

THE SCHREIBER TIMES

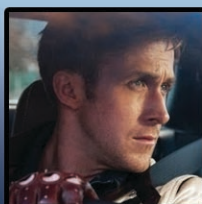
Paul D. Schreiber High School Port Washington, New York Volume LXII No. 1 September 2011

A TASTE OF 2012?



Pepe Rosso

-Features-



Drive

-A&E-

New Teachers

-News-

Student Triathlete

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Junior Ani O'Hanlon took this photo in Puerto Rico for an AP Photo summer assignment. This iguana paused and looked at the camera while she was shooting.

NEWS BRIEFS

9/11 Remembrance Ceremony

In order to honor the lives lost and remember the events of September 11, 2001, Schreiber held a tenth anniversary remembrance ceremony on Sept. 12. All over the world, people held ceremonies to remember the thousands of people who died in the terrorist attacks.

The event was held in front of the new 9/11 memorial garden planted by the now-defunct Schreiber Schrubbers and its advisor, Ms. Naomi Buckley, who has since retired. It was intentionally a small-scale event—teachers, students and administrators who attended voluntarily came during their lunch periods.

"In high school, 9/11 is best addressed in class and there is no need for a whole-school assembly. To have something small makes it more meaningful," said Principal Mr. Ira Pernick who coordinated the ceremony. "I think that it is important for every school to have some way to commemorate the most significant historical event for this generation."

After opening remarks from Superintendent of Schools Dr. Geoffrey Gordon and Mr. Pernick, senior Jesse Weil read the names of Schreiber alumni who were victims of 9/11: Olga Kristin Osterholm Gould (Class of '53), Marin

DeMeo (Class of '72), Jeffrey LeVeen (Class of '64) and John "Pepe" Salerno (Class of '88).

"The ceremony represents a small town in America embodying the freedoms and respect for those who died," said Dr. Gordon.

The ceremony concluded with a performance of "America the Beautiful" by the mixed choir directed by choir teacher Mr. John Spiezio.

"Listening to the choir and feeling the emotions of the day made me feel more powerful," said senior Grace Kim. "9/11 is an event that that will always be remembered.

~Eleanor Kim and Minah Kim

St. John's college credits

The Languages Other Than English (LOTE) department is now offering college credits through St. John's University for juniors and seniors. LOTE students can elect to receive credits accepted by many colleges, including almost all of the State University of NY (SUNY) schools, while taking one of nine advanced language classes including Latin Prose, AP Latin, Advanced Italian Civilization, AP Italian, Advanced French Four, AP French, Intensive French, Advanced Spanish Four

Honors and AP Spanish Literature.

In order to be eligible to earn college credits through this program, all juniors must have at least a B+ average in all subjects, and all seniors must have at least a B average. The students' grades in their language classes will be sent to the university, which will then put them into a college transcript.

This program may appeal to students not only for its academic merits, but also its financial ones. On average, college courses cost approximately \$1,000 per credit. In comparison, the courses offered at Schreiber will only be \$250 per semester for three credits.

Students can also take more than one of these courses at a time. At the end of the two-year sequence, students may have accrued up to 12 credits for the same \$1,000.

Additionally, any participating student who decides to attend St. John's University full-time will receive a \$2,000 annual scholarship.

This program comes in addition to several others that offer college credits in our school, including one in the science research program and another in the business department.

~Sydney Heiden

The Schreiber Times

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Ira Pernick, principal
Craig Medico, Evelina Zarkh, advisers
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Budgetary busing solution causes some initial problems

BY **Minah Kim**
Assistant News Editor

Last year's budgetary changes and administrative initiatives came to fruition this fall with a reduction in district buses that is causing some challenges in the busing schedules.

Two major changes were made this year. First, the high school and middle school buses with the same routes were combined, and now pick up and drop off students at Campus Drive. Second, the starting and ending times of elementary schools have been staggered, so that fewer buses are needed. School hours are 8:10 a.m. to 2:25 p.m. at Daly, 8:20 a.m. to 2:35 p.m. at Guggenheim and Manorhaven, and 8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Salem and Sousa, meaning that buses pick up elementary school students thirty minutes to an hour before they have arrived in previous years.

"I'm concerned with how late the buses are arriving. For now it is okay because the weather is nice, but I suspect it will become more of a problem as we get closer to colder weather," said Principal Mr. Ira Pernick.

The bus changes required an extensive procedure starting from the legislative level. Up until last year, the state required the school to provide a seat for every student even when many students did not ride the bus. This placed a large, and possibly unnecessary financial burden on the district. Ms. Winnie Hu, a reporter for *The New York Times*, came to our district as well as surrounding districts for firsthand reviews of bus ridership after being informed of the unfunded state mandates. After taking photographs and interviewing students and Superintendent of Schools Dr. Geoffrey Gordon, Ms. Hu published an article opposing the state mandates for hurting districts like ours by taking resources away from student

programs. The article was on the front page of the Metro section of *The New York Times* on April 14, and shortly after, state transportation repealed the bus mandates.

After the mandates were repealed, Assistant Superintendent Ms. Mary Callahan and Director of Transportation Ms. Wilma Stubbs sent out a questionnaire to parents who could then opt out of bus transportation. They, then, contacted the Pierce Bus Company to rearrange the bus contract. At the same time, assistant superintendent Dr. Kathy Mooney and Dr. Gordon met with the Port Washington Teachers Association president Ms. Christine Vasiley and her team to plan the staggering of elementary school times without violating contracts.

Due to these changes, last year's budget eliminated eight buses, saving \$471,000 and preventing the additional loss of teachers and programs. Instead of having 33 buses running three trips, we now have 25 buses running four trips.

"After board approval, we implemented the changes. We were able to save a lot of money, and I think it is very beneficial," said Ms. Stubbs.

Saving this money allows the high school to have more electives, the middle school to have smaller encore classes, and the elementary schools to maintain small class sizes as well as funding for the arts and athletics.

"By reducing costs in busing, we can maximize efficiencies for students, keep jobs for staff, and carefully increase as we are still a growing district," said Dr. Gordon. "In such difficult economic times, we have to be smart and innovative to accomplish those goals. While bus schedules are very tight and everyone needs to continue to cooperate, the success of the new schedule coupled with the increased/saved dollars for student programs exemplifies why with a lot of extra work Port schools remain leadership



Elana Galassi

Because the buses now transport Weber and Schreiber students simultaneously, buses have become increasingly more crowded.

schools in the country."

The district has received approval for a Memorandum of Agreement with the Teachers Union allowing Weber bus supervisors to arrive at 7:15 a.m. instead of 7:30 a.m. Bus routes have been running fairly smoothly, and the pick-up and drop-off times have improved from the beginning of the school year.

"I walk 1.5 miles to get home now because it is faster than taking a bus," said junior Tara Joyce.

This year, the student enrollment increased by seventy students increasing bus ridership in Manorhaven-Manhasset Isle and creating the necessity for one extra bus. The new legislation allows more students to be assigned to a bus than there are seats, so even with the addition of

one extra bus there have been complaints regarding the late-arriving buses.

"I used to take the bus, but now I get picked up because I have to wait so long to get home," said junior Eleanor Kim. "Also, since middle school students get on the bus first, there is nowhere to sit."

Despite the complaints, the money saved by reducing buses has allowed the district to maintain its classes and student programs and even add a Chinese class.

"Many changes have been made that pose difficulties for students and staff, but we have to adjust. There are more students on each bus and in each class, but this saves teachers' jobs and student programs. We all have to work harder," said English teacher Ms. Eileen Mills.

Students caught for violating school's Internet restrictions

BY **Hannah Fagen**
News Editor

Internet usage policies were recently brought to school-wide attention after several students were caught and punished for sidestepping the internet filters in the building.

Many of these students utilized a program called Ultrasurf, which is a free proxy-based program. This program allows users to bypass existing firewalls, such as those put up by the school. The Port Washington school district has an extensive filtration system that blocks a

wide variety of Internet sites.

"School districts must employ filtering programs for a number of reasons," said Principal Mr. Ira Pernick. "First, we have an obligation to provide for the safety of all our students including online as the Internet has many sites that are not appropriate for schools or teens. Second, websites can contain material that could potentially harm our network."

The administration identified students who had used this program to bypass the school internet filters during a routine network search.

"To me, the kids caught using Ultrasurf are heroes," said senior Jon Curtis.

Recent changes in the school network have caused a spike in the number of websites that are blocked. Newly blocked sites include some email servers and educational sites that teachers utilize in their classes. These changes may have increased student interest in circumventing the blockages. Conversely, the video website YouTube was opened solely for teacher use at the start of this school year.

"The school is blocking useful sites like Mr. Vinella's APUSH blog, and educational game sites such as Sporcle. They went overboard on the prohibitions," said junior Matthew Kim.

Students and staff members who have identified sites that have educational purposes, but are blocked, are asked to contact Assistant Principal Mr. David Miller so that the site can be evaluated and unblocked.

"It's a broken piece of software. Overzealous administrators need to loosen their restrictions," said senior Michael Schweitzer.

In the wake of this incident, members of the administrative team are working on their skills at preventing future student hacking.

"We are becoming even more vigilant when it comes to educating ourselves about the type of programs that are out there and how we find them," said Mr. Pernick.

The administration has also decided to utilize the skills of the caught students to improve the quality and safety of school Internet programs.

"We are asking those very same students to work with us to make our internet use more vibrant and relevant to the needs of the students. If we work together then we can help move things forward in our school," said Mr. Pernick.

Because the Internet is available in homes and many public places, the administration cannot keep students from accessing sites, such as Facebook, outside of school.

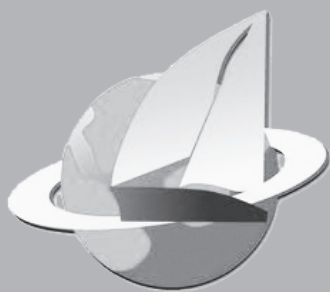
"The guidelines for what is acceptable at home are different than those for schools. We are responsible for all the students. Furthermore, it is very difficult to differentiate between students using social networking for academic purposes from those using it for nefarious purposes like bullying," said Mr. Pernick.

In the future, student Internet usage will be observed more closely, and administrators will make strides to help curtail the usage of proxy programs, such as Ultrasurf. Despite the administration's efforts, it is widely known that more students were using the proxy than those who were caught.

"At the time I didn't believe it was a big deal, but I'm happy I wasn't caught," said one student, who requested that his name be withheld.

About Ultrasurf Internet censoring

- Is a free product of Silicon-Valley company Ultrareach
- Can be used to circumvent firewalls and other blocking systems in order to access an unrestricted version of the Internet.
- Works with the use of a set of central proxy servers to allow users to avoid firewalls and other censorship.
- Was developed to allow Chinese individuals to bypass the Golden Shield.



Fresh faces join the high school teaching staff

The 2011-2012 school year brings five new teachers

Ms. Susan Goldstein

English as a Second Language

With the retirement of two English as a Second Language teachers last year, Ms. Susan Goldstein is a new instructor in that department. She teaches English and social studies classes to ESL students.

Ms. Goldstein grew up in Port Jefferson in Suffolk County and has always had an interest in the study of different cultures.

"Cultures from other nations have always captured my interest because of the differences and similarities they share with my own," said Ms. Goldstein.

She pursued this interest at St. Joseph's College, where she was a Spanish major, and spent a semester abroad in Argentina. After her undergraduate years, Ms. Goldstein received her master's degree in teaching from Columbia University.

Before coming to Port Washington, Ms. Goldstein worked in Farmingdale elementary and middle schools for two years.

"I'm glad to be in a high school now. This is my first time working with high schoolers and I'm ready to see what it's like," said Ms. Goldstein.

The thing that has struck Ms. Goldstein most about Schreiber is the sense of community.

"All the teachers and students seem very close and well connected and I am happy to have the opportunity to be a part of that," said Ms. Goldstein. "Being in a different school is tough, but all the teachers and students have been very friendly ever since I got here."

~Aaron Schuckman

Ms. Elizabeth Kamerer

Math

This year, Ms. Elizabeth Kamerer, who formerly worked at Weber Middle School for 17 years, joined the Schreiber math department.

"I wanted to challenge myself to do something different, or, in other words, to not end up doing the same thing for another 17 years," said Ms. Kamerer.

At Weber, Ms. Kamerer taught math classes including seventh grade accelerated and some AIS classes. Many of her past students are at Schreiber now.

She was inspired to become a math teacher not only because she enjoyed the subject but also because she wanted to have an impact on other peoples' lives.

"I want to show people that anybody can be good at math and that no one is just born with it," said Ms. Kamerer.

Throughout her many years of experience, she has discovered that trying to get others to see her point of view is the most difficult aspect of teaching, yet she finds helping students extremely rewarding.

"She's a great teacher because she has a way of captivating students' attention and making complex mathematical equations more clear and understandable," said freshman Lena Kogan, a former student of Ms. Kamerer.

~Ana Espinoza



Elana Galassi



Courtesy of Weber Middle School Yearbook '09



Elana Galassi

Clockwise from top left: Ms. Susan Goldstein, Ms. Lisa Belmonte, Ms. Yun Tzu Fan, Ms. Diana Rafferty, Ms. Elizabeth Kamerer.

Ms. Diana Rafferty

Guidance

Guidance counselor Ms. Diana Rafferty may be new to the high school guidance department, but she is a veteran of the Port Washington school district. Before coming to Schreiber this year, Ms. Rafferty worked in Guggenheim and Salem elementary schools.

"Unfortunately, due to many district-wide budget cuts, the elementary guidance budget was cut in half and they moved me to Schreiber for a full-time position," said Ms. Rafferty.

Ms. Rafferty has spent her first few weeks at Schreiber meeting students and learning about their academic and social needs. She has been learning about class scheduling and the college application process, two elements of guidance counseling that are absent from elementary schools.

"I have worked on the elementary school level for many 16 years and I love working with the little ones," said Ms. Rafferty. "I also really enjoy seeing



Elana Galassi



Elana Galassi

Ms. Lisa Belmonte

Physical Education

Ms. Lisa Belmonte is the new physical education teacher, replacing Mr. Joseph Mascaretti, who resigned last year.

In addition to teaching a full load of courses, including regular P.E. and outdoor education, Ms. Belmonte is the coach of the girls' junior varsity volleyball team.

"I was influenced by a great teacher that I had in elementary school, and I actually wanted to grow up to be just like her," said Ms. Belmonte.

She kept this goal throughout her years of education and immediately sought a P.E. job once she graduated from college. Before coming to work in Port Washington, she taught in the Levittown school district.

"I was lucky enough to get the position here and am really excited," said Ms. Belmonte. "I've only heard great things about this district. I look forward to taking everything I learned in my old school and bringing it here."

In addition, Ms. Belmonte wants to contribute to the school and leave a mark on her students, just as her elementary P.E. teacher did on her.

"I hope to motivate my students to help them reach their goals, take past experiences to help improve the curriculum and the great things that we do here, and help all students to reach their maximum potential," said Ms. Belmonte.

~Lena Kogan

Ms. Yun Tzu Fan

LOTE

Born in Taiwan, the new Chinese language teacher, Ms. Yun Tzu "Tiffany" Fan arrived in Texas in high school.

"Moving to America gave me a cultural shock. Everyday waking up for school, I had to switch my brain from Chinese to English. And whenever I did respond to English, I would give detailed answers and receive succinct responses. It was very difficult to blend in," said Ms. Fan. "I didn't even know how to respond to simple greetings such as 'What's up' or 'How are you?' I felt lost and confused most of the time," said Ms. Fan.

Initially, Ms. Fan aspired to be a psychologist; her realization that she did not enjoy dealing with the negative aspects of people led her to teaching instead.

"Teaching has given me the opportunity to provide a positive environment for motivated students," said Ms. Fan.

Ms. Fan's journey from speaking no English at all to becoming a language teacher has influenced her view on language learning.

"Chinese is indeed difficult but I believe that talent for learning a new language isn't necessary. I have confidence in all my students and believe in them. I deeply encourage kids to take a new language even if it may seem challenging. If you work hard and are determined, you can do anything," said Ms. Fan.

~Natasha Talukdar

~Shari Meltzer

Pride in Port festivities held early this year

BY LYLIA LI AND KELLY TO
Contributing Writers

The annual Pride in Port celebration took place early this year, bringing half a week of school spirit, special events, and a homecoming football game. While Pride in Port usually takes place in October, this year's centered around the weekend of Sept. 17.

