

THE SCHREIBER TIMES

Paul D. Schreiber High School Port Washington, New York Volume LXIII No. 1 Sept./Oct. 2012



Smashburger

-Features-



The Master

-A&E-

U.S. Open Ball Boys

-Sports-
Electronic Report Cards
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Senior Tara Joyce took this photograph in Mole National Park in Ghana, on a trip organized by the program Rustic Pathways. She spent eighteen days completing community service such as building schools, feeding the homeless, and helping in an orphanage.

NEWS BRIEFS

Leonardo DiCaprio visits Port

Port Washington is welcoming megastar Leonardo DiCaprio to town. He will be visiting throughout September in order to film the new movie *The Wolf of Wall Street*.

The movie is based on the true story of the life of a 1980s Wall Street banker who steals money. This financial drama portrays the struggles of Jordan Belfort (DiCaprio), a hard-partying, drug-addicted stockbroker involved in a large security fraud case. Jonah Hill plays Belfort's close friend and business partner.

"It's so exciting that there is a movie being filmed in Port Washington, especially with such an amazing actor and interesting plot," said freshman Harlee Tung.

As reported by Port Washington Patch on August 30, a Twitter post on CelebSightings reads, "@LeoDiCaprio leaving motivational guru @SteveMaraboli's office in Long Island."

Steve Maraboli is a behavior specialist, speaker, author, and radio show host here in Port. "As a Behavior Specialist, I am often tasked by Hollywood actors to help them get a deep understanding into the mind of the character they are playing," said Mr. Steve Maraboli.

Maraboli's office declined to comment

on DiCaprio's visit in particular.

"I think things being filmed in Port is wonderful," said freshman Milan Sani. "Our town is beautiful and is worthy of being in scenes in a movie. Although it could disrupt some residents in the town, I think it is something fun and exciting to go to and see the movie and see places that are familiar to you."

This is not the only movie that has been filmed in Port Washington. In 2000, *Meet The Parents* filmed scenes at Louie's. In 2011, *Win Win* was filmed at Guggenheim estate homes in Sands Point. Also in 2011, *The English Teacher* filmed in the Jeanne Rinsky Theater at the Landmark building on Main Street, with Schreiber students appearing as extras.

~Madeleine Fagen

Senior Parking Rules

This year, new rules and regulations regarding senior parking are in place in order to fortify the pre-existing parking rules.

"The purpose of the new rules were not to regulate students, but because of progressive offenses reported," said Assistant Principal Ms. Julie Torres. "It was too tiring for administrators so the additional rules were added."

Only seniors with registered cars may park in the Monfort lot, and no students are allowed to park in the upper lot near the school. Violators of this rule will receive in-school suspension and their parents will be notified.

"I like that the parking spaces are reserved only for seniors and that the juniors are not allowed to park in the lot, but I think the penalties are rather harsh," said senior Mary Puglisi.

Another rule is that students are not permitted to park in the faculty lot until after 3:05 p.m., and those who park in the faculty-reserved spots in the Monfort lot during the school day will be subjected to a penalty. After the first violation, students will have their permits suspended for a period of 30 days. The second time, students will have their permit suspended for the remainder of the school year. After a student's third and subsequent offenses, his or her car will be towed at his or her expense, or he or she will receive an in-school suspension and his or her parents will be notified. The administration also reserves the right to search student vehicles parked anywhere on school grounds.

~Rachel Cho

The Schreiber Times

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Money in budget reserve increases by \$1.5 million

BY Hannah Fagen and Minah Kim
Editor-in-Chief and Senior News Editor

As the effects of cut programs resound throughout the district, money in reserves has jumped from \$1 million, when the budget was passed in May, to nearly \$2.6 million at the beginning of the school year.

The board did not know about those funds until the public did, when Assistant Superintendent for Business Ms. Mary Callahan announced in a public session that money was being moved into the general reserves. This was addressed at the Sept. 11 B.O.E. meeting after parents

“The glass could be half full because we have reserves, but half empty because we were unable to put back in place what the public wanted,” said Board of Education member and last year’s Budget Committee Chair Mr. Bob Ryan.

and community members brought attention to the reserves.

“While the revenues may be seen by some as an ‘increase,’ it is simply money set aside for future expenses and it is our obligation to plan not only for one year, but for the long range fiscal health of the district,” said Interim Superintendent Dr. Kathleen Mooney. “There are many factors for the B.O.E. to consider as part of this planning process.”

The approved budget included cuts in programs across all schools in the district. Elementary schools lost PEP and librarians, all enrichment and library classes have been eliminated, and Schreiber cut several sports teams, clubs, activities, and classes.

“Schreiber and its students have been affected by the budget cuts in a variety of ways,” said Principal Mr. Ira Pernick. “We

have lost our JV 2 teams in a few sports and have reduced clubs and activities. We also have fewer sections of classes overall which has limited elective choices for students. As for the increase in the reserves, I have nothing but faith and confidence that the Board of Education and District office are doing what is in the best interests of the district for this year and beyond.”

As part of budget cuts, several departments in the school lost or experienced cuts in secretarial staff, including the English, social studies, and science departments, whose secretarial position was at first eliminated and then re-negotiated to two days a week. Ms. Cheryl Wagner, who previously filled the position as secretary in the science department, has since left the job.

“Not having Ms. Wagner has greatly affected the efficient functioning of the science department,” said science teacher Ms. Marla Ezratty. “You never realize how much one person’s loss can affect the morale of the department until they’re gone. She is incredibly missed.”

The audio-visual position, which included caring for and coordinating the use of films and audio-visual equipment, was also eliminated. The district no longer employs Ms. Joan Biscaro, and the librarians have taken over the bulk of her position’s responsibilities.

“I would say [taking out movies] takes a bit longer,” said social studies teacher Mr. Alexander Sepulveda. “It’s also a new system and it’s being worked out, but the library staff is being more than accommodating.”

The unanticipated increase in the reserves came from the receipt of money from sources that were unpredictable. The district is still receiving money from the PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) program, and no knowledge of payment exists until a notice is received, and money from Chapter 721 (Medicaid, special education) has been backlogged for years, so payment is received erratically. Likewise, money from sale of land, MTA payroll tax, and federal sources was unexpected.

“Some of the money we have is a one time event,” said board member Vernon

Unanticipated Revenues

Description	Amount
Payments in lieu of taxes	\$822,287
Sale of land	\$107,809
MTA payroll tax reimbursement	\$236,587
Chapter 721	\$123,199
Federal medicaid assistance	\$212,761
Federal emergency disaster FEMA	\$57,170
Total	\$1,559,804

McDermott. “It’s probably not a good idea to create programs with non-recurring money.”

Every year, the Board of Education authorizes money into the reserves for unanticipated expenditures. According to state law, once the voters have approved a school budget for 2012-2013 money may only be taken from the reserves to cover the costs of unanticipated emergencies or unforeseen legal obligations such as damaged facilities or an increase in enrollment. The reserves may not be used to restore programs such as full-time PEP or full-time library at the elementary level at this time because those program reductions were part of the public budget discussion last Spring.

“I believe that it appeared because of overgenerous budgeting on the part of our business office, as well as funds coming in late to the budget from various entities such as New York State,” said Mr. Ryan. “I

believe that we should have done a better job of cash forecasting, which would have put us in a better situation where we could have reinstated these programs.”

The B.O.E. has to balance student program needs with maintaining a healthy fund balance, along with managing the tax levy limit and County Guarantee. The County Guarantee, which will go into effect in 2013, would require a shift of the burden of tax returns from the county to the school district. This expense could potentially be over \$2,000,000 per year for the school district. All of these issues will be considered during the budget preparation cycle for the 2013-2014 school year this Spring.

“The glass could be half full because we have reserves, but half empty because we were unable to put back in place what the public wanted,” said Board of Education member and last year’s Budget Committee Chair Mr. Bob Ryan.

Freshmen students lose gym options

BY Ana Espinoza
Assistant News Editor

In the past, students have appreciated a choice between traditional gym classes and less conventional courses, like Dance and Choreography, especially in the first year of high school. In a noticeable change, freshmen no longer have the ability to choose from a number of gym classes. The physical education department has made changes to the freshmen’s gym choices in order to provide all students with a more balanced educational experience.

Freshmen are now required to take standard physical education classes, rather than having a choice between varied options, such as Dance and Movement and Fitness. This change may be extended to the sophomores for the 2013-2014 school year and beyond, which leaves only upperclassmen with the opportunity to take specialized physical education courses.

“The athletic director wants ninth and tenth graders to participate in team and independent sports education before they branch out and choose different activities,” said physical education teacher Ms. Robin Cooper. “Basically, we don’t want students doing anything for more than two years.” Students used to have three physical education class options: Physical Education, Fitness, and Dance and Choreography. “I loved having the fitness option when I was a freshman,” said senior Dana Mirro. “I liked high school gym so much more than gym in middle school because we did activities

that I liked participating in. I enjoy doing yoga and step aerobics much more than playing basketball.”

There are mixed opinions among ninth graders, but most students do not show little concern towards the change. “I was okay with it, because guys usually take the regular gym class anyway,” said freshman Danny DeAmeller. “But I think some of the girls, especially, would’ve liked a choice.”

In a traditional physical education class, all freshmen receive a basic introduction to weight training, outdoor education, and fitness, with a variety of sport-intensive units. This enables the students to make educated decisions when choosing their full-year gym courses in the future.

“In a nutshell, the reason for the change is to acclimate the freshman to the physical education program in the high school, transition-wise, and introduce them to activities that we have strands for going forward,” said athletic director Ms. Stephanie Joannon.

With this new change taking place, the roughly one fourth of the freshman class who has chosen to enroll in specialized P.E. classes will no longer be given that choice, contributing to lower enrollment in these courses, and, eventually, fewer sections.

“If the change stays, then only upperclassmen will be able to do the special classes,” said Ms. Cooper. “And there will be fewer Outdoor Education, Dance, and Fitness classes in the future.”

Students recognized as National Merit Scholarship semifinalists



Courtesy of Ms. Ruth Smith

From left: Mr. Ira Pernick, Mr. Craig Weiss, seniors Drew Feldman, Ryan Havens, Josh Friedman, Eleanor Kim, Hannah Fagen, Minah Kim, Sohini Upadhyay, Interim Superintendent Dr. Kathleen Mooney.

Teacher ratings to incorporate student scores

By Eleanor Kim and Minah Kim

Staff Writer and Senior News Editor

The school year has just begun and students have already been hit with a test in nearly every class. Whispers of the strange new "SLO tests" or "baseline tests" can be heard from every corner and hallway of the school. Why, all of a sudden, has New York been taken over by yet another statewide examination policy?

An SLO, or Student Learning Objective, is part of a teacher evaluation system that the state of New York recently implemented.

Teachers must each give a test before they begin teaching the curriculum, to serve as a baseline evaluation of the students' knowledge. From there, the state is asking teachers to establish a target toward which students will work over the course of the class. The state indicates that teachers should give a similar exam after the completion of a course in order to assess the students' progress. Teachers will also receive ratings based on their students' improvements on the examinations during the course of the year.

"There is evidence that setting rigorous and ambitious learning goals, combined with the purposeful use of data through assessments, leads to higher academic performance by students," said representatives from the New York State Education Department in a recent statement published online. "We expect our approach will have significant instructional benefit by encouraging teachers to be systematic and strategic in their instructional decisions, and lead

to improved teacher and student performance."

So far, the reaction to the SLO policy has been mixed. The teachers seem to lack clear instruction about the SLO process.

"The guidelines we received keep changing," said Spanish teacher Ms. Evelin Joseph. "At first this was really confusing, but it's gotten a little easier over time."

Some teachers and students feel the policy is a nuisance to their busy schedules.

"We'll see how it goes," said chemistry teacher Mr. Scott Carmody. "I personally wouldn't want to start the school year with six tests when I don't know the material."

"It assesses the ability to take a test," said senior Lani Hack. "The SLO tests won't show how much more intelligent you've become and they won't help you learn the material."

"As a student, I don't mind them," said junior Simon Shapiro. "However, I think that there are serious issues in the way our teachers are being assessed. It doesn't take into account kids who



Harry Paul

AP Biology students take a pre-test during class time. All core teachers administered these tests, also known as "baseline tests."

may already start out at a high level."

Some, however, view the new policy in a more positive light.

"I think it will be interesting to see how much I have learned over the year," said senior Joseph Featherston.

"I think the SLO tests are a good attempt at gauging the learning that is taking place in Schreiber," said senior Zoe Weiss. "There are a few kinks that must be ironed out but if it is done correctly the test can be accurate."

For now, students and teachers can wait until the assessment is completed in June to see the final results of this new testing policy.

Guidance department establishes new rule

By Ana Espinoza

Assistant News Editor

In a marked change from last year's protocol, a new guidance policy requires students to refrain from switching their classes for two full cycles. September 24 was the first day that students were allowed to make official schedule changes. This rule was instated to prevent students from making hasty decisions about dropping or switching classes, especially dropping honors or AP classes.

Exceptions to this rule include schedule corrections to correct a missing graduation requirement, to add a higher level of coursework, or to add a course that was mistakenly left out of a student's schedule.

"I feel the policy has had many benefits," said guidance director Mr. Hank Hardy. "It has created more dialogue between counselors, students, teachers, and administrators before the change is made, and it has provided students with the opportunity to fully 'test' the course and not make a quick decision on whether to drop it or stay."

Although it is too early to tell whether fewer students have dropped classes in comparison to years past, students have cooperated with the new system, despite mixed reactions. After two cycles passed, the guidance office received a flood of requests for schedule changes from students.

"I find it very unfair for students to be forced to sit in a class which they have no desire to be in," said sophomore Rachel Kogan. "This lowers students' enthusiasm

for learning, especially since they don't see the point of doing work or learning if they know they're going to switch classes within the next few days."

With this year's vacations, the first day of the third cycle fell on the fourth week of school. After making the decision to drop a class, many students spent the class period in the guidance office and speaking to administrators.

"This two-cycle rule made me sit through two and a half weeks of a class I knew I wasn't taking," said senior Ellie

Zolotarev. "It was a waste of my time, as well as my teacher's and anyone who I was bothering to get out of it. I haven't spoken to a single person who liked the rule."

The administration developed the new rule over the summer, and the policy, along with ways to address acceptable exceptions, were outlined in a letter sent home to parents and students this past August. Counselors were informed about the new procedure, and they strictly enforced the policy.

Students are selected to participate in NYSSMA All-State Conference



Courtesy of Ms. Ruth Smith

Top row from left: Ms. Sherri Suzzan, Mr. Ira Pernick, Ms. Carol Garofalo, Mr. Anthony Pinelli, juniors Ethan Usoskin, Carl Finkbeiner, senior Halam Kim, junior Daniel Bidikov, Mr. Mark Brenner, Mr. John Meyer, Mr. John Spezio III. Bottom row from left: seniors Eleanor Kim, Annie Rubin, Amelia Pacht, Gisella Snailer, junior Emily Weinstein, seniors Julia Bain and Minah Kim. After receiving top scores at last year's NYSSMA Music Festival, students were named All-State musicians.

