

# THE SCHREIBER TIMES

Paul D. Schreiber High School Port Washington, New York Volume LXIV No. 3 November 2013



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MO' French  
MO' Vember

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## French Week

-News-  
Pg. 4



## Ender's Game

-A&E-  
Pg. 17

## Political Decisions

-Opinions-Pg. 8  
**Boys Basketball**  
-Sports-Pg. 22



# IN THIS ISSUE...

## NEWS.

Science Olympiad p. 3  
Gambol scheduling p. 5  
InBloom petition p. 6

## OPINIONS.

Point/Counterpoint p. 7  
Current events p. 8  
Mental health p. 8

## FEATURES.

ESL p. 11  
Flappy Bird p. 14  
Woody Allen p. 16

## A&E.

Once Upon a Mattress p. 17  
House of Cards p. 18  
Celebrity news p. 19

## SPORTS.

Boys basketball p.21  
Sochi Olympics p.23  
Boys swimming p.24



Grace Trunz

Junior Grace Trunz took this photo of spring's first buds in her grandfather's garden. She took the photo in early February for her AP Photography concentration. Trunz's concentration is on macro photography in nature.

# NEWS BRIEFS

### Heating Systems in Cold Weather

This winter season, the weather is testing Port Washington inhabitants' last nerves. With four snow days and daily temperatures below freezing, it is no surprise that the heating systems in the school find it difficult to keep up. Fortunately, most classrooms are kept at a comfortable temperature throughout the school day.

"Whenever we experience a heating issue the teachers immediately report the concern and I deploy Mr. Albury and his custodial team, who tend to act fast," said Assistant Principal Dr. Brad Fitzgerald.

However, because the school uses both natural gas and oil heating systems, the school has experienced some minor problems when one changes to the other. Heating proved especially troublesome when unexpected weather swept the nation and resulted in a gas delivery shortage. Although this was accounted for by rationing heat, it still caused some discomfort. The science wing is especially prone to heating fluctuations, resulting in the temporary relocation of one class.

"I think there are a lot of people who are frustrated, myself included. No one likes to feel powerless over a situation, yet many of us do with this one," said Principal Mr. Ira Pernick. "The ongoing nature of the problem can create anger and resentment as well, and we need to find

ways to avoid that."

Most of the infrastructure in the school is still original, and some systems are getting old. It is not always easy to keep such a large facility and student body at one comfortable temperature, so staff communication is crucial to assessing all problems as quickly as possible.

"It's vitally important to students and teachers to have classrooms operating at an appropriate temperature whenever possible," said Mr. Pernick. "Rooms that are uninhabitable create greater stress for the entire building."

While the current dual heating system is being repaired, there are plans for an upgrade.

"I work with Mr. Albury every day and heating is our first discussion when there's a problem," said Mr. Fitzgerald. "Those deserving the greatest credit are the custodians who have had quite a job keeping us warm. They have been outstanding and most don't realize how hard they work."

~ Lena Kogan

### Elective Fair

Elective classes are an integral part of the high school experience. The ability to diversify outside of the standard core curriculum is a vital tool for students to explore and refine their interests before moving onto higher education. On Feb.

7, staff members held the Elective Fair.

Our school offers many elective options.

"I felt a little confused because the teachers were giving us so much information in such a small amount of time," said sophomore Elana Israel.

Many teachers offered advice as to how students should approach this decision.

"Students should choose electives which help fulfill their passions that will help them grow, develop skills, and truly be something that they're interested in, not something they think will look good if somebody sees it on a transcript," said Director of Guidance Mr. Hank Hardy.

Many courses are designed to be taken for more than one year, so students were reminded to keep this in mind.

"I think that students should choose their electives based on their interests and plan for a long range goal," said art teacher Ms. Hall. "You don't want to necessarily take an elective that you have prior experience in because part of taking an elective is learning something new."

Students will have short meetings scheduled with their guidance counselors in the upcoming weeks. These meeting give students personalized advice. Program Planning Guides with additional information on elective options can also be received in the guidance office.

~Jake Knatz

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# Les étudiants célèbrent National French Week



Jackson Shain



Courtesy of Ms. Cherie Delio



Josh White

**Left: Seniors Ben Rosen and Joe Finkelstein pose with their instruments, which they played in the lobby during French Week. Above right: Senior Maggie Golder paints junior Laynie Calderwood's face in support of French Week. Below right: Juniors Laynie Calderwood and Katrene Rustemi and seniors Lael Franco and Jackson Shain display a selection of French-inspired baked goods created by French students, Ms. Delio and Shain.**

by **Rachel Cho**  
*Senior News Editor*

This month, students of all languages had the opportunity to embrace their inner Francophiles. The Languages Other Than English (LOTE) department adopted senior Jackson Shain's senior experience project by celebrating National French Week. Shain hosted French-related activities during the week of Nov. 4 in order to get students more involved with French at school.