In preparation for homecoming, Student Council hosted pajama, sports, and blue and white days at school giving prizes to any students who participated. Despite receiving short notice, students showed their spirit by dressing up in their pajamas, sports jerseys, and school colors.

"I like pajama day because it's the one day where people are encouraged to wear the most comfortable clothes they own," said sophomore Erica Andrew.

Seniors Shannon Balaban and Alex Sater led a committee which was largely responsible for organizing the pep rally. They started planning the pep rally in August and rehearsed every day.

"The kids worked really hard until 9 or 10 at night," said Assistant Principal Dr. Brad Fitzgerald, the supervisor of the committee. "They even practiced bringing out and unfolding the tarp. All the games and activities had been perfectly organized. We had an impressive script that was timed out to the minute."

The opening act was Decadence, winner of last year's Battle of the Bands, performing "Animal" by Neon Trees.

"Decadence was actually amazing. I

think we all know the best part of the pep rally was Decadence singing "Animal" at the top of their lungs. Their energy was amazing, as we could tell by Jesse Weil's writhing on the floor," said sophomore Rebecca Schaub.

The pep rally officially began when the cheerleaders, Portettes, and step team entered the gymnasium to electronic music followed by the MCs for the event, Balaban and Sater, on a mattress carried by football players. The marching band played music throughout the pep rally and accompanied the Portettes, who performed a kick-line routine to "Gimme Some Lovin'" by the Spencer Davis Group.

"It was fun to be part of the pep rally and it's always fun being there because the energy is so positive," sophomore Priyanka Ninan, a saxophone player in the band.

The school's new step team also performed. They practiced every day and refined their techniques by watching step movies like *School Days* and *Stomp the Yard*. The father of a team member mixed music for the performance and a member's little sister in elementary school danced with the older students.

Between performances, sports team members and other students participated in various contests involving push ups, balloon popping, bubble gum blowing, water balloon toss, and streamer unrolling.

"The pep rally was a really fun way to raise school spirit," said freshman Mia Crawley.

The morning after the pep rally, Pride in Port continued with a parade.

Dr. Fitzgerald introduced participants in the parade at Grand Stand, set up near the train station on Main Street. New participants in the parade this year included the crew team and the public library.

After the parade, children and their families attended a family carnival on the Weber field. Clubs such as the Key Club and Model UN helped out at the fair by selling tickets and supervising the rides. The carnival raised approximately \$2,000 for club use.

The day concluded with the homecoming football game against Uniondale. Although the Schreiber team did not win this game, they managed to score a touchdown within the first couple of minutes of the game. After the half-time performance by the Portettes and the band, the crowd recognized alumni athletes and crowned the homecoming king and queen: seniors Andrew Boehm and Janice Havasy.

"Pride in Port week is a fun time where families, the school, and the community come together. It really brings out the town's great feeling of happiness and pride," said senior Gabriele Davidoff.



Harry Paul



Harry Paul

Top: Portettes pose with local karate students at the Pride in Port parade. Bottom: Senior Sean McKoy is hard at work while participating in the crepe paper unraveling game at the pep rally.

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—David Hare



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New principal focuses on technology and student-administrator relations



Elana Galassi

Principal Mr. Ira Pernick works out of the office that has also recently belonged to principals Dr. Francis Banta and Mr. Jay Lewis.

BY **Hannah Fagen**

News Editor

Among the new faces at our school is Mr. Ira Pernick, our new principal. Mr. Pernick marks the third principal in three years for Schreiber following Mr. Jay Lewis' resignation and Dr. Francis Banta's stint as one-year interim principal. Mr. Pernick has started to orient himself at Schreiber.

"I love the amount of activities that exist in the school both outside of the class and in electives. There is just so much to see and do, not just for the students but for me too," said Mr. Pernick. "For example, watching kids come in this morning wearing Schreiber sports jerseys and kids wearing different Schreiber shirts

just speaks to the amount of spirit in the school and the amount of students that are involved. It's not like other schools."

Since beginning his work at Schreiber, Mr. Pernick has strived to open the lines of communication between him and the students and to learn more about the school.

"Kids need to see who I am and know who I am, because they need to see me as a resource," said Mr. Pernick.

Mr. Pernick has made it a goal to personally get to know as many students as he can during their time here.

"Students who want to introduce themselves have stopped me every day," said Mr. Pernick. "I have heard from some parents that their kids have come home and mentioned meeting me. That is just fascinating because kids aren't that

excited about meeting the principal, ever."

Mr. Pernick has also devoted time to meeting parents during a series of coffee hours.

"One of the things I've always wanted for schools is for every child to be connected to an adult, someone they can go talk to. I'm on the list. I'm an adult," said Mr. Pernick. "I would like to get a chance to know kids personally who come to my attention, whether the reasons are good or bad."

Mr. Pernick plans to spend time outside of his office actively involved in the workings of the school.

"I don't know why else to be here unless I wanted to get really involved in as many things as I can," said Mr. Pernick. "I have worked with principals who have never left their offices, and I just think that's boring."

One of Mr. Pernick's major goals is for Schreiber to make better use of available technologies.

"Technology is really important to me, and it's also important to kids and teachers. And not all of it is tied to money," said Mr. Pernick. "For example, creating better use of our school site and making it a place that people would want to visit more."

Mr. Pernick is looking to augment our school site with tools such as videos, current updates, and an online version of *The Schreiber Times*. He is open to other ways of getting out information, too.

"I am nervous but anxious to start my own Twitter account. There doesn't seem to be a good way to get information out fast, so I'd like to get that out soon," said Mr. Pernick.

He plans to utilize Twitter to give updates to students, parents, teachers and other community members about academic and athletic events, college news, and interesting articles.

Another technological initiative that Mr. Pernick has taken interest in is Wi-Fi internet access in the school. Although it has been installed and fully functional for

some time now, the internet access was not available for use until recently.

The Wi-Fi access is functional in certain areas of the school, including the cafeteria, library and auditorium, and has all of the same filters as the wired Internet. Staff members in the school were given access to the internet two weeks ago along with guidelines and acceptable policy rules.

"The reason why we rolled it out to staff first is to measure the impact on the school network, to make sure our network is built to manage the increase in usage," said Mr. Pernick. "After we know the network will survive, then we'll roll it out to students."

Mr. Pernick came to Schreiber from Robert F. Kennedy Community High School in Flushing, NY, where he was employed for ten years. His wife, Amy, is the assistant principal of an elementary school in Valley Stream and they have two children: a 7-year old daughter named Molly and an 11-year-old son named Sam.

"I like challenges; I like to push myself to see what I can achieve. I am never quite satisfied with anything or myself, I always want more. To me, Schreiber was the next opportunity to challenge myself," said Mr. Pernick.

During the interview process, Mr. Pernick spent time discussing the school with parents, teachers, students, and old friends who live in town.

"I did a lot of research to make sure that personality-wise we were going to be a good match," said Mr. Pernick. "I see myself as a little different than the other principals, and not every school can handle something different."

After he was officially hired, Mr. Pernick visited the school last spring and began to orient himself with the tasks at hand.

"I didn't think, wow, I got this great new job, I can relax now. I thought wow, I got this great new job, and it's time to work harder," said Mr. Pernick.

Track and tennis courts renovated and available for community use

BY **Crystal Ren**

Contributing Writer

This year, the school's tennis players and runners have reason to rejoice, with new tennis courts and a freshly painted track.

The process of resurfacing the tennis courts began in August and was finished right before junior varsity and varsity tryouts started on Aug. 29, when the nets were put up. The courts are now blue and

green, in contrast to the previous red and green.

"The old tennis courts were bumpy, cracked, and the paint was peeling. They were difficult to run on and at the same time, they seemed very dirty," said freshman Anan Ryan. "I'm more excited now to play tennis on these brand new courts. They are flat and easier to run on. They give us more confidence when we are competing in home games."

The tennis courts are also open to the regular gym classes and residents of Port Washington.

The track was repainted a few weeks ago, and is now ready for physical education classes, school teams, and community members to use. Although the track had been redone in the summer of 2010, additional changes were necessary.

"The surface wasn't put down correctly, and although we knew that in the beginning of last year, it was not torn up and redone because we wanted teams to be able to use it during the last school year," said Ms. Stephanie Joannon, district director of Health and Physical education. "It was only a matter of having the contractors fix it up."

During the last school year, students and staff members noticed that puddles were forming in between the layers of the track whenever it rained. Ideally, the

design of the track should have prevented this from happening.

"The track last year had cracks in it, and grass was growing out of those cracks. The new one is a big improvement," said freshman Jennifer Vazquez.

The final touches to the track were made during the first days of school, when lines and letters were painted on the

surface.

"We hope the new track and tennis courts will continue to motivate teams to play well. Nice facilities make you proud and encourage athletes to perform to the best of their ability. It's also good for the community because the community shares in these new resources," said Ms. Joannon.



Elana Galassi

Tennis team members play on the newly renovated courts.



Hannah Fagen

Ms. Cooper's fitness class warms up on the recently painted track.

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Point

Counterpoint

Do senior shirts promote unity within the graduating class?

By Katie Garry

Staff Writer

Most students know that on the first day of school, a large number of seniors wear their senior shirts. For those of you who are wondering what a senior shirt is, it is a t-shirt or a tank top that a group of friends designs, purchases, and wears on its first day as seniors.

Senior shirts vary in color, style, and design to reflect the unique features of a particular group of friends. What they all have in common is the seven letter word for which we have all waited three shorter-than-expected years: seniors.

When I was a freshman, I did not know what senior shirts were. I was too focused on my own outfit for the first day of freshman year that I did not catch on to the fact that various groups of seniors were wearing the exact same tops.

By sophomore year, I better understood the celebrated practice and paid closer attention, so that I could emulate the senior routine for when my time came.

I made note of the fact that the senior girls met at the Monfort parking lot and took numerous pictures of the members of their group that, for the most part, all looked the same. The seniors the following year did this as well.

I sensed a pattern and therefore assumed that I, too, would have numerous pictures of my friends and me in our very own senior shirts in the Monfort parking lot our first day of senior year.

Ironically, though, this never happened, as on my first day of high school as a senior it poured outside. As an alternative, we took pictures in the gym.

I considered the fact that this could carry on as a new tradition, though quickly dismissed this idea since the gym lighting made our skin look yellow.

Wearing a senior shirt of my own was different than I had expected. The picture taking was more rushed than I thought it would have been, and I was pretty exhausted, even though I had arrived twenty minutes later than the agreed upon time of 7 a.m.

I felt nostalgic about a year that had not even begun. I realized that I had made some really amazing friends over the past three years of high school, and I hated the thought of leaving them all in one year.

Despite the fact that already on the first day of school I was sad that my friends and I would soon go our separate ways, I was comforted by the fact that

next year, and for years to follow, I would still have pictures of my best friends and me with our skin looking unnaturally yellow wearing our very own senior shirts.

Clearly, I am a true promoter of senior shirts, though I can see that while it has its positives, such as giving groups of friends the opportunity to celebrate their bonds, it does divide the senior class as a whole.

But realistically, what senior class of over 400 17-year-olds is not already divided into cliques? By this point, everyone has more or less already found a group, small or large, of other kids they sit with at lunch and share lockers with. Why not celebrate these relationships?

"Senior shirts definitely make the different cliques within our class more distinguishable, although I feel they are a great way to bring groups of friends together to do something special to kick off their last year of high school together!" said senior Sara O'Brien.

Although many of my fellow seniors fall under different groups of friends, this is the time when we unite and pay tribute to the time we



Sabrina Brennan & Rachel Johnson

Planning for senior shirts begins prior to the start of the school year, usually over the summer. I was invited to join two groups of friends designing different shirts.

Initially, I convinced myself that I should commit wholeheartedly to one group. As the summer went on, however, I found that identifying myself as a part of only one group of friends was much more difficult than I expected.

By Alice Chou

Opinions Editor

The summer before senior year is jam-packed with activities, some related to academics and some that are purely for pleasure. I spent this past summer volunteering, relaxing, preparing for college, and mulling over what to do about my senior shirt.

Designing a unique senior shirt is something that many seniors look forward to. The garments are tangible representations of the graduating class's senior status, as well as their cherished relationships with their peers.

The process allows students to unleash their artistic innovation and share the witty sayings that they have been eager to make public.

The appearance of senior shirts, however, makes clear divisions within the senior class, which leaves room for feelings of exclusion and separation.

My experience with senior shirts left me convinced of the disjointed nature of the activity.

There were so many factors to consider. My biggest fear was that some of my friends would be offended if I abandoned their group.

I remained in contact with friends from both circles up until the beginning of the school year, when I revealed that I had purchased the shirts from both groups.

To my relief, my friends were sympathetic when it came to the dilemma that had troubled me in the months preceding my senior year. Some even suggested that I sew one half of each shirt to make an entirely new whole that would let others know of my friendships with the people in both groups.

My decision to remain a part of two groups was driven by my firm belief that the final product is not nearly as important as the process of creating the shirts.

Taking part in the conceptualization of each shirt gave me an opportunity to discover even more about people I have known for years. Through this experience, I learned that you do not necessarily need a physical object to represent the relationships that you have developed with peers during high school.

"Not everyone this year came to school with a senior shirt, but it does not mean that they are any less a part of the senior class, said senior Nina Devas.

Simply drawing a line between friends and categorizing them into sectors felt superficial. It forced me to choose one friend over another and physically separate myself from other groups.

This physical separation is especially apparent each year in the seniors' "Big Picture."

Although the degree of social division of the senior class varies from group to group, the "Big Picture" suggests otherwise. It depicts the graduating class as a conglomeration of separate sections, as opposed to a unified whole.

"Senior shirts are great in the sense that they allow people to show their spirit about being seniors and are able to do that with friends. At the same time though, I think that it encourages separation in the grade as a whole and has the potential to leave people feeling left out," said senior Alexis Fessatidis.

I fully support the notion that seniors should leave high school with a keepsake of their adolescent experiences, but I also believe that each graduating class should make an effort to maintain a sense of unity.

A picture of the senior class donning identical shirts would illustrate the common bonds that we share as seniors.

Even though it is gratifying to leave high school with a memento of your close friends and fond memories, it is important to acknowledge the contributions that the senior class as a whole have made in defining who you are.

Schreiber Speaks

"Senior shirts separate groups of friends in our school. They definitely emphasize cliques, and people can feel excluded very easily."
-Renee Cohen, senior

"Senior shirts are unifying because everyone shows their spirit for being a senior. It is kind of like a last hurrah for our last year together."
-Sarah Autz, senior

Guidance counselor changes cause concern

BY Daniela Di Caro

Staff Writer

At the beginning of the school year, many students, of all ages, discovered that they were reassigned to a new guidance counselor.

Those who had Ms. Janet Brown or Ms. Casey Horowitz as a guidance counselor last year, returned to school with the prospect of an unfamiliar face.

This recent change has become a great area of concern, especially for seniors, many of whom are on their third or fourth guidance counselor.

District budget cuts made these adjustments necessary. At this time last year, there were seventeen certified K-12 guidance counselors for the entire system of schools.

Now, there are fourteen counselors, one of whom works part time. The guidance department for the five elementary schools lost half of its staff and an additional counselor retired, and was not replaced.

The counselor positions that were eliminated were based on seniority. Unfortunately, the guidance counselor positions with less seniority came from Schreiber.

Former students of Ms. Brown were redistributed among other counselors within the department.

The former students who were with Ms. Horowitz were assigned to a new guidance counselor, Ms. Rafferty, who has worked at Guggenheim, Weber, and Salem as a guidance counselor in the past.

Naturally, at this time of the year, seniors are gearing up for the college application process, during which they will need extensive help from their guidance

counselors.

With the recent reassignments, however, seniors are left wondering who will write their guidance counselor recommendations and even how they will be able to work with counselors who know very little about them.

This is particularly frustrating for students who have been through multiple counselors and feel as though they are at a disadvantage when it comes to college applications.

However, it is important to keep in mind that guidance counselors are also feeling the pressure, because each of them has a greater number of students to work with.

I believe that the loss of these guidance counselors could not have come at a worse time.

It is easy to understand how students who are possibly on their fourth guidance counselor are now at a disadvantage.