Current events: Embassy unrest

By Robert Gray

Staff Writer

On September 11, 2012, the 11th anniversary of the World Trade Center attacks, United States diplomatic missions in several Middle Eastern states became the target of both violent and nonviolent protests. Other Western nations' embassies were also attacked as the protests spread from Egypt and Libya, eventually occurring throughout the entire Middle East, as well as parts of Africa, Europe, and Asia.

The first incidence of protest occurred in Cairo, Egypt. There, protestors stormed the walls of the American embassy and tore down the American flag. It was replaced with a black flag, often used as a symbol of Islam by radical groups. Protests in Cairo continued on into the next day, with one fatality and over two hundred nonfatal injuries.

The protests were in response to the airing of a defamatory series of trailers for a movie known as "The Innocence of Muslims." Created by Nakoula Basseley Nakoula, an Egyptian Coptic Christian living in the United States, and several other Middle Eastern Christian evangelicals, it depicts the Prophet Muhammed as an adulterer, bandit, and child molester. It is important to note that these allegations are false and ahistorical. One of the chief demands of the protestors in Egypt was that the film be taken out of circulation. Mr. Nakoula was taken in for questioning by US officials.

The violence at the American consulate in Benghazi was far more serious. This violence can be broken down into two types. The first was spontaneous violence emanating from the protestors, relating to "The Innocence of Muslims." The second form, the actual attack on the embassy, was perpetrated by a group of heavily-armed Islamic militants. Al-Qaeda has taken credit for the assault. The attackers stormed the compound shouting "God is great," and used hand grenades, assault rifles, rocket-propelled grenades and mortars. The American ambassador J. Christopher Stevens, Foreign Service Information Management Officer Sean Smith, American private security guard Glen Doherty and former U.S. Navy SEAL Tyrone Woods were killed, and several Libyan security force members were injured. Two more Americans were killed when a squad of troops sent to assist at the embassy came under sustained fire from militants. According to Reuters, Libyan officials consider that the attacks in Benghazi were planned prior to the protests.

Counter-protests, in support of the American government and the Americans who were killed, were held the following day. The aim of the protests also included voicing discontent with the various militias active in the country. These groups assisted in the overthrow of dictator Muammar Qaddafi, but have refused to disarm. During the first round of demonstrations, protestors stormed the headquarters of the Ansar al-Sharia militia, forcing them to flee and assisting security forces in sweeping their headquarters. According to the *Washington Post*, the Libyan President Mohammed el-Megarif, the government forced ten militias to disband, and has vowed to crack down on Islamic extremism.

Performing arts loses funding for second musical



Harry Paul



Courtesy of K.C. Wilsey



Courtesy of Chris Bain

Left to right: Students perform in small musical productions: *Secret Garden* (2011), *Greece* (2010), and *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* (2012). The spring musical production was an exclusive opportunity for performers selected through an audition process. With budget cuts, only one musical, in which all students can participate, will run.

by Kerim Kivrak

Copy Editor

In light of the budgetary cuts for the 2012-2013 school year, funding has been cut for one of the two musical productions usually staged in Schreiber.

In previous years, the performing arts department presented one drama and two musicals—one for everybody who wished to participate, and a more selective one for more experienced performers. These cuts have eliminated the latter, leaving only the more inclusive musical that will be staged in March.

The number of school productions allowed large numbers of interested

students of varying skills, talent and experience to participate in the performing arts. The two musicals allowed both inexperienced and more seasoned performers to perform in school productions. With only one musical, some students are concerned that there will not be enough opportunities for students who are interested to get involved.

“Having two musicals is crucial,” said senior Taylor Eisenberg. “More musicals give more of an opportunity for everyone to practice and prepare for musical theater life after high school.”

Some members expressed how it is sometimes difficult to emulate a competitive and serious theatre

environment without cuts for at least one musical. The extra experience putting on a performance and the smallest cast often allowed many of Schreiber’s most dedicated drama enthusiasts to get individualized training that would help them to transfer their talent to college and beyond. The two musicals also allowed more opportunities for leads and allows a larger variety of students their turn in the

spotlight.

The remaining musical will allow any student who wishes to perform on stage, eliminating the competitive audition process of the other production. This competition also prepared performers for musical theater in life after high school.

“The big musicals tend to become somewhat of a community event,” said Eisenberg. “Kids and their parents come from the elementary and middle school to see Schreiber students perform.”

However despite the loss of one annual musical, there are still several opportunities for students to participate in the performing arts within the community. Among these include the Octoberfest, the Young Playwrights festival and the 24-hour play competition.

“It’s unfortunate that we’re losing the second musical, but the musical in March will allow any student who wants to be in a musical to have a part on stage,” said science teacher Ms. Christine Nelson, who has produced school musicals. “There are still many opportunities for students available in the theater arts, both on-stage and behind the scenes.”

Some students are optimistic for the one musical that will be produced, hoping that the community’s concentrated efforts will result in a better show.

“It’s disappointing, but I’m excited to see the community put its efforts into one big show,” said senior Kimberly Suzzan.

“I think some students are disappointed, but I hope the one musical we do will be very spectacular,” said senior Delia Van Praag.

September 11 performance unifies choir students

by Minah Kim

Senior News Editor

Students from every grade and school in the district raised their voices to honor those who lost their lives in the September 11 attacks. The mixed choir, treble chorus, Weber choir, and choir students from every grade and elementary school gathered at the Sept. 11 Board of Education meeting for a special performance.

“It was a request from our Superintendent Dr. Mooney to serve as a remembrance of 9/11, as the meeting was on that date,” said Board of Education President Ms. Karen Sloan. “It was an incredible performance by our students and put together by our outstanding staff. Having representation from every school building really made our district shine and represented to me all people coming together.”

Music teacher Mr. John Spezio III planned this performance after receiving a request from the Board of Education.

“It was a perfect opportunity for students to demonstrate their patriotism in singing in memory of all who perished in 9/11,” said Mr. Spezio. “When I was asked to plan a performance, we thought it would be a wonderful opportunity for every education level to perform as a

group.”

The group of over 60 students, representing every school in the district, sang the national anthem followed by “My Country ‘Tis of Thee.” The second song featured each of the choir groups separately with the final chorus of the song in unison.

“We were able to serve as leaders for the younger kids,” said senior Kimberly Suzzan, a member of the mixed choir. “I really enjoyed being able to be a part of this experience in the district and honoring the victims of 9/11 in such a meaningful way that gave back to the community.”

Students began practicing on the first day of school in their respective classes and joined together the night of the performance for a brief rehearsal.

“The vocal music faculty worked together to help students understand dynamic and preparing for a high level in achievement,” said Mr. Spezio.

The performance ended with a standing ovation from parents, board members, and other community members.

“The audience experienced the complete dynamic of the vocal music program,” said Mr. Spezio. “The performance demonstrated the great achievements of our students in vocal music and they were thrilled to perform together as a unified community.”

October 11 is
National
Coming Out
Day



Schreiber GSA will be running a lobby event to offer support and encouragement to LGBT youth.



Harry Paul

Sophomore Eric Schissel eats a lunch of peas and rice. Federal and state level mandates require schools to create healthier lunch menus.

School cafeteria adopts healthier lunch menu

By Lena Kogan and Sally Kuan

Staff Writer and Contributing Writer

School lunches look different this year. In order to promote healthier options for school lunches, new regulations have been put into effect to limit unhealthy food. As a response to the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act promoted by President Barack Obama and First Lady Ms. Michelle Obama, a new law to regulate the potential health value of public school lunches was recently issued, and cafeteria meals have been altered to benefit students' health.

"I'm very supportive of changes that the state has made regarding healthier food choices for our students," said Principal Mr. Ira Pernick. "I continue to be very impressed with the quality and variety of our offerings in the cafeteria."

The new federal act requires school lunches to include more fruits, vegetables, and whole grains, and portion sizes determined by student ages. Starchy and fatty foods in lunches have been reduced, and fruit and vegetable serving sizes have grown. The new law has sparked controversy throughout the nation, and opinions of staff and students vary.

"Everything is whole wheat. It's good for the children," said cafeteria cashier Ms. Maria Gallo. "They try to cut down on the starch and things like that. They only cut out the fatty things like the bread."

Hamburger buns have been reduced from three ounces to two, but the size of the hamburger patties themselves is the

same. School cafeterias have also stopped offering whole milk and chocolate milk in favor of low-fat or fat-free milk.

Although healthier options exist, they often are not as accessible as unhealthy foods in the cafeteria. Sandwiches and salads tend to cost more than the hot lunches, which are generally higher in sodium and fat. It is also easier to stop at the vending machines than to wait in line for a nutritious meal.

"I think it's great that they're giving you more options," said Health teacher Ms. Meghan Harding. "Some of the kids' concerns are that they can't get the healthy food because it takes too long and is more expensive."

Students are concerned with the smaller portion sizes of lunches.

"The amount of lunches they give us seems so little now and the prices have increased," says sophomore Stacey Kim. "Also, I don't understand why there is less lettuce in a salad, even though lettuce is healthy. It doesn't make sense."

"Healthy foods in the cafeteria don't taste that bad, but the food portion is smaller," said senior Michael Kuan. "I'm getting less for my money."

Other students expressed a desire for more varied lunches accommodating more students.

"We need more gluten-free options," said junior Amelia Pacht.

"Hopefully we, as a school body, take healthy options to the next level and choose them as opposed to just skipping it," said Ms. Harding.

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The new guidance policy: Is waiting two cycles too long?

By Ryan Havens

Staff Writers

"Oh no. The first week of my new AP and I already see myself failing. I can't afford a grade like that on my transcript. The work is overloading me and I'm stressing myself out. I'm finding it hard to focus on other classes because this class is taking up all my time and effort. I'm going to drop. I can't take it. But wait—I have to stay until the second cycle is through before I can change my mind about this class?"

For many students at Schreiber, the new guidance policy that restricts students' ability to drop courses early on in the school year has led to much frustration and confusion.

"The intention was to take pressure off students, but that's not what happened," said senior Josh Friedman.

Theoretically, the policy should give students more time to think about dropping a class.

"They'll have more time to consider their options or talk to a guidance counselor," said Assistant Principal Mr. Craig Weiss.

This outlook is reasonable, and could have given a few students the motivation to remain in a class they would have initially dropped.

In theory, a few more days would give the student an incentive to try harder and hopefully improve their performance in the class. However, the policy has fallen short of its goal.

One major failure of the policy is its assumption that students would still be motivated to continue on in a class they know they will drop.

In reality, this backfires because students feel like they are wasting their time. Often, when a student decides that they want to drop a class, they tend to have ambivalence towards that class.

This snowballs into more stress on students as they feel unduly forced to stay in a class.

Their moral compasses swing between doing no work in a class and trying fruitlessly to complete difficult assignments that take up time better used.

Ultimately, the aggregation of conflicting emotions can leak into other classes and affect performance there.

"If you know you're going to drop, you're not going to try," said senior Tom Bruck. "You'll just end up falling behind in the class you drop into."

Preventing students from dropping classes for two cycles essentially results in students falling behind on work in the classes they plan to switch into.

For example, in 10th grade, I began the year taking a course in photography. The first few classes made me realize that the subject was not something I was at all interested in.

A friend recommended that I

take Business Law, an elective I had previously overlooked. I quickly informed my guidance counselor that I would be dropping my photography class and adding Business Law.

Even though it was only a week into the school year, I was far behind on the material, and it was difficult to make up for lost time.

This new policy has only exacerbated this loss of class time for students who had to wait to switch their courses.

By the last week of September, nearly all classes have completed a full unit, taken a test, or been assigned a project. This amounts for an unnecessary amount of stress for students looking to start the school year on a high note.

Twelve school days pass before students even get the opportunity to

By Priyanka Ninan and Ali Verdi

Contributing Writer

As of this year, the administration has implemented a new rule regarding guidance and scheduling.

Students are now forbidden from dropping out of classes within the first two weeks of school due to a policy that requires students to wait a period of two full cycles before their guidance counselors can remove them from their unwanted classes.

The new policy has been criticized by teachers and students alike, with some saying that this rule does not allow the freedom that students have had in previous years.

However, this new policy can be beneficial for students who choose to take advantage of it.

"It allows a reflective decision to be made," said Director of Guidance Mr. Hank Hardy. "Many people would rush

their children not for this year or next year, but in the long term and what their transcript is going to look like."

This year, students have had more time to assess and figure out if they are interested in classes they might have enjoyed if they had switched out earlier. It is a good opportunity for students to explore before they give up on a class.

"It is possible that you will do better than you expected in that class," said junior Ben Moy. "The first day of APUSH seemed very hard and overwhelming, but as the class progressed, I realized that it was not as challenging as it seemed to be."

Not only does the rule make students give classes second chances, but it also gives students some time to adjust to the often hectic start to the school year.

The first few weeks of school can be overwhelming for everyone. The start of new classes brings handouts, homework, and heavy textbooks.

It is hard enough to manage the initial wave of schoolwork, let alone schedule guidance meetings and rearrange classes.

"I think the new guidance rule makes the first few weeks of school less stressful because there is already a lot of stuff going on," said junior Anthony DiCaro.

The policy also prevents students from switching their schedules based on preconceptions about specific teachers or classes.

Students might be influenced by peers or even websites, such as ratemyteacher.com, where students can view others' criticisms of individual teachers and classes.

At some point or another, everyone has been warned by a friend that they got "the worst teacher ever" and should switch out of the class immediately.

However, with this new policy, students are made to experience classes and teachers firsthand and judge them more fairly and completely.

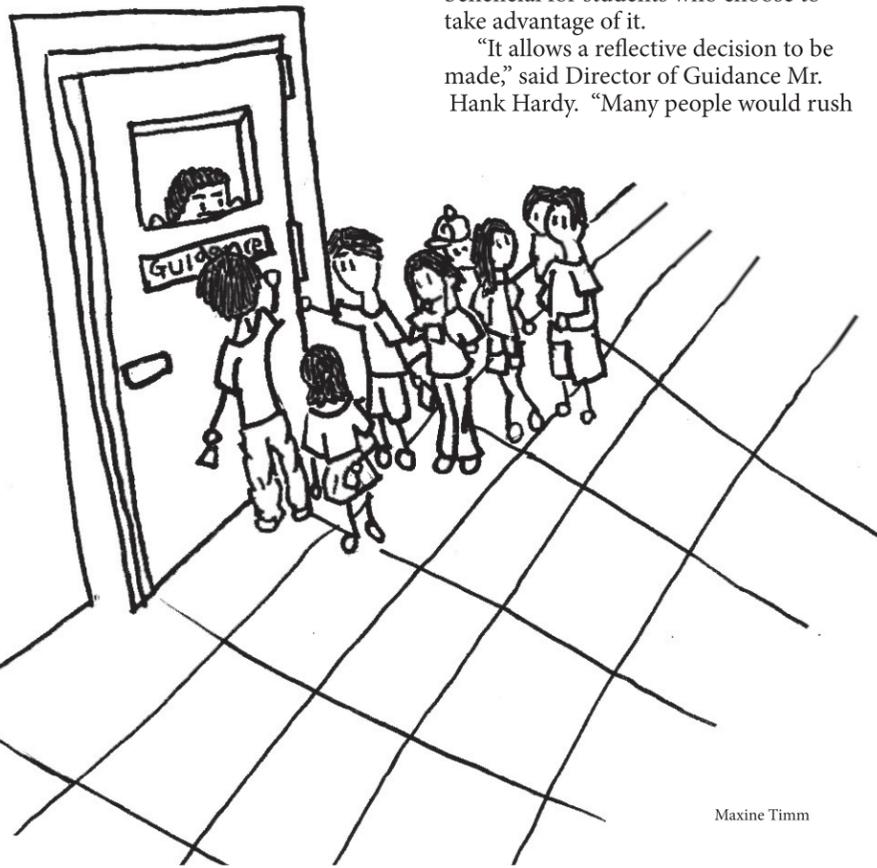
In addition to the hectic start of the school year, sports and other extracurricular activities can get in the way of getting classwork done on time. Students committed to many sports and clubs might start to feel that the workload will be too much before giving it a fair chance.