"After looking around for ideas online on how to spread French around school, I saw that the AATE, or American Association of Teachers of French, organized National French Week each year," said Shain. "Their website highlighted tons of different ideas to getting students interested in French during French Week, so I figured this would be a great place to start."

Shane took many steps in order to create French Week. It did not start as a senior experience, but after speaking to the French department, Assistant Principal Ms. Julie Torres, and Principal Mr. Ira Pernick, it was decided that carrying out National French Week through the Senior Experience program was the most effective plan.

French teacher Ms. Cherie Delio, who served as the sponsor of the project, helped review what events would be held. After finding students who were interested in helping out, Shain approached the Foreign Language Honor Society and the Student Council and requested funding. Together, they raised \$350, the entirety of which was used to pay for all the decorations and materials that were needed for the event.

Weber students were also invited to enjoy the event after arrangements were made with Weber French teachers Ms. Julie Novinksi and Ms. Emily Roberts. Shain also reached out to local stores and restaurants to ask for donations. "Many businesses gave much more than I expected. I'm very thankful to Sixteen Handles, Baskin Robbins, Smash Burger, Gino's, North Shore Farms, Baked to Perfection, and St. Honoré for their generous contributions," said Shain.

Another goal of this event was to raise money for Weber's field trip to Montreal. Historically, this event was reserved for eighth grade French students but, the trip has fallen to the wayside and has not run in the past six years.

"This trip is a vital aspect of the Port Washington French Department that deserves to be given a second chance," said Shain. "I believe the root of all proficiency and passion towards language comes from students' exposure to it in their youth."

Shain also shared his thoughts about expanding the LOTE department to elementary schools.

"I know it's a distant goal to have foreign language introduced in our elementary schools, but I believe something that can be achieved now is for kids to be excited by French and want to learn more. I think eighth graders would be excited to visit a Francophone part of the world," said Shain.

The activities that ran on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of National French Week included face painting, temporary tattoo applications, a French trivia game with prizes, and a bake sale.

Other French students showed their support by participating during the week by playing violin, saxophone, bass, and

harp. Several drama club students helped out by miming in the lobby. Unicyclists were also scheduled to perform in the lobby, but the show could not go on for safety reasons.

**"I speak for a large contingent of Schreiber when I say that the baguettes in the lobby were much appreciated. French Week was a major success and I enjoyed it immensely," said senior Joe Finkelstein.**

"I mimed and did charades in the lobby during my lunch period in my mime costume with Jake Arlow and Sabrina Brennan. We did activities like 'trapped someone in a box' or 'pulled someone with a rope,'" said junior Jina Lay.

"I played some jazz music in the lobby during the lunch period with my friend Benjamin Rosen. I also read the American pledge in French on the announcements," said Finkelstein. "I thought that Jackson and Ms. Delio did a great job organizing and running French week."

Many students enjoyed the festivities and expressed positive feedback.

"It was extremely well-organized while being a very simple event. People didn't need to even take or speak French to

appreciate and partake in the festivities," said senior Joelle Feinberg. "The kids from the middle school were also particularly interested about French Week."

In addition to the lobby events, fliers highlighted famous French scientists and their impact on the scientific world, as well as English words that are derived from French. Science Department Chair Mr. Philip Crivelli and English Department Chair Ms. Joan Lisecki handed out flyers to students and staff members.

Besides fliers, Shain created a list of "The Top Ten Reasons to Take French" and posted them all around the school. Additionally, four short histories of current celebrities that speak French were read each morning during the announcements. To raise more awareness about French, four AP French students including Shain came together to read the Pledge of Allegiance in French every day of the week.

Although National French Week was started through a senior experience, Shain expressed hopes to have this annually.

"It is my hope that French Week will be annual. I believe I have laid the groundwork for someone to follow in my footsteps and organize next year's event," said Shain. Also, I'd be honored if my work could inspire students from other languages to do their own events too!"

"I am very satisfied with the results. French Week was such a big success, the week brought a lot of attention to the French program and I am very glad many students enjoyed it. I had a very nice time working with Jackson, as he was very organized and dedicated," said Ms. Delio.



# New York Jets honor varsity football coach



Kyle Cohen

Football coach Mr. Jamel Ramsay directs the team at a game. Coach Ramsay recently received the New York Jets High School Coach of the Week Award.

BY Madison Cohen

Assistant Features Editor

The New York Jets gave Port Washington athletics a special pat on the back this month. Football coach Mr. Jamel Ramsay received the New York Jets High School Coach of the Week Award. For eighteen years, the Jets have given this award to tri-state area coaches who best serve the interests of the game through

the teaching of football fundamentals and the promotion of youth football.

