended up here on Long Island. In fact, they had performed at Patchogue-Medford just the day before. They were then heading down South to continue spreading a message of hope to all teens with dreams that feel too big. There were a total of five guys participating and making this performance come to life. The emcee of this event, Zach Newman, originally from Kentucky, has been skating for 28 years and has a bronze medal from the X Games. Trevor, from Minnesota, has been doing this for about 17 years and has three gold medals from the X Games. Zach views his career as a way to pay the bills while doing something he loves. It also keeps him fit and in shape!

ASA Entertainment is the company that runs the tour. In the past, they have held rollerblade competitions as well as women's surf and skateboarding tournaments. They have mastered the art of blending the entertainment of vertical BMX racing with an anti-bullying message, while also promoting goal-oriented dreams and the perseverance needed to reach them, even when they are unconventional. The sponsors of this show were PETA and the Marine Corps. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) is the largest global animal rights organization. Its participants are dedicated to defending animal rights. Its core philosophy is that animals are not ours to experiment on, eat, wear, use for entertainment, or abuse in any way. After the performance, representatives were giving out temporary tattoos with cows in a heart and bracelets that read "Suck Less Save Animals," aiming to bring attention to animal rights issues. They work to convince people to make more vegan choices and protect all living things. The Marine Corps was also represented to recruit potential teenagers, with Sergeant Stalin, originally from Queens, representing the branch.

Students were moved by the show. Monica Penafiel, a junior here at GCHS, responded to how the #NoHateTour changed her life: "It broadened my view on marginalized sports that can change the way you live your life." This kind of open-mindedness toward unique activities is exactly the belief the bikers wished to spread.

A quote from one of the bikers sums up the message of this tour: "I ultimately just want kids to follow their dreams. I can't tell you how many folks along my way tell me, 'Oh, you're still riding that little kid's bike.' I still get it, but I'm out here living my dream and making a living doing it. And I want kids to take note of it. There's an avenue to make a living out there, and you just have to stick with it through thick and thin; if we can fall and crash over and over again, that applies to everything in the world: pick yourself back up. If you run into a hiccup, find a way around it or through it, and stick with that goal."

EMS Explorer

by Ariadna Agreda

Interested in the medical field or just wanting to learn something new?

Then try the GCEMS Explorer Post that provides training and education to high school students. You'll learn skills that are useful not just for people entering the field, but for life; members of Explorer Post #1072 are trained in CPR, basic first aid, and communication in emergency scenarios, and more.

Established in 2002, the meetings are held in the Glen Cove EMS building, next to the fire department. When meetings are held, they are announced in the group that you can access through the QR code. In addition, other activities are always held, like training, car washes, or standbys.

Many former members of the Explorers Post have gone on to become members of the Glen Cove Police Department, including officers and dispatchers among many positions of service to the Glen Cove and surrounding areas. Explorers have also learned healthcare skills later used when becoming medical school students, nurses, Police Paramedics, SWAT Paramedics and various professional healthcare positions. This is an excellent opportunity for students to get their foot in the front door when it comes to serving their community. To join the group scan the QR code.



Teeing Up for Success: GC Boys Varsity Golf

by Nicole Lee

Over at the scenic driving range of the Glen Cove Golf Club, you'll see the Boys Varsity Golf Team in full swing working on their golf shots. Led by Coach Freitag, the team has been around for decades with accomplishments including 12 Division, 9 League, and 6 County Championships with award-winning players. They have competed on courses all across Long Island and New York State.

This season's top players are Captains Parker Bennett and Jackson Papas, both seniors. Papas scores the team's ace going against each team's number one player with some being Long Island's best golfers. Bennett unfortunately suffered an injury prior to the season, but has still made a great impact helping players with their swings and strategic approaches to golf. The golf team was at risk of forfeit due to losing many players who graduated last year, but Bennett and Coach Freitag have been able to rebuild the team and coach new players to playability. Tate Bennett, an up-and-coming freshman who played on varsity last season as an eighth grader, has been one of the team's leaders as well, making impressive rounds in Nassau County Golf every match he competes in.