Waiting the full two cycles allows students to get a feel for how much time they will need to commit to the class.

It will also give them a better idea of how much they can handle, and might even force them to learn better time management skills.

The new guidance policy is effective for several reasons. It gives students more time to seriously consider their schedules instead of making impulsive decisions that they might regret later in the year.

It also allows students the opportunity to experience their classes firsthand and to settle into the new school year without the added stress of schedule changes.



move into a different class. Knowing that you're falling behind on work in a class you are not yet in does little to help you acclimate to the new school year.

While well-intentioned, the policy seems to have done little to help the student body.

Even if statistics were to show a decrease in total dropped classes this year, what good does that accomplish? Would we, as a whole, be better off because a handful of students chose not to drop their classes?

Comparatively, what other students have to endure does not make up for it. It is not fair for students to have to stay in classes for the required two cycles before dropping.

In the long run, the policy will end up doing more harm than good.

to get to their guidance counselors, but the two weeks gives them more time."

The new rule forces students to give their courses and teachers a chance before deciding whether to drop or remain enrolled.

In previous years, the guidance department allowed students to edit their schedules whenever they wanted, even if it was only a couple of days into the semester. This means that many students would give up on the class before they even tried.

"Some kids who initially panicked because of the workload gave the class a chance and stuck it out," said Assistant Principal Ms. Julie Torres. "Parents are glad their children stuck it out, and this has allowed me to have conversations with parents about how classes affected

Editorials

Student learning objectives serve no purpose in improving teacher evaluations

Another school year, another non-sensical policy from the State Education Department. Its latest misguided attempt to improve New York's public schools, the Student Learning Objective (SLO), focuses on evaluating teachers through tests administered to students before and after they complete the course.

The Education Department describes the new initiative as a means of gauging teacher effectiveness when no state assessments are in place. This means that all teachers except those teaching grades 4-8 English Language Arts or math are subject to evaluation through the Student Learning Objective.

There are some obvious differences between the SLO tests and these state tests, the most important of which is the fact that the SLO tests, by design, test students' knowledge of things they have not yet learned.

Teachers administering the tests make it clear to their students that their results have no bearing at all on students' grades. This relieves the stress that one would expect from taking half a dozen tests as soon as the school year begins.

Of course, the fact that these tests do not count for students' grades also means that students have no incentives to attempt to do well on the exams.

Although the system of state tests did not affect students' grades or transcripts either, students are tested on material they have learned and are expected to know, and the results of the tests are mailed to their parents. If that is not enough motivation to do well, a poor

score on the test reflects poorly on the teacher, and most students would not want their own laziness to adversely affect their teachers.

With the SLO pre-test, students are under the impression that a poor score would ultimately benefit the teacher, as it would result in a greater improvement between the pre- and post-tests and make the teacher appear more effective.

Assuming that the average student enters a course with next to no knowledge of the curriculum and answers every question on the pre-test, scores should be roughly equivalent to what we'd expect from just choosing answers randomly.

Average grades for the AP Macroeconomics/Microeconomics pre-tests, for example, fell around 20%—roughly the same score that would be expected from an economically illiterate chimpanzee.

If most students are starting from scratch, *The Schreiber Times* feels that looking at the difference between pre- and post-tests is really no different than using grades from Regents or final exams to evaluate teachers, and renders the SLO system extremely useless.

The costs of this initiative are minimal, but the benefits are seemingly nonexistent. Most students only spend a few minutes of their time bubbling in random answers and writing silly essays, while teachers lose roughly an hour of class time the additional time it takes to grade students' exams.

The entire ordeal amounts to a lot of lost time, which *The Schreiber Times* feels is far too much for a pointless evaluation.

The football team's success

On September 8, the varsity football team won its first game in three seasons of play. Port had finally rid itself of losing, and though the journey to get to its first win was not easy, their winning streak has helped improve school spirit.

The journey was long and depressing, featuring many blowout losses in both the 2010 and 2011 seasons. After going 0-16 in Class A over a span of two years, the Vikings were moved to the Developmental League. Shawn McKoy (Class of '12) provided the team with a manageable offense, but in his upperclassmen years, never once did he experience the joy of winning a football game.

Fast forward to 2012, where Head Coach Jamel Ramsay is now the third head coach in five years and his team has three wins and one loss on the year.

There are countless players and coaches who have made winning possible. The three captains—seniors Aaron Underwood, Adam Gatehouse, and Vincent Miscioscia—have been at the center from a leadership perspective, and have contributed to the team's improving morale and performance.

Senior Christian Castillo (middle linebacker) has started in the last two games and was noted by one of his teammates as exceptionally impressive. Juniors Kyle Granger, Matt Siegal, Michael Gennusa and starting quarterback James Burns all have made key contributions.

Even sophomores have been involved. For example, Austin Hanover (center) and Scott Belarge (cornerback) both start.

The Developmental League features a championship game which Port Washington can qualify for by winning their remaining three games (at Great Neck South, vs. Great Neck North, and at Jericho).

While the journey is not over, Schreiber's team has made many noticeable improvements. The skill level of the competition has decreased, but as a

result, the team has only gotten stronger.

It is unclear if this is the best football team Port Washington has fielded in years.

Either way, wins are beneficial to the morale of the school and the team. Wins can restore the team's reputation, and most importantly, the team's wins could very well lead to a spot in the championship game. This would have enormous effects in bringing recognition to the team and spirit to the student body.

The program has already effectively revived its reputation, especially with its win last Saturday at Pride in Port against St. Dominic.

Additional success will only bring additional respect. And for now, the Vikings have respect from both the school and *The Schreiber Times*.

Interested in writing for Opinions? Then come to the next newspaper general meeting on October 11! 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.

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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.

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Restaurant Review Smashburger is a savory success

BY Daniella Philipson and Alexa Pinto

Features Editor and Staff Writer

According to its website, “Smashburger was born to carry the torch for the modern burger lover,” and Smashburger has certainly earned the right to brag about its savory hamburgers. The new Smashburger franchise, which opened on Aug. 31 on Port Washington Blvd, is one of the most popular restaurants in town this fall.

Since its grand opening, Smashburger has quickly become a popular off-campus lunchtime spot for Schreiber students and staff. Port Washington’s Smashburger is unique in comparison to its other locations, which more closely resemble fast food restaurants. Port’s location used a local steel company to create the tables, moldings, and lighting fixtures.

“This location is way more upscale than any of the others,” said Mr. Jim Vanneman, who runs the Smashburger openings and locations throughout Long Island.

Smashburger offers six main burgers, ranging from the Classic Burger to the Spicy Baja. Even with the typical American cheese, lettuce, tomato, ketchup, onion, and pickles, Smashburger spices it up with their savory smash sauce. All the burgers are made of juicy 100% Angus beef.

The Spicy Baja burger, made of pepper jack cheese, guacamole, lettuce, tomato, onion, spicy chipotle mayo, and fresh jalapenos sitting on a spicy chipotle bun, is delicious, but the true success appears in the BBQ Bacon Burger. The savory smashed patty lies on an egg bun and is topped with New York cheddar cheese, amazingly greasy haystack onions, and

two strips of smoked bacon.

This burger is sinful. If you are thinking that the BBQ Bacon Burger is disgusting, then you are right. We highly recommend this burger because of the perfect combination of juicy meat and melted cheese. However, once you are done eating, the burger will definitely take its toll and you will probably regret eating it and want to run three miles in order to burn off the excess calories.

The fries are, like the burgers, an amazing experience. Don’t be surprised if you finish an entire order in less than a minute. They are that good.

If you really want to take the experience to the next level, you can throw a milkshake into the mix. A milkshake generally has the caloric value of a healthy meal, but if you are already eating the BBQ Bacon Burger, you might as well just top it off with a milkshake. Smashburger’s milkshakes and floats, made from Häagen-Dazs ice cream, are among the most refreshing items on the menu, and come in classic flavors such as chocolate, vanilla, and strawberry; and others like



Daniella Philipson

Smashburger’s mouthwatering hamburger with lettuce, tomatoes, and ketchup is available for \$5.99. A side of delicious Smash Fries costs an additional \$2.99.

Oreo, Butterfinger, Nutterbutter, or New York Cheesecake.

If none of Smashburger’s main dishes appeal to you, have no fear! With the “Create Your Own Burger” option, customers can choose their own cheeses, sauces, and toppings to satisfy their unique taste buds. Besides burgers, Smashburger also offers an array of hot dogs and sides, including famous “smashfries” made with rosemary, olive oil, and garlic, as well as regular french fries, sweet potato fries, and chili cheese fries. Fried pickles, beefy chili, and haystack onions are also available for \$2.99.

Those who are looking to eat healthy

can order veggie burgers such as the Spicy Baja Black Bean Burger for \$5.99. In addition, healthy eaters can “Create Your Own Black Bean Burger” for \$4.99.

Salads, such as the Harvest salad, with fresh greens, balsamic tomatoes, raisins, dried cranberries, sunflower and pumpkin seeds, and blue cheese topped with balsamic vinaigrette dressing for \$5.99, are prepared for any customers who enjoy being ironic and eating green things at a meat establishment.

Smashburger is a must. Go for lunch. Go for dinner. Maybe even go for breakfast.

The long awaited iPhone 5 reaches new heights

BY Jack Weinkselbaum

Staff Writer

Since the release of the iPhone 4 in June of 2010, rumors concerning the next iPhone have been swirling. Some thought it would be teardrop shaped, others thought it would have a laser keyboard and holograms. On Sept. 12, all of the rumors came to a halt with Apple’s announcement of the iPhone 5.

Though the new iPhone is called the iPhone 5, it is technically the sixth

generation iPhone. The iPhone 5 displays some of the most drastic changes ever made to this line of technology. The most prominent change is the larger screen, measuring 4 inches tall compared to the previous iPhones’ 3.5.

Less obvious changes have also been made to the structure; according to Apple, the iPhone 5 is 18% thinner and 20% lighter than the iPhone 4S. Although the phone weighs less than its predecessors, Apple has increased the size of the screen and made the iPhone 5 taller than any other iPhone. In a society that is frequently trying to minimize, it is ironic that the sleekest new technology is actually larger.

The back of the iPhone 5 is constructed with aluminum, replacing the glass that was introduced with the iPhone 4. This new design allows the iPhone to withstand more damage.

Included in the packaging of the iPhone 5 are Apple’s new and improved earbuds. The “EarPods” have stronger bass and are designed to fit more comfortably in the ear.

The design change that has been creating the most commotion is the iPhone 5’s new charging and syncing port. The smaller port is called “Lightning” and is very different from the classic 30-pin connector that Apple has been using for the past decade. The new connector is much smaller and thinner, and is not compatible with any of the old iPhone and iPod accessories. However, by using an

adapter, one can still connect the iPhone to these earlier generation accessories. Apple has been criticized for continuing to use its proprietary ports and connectors in defiance of industry standards like micro USB that have been adopted by nearly all of its competitors.

Among the new features of the iPhone 5 is its ability to take panoramic pictures. In addition, iPhone 5 allows users to take still shots during video filming, giving them the best of both worlds.

“My favorite new feature is taking pictures and videos at the same time,” said junior Jordan Cohen.

Nevertheless, many aspects of the iPhone did stay the same. The screen pixel density is the same as the 4S, meaning that the Retina display is identical to the one found in the previous generation. The camera on the back is still 8 megapixels and can still record 1080p video, but the front facing camera’s quality has increased, and the camera itself is centered rather than sitting on the left side.

Apple also announced iOS 6, a new version of the operating system shared by the iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch. Among the more prominent features are Facebook integration and Facetime over cellular connection. The new pre-installed map application has been met with complaints of incorrect street names, missing landmarks, distorted satellite photos, and incorrect directions; hopefully, Apple will be able to fix these malfunctions through timely patches.



www.apple.com

Apple’s sleek and unique new “EarPod” headphones come with the iPhone 5.

However, this map function now includes turn-by-turn navigation, which was not in earlier phones.

“I am not very excited for the iPhone 5, especially since my iPhone 4S gets the iOS6 update, although I am jealous of the new panoramic pictures tool,” said senior Sydney Mott.

Despite the typical frenzy that accompanies the release of new Apple technology, Schreiber students were not willing to wait on overnight lines for the new device.

“I pre-ordered my iPhone online, which is so much easier than waiting outside,” said junior Sam Crawley.

According to *The New York Times*, 775 people were counted waiting outside of the Apple Store on Fifth Avenue in New York City on the morning of its release. Although Schreiber students were not a part of that frenzy, many eagerly pre-ordered their new devices while the others will yearn for the panoramic pictures.



www.apple.com



The Homecoming King, senior Shun Akai, and Homecoming Queen, Courtney Pusey, pose with the Viking after receiving their crowns during halftime at the homecoming football game.



Senior Derek Caruso raises his arms in victory after winning the flour and gum game during the pep rally. During this contest, Caruso, with his hands behind his back, submerged his face into a vat of flour, picked up a piece of chewing gum with his mouth and blew a bubble faster than the other competitors.



Students, staff, and community celebrate Port Washington with a weekend of events.

What do face paint, pom-poms, inflatable bounce houses, and screaming teenagers have in common? They were all present in large numbers during last weekend's annual Pride in Port homecoming festivities.

The events kicked off with a spirit day on Friday, during which students dressed festively in blue and white clothing, and also painted one another's faces and bodies blue and white, in preparation for that afternoon's pep rally.

The student body and staff members entered the gym to find several "living statues" standing still on the floor, complete with painted faces, bodies, and hair to match either their suits or togas.

Student band The Blue Suits performed during the start of the pep rally, opening with Carly Rae Jepsen's summer hit "Call Me Maybe."

"Performing in the pep rally was a lot of fun," said sophomore Juliette Walzer, who sings lead vocals for The Blue Suits and also sang the National Anthem directly following the band's first songs. "I really enjoyed the energy from the audience and from my friends."