"We have a plan and strategy in place to do our best in making sure that our students' needs, especially those of the seniors, are addressed properly and with as little disruption as possible," said Mr. Hank Hardy.

On the subject of guidance recommendations, Mr. Hardy has reached out to Ms. Brown and Ms. Horowitz, both of whom agreed to write a set number of recommendations for students with whom they had the strongest relationships.

The main drawback to such an agreement is that these counselors will write letters for a select group of students and leave the rest of their former students in the hands of the seven remaining guidance counselors.

If students want to know which guidance counselor is writing their recommendations, they have been informed to

make an appointment with their current counselor.

The guidance department for a while has been working with the senior student body to ensure that all of the students understand what is expected of them as part of college applications or other

This is particularly frustrating for students who have been through multiple counselors and feel as though they are at a disadvantage when it comes to college applications.

future plans.

Seniors will be meeting in small groups to learn about the electronic application process.

These groups will also help students get to know their new guidance counselors.

This could prove beneficial, as group sessions may be kept small to ensure individualized attention, and will be readily available to seniors wishing to attend them as needed.

The college application process is not something to be taken lightly and thus, full cooperation and communication between guidance counselors and students should be in effect.

Although the guidance counselor changes could not have happened at a more stressful time for seniors, it is vital that the students directly affected by these changes maintain a positive outlook and utilize the resources available to them.

Approaching the college deadline

BY Emma Zampino

Contributing Writer

I remember how relieved I felt the last day of my junior year. I had finished all of my finals, my Regents and, most importantly, the SATs.

Though I had been warned that the only time more stressful than junior year is the first semester of senior year, I had not considered what I was in for—not until recently. I quickly learned that the application process was not going to be an easy task.

There are so many factors that are involved in this painstaking process. The Common Application consists of multiple sections pertaining to your personal information: your high school, your class ranking, your achievements, your extracurricular activities, any AP courses you have taken, just to name a few.

The most daunting section of the extensive application is the writing portion. Though there are many warnings about the difficulty of the personal statement, I do not expect it to be extremely challenging; in fact, I think it will be enjoyable to a certain extent.

Personally, I think that writing about both myself and my experiences is much less stressful than writing a history paper. One of my major concerns for this essay is the unnerving task of getting the admissions officers to know me in only five hundred words.

The supplements for each college pose questions that I have never thought about before. It forces me to look at myself introspectively and articulate my personal beliefs. Although the process is stressful, answering these questions is a route to self-discovery.

"I feel that filling out the Common App is very stressful, but in a way it gives you a better understanding of the type of person you are," said senior Emma Wall.

Seniors also busy themselves securing teacher recommendations, sending transcripts and SAT scores, alerting the guidance department where you are applying, and overall, just getting everything organized on top of regular schoolwork.

"There is so much that I have to do, and I'm worried about finishing it all in such a short amount of time," said senior Hana Seligman.

I, too, am already feeling the pressure. Balancing the applications with schoolwork has not been easy, and I anticipate it will only get worse as the quarter goes on.

But I would not say that the application process is going to be completely miserable. Though I am just beginning to fill out my common app, I am finding that this process can be pretty exciting.

I find myself looking forward to college, and that motivates me to get my applications done so that dream can become a reality.

Though I am stressed dealing with my schoolwork, applications, and extracurricular activities, I am excited to finish up this process and focus on enjoying the second semester of senior year.

The freshman ABCs: a comprehensive guide

BY Amanda Goorin and Genevieve Bellon

Contributing Writers

Dear Freshman,

As you may know, entering high school is not as easy as 1, 2, 3. From getting lost in the hallways to discovering what 4-1/4-2 really means, we get it—you are overwhelmed. So follow these Freshman ABCs to help you get by during your career as a Viking:

Always get to the cafeteria early so you do not have to sit on the floor.

Bayview for lunch every day is not a healthy choice.

Choose only a few clubs that you are interested in. Joining them all is neither possible nor necessary.

Do not forget to sign in when you have first period off.

Everyone was once a freshman. We understand your problems.

Freshman Guidance groups are not optional. You will receive detention if you skip.

Guidance counselor meetings are made with the secretary in the guidance office.

Have Facebook benefit your Schreiber career, not bring it down.

If you are not a morning person, do not join morning clubs.

Jam sessions by the teacher band "Victor" should not be

missed.

Key Club is a clutch extracurricular (it meets every Thursday morning in the auditorium).

Lunch is well-spent in the cafeteria, the student commons on the third floor, or outside in the circle.

Marching band is not only for losers.

Ninth grade health teaches you some valuable lessons... that you will learn again in eleventh grade.

One day you will have senior status, but not yet.

Please do not idle in the hallways or staircases. 1,574 other people need to get to class.

Quiet is mandatory in the library. Do not give the librarians a reason not to like you.

Return calculators and textbooks or

you will not receive your report card and have to pay incredible amounts of money.

Spirit Week always goes to the seniors...miraculously.

There is no fourth floor pool.

Use your off-periods productively to get homework out of the way.

Varsity sports are taken seriously at Schreiber High School.

Writing assistance is offered in the Writing Center 4-1/4-2 in room 212.

X-ing the street near Monfort should not take forever; do not cause traffic.

You will never hear the announcements that you actually want to hear.

Zealously study this list. And remember: high school goes by faster than you think.



Brian Seo and Jane Nolting-Kolb

Editorials

Student punishments for hacking reveal flaws in Internet filter system

In light of the recent controversy over student use of the Internet filter bypassing program Ultrasurf, *The Schreiber Times* feels that the administration did not deal with the recent uproar in the best possible fashion.

Although it was necessary to punish those involved to send a message to the rest of the student body, students typically only used Ultrasurf or other filtering programs to access online web storage services, such as Dropbox, or during free periods. Both of these reasons call into question the necessity of the current M86 filter.

The Schreiber Times acknowledges that a filter is necessary in order to ensure at least some level of proper web usage and exercise control over what students can and cannot visit while using school computers. However, the excessive filter rules have led to perfectly avoidable repercussions.

The M86 filter employs filtering by category and then modifies these categories based on internal blacklists and "whitelists." It would be relatively simple for the administration to unblock specific websites, such as Dropbox and SpiderOak; this reasonable action would likely have eliminated the need for Ultrasurf in the first place.

The administration has taken progressive measures to loosen restrictions on internet use by requesting that teachers list sites that should be unblocked.

However, it should also unblock blogging websites, especially those hosted

under the WordPress and Blogspot domains, because they typically host a wealth of information for student research projects for both classes and extracurricular activities.

If the filter blocks these blogs, students may give up working during off periods. The purpose of the filter is to ensure a learning environment, the use of such an extensive filter puts students at a disadvantage by disallowing access to useful resources.

In a similar vein, the new M86 filter introduced this year has actually blocked music websites, such as Pandora and Grooveshark. Many students would prefer to listen to music or can even work better while under such conditions, and the arbitrary disallowance of access to such websites needs to be corrected.

During class time that involves computer use, *The Schreiber Times* feels that a teacher offers a sufficient amount of Internet monitoring without an electronic filter. This ensures that students concentrate during class time without resorting to draconian measures.

For those who would argue that the entire school itself is a learning environment and that no games should be allowed as a matter of principle, *The Schreiber Times* would ask them if this means the cafeteria should be closed except for during lunchtime and that no students should be allowed to leave campus, ever.

We recognize that the presence of some kind of filtering mechanism is

necessary. *The Schreiber Times* would ask readers to note that this filter need not be electronic; as mentioned before, teachers could easily fill this role in cases where a filter is actually truly necessary: during class time.

During off periods, whether students are relaxing by using the computer versus going off campus is irrelevant to the educational goals of our school.

Furthermore, if the filter is to be kept, *The Schreiber Times* feels that small changes, such as removing the blogging category entirely, could affect large benefits. These are necessary and relevant actions that the administration should consider taking to benefit the student body.

Despite budget cuts, class variety triumphs

For reasons we expected, this school year has started off worse than usual. With a smaller budget increase than those of recent years, some longstanding policies and programs have had to adapt: consider the layoffs of teachers, staggered elementary school times, and loss of morning library time. If one is looking to fund a new club or program, it would seem that the unofficial message of 2011-2012 is "look elsewhere."

Yet, on closer inspection, we are not losing the programs and classes that have distinguished Schreiber and the Port Washington school district. The Port Enrichment Program (PEP) remains in the elementary schools, SmartBoards and projectors are in an increasing number of rooms, and our course book seems to be growing rather than shrinking.

Port's enduring tradition of class variety is one of the most under-appreciated aspects of Schreiber. Perhaps we take such an attitude for granted, in the same unconscious way that we expect all schools to supply chalk for blackboards. Perhaps not, but it can't hurt to recognize

our school for this special quality instead of the usual fare that gets represented at pep rallies and parades.

But what is typical in Port and in neighboring districts is exceptional in schools throughout the state and nation. Those in charge of school money nowadays seem to ask themselves "how much do we need to cut?" or "whom can we layoff?" It seems like only this district says to itself "Chinese? Let's find a way to make that happen."

For this, *The Schreiber Times* is grateful, and would like to commend our community and administrators. Although the role that money plays is deeply mired in the present, the duty of education is to be responsible for the future, and Port Washington is a place that truly embraces that principle to the fullest.

Interested in writing for Opinions? Then come to the next newspaper general meeting on October 6. All new writers are welcome!

Times Policy Statement

The Schreiber Times' primary purpose is to inform its readers of events, issues, and ideas affecting Schreiber High School. The Times also serves as an open forum in which members of the Schreiber community may express their ideas and opinions.

The Times will report all news accurately, honestly, and fairly. We will not give preference to any group or individual. We will respect the rights of all information sources and any errors will be corrected promptly.

We will print submitted materials on the basis of their quality and significance as determined by the editors of this publication. The editors reserve the right to print, refuse to print, or return any submitted materials. The editors also reserve the right to edit any submitted articles.

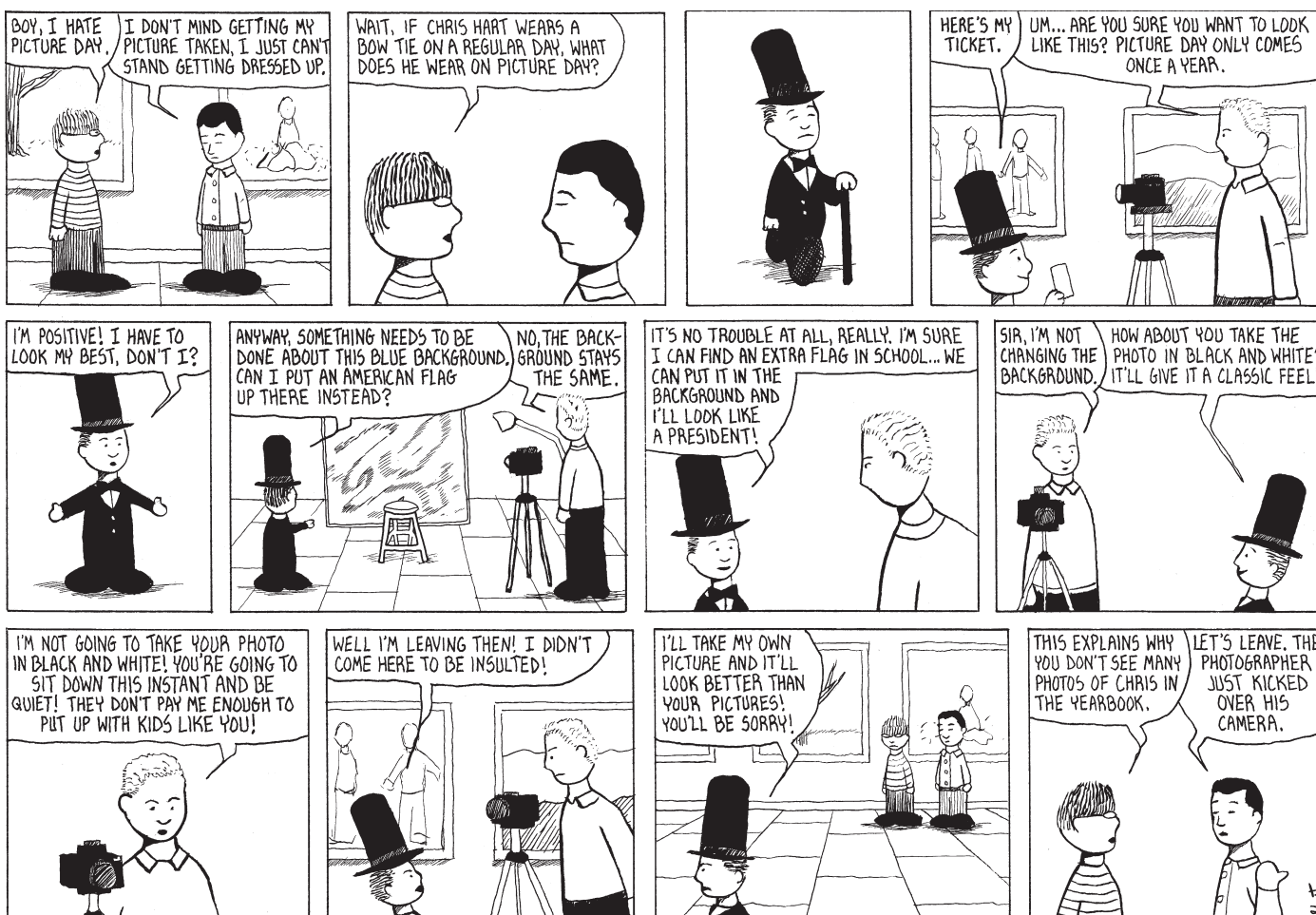
We will print letters to the editors if judged to be of sufficient quality and importance on a space-available basis. We will not print letters that are obscene, libelous, or contain unfounded charges. The Times reserves the right to shorten letters if doing so does not alter their meaning, and to choose a representative letter from a group of related ones. Letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors. We will not print any anonymous letters.

Editorials printed in this publication reflect the opinion of the majority of the editors. If the situation warrants, minority editorials will be published. Editorials do not represent the views of the Port Washington Union Free School District.

We will not publish advertisements if they are deemed libelous, obscene or likely to incite criminal activity. Prices of advertisements are standard and price schedules are available upon request. Advertisements do not necessarily represent the views of The Times.

We will establish new policies if the need arises. Until such a point occurs, The Times will follow the policy described in this space as well as the guidelines of common sense and reason.

The Hart Knock Life



Restaurant Review Italian cuisine away from the competition

Pepe Rosso 24 dishes out delicious pizza and panini in Manorhaven

BY Alexa Pinto and Daniela Philipson

Staff Writer and Contributing Writer

When someone goes out to eat in Port Washington, he or she will most likely wind up at an Italian restaurant, most of which are located on or near Main Street and Port Washington Boulevard.

Manorhaven, however, is now home to Pepe Rosso 24, an Italian-style, family friendly restaurant located off Shore Road at the beginning of Manorhaven Boulevard.

After new ownership took over Angelo's Deli last year, the deli was transformed into a casual take out and sit-down restaurant that specializes in everything from pizzas and pastas to heroes and panini.

The restaurant offers a variety of pizzas; sicilian slices, baked ziti, buffalo chicken and marsala chicken pizzas range from \$2.15-\$3.50 per slice and \$12.50-\$16.00 per pie.

Pepe Rosso 24 also offers personal and stuffed pizzas, and a special 16" ultra thin brick oven-style pizza ranging from \$15.95-\$16.95, made with homemade mozzarella.

While the crust on Pepe Rosso 24's pizzas is satisfactory, it's their tomato sauce on the pizza and their mozzarella sticks that make all the difference.

"I really like the cheese and crust, but the best is that it's easy to walk to if you live in the area," said junior Kate Radler.

Other take out or informal sit down options include wraps, panini and heroes, which can be an easy fix for a quick lunch or a take-out meal.

The wraps include shrimp, chicken, and grilled vegetables such as eggplant, tomatoes and peppers. Panini made on homemade ciabatta bread and Italian and American heroes are also offered.

"The pizza is okay, but not the best in town. I didn't like the chicken roll, but I heard other food there is really good," said junior Ellie Zolotarev.

Pepe Rosso also offers many chicken and seafood items, all of which are available in the formal dining room.

Classic pasta dishes include differently prepared types of rigatoni, spaghetti, fettuccine, ravioli, linguini, and penne. Side dishes include a range of sautéed vegetables, French fries, meatballs, and

garlic knots.