"I was shocked and in disbelief when I received the award," said Coach Ramsay. "Really, it's an honor for all the kids as it recognizes the time and effort they put into football every day. Wins are great and losses suck; however, ultimately football is a team sport as you build relationships, and learn discipline."

The Jets have awarded Coach Ramsay

with a certificate and the Port Washington Vikings football program \$1000. The athletics department will split the money between the football program and the booster club for extras such as pasta dinners, DVDs, and team support.

"Coach had a great poise and leadership throughout the entire season," said senior captain Michael Gennusa. "Whether we were down in a game or had a bad practice, Coach Ramsay was always able to keep the team positive, focused, and fired up. Ramsay and all our coaching staff have lived their lives around football

**"This award optimizes all that's good for the program, players, and community. This time, they got it right and chose a great coach to receive this award," said Ms. Joannon.**

so their experience was something we all drew from in times in adversity."

High school football reporter Mr. Mike Quick of the television show A Quick 60 and the New York Jets Community Relations department selects the winner each week. Coach Ramsay is the second coach from Long Island to win the award this season. Patchogue-Medford coach Mr. Gary Marangi earned the honor after week 3 of the season.

Athletics director Ms. Stephanie Joannon expressed her approval.

"This award optimizes all that's good for the program, players, and community. This time, they got it right and chose a great coach to receive this award," said Ms. Joannon.

Ramsay hopes the team will continue to build and work off of their success, and that kids develop a real interest in the sport and learn both life lessons and good work ethic.

"I was excited to hear that all his work had been rewarded. To see that someone as big as the New York Jets organization recognize what Ramsay is doing for the program is huge," said Gennusa.

Coach Ramsay was born in Queens and moved to Elmont at age 13 where he attended Sewanhaka High School. He played football since seventh grade and was recruited to C.W. Post on a scholarship. He played for Long Island University C.W. Post's football team for four years and was captain of the team in his senior year.

In 2007, Coach Ramsay got his bachelor's degree in fine arts and began his coaching career. For two years, he was the assistant wide receivers coach at C.W. Post and played arena football in Albany.

Ramsay went on to coach the JV football team for one year, and has been coaching the varsity team the last three years. He has also owned Port Fitness on Main Street for the last two years with Mr. Jeremiah Pope.

When Coach Ramsay was interviewed for the job as head coach of the Vikings, he discussed his life goals and aspirations, saying, "I hope to own a fitness gym and coach high school football team." As of today, Coach Ramsay has made both of his dreams come true.

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—David Hare



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Josh White

Above: The Dolphin Café before the performance. In the last year, the Dolphin Bookshop moved locations and opened a cafe among its bookshelves. The bookshop now features local performers, including high school musicians, on Friday nights. Right: Musician Mr. Daniel Sage performs in the Dolphin Café as refreshments and desserts are served free of charge.



Josh White

# Local music fills the air in the Dolphin Café

by Emma Rosenberg  
Contributing Writer

Since 1946, Dolphin Bookshop has sold books and games to Port Washington residents. It changed location to the corner of Main Street and Shore Road in June of 2012 and now offers more than just shopping.

Every Friday night from 7 to 9 p.m., Dolphin invites local musicians to perform for community members.

The Dolphin music series features many current and past students playing in a variety of styles such as jazz, classical, rock, pop, blues, folk, and musical theater.

Schreiber graduate Mr. Solomon Hoffman has been involved with Café Music, as the series has been called since

its inception. He finds and books the local talent.

“Café Music at Dolphin was started as a way to bring free, high-quality music to the local community and give local musicians the opportunity to perform,” said Mr. Hoffman.

Senior Sydney Ronis has had the opportunity to perform there twice.

“It was a dream to get to do what I love with my friends and family in the audience. It really was a fantastic experience as a performer,” said Ronis.

“It has been a valuable way for student musicians to hone their craft in a friendly setting,” said Mr. Hoffman.

They can play what they want, how they want, and interact with the audience.

“I remember being initially terrified because I thought I wasn’t going to be able

to fill the time slot; but then you start to interact with the audience and tell stories about why you picked certain songs, why a particular artist influences you, and things like that that make the time fly,” said Ronis. “I think the best part of it all was that I was allowed to do whatever I wanted. It was like having my own musical playground of sorts.”

Ronis is not the only Schreiber student to be showcased at Dolphin. Others include Schreiber graduate Bobby Katz and current juniors Noah Milstein, Greg Stebbins, and Adam Tuch.

Other local performers have included groups the Willie Wolf Trio, the Bennington String Trio, and Shir Harmony. Solo performers included ukulelist Shannon Ferguson and violinist Elizabeth Sun.

Performers from the Port Summer Show have also presented previews of upcoming productions.