After the National Anthem, the gymnasium lights went out, and the main performances officially began. To the sound of a pounding bass, a group of performers fitted in orange jumpsuits and white masks marched out in lines, and then proceeded to dance to the opening of Michael Jackson's "Thriller."

The orange jumpsuits? Those were inspired by the viral Youtube video featuring the real-life prisoners of the Cebu Provincial Detention and Rehabilitation Center.

This entrance was a secret well-kept by performers, although rumors of a mysterious "surprise" circulated the school in the days leading up to the pep rally.

"The surprise is really creative and unexpected," said freshman Harlee Tung, a Portette, about a week before the pep rally. "I think the audience is going to be very confused but very entertained."

After the jumpsuit-clad mob exited the floor, the usual cheerleader and Portette performances began, with a few notable additions. The step team returned for the second year, the Latin Dancers performed the mambo, and, finally, a surprise performance by the K-Pop group to PSY's "Gangnam Style" concluded the sequence of dances.

A series of short games followed the performances, including one called the "Football Shimmy," in which student couples stood facing one another and shimmed footballs up from their waists to their necks.

Several of the group of teachers standing near the exit turned their heads to face away from the activity, and later expressed sentiments that this activity may not have been the most appropriate for a pep rally.

"I didn't even know what was going on there," said Spanish teacher Ms. Angela Morffi.

"The surprise is really creative and unexpected," said freshman Harlee Tung, a Portette, about a week before the pep rally. "I think the audience is going to be very confused but very entertained."

"We make new games every year," said assistant principal Dr. Fitzgerald. "we never repeat the same games, and we spent a lot of time talking about it and have meetings. We ultimately decided to make the game from the waist up and asked couples if they were comfortable with the game ahead of time."

This year's pep rally centered around musical performances and silly games,

such as retrieving gum from a vat of flour and blowing a bubble, and shaking one's head as vigorously as possible to rack up the "steps" on a pedometer worn on a headband.

Some were disappointed by the lack of time devoted to this year's homecoming court and athletic teams.

"Most people really care about the homecoming events, and that should be the focus of the pep rally," said senior Jack Rucigay.

At 11 on Saturday morning, representatives from community organizations, all seven district schools, and Schreiber's marching band, cheerleaders, Portettes, and homecoming court marched in a parade down Main Street, Port Washington Boulevard, and, finally, Campus Drive. The parade continued to the field adjacent to the track, the location of the student-run children's carnival.

Key Club volunteers staffed the various inflatable activities, and most school clubs ran tables selling food as fundraisers.

"We want to use the money to host our first conference here at Schreiber," said Model UN representative sophomore Naomi Boico.

The Science Honor Society and Science Olympiad partnered together to run a particularly popular table, at which children could create their own Borax and white glue "gloop." Student Council coordinated the sale of tickets and the collection of funds.

A few hours into the carnival, students, teachers, and families headed over to the turf to watch the homecoming game.

This game continued the Viking football team's brand new winning streak, bringing in their third win this year and their first homecoming win in several. These wins were the first in two years, after the varsity team was demoted to the developmental league.

The game began with a strong lead by the Vikings, who scored twelve points in just the first quarter and carried their lead over into halftime. Quarterback James Burns threw for 137 yards and got three

touchdowns. While St. Dominics' Bayhawks gave the Vikings a brief scare in the third quarter with six points scored, the final score read 24-9.

"The team is showing a lot of perseverance and determination and I'm proud of each and every one of those guys and they're just going out there and they're working hard and they're going to come out with a win," said senior Mike Berry.

Student seemed to rally around the win, happy to be cheering for the victors.

"There was definitely a lot of pep," said senior Miles Kurtz. "I think that the benefits of the developmental league definitely came through today. I'm feeling a lot more school spirit and I think it's because the game is actually competitive."

At halftime, the cheerleaders and Portettes performed their routines before four Schreiber graduates were inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame and the Homecoming King and Queen, seniors Shun Akai and Courtney Pusey, received their crowns.

"I was overjoyed to see so much school spirit," said senior Jillian Knoll.

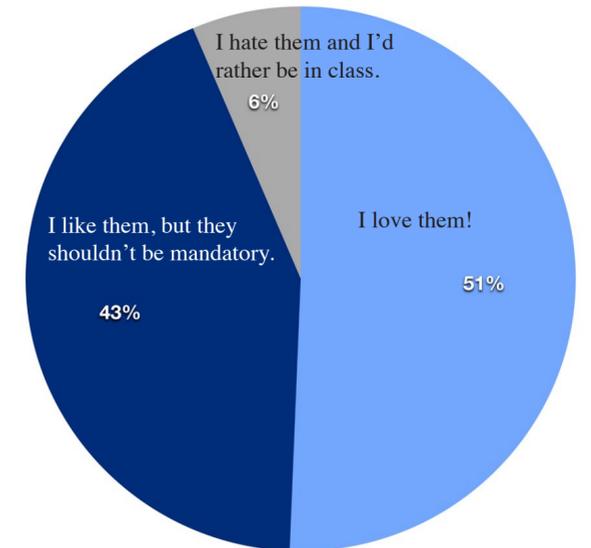
This was the 24th year of Pride in Port festivities, after the event first began as a community effort to increase attendance at the homecoming football game in 1989.

"Teachers and students from the high school as well as the Chamber of Commerce wanted to generate an occasion where the whole town could get together and celebrate," said Pride in Port committee chair Ms. Barbara Fatticone.

By Dan Bidikov, Jessica Commisso, Hannah Fagen and Hannah Zweig.

Photos by Harry Paul

What do you think of the pep rallies?



Left: members of the KPop dance club perform "Gangnam Style." Right: senior Tiffany Wood and her four-year-old brother dance with the step team.



Senior Ani O'Hanlon and other members of the Portettes celebrate after their performance at the pep rally.

Fashion Kicking off the fall season with a boot

Boots are becoming an essential as the cold weather begins to kick in

BY Caroline Ogulnick
Assistant Features Editor

Throw your summer flip-flops away, because another shoe is dominating this fall season. Although many will miss exposing their nicely tanned toes to the summer sun, as the colder months approach, it is time for a footwear adjustment. Having a solid pair of boots is a necessity when transitioning into the fall and winter seasons. Boots are an easy go-to shoe for the cold weather, as they go with an endless number of outfits and come in an infinite number of styles.

Boots are universal—there is a pair for everyone's style preferences. Combat boots, motorcycle boots, cowboy boots, and riding boots are among the

various styles of boots that are available. Boots' heights range from ankle height, frequently called "booties," to knee-high, and, sometimes, even, thigh-high.

"I love putting on my favorite boots during the fall and winter. They always keep me warm and are a great pair of shoes to have," said junior, Abby Harari.

If your parents do not cut your budget this season, you may want to take a look at Frye boots. Frye is a company that started in 1863; they have created fashionable and long-lasting boots for almost 150 years. Though some of the boots can come to a whopping \$300, Frye boots are well worth the money. They typically survive through many harsh winters, and will not leave you buying a new pair of boots every fall. Frye offers cowboy boots, motorcycle boots, combat boots, riding boots and an assortment of other styles as well.

The beloved brand Steve Madden, produces trendy boots that are reasonably priced. With their array of styles and endless color choices, Steve Madden offers the perfect boot for cold weather. The company sells western boots, lace-up boots, studded boots, and even dressy boots for special occasions. Steve Madden boots are not only sold at their own retail stores, but are also available at department stores such as Macy's, Nordstrom, and Bloomingdale's.

Though this brand has been around since the 1950s, Dr. Martens are quickly rising as a favorite boot of the upcoming season. Dr. Marten boots have a very distinct look with their chunky exteriors and thick rubber soles. These boots come in over 50 prints and colors, in addition to



www.drmartens.com

a variety of different heights. Dr. Martens are reasonably priced at \$100-\$200, and, if you take good care of them, can last well over ten years. These boots are perfect for the upcoming season and are a great pair of shoes to transition into the spring and summer.

"I wear my Dr. Marten's everyday. They match any outfit I wear, and are definitely making a huge comeback this season," said junior, Kayla Pollock.

You can dress them up, or wear them casually. Boots will protect your well-manicured toes from the icy winter winds, and look cute while doing so. If Steve Madden or Dr. Marten's do not work out for you, be sure to check out online retailers such as DSW and Zappos to purchase these cold weather essentials. Even if you are not looking to invest hundreds of dollars into boots, you can find a cheap yet trendy pair in many boutiques or department stores.



www.thefryecompany.com

Student performers revitalize Dolphin

BY Lily Weisberg
Contributing Writer

Do you find yourself constantly in search of a quiet, soulful place to think, sip on a coffee, and munch on a delicious snack? Are you yearning for a place to listen to live music for free, free I tell you! Well, thanks to Live Music in The Dolphin Café, your search is over because Port Washington's own adorable bookshop now has live music and baked goods.

Dolphin Bookshop celebrated the grand opening of its café in the beginning of April of this year. Since then, the small coffee shop has developed a loyal following of customers from all over town. Recently, the cozy café has hosted musical performances by Port Washington residents.

The Dolphin Café first opened six months ago, in the beginning of April. As part of a new program called Live Music in The Dolphin Café, local musicians participate in free performances from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the coffee shop.

Run by Soloman Hoffman '10, Live Music in The Dolphin Café hosts a variety of performers, many of whom are Schreiber students. Pianist Natasha Talukdar, and singers Julia Bain and Jessie Weil are only some of Schreiber's musically capable students to perform there.

"Solomon Hoffman, who organizes the event at Dolphin, asked Natasha and I if we were interested in performing. We just put together a bunch of songs and classical piano music and alternated between styles," said senior Julia Bain.

With music ranging from jazz, classical, rock, pop, blues, folk and even musical theater, the Dolphin Café's performance collection is diverse enough to entice music lovers of all kinds. The performance series is a fantastic way for Port Washington residents to support a local business as well as its community of young artists.

"It is an awesome place to perform in because the environment is so casual and comfortable. More people come every

Friday and it was a great experience. I am excited to do it again sometime," said senior Julia Bain.

Great music is not all that the Dolphin Café has to offer. The inviting café sells spectacular Stumptown Coffee as well as Serendipi Tea. In addition to these unique caffeine-filled options, the coffee shop also sells juices, sodas, hot chocolate, and funky health beverages.

What could be better than settling down with a warm or cold beverage and a delicious baked good made by people in our community? Among the Dolphin Café's delicious desserts and baked goods are gluten-free snacks.

The main goal of the Café was to provide a space for all to relax and have a comfortable place to read. The Café's critical location in the middle of the store helps make it a convenient area for customers.

The next time you walk through Dolphin Bookshop, make sure to stop by the cafe for a cookie, a delicious iced tea, and some great live music.

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Sc hreiber
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BY Hannah Fagen
Editor in Chief

While Schreiber's science classes took a break over the summer, the professional science world was certainly busy during the summer months.

On July 4, two groups at CERN, also known as the European Organization for Nuclear Research, announced to the public that they had each discovered the Higgs boson particle, often referred to the "God particle." Scientists have long suspected that this particle, which may be responsible for giving elementary particles their mass exists, but it was not until this summer that scientists were able to provide evidence of its existence.

"I thought the discovery was cool. It is definitely a big step," said science teacher Mr. Michael Campanella. "It's already been on *The Big Bang Theory*."

The first extensive search began at CERN in the early 1990s, with the help of a machine known as a Large Hadron Collider. The machine was used to detect the Higgs boson particle, which was only apparent for one septillionth, or 1/1024 of a second.

About one month after CERN's announcement of the Higgs boson, NASA had a news blitz of its own when the largest and most technologically sophisticated rover to date, Curiosity, landed on Mars after the organization launched the rover into space last November.

"I loved seeing people who were so passionate about science have such great success," said senior Lani Hack.

The rover, which is approximately the size of a modern car, landed on Mars' surface on August 5. The landing was shown live on the NASA website and in Times Square, where more than 1,000 spectators gathered to watch between one and two in the morning.

"I wish I could have gone to see it land this summer," said senior Jillian Knoll.

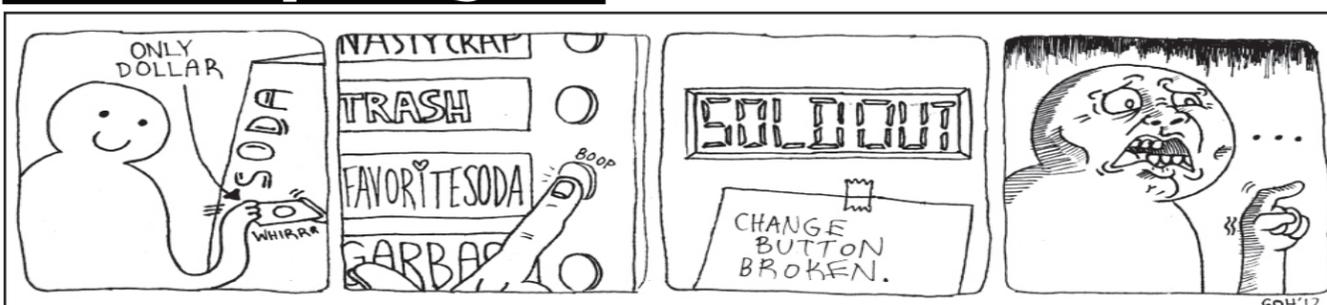
NASA has since reported, on Sept 27, that Curiosity located what was arguably once a streambed on the surface of Mars.

The discovery of the Higgs Boson particle and Curiosity's landing on Mars were not the only science and health related stories to grace the headlines of major news outlets this summer.

July was the hottest month on record since weather forecasters began recording temperatures in 1895. These high temperatures caused droughts which sparked the US Department of Agriculture to declare almost half of all US counties disaster zones. The American Academy of Pediatrics caused waves when they reversed their previously neutral stance on routine infant circumcision in favor of a policy, which, while still leaving the decision up to families, officially recognized the merits of the procedure. In other news, Stanford University released the results of a several-year-long study that indicate that the more expensive and "healthier" organic meats and produce may actually bear no significant health benefits.

The science world is ever-changing, and new discoveries are made every day; this summer was no exception.

Comic Spotlight: Chris Goh



Lala Nails takes gold in the nail salon showdown

BY Veronika Onischenko

Staff Writer

Among Port Washington's wealth of storefronts is an abundance of nail salons. Some girls stick to their trusted favorites, while some like to mix it up and try out different places every so often. If you feel like trying out a new atmosphere or are unsure of what nail salon to go to, here are four of Port Washington's best.

OGI Nails and Spa, located at 22 Main Street, is one of Port's most beloved nail salons. Many students stop here for a quick manicure after school or make mani-pedi appointments for special events. In addition to manicures and pedicures, they offer waxing and massages. These are moderately priced, allowing you to have a luxurious experience without having to pay the price of a five-star spa.

"OGI is not that expensive and they give discounts to students," said senior Neda Khan. "They have a good selection of nail color designs. They also give comforting massages at no extra charge."

In addition to an always helpful and friendly staff, OGI gets you in and out very quickly, with minimal waiting time. Within two minutes, you will have a color picked and a comfy seat waiting for you.