Those in search of a healthy alternative can also order one of Pepe Rosso's salads, such as Caesar, and arugula.

The main entrance of the restaurant leads to the formal dining room for sit-down dinners. Another entrance opens to the more casual pizzeria, where customers can order food for deliveries or stay to eat a quick slice of pizza.

The room has plenty of space and seating for customers while televisions in the restaurant provide entertainment for the whole family.

Pepe Rosso's location near the Soundview Marketplace makes it convenient for people living in Sands Point, Soundview and Manorhaven.

However, Pepe Rosso must compete for

customers with Bellissimo Pizzeria, which is located in Soundview Marketplace.

"We get a lot of people from Sands Point and Manorhaven since that is where we are located. A lot of people sit down, but we also get a lot of delivery and pick-up orders," said senior Tiffany Ramos, who works at Pepe Rosso part-time.

The restaurant also allows customers to order online from their website, which is conveniently organized with a menu, delivery tab, phone number, and directions.

Pepe Rosso's easily accessible location, large menu and delicious food make it a great restaurant for quick bites and family dinners alike.

Pepe Rosso 24

Address: 24 Manorhaven Boulevard

Cuisine: Italian

Atmosphere: Hip and busy

Telephone: 1-516-944-9477

Hours: Monday-Thursday 11am-10pm
Friday-Saturday 11am-11pm
Sunday 12pm-10pm

Order: 24 hours a day up to 7 days in advance



Daniela Philipson

Pepe Rosso 24 bustles with business while customers enjoy their meals and the beautiful mural painted on the back wall of the restaurant. When customers are not talking or admiring the restaurant's artwork, they have the option of watching the television in the middle of Pepe Rosso's dining area.

Microsoft sets its sights on Apple market with Windows 8

BY Will Zhou

Copy Editor

Microsoft's latest attempt to reinvigorate its boring and arguably ailing share of the PC market, and foray into the world of tablets has arrived in the form of Windows 8.

The new operating system serves as much more than an update to the relatively successful Windows 7.

Microsoft has reinvented its image and has made some impressive progress and innovations in the Windows platform. This is significant for the computing world for consumers and businesses alike (read: watch out, Apple).

Although the new Windows 8

Developer Preview does a good job in showcasing what's different, perhaps Microsoft's largest stride is the use of the "Building Windows 8" blog.

When Microsoft was developing Windows 7, such a system existed, but the blog did not generate much traffic or discussion. In the case of 8, however, Microsoft has seen extremely high consumer interest and is finally listening to what consumers want. In fact, the blog recently reported that traffic to the website within the first few postings was greater than the entire combined traffic of the Windows 7 blog.

With the inception of the blog and new Windows 8 prototypes, the platform is becoming more open and more inclined toward communication. Frankly, with

Android, MeeGo, and Arduino, this decision was the only logical choice, and shows that Microsoft is willing to update its traditional image and move into the future.

With Windows 8, Microsoft is attempting to bridge the gap between tablets, its new Windows Phone 7 platform, and desktop computing.

Windows 8 touts the new "Metro" tile style interface, which is touch-friendly, easy to navigate, and less likely to scare off casual computers. For power users, a desktop interface is provided; in fact, Microsoft has taken care not to cop out on such clients by improving keyboard shortcuts, virtualization, and file copying dialogues.

The balance between the Metro

interface and the traditional desktop needs to be refined and is sure to cause dissent, but the system changes in Microsoft's operating system are, for the most part, positive.

From a more practical perspective, recent testing by Lifehacker blog reveals that Windows 8 is faster than Windows 7 in all aspects except for cold starting applications, and the developer preview is also surprisingly stable for such an early prototype's release.

If Microsoft continues what it has been doing, 8 could surpass Apple's "huge iPhone" concept with the iPad.

Overall, Windows 8 brings exciting changes both aesthetically and under the hood, and it's about time that Microsoft changed its image and livened things up.

Apocalypse Now, Later, or Never?

On the first day of school, more than fashion trends were on display. A slight obsession with apocalyptic theories was also evident.

In recent years, interest in such issues has increased, as shown in the media, in movies, such as *2012* and *Contagion*, and in the designs of senior shirts.

There always seems to be something catastrophic looming around the corner: Y2K, Rapture, and now December 21, 2012.

Do most people really believe in these theories though, or is most of this all just idle chatter?

"I think that people are attracted to the idea of not just the 2012 apocalypse, but any apocalypse," said junior Alexandre Haussmann, who acted in the film *2012* with his twin brother, Philippe Haussmann. "There are always theories going around about the 'end of days.' Whether you believe in all of us dying in 2012 or not, it's still something cool to think about."

Recently, these apocalyptic fears were brought a little closer to home when first, citizens felt a 5.8 magnitude earthquake from Virginia here on Long Island, and then, of course, when Hurricane Irene came into town.

The drastic weather forecasts caused many residents to stockpile food and water, clearly showing they were taking the warnings seriously.

"There was no bread, no water, no milk, and no macaroni and cheese left," said community member Daniela Bargis, a Stop-and-Shop employee. "People always prepare for the worst, like how they do before a big snowstorm."

The stockpiling craze, however, quickly came to an end. With the end of the hurricane and no dramatic damage to the community other than some flooding and downed trees, previous fears were easily forgotten.

"People even came to shop during the hurricane," said Bargis. "But after it was over, many came to return their items."

There are even those who took so little notice of the hurricane that they continued on with their everyday lives, inviting over friends and playing games.

Others even went so far as to call the

hurricane "disappointing."

"I was not scared at all," said Haussmann. "I live in Soundview, right by the water in the lowest part of town, and I was right on the cusp of the mandatory evacuation list. Even people who lived on the street next to me had to leave. But honestly, it did not live up to my expectations. I just invited a friend over and we played computer games until the power went out. Our street did not even flood and I was kind of looking forward to watching the water come down the road."

Many of the students polled by *The Schreiber Times* interestingly said that they were "excited" before Hurricane Irene.

So what exactly is so exciting about the prospect of a large storm? Possibly it is because storms, like apocalyptic theories, break up the monotony of everyday life.

"I think that the idea of Hurricane Irene was exciting because most people in our generation living on Long Island have not experienced such a strong storm," said senior Juliana Beall. "Because of this, Irene was something that everyone was talking about and discussing, and the idea of hunkering down for a night or maybe even longer was something the entire community could bond over."

The concept of an apocalypse was also brought up by many senior shirts on the first day of school, albeit not very seriously. One group wore the saying "Get Rich or Die Mayan," a pun on the fact that it was the Mayans who predicted the end of days in 2012. Some seniors sported the

slogan "Saving the Best for Last" and others wore shirts personalized with apocalypse survival tips.

"One of my camp friends used the saying for her shirts and I thought it was funny," said senior Danie Santodonato, who wore the saying "Get Rich or Die Mayan." The 2012 end of the world theory is deeply concerning, but I have high hopes that the world won't actually end."

"We wanted to include something personalized that we might have otherwise forgotten years from now, and obviously the 2012 apocalypse is very tied in with the year of our graduation, so the list of survival tips seemed like a way to include both the end of the world and our sense of humor," said Beall, who came up with the idea for the personalized survival tips on senior shirts.

Others, however, are not as quick to dismiss all apocalypse theories without a thought. Many students polled said that they "maybe" believe the world will end in 2012.

Answers such as this showed that while they may not completely subscribe to such theories, many are unwilling to say that it is completely impossible. Perhaps, they are afraid to completely dismiss the idea.

"I'm totally scared that it might happen. The Mayans were right about a lot of

other things, so who is to say that they're not also right about this?" said junior Kimberly Nahas.

One place where Schreiber's apocalypse interest is evident is the popularity of the class Trends in Literature: Utopia/Dystopia, where a wide variety of apocalyptic theories are thoroughly examined from different viewpoints.

"I have never really thought about the end of the world before this class," said junior Ali Peltz. "It is interesting to study the possibility of technology taking over the world, or even an environmental disaster with the capabilities to destroy us all. It is interesting to see all the different theories that people can come up with, scientifically-proven or not"

Ms. Valerie Gokturk, who has taught the class for more than five years, has noticed that class enrollment has increased, which she attributes to the fact that the class speaks to students of all backgrounds and interests.

"I think the class has such an appeal because it speaks to our fear of the end, and what exactly 'the end' means to each of us," said Ms. Gokturk. "It is the bigness of it that is so appealing; it forces us to think about our values and flaws, both as a society and as individuals."

Ms. Gokturk has noticed that there has been an upswing in the amount of attention apocalyptic theories get from the media.

"The media sensationalizes a lot of apocalyptic ideas because they see the appeal, the attention they get, and they latch onto it," said Ms. Gokturk.

While they are often made to sound terrifying by the media, natural disasters, such as earthquakes, tornados, and hurricanes, do not necessarily ever indicate the end of the world.

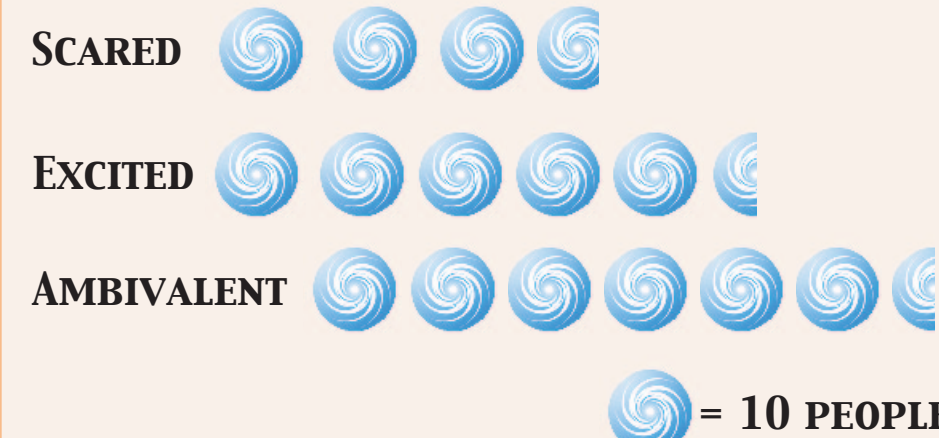
"The course, and reading so much about apocalyptic situations, hasn't made me more afraid of natural events," said Ms. Gokturk. "It is the issues that come up in science that worry me more. More than anything, these types of things make you pause and think about your role as an individual in this society."

By Katya Barrett
and Sophia Jaffe

DO YOU REALLY THINK THE WORLD IS GOING TO END IN 2012?



HOW DID YOU FEEL ABOUT HURRICANE IRENE?



= 10 PEOPLE

Hurricane Irene floods Port, forcing evacuations

Expensive clean-up and power outages, but no armageddon

BY Celine Sze

Assistant News Editor

News of Hurricane Irene, a potentially Category 3 storm flooded the media and everyday conversations in late August.

Studies of the path of the hurricane led to speculations that the North and South Shores of Long Island could be direct targets of the storm.

As a result, Port Washington and other neighboring towns began preparations to combat the devastating effects Hurricane Irene could have on their communities. The storm was scheduled to make landfall Saturday evening, Aug. 27, and last until the afternoon of the following day.

Because the media and weather experts anticipated great magnitude and severity of the hurricane, towns and individuals took precautions to keep themselves safe. The Long Island Rail Road, subways, and buses stopped running on Saturday afternoon until Monday morning to prevent possible hazards.

State and city government officials expected the storm to be so destructive that Governor Andrew Cuomo declared a state of emergency that Thursday which prompted County Executive Edward Mangano to order evacuations for certain areas on the North Shore that were under ten feet above sea level, including places in Manorhaven and Manhasset Isle neighborhoods.

Because the hurricane received emergency status from the government, Department of Transportation, New York Power Authority, Long Island Power Authority, and among several others, prepared a coordinated response.

Residents living in storm surge zones were forced to evacuate to higher ground. For families without local friends or family to stay with, Port Washington and other towns, including Manhasset, Great Neck, and New Hyde Park, transformed their high schools into shelters.

The North Hempstead Animal Shelter in Port Washington also provided pets with a place to stay during this time.

At Schreiber, people started moving in around 10 a.m. Saturday morning. The Red Cross delivered food, water, and cots, which were set up in both gyms by local and Red Cross volunteers.

"I assembled cots with the Red Cross

crew and everyone was encouraged to help since the Red Cross needed as many volunteers as possible. I stayed for about 22 hours and thought the cots were actually pretty comfortable," said recent Schreiber graduate SonYon Song. "The Red Cross also provided us with plenty of water."

Port Washington and Nassau police officers, firemen, and school custodians also helped. For families that could not afford transportation, police officers drove to and from Manhasset Isle and Manorhaven.

Head Custodian Mr. David Albury, along with custodians Mr. Jose Rosas and Mr. Patrick Novotny stayed at the school for the entire time the building was being used as a shelter.

"We helped keep the facilities clean, such as the cafeteria and bathrooms, and made sure there was enough toilet paper since there were a lot of people here. We constantly had to check that the building and everyone was safe from the wind," said Mr. Rosas.

Approximately 600 people, including 290 families, took refuge in Schreiber. While the town of Port Washington lost power, the school was equipped with an emergency backup generator.

"Everything went flawlessly including the cooperation of the folks who stayed with us," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Geoffrey Gordon. All deserve to be commended for getting through this dangerous storm with everyone being okay and working together to make Port the great school system and community that it is. I was happy as superintendent to be a small bit of help, and thank the Board of Education for their full support throughout."

After the storm, LIPA and tree removal companies were responsible for bringing electricity back to residents and cleaning up the roads of Port Washington from the many fallen trees and branches. Due to downed power lines, many homes lost power for a day or two but in other neighborhoods, the power outage lasted for almost a week.

"It was very frustrating not having power because for me, it went out after the storm was over so just when I thought I had made it through, I lost electricity. To make things worse, people two blocks down had power," said senior Gabriele Davidoff.

Other people were without electricity right from the beginning of the storm until almost a week later.

"I lost power for six days and of course, the house was really hot because there was no air conditioning. On the other hand, the shower was freezing so I had to take very short showers. For most meals, my family and I went out to eat. One benefit that came out of this experience was it forced me to finish my summer reading," said senior Jane Marron.

Now that the hurricane is over and power has been restored, Port Washington and other surrounding districts will be better prepared to handle natural disasters in the future.



Amanda Fishbin

Hurricane Irene brought strong winds, rough waves, and major flooding to the low-lying areas of Port Washington, such as Manorhaven, Shore Road, and the vicinity of the Town Dock. Residents found new ways of transportation once the roads were impassable, including biking and kayaking.

Students distressed over changes in library hours

BY **Sophia Kim**
Contributing Writer

Sept. 7, 7:30 a.m. Students display shocked, disappointed expressions as they reach the second floor.

The two entrance doors to the library are not open to welcome the students on their first day back to school. Instead, a new sign is taped on the door that reads, "Library closed before 8:05 A.M."

Whenever one's home computer spontaneously broke down or if one had forgotten about an assignment that was due, the student could always rush to the library's computer lab for rescue. Additionally, the library provided several tables for last minute study sessions with friends, as well as cubicles for tasks that require more focus.

In previous years, the school library was always opened promptly at 7:30 a.m. Students depended on the library to be available for its multiple resources, relatively quiet space, and most importantly, its computer lab.

If your printer wasn't working at home, you could rush to the library before first period. If you needed to make some last minute copies, the librarians were there to help you. If you needed a few more minutes of silent studying, the cubicles were the perfect option.

Now, it is a different scene at the library every morning. There are always a few students loitering in front of the closed doors.

As the members of the library staff make their way to their workplace, they warn the students that it is prohibited to sit in the hallways. The staff, however, makes no attempt to move the youths from their "seats."

"We feel very bad that we can't open the library in the mornings," said librarian Ms. Mary Seligman. "But we're only following the instruction from the administrative office to close the library in the mornings for now."

So why is the library closed in the mornings this year?

"Budget cuts," said Assistant Principal Ms. Julie Torres.

"This year, the administrative office had to make many cuts in various parts of the school facility, the library being one of them. For the library to be open in the



Harry Paul

Sophomore Bomin Choi sits outside the library before it opens at 8:05 a.m. Because of budget cuts, the library does not open until the start of first period.

mornings, the librarian and the staff must be paid for their morning hours. We wish we were able to offer library service before and after school. Unfortunately, due to budget constraints, we are unable to," said Ms. Torres.