During practices, the team works at the driving range, putting greens, and practice bunkers to enhance their skills for competitions. "My favorite thing about golfing is

that every mistake is entirely made by me, so improving is in my own hands. If I put in the work I can become better myself," says (Parker) Bennett. For matches, players are ranked by the coaches from one to six and play in foursomes against their respective pairs. Every course the team competes at brings a new challenge to how the game is approached.

Golf may seem easy, but it's actually very competitive and requires lots of mental focus with hours of dedicated training. According to

Coach Freitag, "A great part of golf is that not only are you competing, playing, and exercising, but you are outside in nature and get to enjoy some of the most scenic views of Long Island, and get to travel to all types of different courses

and places and meet cool people along the way! My favorite part of coaching golf here at Glen Cove High School is getting



to have fun each day sharing my passion for this game with others!"

If you are interested in joining the golf team, please email Coach Freitag at jfreitag@glencoveschools.org. You can support the Glen Cove Varsity Golf Team by following them on Instagram! [@glencovevarsitygolf](https://www.instagram.com/glencovevarsitygolf)



Shoreline Showdown Caps Off GC Homecoming

by Knightly News Staff



photo: Lisa Viscovich

It may not be Michigan-Ohio State, Florida-Georgia or even Texas-Oklahoma when it comes to a storied football rivalry, but a Glen Cove-North Shore Homecoming definitely has some juice, even if the weather conspired to delay which team would come out victorious.

A ripping nor'easter pushed Saturday's homecoming game to Monday, meaning the GC faithful would have to wait to witness North Shore's 24-7 triumph over the Big Red to remain undefeated through three games. Despite the setback and less than ideal conditions, students and alumni came out strong to support the red and green.

It wasn't all cloudy skies for the Big Red to start the game, as Glen Cove led after the first quarter courtesy of a forced fumble by senior Ryan Lebowitz that led to an Antwan Guscott recovery. Subsequently, running back Xavier Maldonado gave GC the lead with a 22-yard scoring run on the ensuing drive to get the Big Red faithful excited. The team may have had a larger lead when they started the game on the first drive with a big gain on a jet sweep, only for sophomore signal caller Antonio Longobucco to throw an interception deep in North Shore territory. With that being said, the young Longobucco connected with senior Jordan Cofield on four occasions for 76 yards. Senior Michael Telese felt the team may have gotten a little too comfortable with the first quarter lead. "I felt like we got a little complacent [as a team] and that can't happen," said Telese.

The Mustangs began to chip away at the GC lead with a safety and a touchdown in the second quarter for a 10-7 halftime lead and 14 fourth-quarter points to seal the deal, with North Shore's Joey Cristofari notching two rushing scores. A season ago, the team took a fourth-quarter lead in a thrilling homecoming win over Valley Stream, but some things don't always go your way.

Down only a field goal heading into the fourth quarter, Telese thought the Big Red could turn the tide, stating, "Every drive we went out there looking to score, but unfortunately, we couldn't get that push down the field that we needed."

Despite the loss, Coach Rubin was happy to see the neighbors tangle in a homecoming game. "Both teams played really hard, and it was nice to bring the rivalry back. They [North Shore] are a great team that is well-coached and disciplined. We left everything on the field," he said.

Even with the offensive struggles, Coach Rubin also gave praise to Assistant Coach Devon Christopher, who has worked with Longobucco to teach the intricacies of a demanding position and was once a signal caller for Glen Cove himself when he was a student. Coach Rubin also mentioned that penalties have killed promising drives, which has put the offense in second-and-long or third-and-long positions. On the defensive side of the ball, Coach Gallo has coached up the stop unit and has made the defensive line the backbone of the squad, with seniors Darius Bailey, Jayden Hernandez and junior Luciano Blanco making plays. North Shore scored 47 and 42 points respectively in their first two games, yet the Big Red held the Mustangs to basically half of that total.

One of the surprise players this season has been the sophomore Maldonado, who has been a total workhorse at tailback and in the secondary, while another fellow sophomore, Thomas Tallarico, battled in the trenches with a dislocated finger and played phenomenally.

With all of the challenges of a given season, the team has lived by the motto uttered by University of Colorado Coach Brendan Marion: "The way you play without the ball is how much you love your teammates." You can't get a better quote about selflessness and commitment to a team than that.



photos: Lisa Viscovich