"They have good service and do my nails quickly," said sophomore Tessa Peierls.

Prices are \$12 for a regular manicure, \$15 for a French Manicure, and \$25 for a Gel Manicure. OGI also has a popular Teen's Special that is \$8 for a manicure, \$18 for a pedicure, and \$25 for a manicure and pedicure.

Located only four doors down from OGI, at 18 Main Street, is Senniyo Nail Salon and Spa. Senniyo is slightly cheaper than OGI at \$10 for a manicure, \$20 for a pedicure, \$14 for a French manicure, and \$20 for a gel manicure. In addition, Senniyo has the same \$8 special as OGI.

Despite the fact that Senniyo has fewer nail and gel polish color choices than OGI, it still offers over 100. Despite the



Elana Galassi



www.lalanails.com



www.followpics.com

Sunny Nails' location is perfect for an after school manicure or pedicure. The luxurious chairs at Lala Nail and Spa salon provide a comfortable experience, while OGI offers abundant color choices.

similarities between OGI and Senniyo. OGI wins hands down (pun intended). Their seats are the bounciest of them all and their manicurists have the gentlest touch.

"They are all very friendly and spend a lot of time making your nails perfect," said senior Jackie McGlynn.

Senniyo is also recognized for its environment.

"It's small, but is big enough so that I can bring a friend. They're really friendly there," said junior Sabrina Brennan. "It's reasonably priced, they have a great range of colors, and overall it's got an awesome atmosphere."

Senniyo is slightly smaller than OGI, but with its superb service and reasonable prices, it is worth an appointment.

LaLa Nail and Spa is one of the more specialized salons in town. They offer manicures, pedicures, massages, waxing, body treatment/therapy, and many spa packages. LaLa Salon is the largest salon in Port with the most manicure and pedicure chairs and treatment rooms. This salon is located at 134 Shore Road and particularly popular with residents of the Manorhaven, Soundview, and Sands

Point areas.

"Living in Soundview, I love having a nail salon that is so close to me. Whenever I need a quick manicure fix, LaLa is my top salon to go to," said sophomore Sara Pinkus.

LaLa Nail Salon mainly offers OPI and Essie nail polishes, but also gives gel manicures in brands such as CND and a line of polishes by OPI. The amount of colors they have is endless and the staff is always available to help you choose a color if you cannot decide. LaLa Salon provides a manicure for \$10 and a pedicure for \$20. Their gel manicures are priced at \$25, but there are some special packages that are priced up to \$70.

"I love going to LaLa nail salon. The staff there is so friendly and always greets you as soon as you walk in," said sophomore Jess Altuch. "The service is fast and efficient, and never fails to do a perfect job."

The prices are just a tad higher at LaLa, and the additional two dollars probably help fund their luxurious facilities.

Located on Port Boulevard, the newly opened Sunny Nail and Spa is the closest to Schreiber. The environment at Sunny

Nail and Spa is the most tranquil out of all of the nail salons. Everyone is very sociable and attentive, and the staff always wants to make sure you're comfortable before starting your manicure or pedicure.

"Sunny Nail and Spa is one of the most convenient nail salons in Port Washington," said senior Rebecca Herz. It is the closest to the school, so if I ever need to go to during a period off or right after school, it is very easy to access."

The prices are reasonable and identical to those at LaLa: \$10 for a manicure, \$20 for a pedicure, and \$25 for a gel manicure. Like the other salons in town, Sunny Nail Salon has a 10% discount for students. They have more gel polish colors than OGI and Senniyo, and have well over 200 different regular nail polish colors as well.

Although all four spas provide wonderful manicures and a friendly staff, if you're interested in a more expedient nail experience, OGI Nail and Spa and Senniyo are the places to go. LaLa Nail and Spa definitely gives a more expert experience and provides you with the most long-lasting paint job. No matter where you go, you will never fail to find a salon if you have a desperate nail emergency.

Global class faces traumatizing experience locked behind classroom door

BY Dan Bidikov

A&E Editor

Imagine yourself in a room with no entrance or exit, no front or back—only you and a bunch of tense, scared, hungry teenagers. You do not know how much longer you will have to be there, but if you do not get out soon your mind will surely be engulfed by an inexorable wave of anxiety and paranoia, leaving you feeling like a toddler left alone in a grocery store after closing hours: alone, scared, lost.

Sounds like a difficult environment to learn global history in, right? Mr. Craig Medico's ninth and tenth grade AIS students came to terms with this isolating, Golding-esque (William Golding is the author of *Lord of the Flies* #wellread #thankyouMsLiss) experience on Sept. 20, when they found that the door to their classroom had been rendered completely useless.

Top forensic analysts social studies department chair Mr. Bryan "The Hammer" Frank and social studies teacher Mr. Petro "Greece Lightning" Macrigiane spent minutes visually observing the door to determine the exact cause of the malfunction. Although it was ultimately revealed that the deadbolt lock on the

door had gotten stuck, ghosts have not been entirely ruled out as a possible cause for the incident.

Due to the administration's desperate efforts to cover up details of the event (if evidence of a supernatural presence in Schreiber got out, funding to the Spirit Club might have to be renewed), none of the students in the class were available for comment.

Thankfully, Mr. Macrigiane's AP Comparative Government class was about to begin just as Mr. Medico found himself unable to jimmy the door open. According to them, the door was not only stuck, but soundproof as well.

"Mr. Medico had to gesture to the door knob to signal that it was broken," said senior Makenzie Drukker.

Another theory is that the social studies teacher was simply at a loss for words, or perhaps momentarily lost his voice and was unable to shout for help.

The situation affected the education of students in both classes, and will most likely directly correlate to lower future yearly income and SAT scores in the students who were involved. There was also widespread emotional trauma on a deep level to several of the students present for the duration of the shutdown.

"Our class eventually had to move to

the auditorium, and having no door was really scary—we were exposed to the elements," said senior Emily Lipstein.

Additional psychological counseling for the students traumatized by the mass lockdown is another possible course of administrative action. The desperate need for this specific procedure is exemplified in Drukker's sadistic final testimonial statement: "All in all, super fun!"

This incident is not to be taken lightly in terms of its impact on student mental and emotional health. In a world where video games exist and it is socially acceptable to block your mom on Facebook, we need to be ever careful of the negative influences that are shaping the minds of our youths.

Not even the elite or the most physically fit men of the social studies department could force the door open. Mr. Macrigiane, Mr. Frank and Mr. Jeremy Klaff all fidgeted desperately with the key for a few minutes before giving up. Social studies teacher Mr. Doug Matina, was your time really too valuable to stop for a moment and drop-kick a door to save a classroom of defenseless students?

According to Mr. Medico, he or another teacher could not break the door down because of "property reasons." Yeah, and I only did three pushups in gym class because of "property reasons!"

Fortunately, the custodial staff is both heroic and muscular. Mr. David Albury broke down the door and rescued the students holed up in room 221. We asked what kind of complicated equipment was involved in the extraction process.

"My shoulder," Mr. Albury said. "I do it for the kids."

These instances of going above and beyond the call of duty are what make the Schreiber custodians so vital to the homeostasis of our educational environment.

When asked in the hallway if he was considering running for president in 2016, Mr. Albury had no response because he did not hear me and, also, it was not the same custodian.

The Schreiber custodians may not be entirely innocent of locking the classroom door, as they refused to comment when pressed by newspaper reporters for information.

"I should not say anything, because you might not like what you get," said one custodian who wished to remain anonymous.

Just how deep does this rabbit hole go? Don't worry, avid readers, because here at *The Schreiber Times*, "We're On It!"

Diversity in television is the “New Normal”

The upcoming TV season is spicing it up with controversial topics and laughs

BY Steven Krainin and Sydney Mott

Staff Writer and Contributing Writer

Up until recently, the only diversity seen on television was whether characters were white or *Simpsons*-yellow. In the past five years, however, television has evolved along with our culture, airing more diverse programs and adding controversial topics to the airwaves. From homosexual couples marrying and starting families to heated conversations about race and religion, television writers have certainly proven that they have something to say.

Two of the more notable examples of diverse television shows are the youth-oriented (or rather, shows that are geared towards high school students) *Degrassi* and *Glee*. Both shows feature an ensemble of characters of different races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, and socioeconomic statuses.

Glee is well known for its portrayal of LGBT youths in a positive light. With two of its student couples in committed same-sex relationships, the show's writers make a point about the variety of relationships in American high schools. *Glee* also includes characters with disabilities such as down syndrome, which is not seen on many other television shows.

Degrassi: The Next Generation features many minority characters and the challenges they have to face in the everyday world. With characters like Adam, a transgender student, and Eli, who not only faces the struggles of being a teenager, but also those of bipolar disorder and manic depression, *Degrassi* strives to



Promotional pictures from some of TV's most diverse shows display a wide range of characters, from homosexual couples to an Indian American main character.

relate to an exceedingly wide variety of teenagers while shedding light on issues that will not be featured anywhere else on television.

“I guess television has become more diverse, but the change has come more subtly than anything else,” said senior Rebecca Herz.

Shows like *Glee* and *Degrassi* are only the tip of the iceberg. One does not have to go further than network television to see the country's diversity reflected back from a TV screen. FOX's newest show, *The Mindy Project*, features Mindy Kaling

of *Office* fame. Not only does *The Mindy Project* feature Kaling as a strong female doctor, but it is also one of few examples of an Indian American main character in television.

Comedy Central, which is known for airing racier material, has put their newest comic duo to the test in *Key and Peele*. African-American comedians Keegan-Michael Key and Jordan Peele showcase their comedic commentaries on race, popular culture, and politics in America.

As our culture evolves, so does the definition of “family.” Ryan Murphy's

new show, *The New Normal*, is about an atypical family that includes a surrogate mother, her young daughter, and two expecting fathers. It is a sign of the times that *The New Normal* is no longer considered a cutting edge show despite its novel plot.

The hit comedy *Modern Family* is yet another example of how shows like *I Love Lucy* and *Leave it to Beaver* are far behind us. *Modern Family* has three radically different couples, all of whom celebrate the differences in their families and face the same fundamental issues.

While women have always had roles on TV shows, they have only recently taken leading roles. Shows like *30 Rock*, *New Girl*, *Parks and Recreation*, and *Girls* have strong female leads who are able to succeed in their personal lives as well as their working environments. These shows succeed in featuring female characters without exclusively “female” humor, allowing the shows to appeal to a wide audience.

“I think that TV's attempt to be diverse is genuine, and it is great to see that people are comfortable with a wide scope of topics in their favorite shows,” said senior Benny Scheckner.

Modern day television shows have encapsulated the changing sentiments in American society. With so many new shows, groups that were underrepresented on TV are seen more frequently. While the future of television may be uncertain, it is clear that the entertainment industry will continue to evolve to reflect our culture's changing values.

Kaleidoscope Spotlight: Schreiber's one and only literary art magazine

One day you thought
you were better than me
you thought you were
smarter than me
you thought that
I couldn't do anything
Look at me now.

I'm walking in the hallway
I see you are surprised
to see me now
you are not as smart
as you thought
I smile and keep
my head up
I remember the day
that you called me:

drug addict

I remember the day
all of you said
not to talk to me
because I was
going in a bad direction

But I don't hate you
for that. You know what?
You are not better than me.

I can make you
keep your mouth shut
If you shoot to the sky
I shoot to the moon
I can do it better
than you, not
because I think
I'm better
It's because
I can do things
that you can't.

I just smile
when I see
your surprise
Look at me now.

LOOK AT ME NOW
ERIC CATALAN



The freshman perspective

BY Jillian Keyes

Contributing Writer

The adjustment from middle school to high school is a journey. There are many new responsibilities and privileges given to freshmen upon arrival at Schreiber.

Off periods, glorious off periods, are one of the biggest privileges given to Schreiber students. In high school, the average freshman taking one art or music elective has approximately seven free hours in a given week, not including lunch.

“I take advantage of my off periods and go to the library with my friends and study for other classes,” said freshman Sophie Lipstein.

In addition, the six-day cycle is a new concept for freshmen to wrap their heads around. In contrast to the two-day cycle at Weber Middle School, Schreiber's schedule is much more complex. Although it is confusing to have classes that alternate days, this system does provide for a nice break for some classes.

“The great thing about Schreiber is that the students are given so much more freedom than ever before. I love being able to pick my own classes and electives,” said freshman Eric Fishbin.

Without the guidance groups to guide underclassmen with the adjustment, many freshman would probably get lost in the hallways in search of the Olympic-sized swimming pool on the fourth floor.

Hallway freedom is another huge difference. The backwards ways of carrying an armload of books and being scolded for cell phone use are

gone. Backpacks are not only useful for notebook storage, but for fashion and snacks. Thanks to backpacks, the student body has the ability to keep food on them at all times.

“The great thing about Schreiber is that the students are given so much more freedom than ever before. I love being able to pick some of my own classes and electives,” said freshman

The biggest difference of all, though, has been the mixture of the student body. Rather than the “house” system at Weber, Schreiber students enjoy far more diverse classes.

It is significantly easier to make friends. Freshman can befriend upperclassmen, which is great for free rides to Starbucks after school and food from off-campus locations.

“It has been a good transition because now we are more mature,” said freshman Katie McDermott. “The shift to Schreiber has been extremely smooth and I hope that it continues to be that warm.”

arts & Entertainment

The Master of filmmaking is out at sea

BY Victor Dos Santos

Assistant A&E Editor

In director Paul Thomas Anderson's latest film *The Master*, Joaquin Phoenix stars as violent, alcoholic, World War II veteran Freddie Quell.

The film centers on Quell's post-traumatic stress disorder, which ultimately brings out his darker side. One night, after doing a bit of heavy drinking, Quell sneaks onto a ship as a stowaway, and passes out.

The ship is owned by Lancaster Dodd (Phillip Seymour Hoffman), the leader of a philosophical movement known as "The Cause."

Upon learning what Dodd does and what "The Cause" is, Freddie decides that he wants to get involved. From then on, the movie focuses primarily upon loyalty and rejection.

Those familiar with Anderson's works know them as slow and contemplative films that give the audience some time to think between scenes.

As expected, *The Master* showcases Anderson's gorgeous cinematography. Shot on 70mm film, every shot in *The Master* will feel more grand and meaningful to any cinephile who sees the movie in this format. One might even call the cinematography 'masterful.'

Anderson focuses on what some people, specifically Quell, will do to feel as if they have found their purpose or something to live for.

After hearing that "The Cause" might be able to cure his "condition" and allow him to be accepted again, Freddie decides to join and center his life around "The Cause."

The lengths that Freddie will go to finally be accepted by society are haunting. As a member of the group of followers of a society founded on religious principles loosely based on scientology, Freddie has sporadic violent outbursts, and bizarre daydreams that are genuinely upsetting to watch.

All you can do as an audience member is feel sympathy for Freddie's character because he is, to quote Amy Adams' character, "past help."

One cannot give enough praise to Joaquin Phoenix for his portrayal of Freddie Quell.