Many students, however, do not see the logic in this argument. If the library being open for 30 minutes before school is what helps students succeed, then shouldn't the

"It is very inconvenient. Sometimes we have so much work that we need the time in the morning to touch up papers and assignments," said senior Jessica Boyd.

school be working to make that happen?

"It has affected my studies because I have to study in the loud hallways in the mornings since the library isn't open anymore. I can't concentrate," said sophomore Christina Leonard.

"I hate it. It's so inconvenient because I need the library and it's not open, so I can't

do my work in the mornings," said junior Ashley Scialo.

Many students face challenges in completing their work without the aid of the morning library services. Student athletes, who face even more time constraints in their schedules, are left overwhelmed without morning library access.

"It's hard to manage time because I am an athlete," said sophomore Luke Johnston.

"I try to get homework done in the morning because I usually get home late. The library is a great resource, so it's hard to get work done now that it's closed before school."

It's obvious that the majority of the school population wishes for the morning library services to return. In the meanwhile, students will have to make do with a different refuge until their special place returns.

"It's very inconvenient," said senior Jessica Boyd, who has spent many mornings in the library throughout the past three years.

"Sometimes we have so much work that we need the time in the morning to touch up papers and assignments. The library also has resources that we may not have at home. It is relieving to feel that there's a printer I can use in the library in the mornings and I hope they re-open it for students," said Boyd.

We're Back! The best things about returning to Schreiber

BY **Annie Rubin**
Contributing Writer

Yet another September has arrived, and kids everywhere are putting down their sunscreen and picking up their textbooks for the first time since June.

Though the thought of summer finally coming to a close is unfortunate, some students have expressed pleasure in returning to school.

The question "What is the best thing about returning to school?" merits some interesting answers from the student body:

"The smell of the locker rooms," said junior Robert Gray.

"Sleeping so little that even your alarm clock thinks you need a break," said junior Steven Krainin.

Some students are overjoyed with the delight of learning, sentiments buried under sarcastic smirks.

"Now is the time for doing the important things in life...like homework," said junior Thomas Greenstein.

Other students are happy to return to their favorite teachers.

"Hearing Mr. Macrigan make fun of Mr. Klaff," said senior Michael Schweitzer.

But some students give serious responses, including "having something to do every day" and "seeing people I know."

"I like getting new school supplies like agendas. I also like setting up my locker," said junior Chloe Klug.

For many, coming back to Schreiber is like returning to home.

Over the course of the summer it is hard to miss the gourmet cafeteria food (make sure to bring your fire extinguisher) or the classrooms with their wide range of temperatures, ranging from "scorching hot" to "so I guess this is what hell feels like."

But what is it that the student body likes most about coming back?

"The weekends," said junior Sydney Mott wryly.

Or maybe it's the fire drills that give us a rare break from class, or the computers that take ten minutes to open Microsoft Word. We sure were missing out this summer.

Finally after two years of waiting, the juniors can look forward to going off campus (legally) before realizing that there is nothing to do off-campus in the first place.

We welcome the new school year with all the tests and homework that it brings. Maybe this year we'll actually listen to the announcements in the morning, and many of us certainly look forward to groaning at the joke of the day.

But seriously, through all of the tests and the classes and the homework, seeing our friends daily makes it all worthwhile, and school isn't too bad if you keep on top of everything.

Oh no! I forgot to do my English homework!



Harry Paul

Senior Chris Falcioni, junior Sarah Pinkus, sophomore Annie Kim, and friends loiter outside the library, anxiously waiting for the library to open.

Students look at Fashion Week trends for inspiration

Spring 2012 lines set style trends for the rest of the season

BY Cameron Tait-Ozer

Staff Writer

As fall rolls around once again, we are given access to the bustling world of high fashion and of course, their new fall lines. While the majority of us will only ever see these glamorous outfits in magazine spreads, these styles will set the tone for spring 2012 fashions for both this season and for several years to come. The clothes on sale that we purchase for ourselves are influenced by the styles shown in Fashion Week, a trend-setting week for the world of clothes.

"It's an exciting time of year when people converge on New York to see the latest designs. Everyone looks to New York to set the themes for what we'll be wearing," said art teacher Ms. Miranda Best.

Fashion Week, formally known as Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week, is a week of fashion shows from the world's premier designers.

Designer houses and companies release multiple shows, but they display their Autumn/Winter and Summer/Spring collections in Paris and New York.

Much has changed both in the world



<http://www.discjockey.com>

Designers such as Calvin Klein, Michael Kors, and Nanette Lepore showcase their talents on the biggest runway show of the year. While a ticket is required to view the shows in person, it was possible for fashion-lovers around the world to watch the shows live on YouTube.



<http://www.mbfashionweek.com/>

At New York City runways, models showed off designers' creations to the public.

of fashion and Fashion Week since its inception in Paris. The history of New York Fashion Week dates back to 1943, where this event, considered a Parisian tradition, was transported to New York City because of German occupation in France.

Fashion journalists from magazines such as *Vogue* attended New York City's version of a long-standing French tradition. American designers received spotlight for their talents allowing companies such as Tom Ford and Halston to make names for themselves.

Fashion Week's location has changed as well. After being hosted in numerous hotels, Bryant Park became the official location. As of 2010, Lincoln Center is now

home to this event.

Further, while an invitation is required to attend Fashion Week in person, this year marked the first time that audiences around the world could view the runway shows live on YouTube.

Fashion Week, after all, is related to what all of us will eventually be wearing. Fashion works in a chain. Top designers officially set the trends of the season at Fashion Week.

Upon learning about these new trends, designers at more common clothing brands emulate the trends with their new collections and release them at stores students are more likely to shop at, such as Macy's, Bloomingdale's, Charlotte Russe, and Forever 21.

2011's Fashion Week occurred Sept. 8-15 in its new home at Lincoln Center. This year's shows included more foreign designers such as China's Vivienne Tam and Japan's Tadashi Shoji.

A lesser-known event pertaining to fashion is Fashion's Night Out, an event

celebrated in major cities all around the world, including London, Paris, and Milan, but most prominently in stores around New York City.

Founded by *Vogue* and Council of Fashion Designers of America, Fashion's Night Out is a night where participating clothing stores keep their stores open late at night and donate their proceeds to charity.

Celebrities such as Daniel Radcliffe, made appearances and The Cults performed at a Phillip Lim boutique. Other star-studded events took place in Bloomingdale's, Bergdorf Goodman, and Saks Fifth Avenue.

Fashion's Night Out is a way to make the glamour of the fashion world attainable to those who do not work at or influence the fashion industry.

Fashion Week has since passed, but we will feel the effects of it all season long, no matter how much attention we pay to what we wear.

"Seniors Apocalypse" apparel takes over first day of school

BY Danielle Ostrove

Contributing Writer

Traditions come in many shapes and forms, whether it is the spirited Pep Rally to kick off the new school year or the beloved Pride in Port to celebrate community.

One Schreiber tradition, although not around for quite as long, celebrates the triumphant spirit and wit of the senior class every year. This tradition, of course, is the wearing of senior shirts on the first day of school.

Bright and early on Sept. 7, all different groups of friends rushed for a spot in the Monfort parking lot to take pictures in their clever attire.

With slogans such as, "Seniors: Eat Freshman," modeled after the Subway franchise, variations of popular social networking sites, including Twitter, ideas from television shows like *Friends*, or

completely original designs, the seniors strutted through the halls ready to take on their final year.

A common inspiration was a "Seniors Apocalypse" theme because according to the Mayans, this year's seniors will be the last graduating class.

One group of seniors wore shirts displaying personalized, apocalypse survival tips, inspired by each individual's personality. Another group of shirts sported the slogan, "Live Free or Die Mayan."

Some seniors were not able to wear their shirts on the first day with all the other groups because their shirts arrived late. Instead, they wore their shirts on Friday.

On Friday, a group of senior boys and girls sported shirts, designed by senior Bethia Kwak, which had the clever saying, "Julius Seniors," a pun on the name of the ancient Roman general.

"We all had differing opinions about

what we thought was the best design; we could barely agree on the right colors and fonts, let alone what we thought the

"It was really difficult to come to a consensus with the entire group. However in the end some people took initiative and we had fantastic results," said senior Isha Gupta.

shirts should actually say," said senior Isha Gupta.

"It was really difficult to come to a consensus with the entire group. However,

in the end some people took initiative and had fantastic results."

Senior Zoey Tung and her friends wore shirts sporting their own humorous takes on the popular website, "Dear Blank, Please Blank."

The concept of this website is that anyone can write a funny saying to fill in the anonymous blank.

This group of friends decided to print personalized messages according to this format on the back of their shirts to show their excitement for their senior year.

"The website has always been around, and it's really funny and entertaining to read, so we just thought we could base our shirts off of it," said Tung. "One little problem we had was that the store that we bought the shirts from did not get back to us quickly when we had questions, but that was the only annoying part. Other than that, it was an easy job."

LOTE department now offering Chinese

BY **Veronika Onishenko**
Contributing Writer

Ni-hao! Welcome to the newest foreign language course. There are now two sections of a basic Chinese class that meets just two days out of the six day cycle.

The much anticipated course has had students excited for some time; but the idea only became a serious possibility when Schreiber finally found a teacher, Ms. Tiffany Fan, who had previously taught Chinese at Glen Cove High School for 5 years.

Chinese is Ms. Fan's first language. This will be her first year teaching at Schreiber, although she still teaches at Glen Cove in the mornings.

"Glen Cove was cutting its program due to budget constraints at the same time we were looking to start ours, so I was able to get a teacher," said the LOTE chair Mr. John Placella. "We hope to slowly expand the program. As Glen Cove continues to expel their program, ours will get bigger. Next year we plan to add another section."

"The students have a strong motivation to learn Chinese and are very intelligent," said Ms. Fan. "The hardest part of learning Chinese is the writing and learning to pronounce the different tones."

While no one in particular had suggested the course to Schreiber, Mr. Placella had "been to a number of conferences on the subject. After we decided it was a possibility, I asked the board for approval, and they said yes," he said.

The 58 students currently taking the language are enthusiastic about their new class. By learning the basic characters and phrases of the Chinese language, students are able to broaden their language abilities.



Ms. Fan teaches her Chinese class basic phrases, including salutations like "Hello" and "Goodbye," as well as radicals (simple characters used to build more complex ones). Students learn the fundamental aspects of the language, such as intonations and phonetic phrasing.

Students' reasons for deciding to take the course vary, however.

"I wanted to take another language and try something new," said senior Emily Nicholson. "Chinese seemed like fun."

So far, many of the students taking Chinese seem to enjoy it and praise Ms. Fan.

"Ms. Fan is very entertaining and makes it fun to learn," said junior Zoe Weiss.

Students who switched to Chinese after previously taking another language in the past, cited the completion of New York State Regents exams as a motivation.

"After the Regents were done, I decided to try another language and since I have a Chinese background, I figured Chinese would be a good choice," said Weiss.

For her part, Ms. Fan is enjoying teaching at Schreiber. This enthusiasm will be helpful as the year goes on. Since it is only September, the class itself is not particularly difficult yet.

To begin the course, the class has studied basic salutations and vocabulary and has started learning how to write basic characters.

"The students have a strong motivation to learn Chinese and are very intelligent,"

said Ms. Fan. "The hardest part of learning Chinese is the writing and learning to pronounce the different tones."

The other foreign language teachers say Chinese has been a welcome addition to the course guide for the students.

"I believe that learning Chinese will be helpful for students in the business world," said French teacher Ms. Jeanine Reed.

"We live in a global society," said Spanish teacher Ms. Toni Dupuy. "It's important for us to be exposed to languages other than English."

Emily Rosenthal looks to "Score for a Cure"

BY **Hannah Zweig**
Features Editor

As the captain of two varsity teams, senior Emily Rosenthal is accustomed to delivering uplifting pep-talks for her teammates. But recently the "way to go guys!" and "we'll get 'em next time!" have taken on more meaning for the tri-season athlete.

Last spring, with the support of the New York City Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, Rosenthal created Score for a Cure, an organization that motivates athletes to score points by encouraging achievement in sports, as well as aiding those in need.

"What Emily is doing is a great thing. She really feels the strong connection to the cause she is working for, and I think that drive is why she has been so successful," said soccer teammate senior

Elyse Belarge. "You can tell that it is definitely from her heart, which greatly explains the success."

Rosenthal's grandfather's struggle with Alzheimer's inspired her to start this organization. He was an intelligent man, who had gone to both Harvard and Brown, and he began to visibly decline after being diagnosed.

"To see such a smart man be afflicted with Alzheimer's was just terrible to comprehend," said Rosenthal.

Rosenthal felt imbued with the duty to find a cure to the awful disease that had taken her grandfather.

"Instead of entering a race or walkathon to raise money on my own, I wanted to create something unique, fun, and community-based by involving my high school," said Rosenthal.

Community service has always been a priority for Emily; however, she found it hard to incorporate community service

into her busy schedule of athletics and academics.

"I decided to combine community service and sports by creating Score for a Cure in honor of my grandfather who came to so many of my games before and after his diagnosis," said Rosenthal.

Her goals have escalated since the beginning of the cause. So far she has raised over \$8,000 and that number is rapidly rising.

"Honestly, when I first created this fundraiser I did not know how much I was going to raise," said Rosenthal. "I have been increasing the dollar amount every time I break my old one, but, in my mind, every donation counts."

However, getting started was not a simple task. It took a lot of effort and work on Rosenthal's part, especially coordinating the website which facilitates direct donations from sponsors.

"The website was the biggest challenge

of all," said Rosenthal. "I really wanted to get this fundraiser started way before I did."

Sponsors can donate a fixed amount of their choice for each of the targets that are met throughout the season or give a one time donation.

For each sport, Rosenthal sets a certain number of goals per game: two goals for soccer, 35 points for basketball, and 10 goals for lacrosse. If the team meets or exceeds these goals, the sponsors pay their pledged amounts.

"I truly want to keep this charity going, and just because I am leaving for college does not mean that the fundraiser just stops. I have been working with Ms. Joannan to try and figure out a way to keep it within the school. If I am able to get people excited about my fundraiser throughout the school this year, I believe I can keep it going," said Rosenthal.

arts & Entertainment

Drive keeps audiences' hearts racing

BY Victor Dos Santos

Staff Writer

In 2009, Danish director Nicolas Winding Refn shocked audiences with *Bronson*, the disquieting biopic about a psychotic prison inmate. Despite the gratuitous levels of violence and nudity, the film was praised for the performance of rising star Tom Hardy, who has since been cast as the villain in Christopher Nolan's upcoming *Batman* sequel, *The Dark Knight Rises*.

Perhaps Hardy's success is what led *Blue Valentine* star Ryan Gosling to choose Refn to direct him in *Drive*, the art-house adaptation of James Sallis' neo-noir novel of the same name.

Whatever the reason, Gosling chose exceptionally well, as not only does *Drive* showcase the actor's tremendous talent to audience members and Academy voters alike, it also makes for a compelling case as to why Refn might just be one of the most skilled and stylistic directors of our generation.

Drive tells the story of an unnamed driver (Gosling), paying homage to the *No Name Trilogy*, who works as a stunt double for action films and a part-time mechanic, and moonlights as a getaway driver for smalltime criminals.

He lives in a shady apartment complex, as does love interest Irene (Carrey Mulligan), whose husband is in prison, but on his way to being released. The husband, at the time of his release, is heavily in debt with some dangerous and vengeful people and seeks the driver's assistance in completing one last job.

Drive tells a story that may be familiar, but in a unique and original manner that makes it stand out. Director Refn and his cinematographer give the film a pulpy look with shots of gloriously gratuitous gore. While the violence is occasionally over-the-top, it never feels like it's parodying the genre rather than paying homage to it.

Refn is one of the few directors able to take certain elements from classic neo-noir films while still making something the audience has never seen before; he may in fact be our generation's Tarantino.

At its core, *Drive* is a character piece



The driver (Gosling) thwarts hitmen after a simple job goes awry. In this scene, the film takes a gruesome turn.

about the driver; Refn builds tension by making each scene more discomfiting than the last, as the viewer gradually sees the heart within the driver's sociopathic exterior.

In a way, his character has much in common with De Niro's character in *Taxi Driver* — a man who is just trying to do good by any means necessary. In this genre, of course, by any means necessary means brutally murdering anyone who gets in the way.