He completely immerses himself in his role. He does a great job of conveying that there is a hidden sadness beneath all the rage that his character tends to express



accesshowbiz.com

Freddie Quell (Joaquin Phoenix) prepares a cocktail with coconuts and paint thinner. WWII veteran, Quell, befriends the leader of a bizarre cult in an attempt to cure his PTSD in *The Master*.

throughout the film.

The great Phillip Seymour Hoffman also does an amazing job as Lancaster Dodd, also referred to as "Master" by his followers.

His character struggles at every corner with criticism from those who don't believe in his teachings and even Freddie, in some of the more exhilarating moments of the film.

Unlike Freddie's character, there is more hidden about Dodd's character than some may have wished.

His motives for starting this movement are never made clear, and his motives for keeping Freddie close to him only revealed in the oddest ways, usually through sporadic and almost child-like fits of rage.

Many different ideas come into play in *The Master*, and much of that is due in part to the feeling that Paul Thomas Anderson crammed as much into the movie as possible.

At times, the movie felt overwhelming, but each beautiful shot of an ocean gives us time to think about what we've just seen. This makes the experience all the more engaging.

It keeps the viewer thinking about characters' motives and how everything might play out in the end.

The Master is a thinker, and one that will most likely sit with you for days. The



accesshowbiz.com

Lancaster Dodd (Phillip Seymour Hoffman) tests a new experiment in the desert, and observes the results of his philosophical movement.

film is a little slow—those shots of nothing but blue seas will stay on screen for quite some time.

Sticking with them though, is part of the experience, an experience that'll leave you feeling puzzled, exhausted and ecstatic by the fact that such a film exists.

The Master proves that Anderson has

proven that the real master here is the one behind the camera.

Through both his creative storytelling abilities and fantastic direction, Paul Thomas

Anderson has created a unique portrait of sadness, isolation, and rejection.

Looper sends audiences spiraling out of their seats

BY Ben Lerner
Staff Writer

In the 2070s, time travel is invented and immediately declared illegal. Future crime syndicates waste no time putting the practice to use, disposing of bodies using hired hitmen known as “loopers.” A looper agrees to shoot anyone the mob sends his way, even if that person winds up being his future self. Causality problems aside, this is the premise of the new film *Looper*.

Joe (Joseph Gordon-Levitt), is a young looper living in Kansas City in 2044. He lives the good life, spending his time driving around in a vintage car, living in a spacious, well-decorated apartment, sporting century-old ties, and indulging in the finest drugs that he can afford as a mob-hired killer.

Much of the city, however, lives in squalor, but the movie doesn't explore the sociological aspects of the 2040s. Rather, the city is a gritty, cyberpunk backdrop for the high-stakes action in the film's first half.

One day, while on the job, Joe confronts a target with an uncovered face. Recognizing the man as his future self (Bruce Willis), he hesitates to kill him. When the past and future Joes finally meet, Old Joe explains that in his future, the mobs are united under the rule of a single tyrannical mass murderer known as the Rainmaker.

Old Joe returns to the past to undo the evil that is the Rainmaker by killing him decades before he rises to power, removing the hit on himself.

Hiding in wait at a farm where a precocious possible future-Rainmaker, Cid, lives with his mother Sara (Emily Blunt), Young Joe initiates a fatal game of cat-and-mouse with his future self.



Joe (Joseph Gordon Levitt) is off to assassinate the victim of a crime syndicate from the future. Looper follows what would happen if one were faced with the possibility of having to assassinate one's future self.

From there, the movie shifts from sci-fi thriller shoot-outs to more tense, low key scenes with Old Joe stealthily tip-toeing around the city, on the run from the mob, and Young Joe waiting for him to finally arrive, all the while slowly becoming more comfortable with Sara.

It's worth mentioning that she isn't just some one-dimensional love interest; Sara is a brave, strong woman who defends her property and her child.

This keeps the film from dragging on or squeezing too much action into the second half without allowing for necessary climactic buildup.

Looper doesn't get too hung up on the consistency of its time travel, and neither should you.

If you're a stickler for time travel movies that follow their own rules so stringently that by the end there are seven different versions of the characters

running around off-screen, each with their own motive (a la *Primer*), then you probably won't give this movie the love it deserves.

The writing is this movie's strong point. It becomes difficult to decide between sympathizing with the present and future versions of the same character.

The film's cinematography deserves praise as well; the opening shots of Joe riding around the city are shot with a surrealism reminiscent of last year's *Drive*.

Gordon-Levitt's face was altered slightly with prosthesis to better resemble Willis', and while some may find it a bit off-putting, it ends up not being too jarring or noticeable. Unless you see this movie solely to marvel at Joseph Gordon-Levitt's natural nose, *Looper* is thoroughly enjoyable.

The perks of seeing *Perks of Being a Wallflower*

BY Penina Remler
Assistant A&E Editor

The enormous critical and commercial success of his 1999 young adult novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* inspired author Stephen Chbosky to bring the story to the silver screen.

Fans of the novel considered a common question: Could this film live up to its source material? Ultimately, the pairing of a talented cast with a director so

intimately familiar with the novel resulted in great success.

The film follows Charlie (Logan Lerman), a freshman in high school who has a rather disturbing past that impedes his ability to be social and make any friends besides his English teacher Mr. Anderson (Paul Rudd).

Within his second week of the school year, Charlie befriends one of the more flamboyant schoolmates, a gay senior named Patrick (Ezra Miller). Charlie meets Patrick's sister Sam (Emma Watson), the manic pixie dreamgirl for whom he falls.

It is with their help that Charlie is introduced to a new group of friends (referred to by Sam as the “island of misfit toys”), indie music, hipsters, drugs, and teen sex.

Chbosky wrote and directed the film himself to emphasize friendship's ability to help people get through tough times.

The heart of the movie is its well-

written dialogue. The film is told from Charlie's point of view, with voice-over narration, so it is easier to feel sympathetic for his character, but Ezra Miller as Patrick is the true standout performance.

If you have seen Miller in other films, you will understand versatile he is and how impressive it is to see him completely immerse himself as Patrick. Emma Watson's character was the only one to feel dull, but that might have been a problem with the script.

One of the main problems with the film is unnecessary darkness. The backstories of some of the characters just seem out of place and make the movie ridiculous. The scenes in the film that worked best were the ones that dealt with themes that were naturally more mature, like Patrick's relationship with a closeted football player. With a range in character roles, several different personality types were addressed.

Chbosky's vision comes across as mildly pretentious at first, mainly because of its constant references to indie bands and its admiration for the *Rocky Horror Picture Show*.

Beneath the pretense, there is heart in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*. The characters' camaraderie communicates the importance of the friendships established at younger age, which resulted in a genuinely sweet movie.

The Inbetweeners speaks to the unspoken crowd

BY Katie Fishbin
A&E Editor

After several attempts to bring the British hit to the United States, MTV has finally introduced the American version of *The Inbetweeners*.

While the MTV show *Awkward* traces the life of a high school girl and the many “awkward” dilemmas she encounters, *The Inbetweeners* follows four not-so-cool teen boys and their struggles through daily high school life.

The season premiere introduces narrator Will McKenzie (Joey Pollari), a rich, fastidious, somewhat “nerdy” boy who suddenly transfers from a private school to a public school after his parents' divorce.

Upon his arrival, Will meets three other students and the four become a group of friends bound by their ability to always make the wrong decisions. Will's new friends include the spacey Neil Sutherland (Mark L. Young), the neurotic, lovesick Simon Cooper (Bubba Lewis), and the loud-mouthed poseur Jay Cartwright (Zack Pearlman). These seemingly incompatible friends somehow compliment each other in a hilarious, unexpected way.

Much of their humiliating adventures have to do with Simon's romantic interest in his long-time friend Carli D'Amato (Alex Frank). His social awkwardness and insecurities come in the way of his success with her.

Some of the ridiculous tactics Simon uses in order to win Carli over are spray-painting her driveway, helping start a cooking club, and re-decorating his room for when she and her family stay with them.

Despite there being the second-hand embarrassment the viewers feel for Simon in many cases, it creates intrigue and excitement for the plot. While the “inbetweeners” experience many similar scenarios to current high school students, their means of solving their problems tend to be exaggerated for television purposes.

In the show's pilot, the boys decide to play hooky and get drunk in order to try to break away from their squeaky clean reputations.

Although it is easy to predict that the boys will be caught and make absolute fools of themselves, we cannot help but continue watching the episode play out.

Somehow, the boys each have a lovable quality and, although the setting is a stereotypical suburban, middle-class high school and the plots are somewhat predictable, the characters are easy to root for. Because the boys' personalities are so different, together they form a humorous yet genuine product.

What makes *The Inbetweeners* a powerful new hit is its classification of unspoken social status that all can relate to. Rather than a series that highlights the highs and lows of the social ladder in high school, *The Inbetweeners* exposes the life of a crowd which often does not get the attention it deserves.

Ultimately, the new show *The Inbetweeners* makes for a popular show as it highlights the struggle for kids to fit in.

Even though *The Inbetweeners* is flawed in creating a realistic plot line, the clever idea of the show connects with its fans. I recommend tuning in for the entertaining lives of *The Inbetweeners*.



Main character Charlie (Logan Lerman) is accompanied by new friends Patrick (Ezra Miller) and Sam (Emma Watson). After befriendng the two, Charlie is quickly welcomed into the social scene of these unique high school seniors.

The New Normal barely succeeds in recreating the ordinary

BY Lyliia Li
Staff Writer

The New Normal, one of NBC's newest additions to its comedy lineup, is pushing the envelope.

Combining a progressive message with charming humor, it tells the story of a gay couple, Bryan Collins (Andrew Rannells) and David Murray (Justin Bartha), and their endeavor to have a baby with a surrogate, Goldie Clemmons (Georgia King). Goldie, motivated to improve the life of her biological daughter Shania (Bebe Wood), clashes with her conservative grandmother Jane.

The conflict between her grandmother's bigoted attitude and Goldie's honest mission is a prime example of just how deep and important the issues covered in the series can get.

The show's script is sometimes flawed, with certain lines that are more offensive than funny. Nevertheless, the show is usually charming and has many heartwarming moments. Rannells combines goofiness with serious themes in instances such as when he delivers a tear-jerking monologue when he and his partner are confronted by a homophobe while shopping. Rannells expresses fear for his future child, who might be taught to feel ashamed of his or her parents.

A role reversal in *Guys With Kids*

BY Sophia Kim
Staff Writer

Guys With Kids is NBC's latest addition to its fall lineup. As its name suggests, the new half-hour sitcom is about three thirty-something-year-old men with kids who attempt to make childhood fun. Chris (Jesse Bradford), Nick (Zach Cregger), and Gary (Anthony Anderson) try to maintain their manhood while taking on typical "mom" roles.

Chris has difficulty raising his son Erie because of his overbearing ex-wife Sheila (Erinn Hayes). Nick is a working man with two kids that his wife Emily (Jamie-Lynn Sigler) looks after. Gary is the stay-at-home dad, looking after four kids while his wife Marny (Tempestt Bledsoe) works at her demanding job.

Chris, Nick, and Gary all face their own relatable dilemmas as they attempt to balance parenting, their love lives, work, and manhood.

The show's humor is suitable for all ages, but much of the comedy stems from



Bryan (Andrew Rannells) and David (Justin Bartha) introduce themselves to their new neighbors. *The New Normal* faces subjects like homophobia head on with dialogue and heartfelt situations carried by strong performances from its leads.

The show, despite being a comedy, has incredibly important messages that strike chords with all sorts of viewers and draw from important obstacles that the LGBT

community faces today. The challenges of parenting. The dialogue is simply hilarious, and the characters themselves are original and have a great sense of humor.

the challenges of parenting. The dialogue is simply hilarious, and the characters themselves are original and have a great sense of humor.

the true beauty of the show is how it portrays what men and women actually face when they raise children. *Guys With Kids* portrays how parenting isn't all about the loving and rewarding experience of nurturing another life.

Viewers can sympathize with the characters as they struggle to raise their children. Gary makes a clear point throughout the pilot that as much as he loves his four kids, they drive him crazy to the point where he can't even put on clothes properly.

Nick's demanding job constantly interferes with his parenting. The characters, honestly written and believably flawed, manage to draw humor from their stressful situations.

Guys With Kids is a show that can be enjoyed by everybody, especially parents who can relate to the problems the characters face.

community faces today.

Normal is worth watching for Rannells's performance alone, but the rest of the cast is just as talented. Bartha and Rannells have great on-screen chemistry, and they are an enjoyable pair to watch throughout.

Shania is a quirky addition to the show and Ellen Barkin's character, Jane, with her caustic and intolerant dialogue, is the antagonist and is used by the show to poke fun at people who aren't as open to more progressive ideas. While this may seem initially like it detracts from her character and the show, Barkin's acting makes the

character tolerable and funny.

Normal also gives us a different perspective on families many consider to be abnormal. The mixed bag of characters includes a gay couple and a former teen mom.

Normal spreads the positive message that even the most unconventional families can be loving and caring ones. It is a show that teaches viewers to be more accepting of others. Its social commentary makes *The New Normal* the most important TV show of the season.



Gary (Anthony Anderson) is terrified of adulthood and the responsibility of taking care of his somewhat wild four children. *Guys With Kids* gets the male perspective on stay-at-home parenting.



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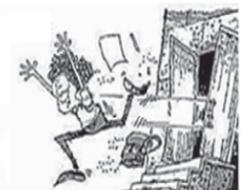
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Honey Boo Boo becomes a familiar face across America

by Lindsey Block
Contributing Writer

Meet Alana Thompson, better known as Honey Boo Boo Child. Originally famous for appearing on TLC's hit show *Toddlers & Tiaras*, Honey Boo Boo and her family just finished their first season featured on TLC's new reality show spin off, *Here Comes Honey Boo Boo*.

This unique and utterly unpredictable show exposes the life of this hyperactive six year old and the lifestyle in which she and her family live in the small, rural town of McIntyre, Georgia.

Honey Boo Boo lives the epitome of self-proclaimed "redneck" lifestyle. She lives with her mother, Mama June; her father, Sugar Bear; and her sisters Pumpkin, Chubbs, and Chickadee, which gave birth to her first child, a girl named Katilyn with three thumbs, at age 17 in July.

Here Comes Honey Boo Boo gives its fascinated viewers a clear representation of exactly what their daily lives consist of. A lack of words and grammar, dialogue that requires subtitles to comprehend, a complete disregard for courtesy, a "department store" that is literally a dumpster, a pet pig named Glitzy and, of course, the "redneck games," which consist of carnival games such as mud diving, bobbing for pigs feet, and swimming in lakes amongst warning signs of flesh-eating bacteria.

So, what is all the talk with this famed 6-year-old and her outrageous family? The moment viewers tune in and see the interviews with Honey Boo Boo in which she grabs her big stomach to make it talk, and her mother, Mama June talking about her multiple chins and "forklift foot," they just cannot turn away.

This show successfully reels in its large audience due to the way in which it exposes another side of America's

rural culture, which is quite unfamiliar to many. In fact, the show was one of TLC's highest rated this season with over 2 million viewers per episode, and was renewed for more episodes.

But on a lighter note, this show is definitely hilarious. Then again, that might just be because it's fun to laugh at the misfortune of others. The family's conversations are laugh-out-loud funny.

Whether it's their made up words, the obscene amount of flatulence released from their big bottoms, or the fact that Honey Boo Boo's sisters got Ms. Boo Boo soap and hot sauce for her birthday, their lifestyle and culture is beyond "different" than what we are used to. If you're not intrigued by that alone though, this show might not be for you.

Next time you are in need of a good laugh, tune into TLC's *Here Comes Honey Boo Boo*. The ridiculous new series will surely not disappoint, and will without a doubt provide a laugh or two for those watching.



Alana Thompson, also known as Honey Boo Boo, poses for a quick close up. Armed with a cute smile, Honey Boo Boo has made a name for herself across the country with her hilarious antics.

cleveland.com

Away From the World proves the Dave Matthews Band's longevity and success

by Aaron Schuckman
Business Manager

Three years after its last album release, the Dave Matthews Band has released its ninth studio album, *Away From the World*. Now at the top of the charts, the 11-song rock funk mix proves that the band has not yet run out of steam.

The albums are the collaborations of guitarist and vocalist Dave Matthews, drummer Carter Beauford, violinist Boyd Tinsley, bassist Stefan Lessard, saxophonist Jeff Coffin, trumpeter Rashawn Ross and electric guitarist Tim Reynolds.

Music producer Steve Lillywhite returned to the scene to make *Away From The World* more like a classic Dave Matthews album and less like newer outings such as *Big Whiskey and the GrooGrux King*.

Lillywhite's production brought back a classic rock feel to the album, which is what had brought the band success in the first place.

Long-time fans and new listeners alike should be excited that the sound has returned to its original magic.

Over the past twenty years or so, new saxophone player Jeff Coffin has had enough experience to fill the void left by the death of the band's original saxophonist, LeRoi Moore, in 2009.

In both structured passages and improvisation he proves that he is as talented and in line with the rest of the band members as his predecessor was.

The dynamic hit single, "Mercy," was first played in April on *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon*.

Top-notch songwriting and a soft sound kept the band's dedicated fanbase eager to hear more tracks.

They trickled in, one at a time, during the band's 2012 summer tour. The band played "Mercy," no doubt the most important song on the album, 35 times during the tour.

Other quality tracks like "Gaucho," "Sweet," "Belly Belly Nice," "The Riff," and "If Only" soon became normal songs added to the Dave Matthews Band's long set lists.

Finally, when the album officially released in September, fans were able to hear the studio recordings of the songs from the summer plus new tracks.

The opening song, "Broken Things," is a love song that is rough around the edges, and should appeal to listeners for its raw feel.

The album continues to go strong on rock roots themes on "Drunken Soldier," the closing track.

It is a ten minute jamming rock song with all instruments working together. It shows off not only each member's musical ability, but the band's ability to perform exceptionally as a group.

Away From the World continues the Dave Matthews tradition of widespread approval from a diverse audience. Anyone can enjoy the sweet sounds and musical quality of the new album.

The band hasn't released any future tour dates, but like the summer tour, future live events will sell out quickly. *Away from the World* should excite fans of the Dave Matthews Band, and leave them eager for more.

The XX marks the spot with Coexist

by Bomim Choi
Contributing Writer

The English indie pop band referred to as The xx, may have been recently heard in soundtracks to films such as *Project X* and coverage of the 2010 Winter Olympics.

In 2009, The xx, introduced themselves to the music industry with their debut album xx. Despite the indie music scene being full of heavy hitters such as Grizzly Bear and Passion Pit, and Menomena, The xx were able to stand out from the crowd and make a name for themselves with their polished, well-produced sound that persists in their second studio album, *Coexist*.

During their time in high school, vocalist/guitarist Romy Madley Croft, bassist/vocalist Oliver Sim and drummer Janie Smith came together to form their original band, The xx.

At the time of the band's beginnings, back in their high school days, the trio did not foresee that their music would one day earn them the Mercury Prize of 2009 and nominations for "Best British Breakthrough" and "Best British Band" at the 2011 BRIT awards.

The newly released *Coexist* retains many of the same qualities as its predecessor, xx, such as the characteristically minimalist sound, female/male vocal responses, and heart-wrenching melancholy lyrics.

Also making a return to *Coexist* is more of the same funky electronic beats that made some tracks on xx as memorable as they were; the track "Intro" specifically.

When compared to modern pop music, The xx is definitely unique due to the emphasis they place on simple guitar melodies and steady beats.

Each melody is intertwined with delicate, catchy hooks, as are heard in the hit "Reunion." Within this track, steel drums accompany a soft beat and the track is topped off with Madley's soft voice.

This quality makes listeners realize how large an effect minimalism has on its audience.

Despite experimenting with barebones sound, The xx does not alienate new viewers. The sound is both sophisticated and accessible.

The genuine ambiance in this album mainly originates from the emotional narrative in each track. Altogether, *Coexist* consists of a compilation of heart wrenching vignettes, as each track tells its own story.

In many ways, The xx can be easily categorized to its own specific musical style, and individual descriptions of their style may vary greatly.

Nonetheless, the album's surreal sound is definitely something worth checking out.



Athletes of the Month

James Burns

BY Max Miranda
Contributing Writer

Playing since the fifth grade, junior James Burns has carried his talent in football all the way to his junior year in high school. Now, as the starting quarterback, Burns has transitioned flawlessly from junior varsity to the varsity squad.

On the field, Burns has racked up over 300 passing yards this season, ranking him 18th on Long Island. A leader on and off the field, there is a lot of pressure involved in the position.

"Whenever the team wins, you're the hero and whenever the team loses you're the most disliked player on the team and the coaches are harder on you, but it's all part of the game," said Burns.

The Vikings are currently 2-1, with wins over Friends Academy and Roslyn High School, and a loss to Lutheran High School (LuHi). LuHi is currently on top of the conference with a 3-0 record, but the Vikings are right behind them.

"This team is a family, and I think we will continue to win games, and finish the season beating LuHi in the championship game," said Burns.

Off the field, Burns excels in running track as well. He placed eighth in the country for the decathlon event at the 2012 USA Track and Field Junior National Olympics in Baltimore, MD (July 23-29), earning 5,042 points over the course of the competition. Even more impressive is the fact that Burns did not attempt half of the events until June of 2012, just one month

prior to the competition. The skills that come with track assist on the field as well, but everything relies on more than just raw talent.

"It requires a lot of technique work, footwork, and coordination, which have to be continually drilled until it is almost second nature," said Burns.

After winning the first varsity football game in three years, Burns and coach Mr. Jamal Ramsay look to continue to lead the Vikings back to the success of the past. Their last conference title was in 1976.

"We have some guys who work hard. I feel that we have a chance of reaching the championship," said Ramsay.



Natalie Martinek

Junior James Burns escapes the pocket after being pursued by a Friends Academy defender.

Allegra Maldonado

BY Eric Fishbin
Contributing Writer

Despite her petite stature, senior Allegra Maldonado has soared to new heights in cross country.

For the past three years, Maldonado has achieved All-Division honors and is the three-time recipient of the Coaches' Award, which denotes athletic excellence and commends exceptional teammates.

In joining cross country, Maldonado followed in the footsteps of her older sister, Olivia. Over the past few years, other girls on the team, such as Sarah Schlafmitz '11, Sara Giraldo '11, and Meghan Byrnes '10, became her role models and her coach, physical education teacher Ms. Robin Cooper, has helped her accomplish her goals.

"Coach Cooper is constantly asking everybody how they are feeling, physically and mentally, and takes our answers into consideration when choosing what types of runs we will be doing for that day or week," said Maldonado. "She loves cross country and instills the love for running in all of her athletes."

Senior Bianca Luparello, a teammate of Maldonado for all of her six years involved in the sport, described her in one word: "Of the many qualities Allegra is, dedicated is the most accurate description."

Maldonado is currently the team's captain, and has worked hard to reach this position. When the cross country team isn't in session, she stays in shape

by running on the winter and spring track teams. Throughout the year, Maldonado works hard to improve her speed and form. This season, Maldonado's personal record for a 5K run is 20:18.80, but she hopes to lower that time under 20 minutes by the end of the season, a goal well within reach.

"I love that running helps me with personal growth and with finding inner strength," said Maldonado. "It can apply to anyone's life, too."

This year, as a captain, she hopes to instill in her team the motivation and values that her role models and coach have instilled in her. But most of all, Maldonado just wants to have a great time, and go for a run.



Elana Galassi

Senior and captain Allegra Maldonado led the pack to begin the Bruce MacDonald 5K at the Sands Point Preserve.

Underclassmen to Watch

BY Aaron Brezel
Assistant Sports Editor

Steven Lopez - Boys Volleyball:

Starting on a varsity team as an underclassman is no easy feat. Sophomore Steven Lopez has not only done that, but made a huge impact on his team this year as the starting outside hitter for the boy's volleyball team.

In his first game, against Oceanside, Lopez logged an solid eight kills and seven aces. He then contributed seven kills and six digs in his next game against Plainview JFK, the team that eliminated Port in the semifinals last year.

As part of the varsity squad last year he benefited from the experience of a Nassau Class A semifinal finish, and a plethora of great role models in the senior laden team. According to his coaches the positive energy he brings to the court is a huge boost to the squad.

"Lopez is on of the most committed and dedicated athletes I have seen. Not only that but he is a great all around guy too," said Coach Maria Giamanco

Sarah Seeman - Girls Tennis:

In her second season on girls varsity tennis, sophomore Sarah Seeman plays second doubles with her partner Astrid Phillipson. Despite her age, Seeman's commitment to her sport has allowed her the opportunity to be a crucial part of a veteran squad that looks to make a deep run in the playoffs.

"Sarah has great team spirit and we are glad to have her competitiveness and skill on the team," said teammate Junior Lauren Livingston.

In a recent game Seeman and Phillipson beat Oceanside's second doubles team to assist in a 6-1 rout.

Eric Adsetts - Crew:

"The love of the sport is hard to describe because there is not much about it that is likable. It is a lot of hard work and really repetitive but the winning makes it all worth while."

That is how sophomore Eric Adsetts describes his experience as the lone underclassman in the second varsity boat. As a freshman, Adsetts and his boat won bronze in the freshman division of the state final.

Since picking up the sport in 2011, he has improved to become the top ranked underclassman in the entire program, he rows in the fifth seat of his boat, a position reserved especially for strong rowers.

Already in the young fall season the second varsity boat achieved fifth in the Fishtail Regatta, varsity category. Despite his skill in the sport, one of his defining features is his humility.

"Crew is first and foremost a team sport. The only reason we win is because of the combined efforts of everyone in the boat, not a single person," said Adsetts.

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Girls swimming makes a splash to open up the 2012 season

BY Aaron Brezel and Diedra Lambartino

Assistant Sports Editor and Contributing Writer

The girls swim team has gotten off to a 4-0 start this season, which may come as no surprise after their strong showing last year.

Despite their undefeated start, the team will still have a tough time following last season's 8-1 record and shared a conference title with Lynbrook and Levittown.

To improve on last season, they will have to better their number 18-ranked finish in the County Championships.

"Right now we want to focus on just getting each girl to swim faster than they did the day before," said coach Mr. Joe Lennon. "That may sound simple, but better times will allow us to do things we weren't able to accomplish last year like gaining sole possession of a conference title and getting a better score county championships."

Four meets into the season, the team has gotten off to a fast start, winning by an average of 20-30 points.

Highlighting their 92-65 win over Hicksville (0-1) on Sept. 9 at the Port Yacht Club, the swimmers grabbed at least second or third place in nearly all of the events.

"It was really impressive that we were able to excel in so many different races. It's a testament to both our versatility and our depth," said junior Isabelle Fagen. "We just need to make sure we compete at this high a level every race."

The girls swim team is no stranger to embarrassing other teams.

Blowouts have also come against Great Neck North (0-2) and Freeport (1-3), by scores of 105-67 and 97-31, respectively.

At this point in the season, the Vikings are well on their way to reaching the next step.

Six athletes have already qualified for the County Championships, including seventh grader Annabelle Corcoran who qualified for the 50m freestyle, 500m freestyle, and 100m backstroke races.

Other qualifiers were sophomore Emily Flaherty in the 50m freestyle, sophomore Juliet Meyer and junior Catherine Tasnady in diving, junior Sarah Maley in the 500m freestyle, and Fagen in the 200m individual medley, 100m freestyle, and 100m backstroke.

In the standings, they have beaten Lynbrook (1-3), last year's conference rivals, by a score of 96-74.

A large portion of the varsity squad's early success can be attributed to the team's roster expansion to 35 girls, in comparison to the 27 they had a only one season ago.

"With the growth of our roster, we are more competitive not just in meets, but also in practice. Our new swimmers have a great deal of background and ability. Their presence makes everyone work harder," said Coach Lennon. "I see girls



Courtesy of Ingrid Fagen

A Port Washington swimmer dives into the water during a race against Levittown, on Monday, Oct. 1. Teams competed in races of freestyle, backstroke, and medleys of varied lengths. Last season, varsity swimming shared the Conference title with Levittown and Lynbrook.

already posting personal records at this early point in the season and that makes me excited about our potential moving forward."

Looking beyond raw stats and results, the Vikings have emphasized the unity that comes with being a team.

"When I first started there were a lot of cliques and we weren't united as a team, I think that over time this has changed and now there is a greater level of camaraderie between swimmers," said senior and captain Dana Mirro. "We are friends first and teammates second. Everyone is so supportive of one another and we have the best time at meets and practices. We've also had a significant increase in the number of middle school swimmers which helps develop our swimmers at a young age."

Head Coach Lennon says that he has particular ways in which he likes to approach swim meets.

"I never like knowing the score before a swim meet ends," said Coach Lennon. "I think knowing the score makes for snap decisions that divert my focus from the game plan that I set up beforehand. I try to plan for each meet and each race meticulously. Once it is set, I prefer to let it ride."

Coach Lennon also avoids cutting his hair throughout the season.

Whatever effect his long hair has had on the team's actual performance in the water, his superstitions, practical or not, seem to have worked to perfection thus far.

Captain's Corner: Girls volleyball, Schmidt, Lehrer, and Murphy

BY Jake Eisenberg

Sports Editor

Jake Eisenberg: Hey girls, thanks for taking time out of your practice today, pleasure to have you here.

Megan Murphy: Thanks!

Emily Schmidt: I'm excited; this is going to be fun.

JE: So let's get down to business. How has the season gone so far, especially after the losses of graduates Nicole Frocarro, Hayley Kerr, Bethia Kwak and others?

Tori Lehrer: Despite the losses, I think the team will be really strong this year because a lot more of the girls are involved with club teams outside of school. Also, the younger girls on the team have shown a lot of potential and are playing really well.

ES: Our record is already better than last year's. We're currently 2-2.

JE: Now, I was at your game on Sept. 25 against MacArthur, and I noticed the new uniforms. How have those impacted your play?