The movie clearly belongs to the driver. The majority of the film is lacking in dialogue and Gosling frequently needs to rely on using facial expressions to convey his feelings.

Despite the lack of conversation, the driver is an utterly fascinating character on the verge of becoming a total psychopath, though never fully aware of his monstrosity. This development is facilitated by Gosling's Oscar-worthy performance and the brilliance in the writing behind it.

As sociopathic as his character may be, he is also an admirable central character, leaning slightly towards the concept of a generic action hero with questionable morals. The viewer is ultimately never sure whether he's the hero or anti-hero, as his ruthlessness means are arguably justified by the selfless end to which he works.

Gosling is not the only actor who gave a performance worthy of praise. Albert Brooks was just as good, if not better, in

his portrayal of the villainous mobster Bernie Rose. Brooks is full of charm before he surprisingly stabs a man in the neck. Coupled with Cliff Martinez's synthesized score, such sudden violence sends shivers down your spine.

One aspect of *Drive* that deserves more praise is its outstanding cinematography. The whole film is seamlessly and meticulously constructed. The way the lighting casts a shadow on the driver to make him all the more menacing and powerful is an accomplishment in its own right. The film is lit beautifully in every shot, and especially in the gorgeous shots of nighttime in LA.

Drive's unique soundtrack helps to establish the film's tone and atmosphere. Refn chose primarily '80s-sounding electronic music and, consequently, the score is reminiscent of the movies to which it is a tribute. While the songs' lyrics are occasionally distracting, the music generally reinforces what is happening on screen.

Drive is, as a whole, a masterful work of art and something that will most likely garner a cult following within years. Although the violence may be too much for squeamish folk, it is certainly a film that will keep you at the edge of your seat. Refn combines '80s pop music, an intriguing central character and many silent moments to keep your eyes anxiously glued to the screen.



Once again, Gosling demonstrates incredible range as an actor, adding a murderous psychopath to his varied repertoire.

TV gives new reason to look forward to summer

By Kerim Kivrak
Assistant A&E Editor

Gone are the days when summer television was nothing but filler to pass the time until your real favorite shows came back on the air. Undaunted by network goliaths, cable channels are free to experiment with unique and imaginative original series, resulting in some of the finest programming on television all year.

In the absence of the typical network sitcoms, FX successfully stepped up to fill the comedic void. *Rescue Me*, the gritty dramedy following firefighters in post-9/11 Manhattan, concluded its seven season run earlier this month. Carried on the shoulders of comedian Denis Leary, the show experienced a noticeable steady decline in quality as it neared its final season.

Nevertheless, *Rescue Me* stubbornly carried on to have its disappointing finale coincide with the tenth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.

Rescue Me was instantly overshadowed by FX's other dark comedies. The critically acclaimed *Louie*, based on the comedy of Louis C.K., entered its second season, taking a remarkably darker turn. For the most part, the show's humor is confined to the *Seinfeld*-esque clips of C.K.'s standup between the vignettes exploring his severely depressed character.

Wilfred, the American adaptation of the hugely successful Australian sitcom of the same name, was met with strong viewership and hit-or-miss reactions from critics.

After a suicide attempt, Ryan Newman (Elijah Wood) begins to see

his neighbor's dog as a man in a dog costume whom he quickly befriends. While the show undoubtedly owes its popularity to the presence of Elijah Wood in a leading role, it certainly is not undeserved. Once you get used to the initial absurdity of the show's premise, *Wilfred* is the most refreshingly original show on television.

In yet another fantastic summer season, HBO met the outstanding level of expectation it sets for itself. This season of *Curb Your Enthusiasm* chronicled *Seinfeld* co-creator Larry David's triumphant return to New York.

Curb exceeds even its own usual levels of absurdity, poking fun at everything from the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to Michael J. Fox and Parkinson's disease. Free from the shackles of his foundering marriage, Larry David is funnier than ever. Luckily, this superb season of *Curb Your Enthusiasm* offset the train wreck that was the final season of *Entourage*.

It was almost as if the writers had forgotten that the series was ending and consequently crammed the last two episodes with as many clichés as they could think of.

AMC's *Breaking Bad* has not only distinguished itself as the standout drama



Larry David confronts guest star Michael J. Fox in *Curb Your Enthusiasm*. With his wife gone, Larry lets loose, challenging social norms more viciously and hilariously than ever.

www.aceshowbiz.com

of the summer, but as one of the best TV crime dramas since *The Wire*. Bryan Cranston, of *Malcolm in the Middle* fame, has crafted one of the most enthralling protagonists on television. Walter White, the humble teacher turned crystal meth cook, is now a true antihero, with nothing but pride and machismo justifying his increasingly nefarious actions. This season of *Breaking Bad* has progressed at a snail's pace, but its climactic moments have been some of the most memorable in all of television.

Now that network shows are returning to television, we begin to see that we've been taking the originality and boldness of summer programming for granted. As we fall back into our regular routines of formulaic and nondescript sitcoms, we can all look forward to next summer and the plethora of incredible television it will bring.

Community returns with signature brand of humor

By Dan Bidikov
Staff Writer

Community is one of NBC's latest comedy creations and stars a mismatched group of friends who are all students at a local community college. Their wacky adventures provide fuel for the comedic spark that creator Dan Harmon has managed to maintain in every episode.

Sept. 22 marked the beginning of *Community*'s third season, with the members of the show's iconic study group reconnecting for their third year at Greendale Community College. As the group huddles around their textbooks in preparation for the new school year, *Community*'s viewers return to the over the top, intelligent hilarity they know and love.

The season premiere, "Biology 101," is (fittingly) all about evolution within

the group of friends. Pierce (Chevy Chase) left the study group at the end of season two, leaving the social dynamic of the crew unbalanced. He unexpectedly returns for another year, but the circle excludes him when the rest of the gang signs up for a class without him. The charismatic, metrosexual Jeff Winger (Joel McHale) is back, the ringleader as ever, until he begins to feel left out. On the first day of class, their professor (Michael K. Williams) kicks Jeff out permanently when his phone rings.

Williams, whose performance is commendable, is not the only famous person to make a cameo appearance in the newest episode of *Community*. John Goodman (*The Big Lebowski*, *Monsters Inc.*) makes an appearance as the dean of Greendale's Air Conditioning repair school. Intimidating and witty, Goodman's character puts the forward-thinking Dean Pelton (Jim Rash) in his place. Pelton's attempt at a battle of wits with Goodman's persona is one of the best scenes in the episode.

However, do not be mistaken. The driving force of the comedy lies not in the guest stars, but in the main cast and it is the chemistry within this cast that sets *Community* apart. Abed (Danny Pudi) and Troy (Donald Glover), now roommates, continue to steal the show with their camaraderie.

Annie (Alison Brie) and Shirley (Yvette Nicole Brown) bring their innocence to the ridiculous bunch in an uproarious fashion. Line after line, hilarity pours out

of the mouths of Jeff and Britta (Gillian Jacobs).

The supporting cast performs well, adding a healthy amount of extra quirkiness to the mix. "Star Burns" Osbourne (played by comedy writer Dino Stamatopoulos) brings a dose of insanity to the table. Leonard Briggs (Richard Erdman) has only one line in the entire episode, but it is enough to set up what might be one of the funniest moments of the season. The only characters not pulling their comedic weight are Pierce and Ben Chang (Ken Jeong), whose humor has become tired and uninviting.

Dan Harmon has perfected meta-humor. To the common man, *Community* is funny, but to the pop culture-savvy young adult, *Community* is hilarious. The series is a serious contender for the number one show in NBC's Thursday night comedy fleet. It loses points due to its narrow target audience; *Community* is wild and sharp, but not accessible. Fortunately, the jokes that are less connected to cultural references are funny enough to carry the show, and prevent it from alienating new, less experienced viewers.

It is clear from the season premiere that *Community* has not lost its signature brand of humor. It is as stylish, surreal, and as well-written as ever. However, like the characters on the show, *Community* does not welcome change. Which is fine; as Abed said in the latest episode, fans can only hope for "six seasons and a movie" of their favorite show. Six seasons and a movie? How many majors will the cast complete by the end of the series?

QUACKING UP WITH KWAK



By Bethia Kwak
A&E Editor

Many of us have thought about it before: what would we do if we were put on the *Jersey Shore*? How would we interact with Mike "The Situation" and the infamous Snooki? Well, here are some tips on how to succeed in being a tan, fist-pumping maniac.

First, we need to get you on the show. There is clearly an extensive, grueling audition process that comes with being cast on the *Jersey Shore*; even Deena, the "blast in a glass" herself, got rejected season 1.

There's the "look." I am not just talking about the cliché tan, although it might help to go to a tanning salon until you are as orange as a goldfish. You also need the gel. WARNING: Do not let people see you using gel. Everything is natural. When asked if you use gel, reply, "No, my hair is as natural as my body" (even if it is not).

Now, when you go in to an audition, make sure you have a catchy nickname. JWovw told the public the origin of her name was that men would pass by her and say "Wow!" Soon, her friends started calling her Jenni Woww, and then shortened it to JWovw. This is just an idea, though. If your name is Geena and people that walk by you say "Gross," do not start calling yourself "GGross." Pick a name that does a little justice to yourself.

If the judges ask you any questions, be interesting. Tell them 2+2 = 5, and that a puppy is a baby whale. They will appreciate the originality.

After all this, the producers will have probably let you in. Congrats! Thankfully, getting in was the hardest part, but that does not mean being on the show will be much easier.

Be whoever you want to be when the cameras are not rolling, but when the microphones turn on, it is time to be a completely different person. This is reality television, after all.

Amplify all your reactions tenfold. If you normally would walk away if someone insulted what you were wearing, instead, yell at the person. Pull his or her hair or maybe even smash your own head into a cement wall. Anything that seems realistic.

The guys on the show came up with the motto "gym, tan, laundry." These are the three things that are essential in the lives of those on the *Jersey Shore*. It is important that you master them. Make sure the camera catches you doing one of these three things often.

Make sure you become familiar with the terminology. When someone screams that he sees a "grenade," do not run away in fear that the club is under attack. This will get you laughed out. Or perhaps even respected, considering what a "grenade" means on this show.

With these tips, you should find yourself at home on the *Jersey Shore* in no time. You will soon eat family dinner with the crew, find yourself walking in the middle of the street at three in the morning, and be the role models of this generation in America.



tvovermind.zap2it.com

The *Community* gang kicked off the new season with a fantastical musical number, immediately reminding fans of the unique sense of humor which they have come to love.

No more Sheen-anigans on *Two And A Half Men*

BY **Brian Leibowitz**
Contributing Writer

The long-awaited, new season of *Two and a Half Men* has finally kicked off. Everybody knew about Charlie Sheen's shenanigans that resulted in his termination, but nobody was certain of the fate of the show. The show's producers considered many actors, and after much contemplation, they chose Ashton Kutcher as the new star. Kutcher has big shoes to fill, as *Two and a Half Men* is a popular show with a huge fan base and eight strong seasons.

Ashton Kutcher plays a new character who comes onto the show looking to purchase a new home. It is mentioned that Kutcher's character, Walden, is a billionaire, but the show never explains how he came to all this money. Although he gave a superb performance, the story of the first episode had room for improvement.

The viewer is repeatedly left wondering, "How did Walden earn all of this money?" It seemed like such a strange, forced coincidence that a man who showed up at Allen's house would be a billionaire who wants to buy his house.

Kutcher's character seems quite similar to that of Sheen's. It is difficult to bring in a brand new star for a show that has been this popular for so many years, but Kutcher did a great job. His character is funny, likable, and a ladies' man, just as Sheen's character had been. However, his attitude differed from Sheen's in his kinder personality, especially toward Jon Cryer's character, Allen.

The transition from one character to another was very quick. At the beginning of the show, a funeral is shown for Charlie Harper where not one family member or acquaintance seems upset over his loss.

It is known that Charlie was not the most popular person, but one would think that after taking his brother under his wing and allowing him to live in his house, Allen would spend a longer period of time mourning his loss. The



Allen Harper (Jon Cryer) meets Walden Schmidt (Ashton Kutcher), a billionaire in a time of need. The transition between the death of Charlie Harper (Charlie Sheen) and the introduction of Schmidt could have been smoother.

Lion King returns to theaters in 3D with a roar

BY **Bethia Kwak**
A&E Editor

Movie theaters were packed with antsy viewers hoping to see a beloved childhood movie on the big screen. Unsurprisingly, packed theaters such as these helped the *Lion King 3D* dominate the box office for two weeks in a row. The movie's success comes from that it appeals to a younger audience and creates nostalgia for both young adults and adults alike.

Because the movie is essentially a classic, almost no one went to the movie to critique its storyline or characters. The question at hand was whether or not producers could create an even more magical experience with new 3D effects.

Many lifelong fans, like myself, having watched the movie on VHS countless times on a poor quality television, waited in line, excited and giddy to watch a part of our childhood come alive in a whole new way.

The movie, as always, was phenomenal, and seeing it on the big screen created even more of an emotional response than usual. This was partly due to the fact that you knew that everyone around you was enjoying this moment as much as you were. People sobbed as Mufasa died

and fell out of their seats laughing when Timon and Pumba did their hula dance.

The 3D effects did a little for the movie, but not much. While the effects were done somewhat well, they took away some of the magic in particular scenes. Producers could have certainly done a better job with it.

The color scheme that was used for scenery was imaginative and breathtaking in the original *Lion King*; it painted a beautiful landscape. With the new 3D effect, however, some of the colors became distorted.

"I had high hopes for the 3D effects. *Lion King* is a childhood staple of our generation and personally, I thought it was cool for Disney to try to modernize it with new technology. I was a little disappointed, but seeing the movie was great nonetheless," said senior Dan Preston.

The release was done for the purpose of promoting the Diamond Blu-Ray edition of the film, which will go on sale Oct. 4.

While it is unclear if the movie was released to test out new technology or as just a ploy for Disney to make copious amounts of money, it still brought joy to the masses, typically in the form of nostalgia.



Rafiki presents Simba to the family in the well known Circle of Life scene. Unfortunately, the 3D effects added little to the movie itself.

following day he was back to his normal self.

Expectedly, the show without Charlie has a feeling of emptiness. It seems like something familiar, but still incomplete. It will definitely take several more episodes before viewers can pass judgment on whether or not Walden is an appropriate replacement for Charlie, or if *Two and a Half Men* has jumped the shark.

There was not a definitive ending to this first half of the pilot episode; at the end, "To Be Continued" flashed on the screen, and many questions were left unanswered.

The first half of the full pilot episode foreshadows Walden's final purchase of the beach house, as well as a budding relationship between Walden and Allen similar to the one Charlie and Allen used to have.

Glee's third season premiere falls flat

BY **Katie Fishbin**
Assistant A&E Editor

After two extremely successful seasons, *Glee* aired its season three premiere, which did not quite live up to the show's hype.

The first season had the most viewers, and the second was not too far behind. The first episode of this season, however, was down a staggering 32 percent from last season's premiere.

The twists were not quite as surprising or believable as the writers had thought. For example, Sam and Mercedes sparking romance in the season two finale, was uninteresting because it was so unrealistic.

The dedicated viewers have gotten to know these characters, and also know how it would be highly improbable that they would have a romantic relationship. Recently, fans have tuned out due to these dull plot developments.

Since the first season had every plot variation possible, the writers were really left with nothing to work with. I've watched every season so far, and the truth is that nothing can compare to the sheer originality of the first season.

The character changes are also problematic. Instead of sticking to the initial cast, they have made many additions.

The storylines can get confusing due to the amount of characters they have,

The show has left it open to the viewer's own prediction whether Walden will simply be a replacement of Charlie's character or put a whole new spin on the show. To incorporate Ashton Kutcher as the new star, his performance must bring something completely new to the show for it to become successful and interesting to viewers.

The new season started off with a bang and has the potential to continue the popularity of *Two and a Half Men*, as all of the supporting characters returned and the basis of the show remains unchanged.

Ashton Kutcher will have to maintain the humor and adjust to his new role. This season premiere has demonstrated great potential for the upcoming season, but how the new lead character will work out remains a mystery.

along with the twists they keep creating. The excessive tributes have stretched the plot, and the continual character additions have caused issues.