MM: The team was really excited about the new uniforms and it's kind of cool to be the first ones to wear them. Unfortunately, they are a little small and slightly restricting in the arms, so I have to stretch them out before each game. But, despite that, they do look really cool, and it was nice to get rid of the weird collar thing on the front of the old ones.

JE: How has your new coach, Mr. Brian Patterson, impacted your team thus far?

ES: For one thing, Coach Patterson can actually spike the ball and doesn't need to stand on a chair.

But in all seriousness, Coach Patterson I think is more technical, while Mr. Sutz is motivational and inspirational, which are two invaluable things considering that a huge component of volleyball is your mental game. They're a dynamic duo of sorts.

TL: He has been playing volleyball for most of his life and has trained with players of a really high caliber. He really knows what he's talking about and helps us improve in all areas of the court, which is really helpful.

MM: Especially when I'm a setter, Emily is mainly a hitter, and Tori is a libero.

JE: What is a libero? I've been hearing this word a lot. And could you spell it please?

TL: A libero is a defensive specialist, usually one of the best passers on the team. We substitute in for the middle players as soon as they get to the back row. And the spelling? "L-I-B-E-R-O": libero.

JE: Thank you Tori. So, there are three captains on this team, one junior and two seniors, and, as we said before, you all play different positions.

How does that help your team improve, you three being able to take charge of your specific areas?

ES: I think that since we all are different positions, we can really help other girls. I'm mainly a hitter and play back row too, but I don't always know the best position to be in defensively when there's

a hit coming from the other side or how to read their shoulders to get in that position, and that's something I can work on myself. But, as a senior and a captain, if other girls have questions about hitting, such as when to start their approach to the ball or where they should be hitting, I can really help them, while Tori can help people in the back row. And, of course, Megan can help people with setting because she knows where it should be for the hitters, like me.

JE: When the ball comes over the net, what is the ideal progression?

MM: Tori passes the ball, I set the ball, and then Emily spikes the ball and gets a kill, and then we win!

JE: So, basically, it's a one-two-three punch?

MM: Yes. In volleyball, you want to get a good pass to target, which is where a setter should be, a good set to where the hitter is going to approach, and a kill. That's basic volleyball strategy.

ES: And you want it to work quickly and effectively. You don't want to give the team a lot of time to react to what you're doing.

JE: What kinds of things have you done together as a team, to further team chemistry and bonding?

TL: I think we have the best team chemistry. This year is the best by far. We have pasta parties before every home game and sit there crying from laughter. Everyone loves each other. I'd go even if there wasn't pasta.

MM: If there is a problem on the court, it stays there. It stays on the court and that's it. It doesn't affect the day after or weeks to

come, we just shake it off.

JE: If you could each describe this team in one word, what would it be?

MM: Enthusiastic. We're all really outgoing.

ES: Family.

TL: Hard working, and that speaks for itself on the court.

JE: I know last year the team cheered, "Bang, bang, reload" after a kill or an ace. What's the chant this year? Something new?

TL: Actually, for an ace last year, it was, "Ah, ace, you know!" This year we decided not to have any cheer because it's not the cheers that bring the team together and gets us enthusiastic. We think that every time, no matter if we get the point or not, if we all come in and just encourage and tap each other, as in a, "Good job, nice hit, we'll get them this time" sort of thing, that helps us more as a team.

MM: You basically scream random stuff.

ES: Sometimes I'm not even speaking English on the court, and it's mostly about the energy. As soon as you don't have it, in volleyball, you just start losing.

JE: Should we expect a lot of that indiscernible yelling during your next home game, on Oct. 11 against Massapequa?

ES: I think so.

TL: Yes, definitely a lot of yelling.

Calling the Shots Replacement NFL refs finally replaced

After three weeks of baffling calls, refs and league agree on salary and benefits

BY Dan Miranda

Sports Editor

Referee. Just the word can spark rage among sports fans, but not always with just cause. Officials from every sport are taken

for granted, but, they are essentials to the game and the reason why it can be played fairly.

In baseball, referees must call balls and strikes at the pace of 80-100 miles per hour within a few seconds. Basketball, soccer, and hockey are quick, fast-paced events that require the utmost precision. In foot-

ball, particularly, the referees have to make quick judgment calls, asking themselves if everything in the play was legal; they also must spot the ball at the correct place and make sure no brawls ensue when it's not.

Still, you could go to a sporting event at any level and see an athlete or coach verbally abuse the official who made what they believe to be the wrong call.

The point is simple: officials are taken for granted.

In August, it became apparent that referees and the National Football League would not come to an agreement over the officials' salaries.

Because the league had to put a product on the field, they hired a group of replacement referees.

So where did the NFL find these people?

These referees came from all sorts of football officiating backgrounds. However, the NFL rule book is a large document, with many intricacies, which have proven difficult for these substitute referees to learn in just a week or two.

Long story short, these replacement referees made many incorrect calls. The biggest blunder occurred on Monday Night Football in Week 3, when a ruling changed the records of

both the Seattle Seahawks and Green Bay Packers. Of fans who saw the play, 76% disagreed with the call, which, according to a Global Strategies study, could have been overturned.

Many players took to Twitter to voice their disagreement with the call. Greg Jennings, Packers starting wide receiver, was especially upset, posting: "C'MON MAN! Can't even be upset anymore. All I can do is laugh. Laugh at the #NFL for allowing America's game to come this. WOW!"

He was not the only one. New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees called the officials an "embarrassment." Jennings and Brees were just two among a group of players who all spoke out against the officials in the season.

A little bit harsh, it may seem, for poor officials, but the reality was that the group of replacement referees simply were not getting the job done.

It was not just the athletes who were upset with the level of officiating though. According to 1,443 fans polled by ESPN, over 76% gave officials subpar marks after three weeks of football.

And so the NFL and the referees finally came to an agreement that gave the officials increased salaries and benefits for the zebras. In Week 4, the regular referees returned to their positions on the field.

For the rest of the 2012 NFL season, they will be slightly more appreciated, slightly less taunted, but still the same old refs.



NewYorkDailyNews.com

The replacement referees had a difficult time deciding many calls this season. In the above photo, the left referee rules a touchdown while his partner rules an incomplete pass on the same play.

Students play role in US Open as ball people

BY Jake Eisenberg

Sports Editor

Spaniard Rafael Nadal, ranked second in the world, did not play due to injury. Andy Roddick, the face of American tennis for the past decade, announced his retirement and did so after being defeated by Argentine Juan Martin del Potro. Defending US Open champion, top-ranked Novack Djokovic of Serbia, made it back to the finals, but lost in five sets. Andy Murray, ranked third due to Nadal's withdrawal, won his first Grand Slam title, the first by a man from Great Britain since Fred Perry's victory in 1936.

Some watched from their couches, others watched from the grandstands in nearby Queens.

A couple of Schreiber students had the opportunity to watch from the courts themselves.

Seniors Yuliya Astapova and Brian Chung were both ball people at this summer's US Open for the second year in a row. In order to become a ball girl or ball boy, they both tried out prior to the competition.

"I would definitely do it again," said Astapova. "If it works with college next year, I'll definitely go again."

Those attending tryouts had to predetermine which kind of ball person they were. Some are categorized as 'backs', and need strong arms to throw across the length of the court. Others are 'nets', who are usually quicker and more agile, in order to speedily remove balls from the net area. The last category is titled 'swing'. This

group participates in both 'back' and 'net' activities.

Tryouts were simple and only took about 10-15 minutes on one of the many side courts. Those who made the cut were sent a letter in early July, while those who did not were sentenced to watch from their couch.

As simple as the tryouts were, the rules and schedule were even simpler. Ball people arrived at either 10:00 a.m. or 12:30 p.m., and followed a general routine. They had their first shift on the court for two hours, a break for an hour and a half, and then second shift on the court for two hours. Those 18 and over were kept for the night shifts.

"The main rule was that we were not allowed to ask for the players' autographs or to take pictures and, of course, we had to pay close attention on the court and keep it clear," said Astopova. "We had to give the players their towels or Gatorade when they asked. Once, a player asked me if she could have a Coke, so the chair umpire called for some."

Additionally, their "on-court seats" did not cost a dime. Chung and Astapova were close to the action, but despite their proximity to the game, interaction with the players was very limited.

"The most interaction I had was when Carla Suez Navarro winked at me," said Astapova.

"Besides the towels and stuff, there really isn't much interaction," said Chung. "But, I'd say the coolest moment for me was when Federer asked me how I was doing. It's a pretty big deal when the number

one tennis player in the world asks, 'What's up?' My life is complete after that."

Schreiber students enjoyed the US Open as well, albeit from a farther distance. Choruses of "Did you see that match?" or "that point was awesome," and even, "I cried when Roddick lost," were not an uncommon throughout the halls.

"I wasn't sure what to watch," said Sarah Sigman. "The Giants were opening their season against the Cowboys, but Roddick was mid-match with Del Potro. Also, Berdych was set to play Federer later that night. I was flipping channels the whole time."

Many students following the US Open claimed to have spotted Chung and Astapova on TV.

"I've been going to the US Open since I was one year old," said senior Holly Hubsher. "One day, I went in with a friend of mine and was actually on the train with Brian, and he texted us what court he would be on. I saw him again on the court on a different day at Arthur Ashe. It was pretty cool to see someone I knew on the court and it was fun trying to get his attention."

Depending on their merit (years of experience) and ability, they were assigned courts and time shifts.

Being a ball person is not just limited to one year. In fact, one man, 45-year-old Gary Spitz, began participating as a ball boy in 1980 and has been running around the courts for over 30 years.

Chung understands why. It's "probably the coolest job in the world," he said.

This Month in Sports

* The National Basketball Association commenced its training camp on October 2. The 2012-13 season features the growing rivalry between LeBron James and Kevin Durant as well as Dwight Howard's arrival in Los Angeles as a member of the Lakers.

* In professional football, there have been a few surprises after the first quarter of the season: the New Orleans Saints have started 0-4, the Arizona Cardinals 5-0, and that second overall pick of the NFL draft, Robert Griffin III, has scored four passing touchdowns and four rushing touchdowns.

* At the Ryder Cup, Europe defeated the United States by the score of 14 1/2 to 13 1/2.

* The Washington Nationals went from one game under .500 last season to clinch the National League East pennant this season. Other teams to clinch playoff berths include the Texas Rangers, Baltimore Orioles, New York Yankees, Cincinnati Reds, San Francisco Giants, and the Atlanta Braves.

~Aaron Brezel

VIKING SPORTS

Girls look to avenge last year's Conference Championship *Varsity field hockey team makes a statement with a victory over Locust Valley*

BY Aaron Brezel
Assistant Sports Editor

The varsity field hockey (3-0-0) team has started off strong once again, with the senior-laden and led team striding towards a second consecutive playoff berth.

On Sept. 21, they faced off against the Locust Valley Falcons (0-1-1).

"There was a lot of pressure going into this game because the Falcons are usually a solid team and because winning this game meant a league championship," said coach Mr. Joseph Lederer. "I felt like this win secures our status as a dominant team and particularly a dominate offense. Hopefully teams will now know to be afraid when they play us."

Locust Valley is a non-conference opponent, playing in Conference I, above the Vikings. The Vikings rose to the occasion in this crucial matchup to beat the Falcons, who were playing on their own turf, preserving their undefeated season and securing themselves a chance at becoming Conference II champions.

From the start of the game, the Vikings took a commanding lead with two goals in the opening minutes by junior Carrie Rybecky and senior captain Kristin Kujan. Throughout the first half, the Vikings outmatched the sluggish Falcons on contested possessions. Crisp passing and physical play consistently kept opponents on the defensive. When the Falcons moved into Viking territory, the defense made sure they could not capitalize. Senior captain Lauren Desimone added the exclamation point to a great first half by adding a goal, her fourth of the season, with 5:41 left to play.

The second half was filled with much of the same successes. Senior captain Danielle Rosmarin scored her fifth goal of the season, ranking her second in Nassau County, three minutes into the final half. Two minutes later, senior Olivia Anderson contributed the team's fifth and final goal of the afternoon. By that time,



Courtesy of Danielle Rosmarin

Senior captain Danielle Rosmarin controls the ball downfield as the girls varsity field hockey team beat Locust Valley 5-1. Rosmarin scored one goal and added an assist to lead the team to victory.

frustrated groans could be heard from the home crowd.

The Vikings' only blemish came with 13 minutes left as Falcons scored their only goal of the game—just their second of the season. In the end, it was a dominant performance in an important game and a huge confidence boost going forward into the rest of the season. Additionally, this game was a perfect example of the style of play that the girls aspire to: a consistent defense that allows their high-powered offense to take charge of the game.

The team's offense is led by Desimone,

Rosmarin, and Kujan. Desimone, with four goals and four assists on the season currently sits second in Nassau County and eighth in all of Long Island with eight points overall. Close behind her with six points is Rosmarin, who has five goals and one assist on the season. Kujan has added two assists and a goal of her own.

"Our offense is pretty successful because we have a lot of returning players," said Rosmarin. "Most of us have been going to field hockey camps at various colleges during the summer or have been playing on travel teams where our skills have improved. We are all dedicated to the team and push ourselves during practice so we can play to the best of our ability."

The girls' commitment to success certainly shows. In every game this season, the team has been able to put at least 10 shots on goal, a clear sign of their offense's ability to keep the pressure on their opponents.

Amidst all of the offense's success, the efforts of the defense have not gone unnoticed. Going into the season, Port had a young, untested defense as a result of many seniors graduating. As the season has progressed, the defense has continued to improve to the point of becoming another asset for the team.

"We are all really impressed by how hard they have worked and are really glad that they have had success," said Rosmarin.

Not every win has come easily. The more contested efforts highlight the Vikings defensive ability to excel in crucial situations. Port showed incredible grit by pulling out two straight overtime victories

against North Shore and Clarke for their first two wins of the season.

"Our strength and drive to win really showed with our consecutive overtime wins," said junior and defensive starter, Caroline Rimmer. "We always try to put forth our best effort, no matter what team we're playing, but in particular, during those games, each girl gave one hundred and ten percent. That was what we needed in order to win."

The Vikings record of 4-0 currently has them tied for the conference lead with Carle Place and in a great position to make the playoffs. Despite their early success, they want to keep their season in perspective.

"Right now we just want to focus on making the playoffs," said Coach Lederer. "We're on a good pace to do that but we still want to take it one game at a time and not get ahead of ourselves."

The team's goal for this season is to build upon last year's success, in which they compiled a 9-4 record before losing 6-0 to Massapequa in the county finals. Going forward the Vikings still have their work cut out for them.

Crucial to their playoff push will be maintaining their position in the standings, hopefully vying for a top seed. This will not be easy as they are now approaching a difficult portion of their schedule which will see them compete against several solid teams such as Oyster Bay and Sewanhaka

"All the teams we are going to face as the season progresses will pose some challenging. We have started off the season strong and we just hope to continue our winning streak," said Carrie Rybecky.



Courtesy of Danielle Rosmarin

Junior Carrie Rybecky strikes first on the Locust Valley defense, igniting the Vikings offense. Rybecky has scored two goals on the season.