While Blaine (Darren Criss) has brought enthusiasm and new viewers, many of the other new characters, such as Lauren Zizes (Ashley Fink) have hindered the success. Even though most "Gleeks" will probably continue to watch, it's difficult to take it seriously.

Lastly, the song choices have been inconsistent in quality. While fans can relate to a number of the songs, they could have had better choices, especially in the premiere. "We Got The Beat," originally by the Go-Gos, was unfortunately a slightly dull performance. The song choice for this particular scene should have been more up beat and exciting, with the cafeteria as a backdrop. However, this scene fell short.

This is particularly disappointing because it is the main reason many people still watch. Although they have a wide fan base, the more recent songs are the ones that end up being hits. The talent of the cast is indisputable, but they could have showcased them in better musical numbers.

After two sensational seasons, the *Glee* hype has finally begun to die down. With its cluttered cast of characters and questionable song choices, *Glee* has lost the charm that had made its first season great.

Gavin Degraw returns with darker new album



BY Elana Galassi
Photo Editor

Gavin Degraw is back with a “sweet” new album. His fans have long awaited *Sweeter*, after his attempt at an indie album, *Free*, failed. Fans were nothing less than pleased with his return to the sound characteristic of an earlier album, *Chariot*.

Sweeter has a more vibrant sound than ever, but carries a different tone than usual. Degraw’s previous albums have been accented with explosive, piano-slammung choruses.

Sweeter gives fans a look at Degraw’s darker side, while still sticking to his blue-eyed soul roots. It provides more depth and diversity in the music behind his improved, rough-yet-soothing voice.

Degraw’s voice remains the headlining sound in each song, but the music sometimes distracts from it. Up until the last thirty seconds of “Candy,” Degraw’s voice had the fullest sound it’s had since *Chariot*.

In an interview for the *Hollywood Reporter*, Degraw himself said that the album has more sprawl than his previous work.

“Overall, the album is really a wide spectrum of style. Some of the older stuff that I did is... kinda clean and honest, and some of this other stuff is a bit funkier and a bit more risky, vocally and lyrically,” said Degraw in the interview.

Degraw was right; the title track, “Sweeter,” has Degraw singing, completely uncharacteristically, about taking someone else’s girl.

The magnitude of the guitar matches that of the frontman’s keyboards, and with a little vocal manipulation, this track is sure to be a radio hit.

The first released single, “Not Over You,” is sure to be a hit, but it would sound better if the music backing Degraw were stripped out.

The music grows lighter as the album progresses, but not necessarily the lyrics. Degraw turns in some top-notch breakup songs on the album, and even gives himself the unusual, alternate role of the “bad guy.”

Not every song on the album has such an upbeat tempo and Degraw demonstrates how much he has matured



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Gavin Degraw performs songs from his new album. He varied his sounds throughout the album resulting in an unexpected delight.

in, “Spell It Out,” which combines both a softer acoustic sound from the piano and Gavin’s recognizable voice.

Overall, it’s a great album. Degraw’s vocals are almost reminiscent of Maroon 5; if you like soulful vocals mixed with

abundant, keyboard, and guitar, it’s the album for you. *Sweeter* takes the indie feel of *Free* and combines it with rawer tones and lyrics to form a truly beautiful sound.

Classic Album: The Who: Quadrophenia



BY Gabriel Lyons
Contributing Writer

Quadrophenia was the sixth album by the iconic English rock band The Who. Released in 1973, it is also the band’s second rock opera, exploring the psyche of Jimmy, a teenager in England between 1964 and 1965. It is one of the few albums to date that has no noticeable break in between songs.

The album draws its title from the common use of “schizophrenia” as a misnomer for dissociative identity disorder and the protagonist’s four separate personalities.

The album begins with “I Am The Sea,” a mesmerizing montage of instruments and a small patch of vocals. The song begins with the sounds of stormy waves crashing down against a beach, as captured by Who member Pete Townshend’s portable tape recorder.

The song continues into a thought provoking mixture of winds, rains, and the somewhat mysterious vocals of Roger Daltrey. The song then fades into “The Real Me,” an upbeat ballad of Daltrey

telling a story about his issues to a psychologist.

The album’s title track is an instrumental representation of what is going through Jimmy’s mind as he suffers from schizophrenia.

When he takes pills, his mind is divided, and he now suffers from quadrophenia. In the following track, “Cut My Hair,” a family listens to a radio report about a riot between mods and rockers in Brighton.

“Helpless Dancer” gives the listener a look at where his aggressiveness comes from.

His frustration with this world only angers him more. “I’ve Had Enough” is Jimmy’s reaction to the sight of a friend with a girl he particularly admires.

In frustration, he destroys his scooter and boards a train to Brighton, a place where he previously had fun with his friends.

“5:15” depicts his journey on the train, eventually leading into “Sea and Sand,” which details his arrival in Brighton. Although he is noticeably more happy at first, he quickly falls into a depression than worsens over the next tracks.

“Dr. Jimmy” is the nine-minute story of how Jimmy is hurting himself internally to the point that he channels his depression into extensive introspection. Jimmy, in a fit of frustration, steals a boat and plants himself on a rock in the middle of the ocean. Jimmy reaches a moment of clarity amidst brutal rainstorms and resolves his crisis of identity.

Quadrophenia is not a mere compilation of songs. It is an opera. It tells a story through 16 songs, all related to one another. The riveting story that it tells makes *Quadrophenia* a truly classic album.

DC attempts to renew interest in relaunch

BY Kerim Kivrak
Assistant A&E Editor

For the first time in over 70 years, anybody can walk into any comic book store in the country and purchase a brand new #1 issue of one of DC Comics’ flagship series.

Earlier this month, DC rolled out the long awaited relaunch of the DC Universe, the setting of its comic book series. A multitude of DC titles started again from square one. Dubbed “The New 52,” this group includes 52 series ranging from popular titles such as *Batman*, *Action Comics* and *Justice League* to more obscure comics in the vein of *Resurrection Man* and *Fury of Firestorm*.

For the most part, everyone’s favorite characters have remained unchanged. Superman, for example, is still the Kryptonian refugee the world has come to know and love, but any canonical development that occurred in nearly a thousand issues of *Action Comics* and over seven hundred issues of *Superman* are nonexistent in this new universe.

Veteran writers and fresh talent can now experiment with characters freely without the fear of vilification for contradicting something that happened hundreds of issues prior.

The New 52 is the latest and most ambitious of recent efforts to revitalize the ailing comic book industry.

For new readers, it can be quite intimidating to step into a local comic book store, pick up an issue of *Batman* and see a triple digit issue number. The relaunch provides these hesitant potential readers with the perfect entry point to the world of comics.

Like all of print media, profits from comic books have suffered at the hands of the internet and modern technology.

Comic book popularity has led to an incredibly robust internet piracy community in which high definition scans of the new issues are available for

download as early as the night of their release.

DC has attempted to combat this issue through a partnership with comiXology, a platform for digital comic book distribution, but the intangible digital copies they provide cost just as much as the print copies that may very well be collectibles in the future.

The gradually increasing price of comics has also been a problem plaguing the comic book community. Any older fan will happily reminisce about a time when comics cost a measly 25 cents, as comic books are traditionally inexpensive.

They have always been easily accessible, short bursts of escapism and lively entertainment. While rival Marvel Comics has raised their prices to around \$4, DC has long advocated a movement to “Hold the Line at 2.99,” and this policy stands for forty of the New 52. For those interested in a large number of titles, even \$2.99 may seem excessive for brief 20 page stories.

The New 52 line has met massive success. The debut issues of the new *Justice League* and *Action Comics* series have both surpassed 200,000 sales, making them the first comics to do so since January of 2009 when a newly-inaugurated President Obama appeared on the cover of *Amazing Spider-Man*. DC’s previously bestselling issue of 2011, *Flashpoint* #1, had not managed to sell 100,000 copies, but ten of the New 52 have surpassed this landmark.

It remains unclear whether or not the incredible initial success and popularity of the DC relaunch will stand the test of time.

If even a small fraction of this past month’s new readers stick around, DC will have succeeded in significantly expanding its readership.

In any case, the relaunch is sure to be an exciting development for new and old readers alike, as older readers will benefit from the multitude of new, original stories that will arise out of the relaunch.

Athletes of the Month

Jay Cohen

BY **Chad Edelblum**

Staff Writer

Senior Jay Cohen is one of the school's most versatile athletes as a starter on both the football and basketball teams.

On the football field, Cohen is a two-year varsity starter. In his first year on varsity, Cohen played tight end where he was used as both a blocker and a possession receiver. He led the team in receiving touchdowns, receptions, and receiving yards.

"Jay Cohen is one of the team's most experienced and skilled wide receivers. He plays a key role in the passing game on the offensive side of the ball. Cohen is extremely versatile in that he is a wide receiver in a tight end's body," said senior Blaise Stoddard.

This year, under Mr. Jamel Ramsay, the football team is running a West Coast spread offense. In the first game of the season, this offense proved to be a high powered scoring machine with quarterback junior Tommy Maruscak throwing for one hundred yards and four touchdowns.

Two touchdowns were to Cohen, including a 35-yard touchdown from Maruscak.

"Jay is definitely one of our best receivers and one of my top options to throw the ball to. At his size, he is always a good option for me to throw the ball up to and have faith in him catching it. He gives 100% every game and makes things happen when he is on the field. He is definitely one of the elite players on our squad," said Maruscak.

In practice, Cohen excels as a leader by pushing his teammates to their limits.

Assistant Coach, Mr. Joe Simeone, loves the effort and intensity Cohen brings to practice and his ability to deceive defenders provides a game-like feeling. Cohen also plays outside linebacker on defense where he has contributed 10 tackles in the first two games of the season.

"Jay is the jokester of Port Washington football but when it's time to work he gets it done. He wants to win more than anyone on the team and shows it on the field. He works hard on defense and is a sure tackler. He is one of our star players and always puts the team in a position to succeed," said senior wide receiver Jon Weber.

In addition, Cohen looks to continue his successes on the basketball court. Cohen was the starting power forward as a junior and will likely take over the center spot this year.



Elana Galassi

Cohen, a multi-sport athlete, looks to propel the football team past the struggles of last season.

Elyse Belarge

BY **Dan Miranda**

Assistant Sports Editor

Senior Elyse Belarge began playing soccer when she was five years old. Now, as a captain on girls varsity, she is a leader to all of her younger teammates. Belarge has transitioned from skilled neophyte to seasoned leader over the course of her soccer career.

"I think the six seniors on our team have a good influence on our younger players," said Belarge. "I know that when I see something a player does that's good, I make sure to let them know."

The fourth-year player is the starter in the sweeper position for the Vikings and was listed in the Port Washington Patch's girls soccer preview as a player to watch.

That comes as no surprise to Head Coach Ms. Lauren Bishar, who described Belarge as "very good at organizing the defense."

Belarge shared similar positive sentiments about her long-time coach.

"Coach Bishar has a good sense of the game, and I think our team has really improved under her," said Belarge. "She's driven to win."

According to Belarge, the Vikings have spent a lot of time getting to know each other's playing styles, which she believes will give them an edge in the league.

"We may not have an undefeated season but our playoff future looks bright," said Belarge.

With the prospect of playoffs, Belarge wants to improve on the team's strategy throughout the season.

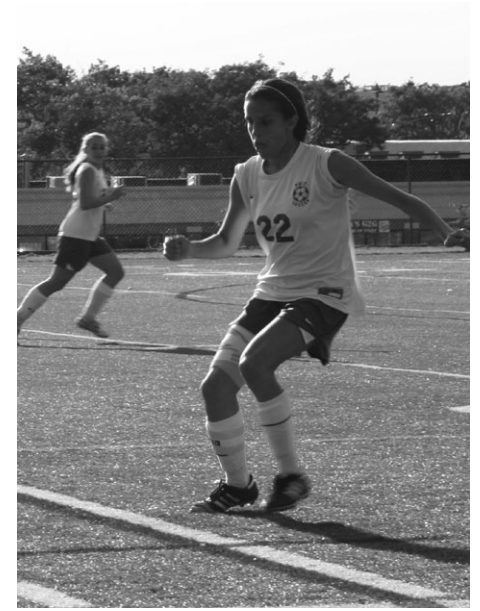
It is very important that she knows where the play is going, because as the leader of the defense, she needs to organize

the defenders into the correct positions.

"As a player, I want to work on strategy," said Belarge. "I hope that as the season goes on I'll be able to anticipate where the play will be instead of just reacting to it."

Belarge's favorite moments of the season do not happen within the confines of the sidelines; rather, they occur during the time she shares with teammates on the buses to and from away games. This camaraderie has helped the team succeed early on in the season.

"I think my favorite times on the team are on the bus to the game," said Belarge. "Everyone's always pumped and it's great bonding time. A lot of fun times happen on the bus."



Harry Paul

Elyse Belarge has assumed a leadership role on the varsity squad this season.

Pair of Schreiber athletes, Brown and Crawley, receive lax scholarships

BY **Drew Friedman**

Sports Editor

In recent weeks, two of Schreiber's top lacrosse players have made sure that their careers will extend beyond high school graduation by committing to Division I college programs. Junior John Crawley will be playing for Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland and senior Kaitlyn Brown will be lending her talents at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, New York.

"I've always been competitive and athletic, which is why being a D1 athlete is the right fit for me," said Brown, who has been playing lacrosse for almost as long as she can remember. "I love being out there on the field and college wouldn't be a complete experience for me without that opportunity."

She credits Weber physical education teacher Ms. Raquel Piraino with being one of the people who influenced her to try out for lacrosse in seventh grade. That decision paid off in the 2011 season, when Brown registered 31 goals and 20 assists for the Lady Vikings.

Brown said she made her decision to attend Marist after being impressed with the Marist head coach and players at a meeting with them.

"In addition," she said, "I fell in love

with the Marist campus, which is located right on the Hudson river."

The Marist women's lacrosse team, which won the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference crown in 2010 but went a disappointing 6-10 last year, will likely benefit from Brown's ability to put the ball in the net.

Though lacrosse is Brown's main focus at Schreiber, she has also excelled at soccer.

In that sport, she plays forward for the Lady Vikings and has been a member of the varsity squad since her sophomore year.

Crawley took a path similar to Brown's; he has loved sports since he was very young.

"As I was growing up I loved anything with a ball, and back then I didn't need anyone else to motivate me," said Crawley.

Early on, he spent a lot of time on Port's baseball fields. But when it came time for him to get serious about a spring sport, he decided to concentrate on lacrosse.

"I decided to pursue lacrosse because of the young, wild, and free attitude that comes with it. The freedom to search for and find a style unlike that of other people makes it fun," said Crawley.

Crawley's father was also a big in-

fluence on his development as an athlete and as a lacrosse player in particular.

"As I made my transition into more



Courtesy of John Crawley

John Crawley, a leader on Schreiber's varsity lacrosse team, is set to compete for Johns Hopkins University next season.

competitive sports, my dad kept me on the right track," said Crawley.

Last spring, Crawley led the Vikings in total points, coming in second on the team in goals with 30 and first in assists with 36. He attributes his results to hard work and preparation.

Over the summer, he played for a club team called For the Love of the Game, which spent most of the summer competing in national tournaments in places like Maryland, New Jersey, Florida, and Massachusetts.

"I had only had six days in July where I didn't have a game or a camp," Crawley said.

Hopkins, a perennial powerhouse in men's lacrosse, finished 13-3 last year, narrowly missing the sport's Final Four tournament.

Crawley will be part of the effort to bring the national championship back to the Hopkins Blue Jays, who last won it all in 2007.

"I chose Johns Hopkins after a spring and summer spent visiting schools like U Penn, Notre Dame, Yale, and Villanova, among others," said Crawley. "My unofficial visit and meeting with Coach Peitramala at Hopkins was a great experience. With Hopkins consistently being among the top ten schools in the country, it was a difficult opportunity to ignore."

Vikings attempt to revamp team under first year coach

BY **Aaron Brezel**
Staff Writer

Following a tough 35-48 loss in their first game to the vaunted Valley Stream Central Eagles, the Vikings looked toward a successful homecoming game to rejuvenate the rest of their season. They faced another difficult opponent in the Uniondale Knights on Sept. 17.

The game started off with senior quarterback Tom Maruscak connecting with senior Deandre Hall for a touchdown, giving the Vikings a 7-0 lead in the opening

minutes. However, Uniondale fought back with a touchdown of its own in the ensuing offensive drive. The Knights missed an extra point, keeping the Vikings in the lead, albeit a slim one at 7-6. Staunch defenses prevailed for most of the first half, allowing the 7-6 lead to stand until midway through the second quarter.

Uniondale's offense eventually broke through the Vikings defense near the end of the second quarter and began to pull away, eventually racking up 35 points.

The Vikings offense responded near

the end of the game. Senior Mike Pedone received a touchdown saving interception and senior running back Shawn Mckoy found himself in the end zone after a 55-yard run.

But it turned out to be too late to make a difference. With that 15-35 loss, the Vikings fell to a 0-2 record for the season thus far. "We have the potential to be the best team on Long Island. We failed today, but next time we won't," said Maruscak.

An 0-2 start is not what the Vikings players and coaches had in mind at the start of the season but to new Head Coach Mr. Jamel Ramsay, the unfortunate start

and defensive tackle Mike Reali (Class of '11). However, from the start of the season, Coach Ramsay has seen the utmost commitment and effort from all his players.

"Across the board, all the key players showed up going into training camp ready, and it has reflected in the way we play. Every day they come out, the kids work incredibly hard," said Coach Ramsay.

When asked about whom he expects to step up and perform big this year, he simply said that all players have to step up and help the team win.

"All we need to do is practice and raise our skill level," said outside linebacker sophomore Jermaine Brown, who made a tackle on special teams against Uniondale.

In this young season, all of their hard work seems to be paying off. In contrast to last year, the players and the team as a whole have improved in every aspect of the game. Even though hard work hasn't translated into wins, in contrast to last year, the Vikings have played better against similar match ups.

In light of last season's 0-8 records, the Vikings 0-2 start does not bode well for the rest of the season. According to Coach Ramsay, the Viking's toughest match-ups are already behind them.

The Vikings' next opponents will be Hicksville High School on Sept. 24, John F. Kennedy High School on Oct. 1., Massapequa High School on Oct. 6., and Hempstead High School on October 15.

Last year, the Vikings lost to all of these teams, but this revamped team believes it has the ability to come out and win any one of these games. In order to have a successful season, the Vikings must be able to beat any of these lower tier teams.

If they can do that, then maybe the Vikings can get out of the basement of their division.



Elana Galassi

Players huddle around first year coach Mr. Jamel Ramsey before their game against Uniondale at this year's homecoming.

Captain's Corner: Volleyball setter Kevin Nardone

BY **AJ Friedman**
Staff Writer

A.J. Friedman: Hey, Kevin. Welcome to the corner.

Kevin Nardone: Happy to be here.

AF: I must say, the flip flops and tube socks look really sharp.

KN: They are mid-calfs, and yes, I know.

AF: Does this have any relation to the infamous "boat shoes and pajama pants" phenomenon that you started last year?

KN: I just wear whatever I feel like. I really can't elaborate any further.

AF: Is there a future in fashion for Kevin Nardone after your volleyball career is over?

KN: I'm going to try to incorporate both volleyball and fashion, but it won't be easy.

AF: What's your pre-game warm-up like?

KN: Well, first I go to Bagel Boss to get a Naked mango drink. Then, I go change and just hang out with my team and pass the ball around to get loose until game

time. Once it is game time, I stretch and step on the court to win a game with my team.

AF: Fashion faux pas be darned. On the real, your boys varsity volleyball team was among Schreiber's most successful last year. Is your team looking good enough to continue that success?

KN: Absolutely, we have the talent and chemistry to go as far as our hearts desire.

AF: Watching one game, the opener versus Massapequa, I was able to see some roles that you and your teammates play on the team. Co-Captain Dan Minicucci seems to lead by example.

KN: Dan is a great player and a great teammate. It is an honor to be co-captain with him. I feel like we cover each other's weaknesses throughout the season very well.

AF: In contrast, you seem to be the team's emotional leader, running up and down the court after big points.

KN: Volleyball is the sport I love, and I can't help it. I just have so much fun playing on the court.

AF: As the setter, you are a vital cog to an offense that seems like it can make a mark on Nassau County. What are some other roles your teammates play?

KN: We have senior Paul Kagan and junior Jong-Ho Byun generally hitting out of the middle, seniors Adam Cuthill and Dan Minicucci usually playing on the outside, junior David Kim, sophomore Kwan Park, and junior Danny Dougherty-Samowitz rotate at libero, and senior Henry Seo plays front row.

AF: Junior Jong-Ho Byun seems to be a dominant force on the court. What is it like to play with him?

KN: Jong-Ho is a lot of fun to play with. I can always trust him to make the play, and his experience is key to our team. I also know that he absolutely loves the game and so badly wants his team to be successful.

AF: And the final burning question: can your team over take rival Massapequa as County Champs?

KN: I believe that if we continue to work hard and play our game, then we definitely can.

AF: Alright Kevin, thanks much. I'll be looking for those boat shoes on the court.

KN: I should use them during game day. Maybe they'll help my vertical.

AF: Stay classy.

KN: I always do.



Elana Galassi

Kevin Nardone prepares with his team for their upcoming game against Herricks at home on Oct. 5.

Junior runner youngest in New York City triathlon

Jackson Lathrop stands out as new kid on water, bike, and pavement

BY Dan Miranda
Assistant Sports Editor

After swimming for almost a mile, biking 25 miles, and running 10 kilometers, junior Jackson Lathrop crossed the finish line for the Nautica New York City Triathlon. The varsity cross country and track star competed in this event without the help of a coach or any teammates beside him. And then something else extraordinary happened: the young runner finished within the top 500, in a race filled with a total of 3,141 competitors.

As it turns out, the young runner was actually the youngest swimmer, youngest biker, and the youngest runner at the starting line and 2 hours, 36 minutes, and 12 seconds later, at the finish line.

"Competing in a triathlon as the youngest participant was really awesome," said Lathrop. "It means to me that age really doesn't matter. You can do anything you set your mind to as long as you have the motivation and determination to do so."

Prior to swimming, biking, and running in the triathlon, Lathrop's mother, Ms. Alyson Lathrop, felt nervous about her son going to such extremes to display his athletic ability.

This was the first triathlon Lathrop had competed in, and predictably, his mother was feeling the stress.

"I just want him to finish in one piece,"

said Ms. Lathrop in an interview with *Newsday*. "And have a really good time."

The evening prior to competing in the race, the junior felt nerves of his own, but when he arrived at the starting point of the race, he said he was focused, ready, and confident. After months of preparation, he was ready to go.

"The night before I had a hard time sleeping because it was on my mind, but when I went to set up my transition and wait for the start, I didn't feel nervous, just ecstatic and excited," said Lathrop. "Crossing the finish line after all that really gave me such a rush. It was really exciting."

It was the first time Lathrop crossed the finish line of a triathlon, and he hopes it will not be the last.

He was satisfied with his results for his first triathlon, but his goals for the next one are even greater.

"For future triathlons, my goals are just as anybody's would be: to just do better and better," said Lathrop. "Next summer, I'm going to try and do as many triathlons as I can, not only for my goals, but also because I enjoyed it so much."

Those who know Lathrop claim he enjoys the high of running more than any one they know. The junior appears to be in a class of his own in terms of striving to do better.

"When I got the opportunity to possibly compete in the NYC Triathlon, I jumped at it. I like pushing my body's limits, and those kinds of things, to see what I can re-

ally accomplish," said Lathrop.

The Ironman Triathlon is held annually in Hawaii where competitors must swim 2.4 miles, bike 112 miles, and run a marathon (26.2 miles) consecutively.

Most of those feats are only done individually, so only the most physically-fit triathletes even attempt to complete the race, and it is considered the pinnacle event of the triathlon world.

Lathrop said that one of his long-term goals is to compete in an Ironman one day.

Mr. Jeremy Klaff, head coach of the boys cross country team, has seen potential in Lathrop since freshman year.

"Nobody works harder in the summer than Jackson Lathrop," said Coach Klaff. "He is in incredible shape in the beginning, the middle, and through the

end of every competitive season."

Lathrop's teammates have also noted his dedication.

"Everybody wants to take it easy and Jackson's always asking Klaff when we can start running," said cross country teammate junior James Gallagher. "He loves exercise."

And after his latest feat, no one's doubting it.



Courtesy of Alyson Lathrop

Lathrop stands above with his family after running a 10K in 42:05, at a 6:47 pace.

Calling the Shots Battle of Sports Games

BY Brett Fishbin
Senior Sports Editor

Like all technology, sports video games have improved at unprecedented levels over the past five years.

With a growing fan base, and refined gameplay, this genre of video games is beginning to earn respect from serious gamers and critics alike.

When discussing sports games, the first thing to come to mind is, of course, *Madden*.

Premiering in 1987, this franchise has been a landmark for the entire genre. But, just because the game has been around for the longest, does not mean the games are a part of the past, as the level of gameplay, graphics, and features have improved considerably.

Several other franchises have quietly reformed as well. Series such as *2K Basketball*, and *EA Sports NHL* are notable examples.

In determining which series is the best, one must take several categories into account.

In terms of gameplay, it is difficult to argue which series reigns supreme. Although the sport of hockey has slowly moved towards irrelevance in the United States, EA Sport's hockey franchise has not. The past few releases have brought about major changes to the gameplay, making it the most realistic sports gaming experience on the market.

Enhanced board play, a reformed checking system, crisp player graphics, and even the return of goalie fights have all radically changed player's experiences in the past few years.

Madden, however, has remained fairly consistent in terms of gameplay, with few changes from year to year.

But, when judging sports games, gameplay is only one part of the equation. An equally important aspect is graphics, where *Madden* has a leg up on its competition. While creating an aesthetically pleasing football field seems like a relatively easy task,

the *Madden* designers have truly outdone themselves with the latest release. From the redesigned opening coin flip, to the unique kickoff views, *Madden 12* truly feels like a new game.

Both *NHL* and *NBA 2K* have also taken steps to become more pleasant on the eye, but continue to lag behind *Madden* in terms of graphics.

For serious sports gamers, playing one mode of a game can get tiring quite fast.

This is why developers have built in additions such as *My Player* (a mode in which you take a singular player through his career, with the ultimate quest of being inducted into the Hall of Fame), *Franchise Mode*, and *Mini Games* such as *HORSE* and drills. Among these three series, *NBA 2K* has certainly provided the most consistent, and enjoyable features.

Its well developed *My Player* mode keeps customers busy for hours on end, and the street ball modes are creative as well.

However, for less intense players, the nitty gritty graphics, and overwhelming game modes are completely insignificant.

Unlike fantasy games, or shooting games, sports games have the challenge of balancing realism with pleasure. In this department, *NHL* is easily the king. With its fast pace gameplay, and that rare, but exciting, feeling of scoring a goal, *NHL* is always good for a game or two a week.

Overall, EA Sport's *NHL 12* does the best job creating an enjoyable and realistic gaming experience.

With inevitable challenges such as a smaller fan base, and fewer superstars, the game developers have accomplished a great deal.

If you only have \$60 to spend, and need to choose one sports game, *NHL 12* should be your pick.

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VIKING SPORTS

Boys and girls soccer teams set goals for playoffs *Soccer squads start of season strong with solid effort at both sides of field*

BY **Jake Eisenberg**
Staff Assistant

The season started with a high-profile game for the girls varsity soccer team. From the first second, the pressure was on to beat rivals Plainview-Old Bethpage, with additional excitement added by the presence of a television crew from MSG Varsity.

"To be honest, the Plainview game gave me chills. Between the crowd, it being the first game of the season, and the fact that the game was televised, it seemed like we were playing a playoff game. I feel that the atmosphere helped the team come out and win the game," said Emily Rosenthal.

The team's success is dependent on the versatility of the team.

"Even when we make substitutions, the intensity on the field stays strong and sometimes increases. The girls are headed for a great season, hopefully ending with a conference championship, and I'm just glad I can help and be a part of their success," said Coach Ms. Bishar.

Freshman Krista Ledins scored the first goal of the season in just the first few minutes of her varsity career. From there, the Lady Vikings used the passing game to get through the opposing defense effectively.

Emily Rosenthal and Kaitlyn Brown scored two more goals with assists by junior Jackie Avila and sophomore Lindsey Edwards.

The other senior captain, Elyse Belarge, anchored the defense on the way to their 3-0 shutout, along with sophomore goalie, Michelle Lammars, who had 5 saves. The Lady Vikings split the next two games, leaving their current record at 2-1, and putting them at second place in the conference.

"Our offense is led by some of the top scorers and assist leaders in Nassau County, and our defense is led by three of our seniors, Elyse Belarge, Melissa Naschek and Nicole Zweiner, who are all strong and well-organized in front of our goalie. Our midfield does a great job moving and feeding the ball to our strikers, and they are doing their job of finishing," said Coach Bishar.

In the most recent game, against Herricks, Rosenthal had a varsity career high five goal game, leading Port to a 6-1 victory. She is currently the number two scorer on Long Island.

Each of those goals raises money for Rosenthal's foundation, Score for the Cure, created in 2010, which benefits Alzheimer's. She raises money not just through goals in soccer, but through scoring in lacrosse and basketball as well. She has even created a website, www.alznyc.org/emilyrosenthal, making it easier to donate to the cause.

Last season, the Lady Vikings' run came to a disappointing end when they failed to qualify for the playoffs.

This year, however, the team believes that the improvements they have made, in offense, defense, and personnel, will help them avoid a similar end to the year.



Kaitlyn Brown

Kaitlyn Brown, pictured above, and the rest of the varsity Lady Vikings were competitive out of the gate, beating Plainview-Old Bethpage JFK 6-2. Their current record is 2-1 and they will face Syosset in their next matchup.

The boys varsity soccer team is also having success, currently sitting in second place of their conference, with one win over Valley Stream Central, and two ties coming against Plainview-JFK and East Meadow.

Last season, the team snuck into the playoffs as the last seed and lost in the quarterfinals to Massapequa. This season, senior captains Chris Romero and Josh Weinberg lead the team, with junior goalie Michael Moraitis as the anchor of the defense.

So far, Moraitis has made a total of 29

saves while only letting in three goals.

The offense has also scored three goals this season, one each by seniors Andrew Boehm, David Katz, and junior Matt Kim.

"This year's group is a senior led team. They're able to play 'possession soccer' and we believe that we're going to have the ability to be competitive in every game, earn a playoff spot and hopefully advance to the final four. We were one game short last year; we lost in the quarters. The best part about soccer is, any team can beat any other team once, on any given day. So, we

know that we have a chance to achieve a county championship," said Head Coach Mr. Don Fish.

The players also feel as though they not only can achieve a county championship, but deserve one as well.

"We have a solid bunch of guys who have been playing with each other for years. The chemistry this year is great and I expect to go far if we can keep up how we've been playing. Coach Fish is a good leader and our team hopes to excel under him," said senior midfielder Aaron Feinberg.

Last season, the team struggled to score goals, and many matches ended in 0-0 ties.

Among the improvements from last year are more experienced seniors and hard work during rigorous practices.

"The players really work hard in practice every day, and they've really been fun to be around. Their willingness to work and be cheerful even when practice is tough makes for a great environment. This year it looks like we've already improved on scoring goals with three in our first three games, and that was one of our trouble spots last year," said Coach Fish.

Other additions include underclassman players sophomores Eren Allen and Shogo Yamamoto. Only Rizzo was on the team last season. This year, Yamamoto has made an impact as a consistent starter.

"To be able to play on varsity as an underclassman is a great experience. It helps me become a better player by playing with guys who are older," said Yamamoto. "It's great to be a part of a team that has a chance at making the playoffs."

The Vikings have a tough road in the next seven days, playing Plainview, MacArthur, Hicksville, and Baldwin with little time to practice in between.

"It is always great to win a sportsman-ship award like we did last year, but being County Champs sound a little better to me," said Feinberg.

GIRLS SOCCER		BOYS SOCCER
@ SYOSSET, 10/3, 4:30 PM		VS. CALHOUN, 10/3, 4:30 PM
@ HERRICKS, 10/11, 4:30 PM		VS. VALLEY STREAM, 10/5, 4:30 PM
@ BELLMORE-JFK, 10/13, 4:30 PM		VS. EAST MEADOW, 10/11, 4:30 PM
@ CALHOUN, 10/17, 4:30 PM		VS. PLAINVIEW JFK, 10/13, 4:30 PM