To date, Café Music has featured over 80 musicians in 33 performances.

Musicians consider it a great way to spend a couple of hours on a Friday night, even though audience numbers vary.

“The musicians who perform at Dolphin tend to be struck by the beautiful space, natural acoustics and warm audience members,” said Mr. Hoffman. “We are also focused on trying to establish a space for the local community to unwind.”

The performances are free of charge, and the Café serves refreshments including a variety of paninis, drinks, and desserts.

# Student engineers create competition-ready robot

## Robotics club advances to semifinals of BEST Robotics Competition

by Lena Kogan  
Staff Writer

The Robotics Club has been climbing the ladder of success. On Nov. 3, the Robotics Club competed at the Connecticut BEST (Boosting Engineering Science and Technology) Robotics Competition at Central Connecticut State University. After preparing for six weeks, the team moved on to compete in the semifinals. Despite their efforts, the team failed to move on.

“They spent every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday designing, developing prototypes, and presenting their results to the club membership,” said club advisor Mr. Donald Schaefer. “The development of the final robot components and testing were completed by approximately 20 to 25 different students who participated in the building of the robot.”

The requirements of the competition included the creation of a robot that was able to assemble a central processing unit. In other words, the robot had to be able to

successfully pick up dowels and hangers as well as place blocks in specific slots.

**“They learned new hands-on skills while constructing prototypes and the actual components of the robot,” said Mr. Schaefer. “While many may not have realized it, for the first time in their lives they were engineers.”**

“This year, the team spent hours designing and developing an articulating hand and fully operative arm that were able to reach, grasp and rotate an object through the use of a limited amount of materials, motors and servos,” said Mr. Schaefer. “The result was awesome.”

Upon arriving at the competition, the

team had time to make several last-minute adjustments to the machine before being evaluated against opposing teams. Every member of the team played an active role, taking turns as drivers and human players.

“The competition itself seems a bit underwhelming at first, but as soon as you start progressing through, it proves to be quite intense in not only the robots competing but in how harsh they are on the presentations and engineering journals,” said senior Justin May.

Besides presenting a robot that was able to accomplish tasks needed in the development of a CPU, the team was also responsible for creating and marketing a presentation and acquiring a thorough understanding of the skills needed to sell the product they manufactured. In addition, judges assessed the journals the team used to record the process of constructing their robot.

“The experience goes beyond the tournament. The students were able, in many cases for the first time, to take their ideas and follow them to completion,” said Mr. Schaefer. “They learned new hands-

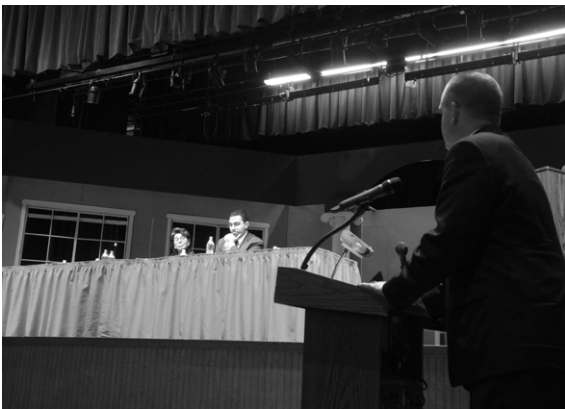
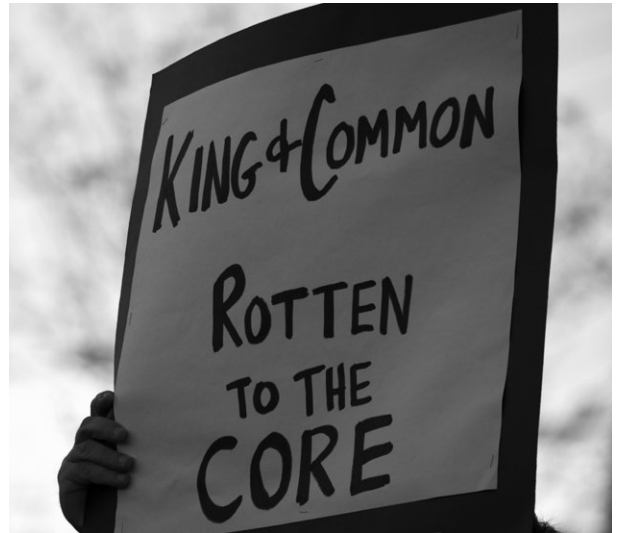
on skills while constructing prototypes and the actual components of the robot. While many may not have realized it, for the first time in their lives they were engineers.”

However, the students were not the only ones who received recognition at the Connecticut BEST Robotic Competition. Mr. Schaefer was also honored as the 2013 BEST Teacher/Mentor of the year for his guidance and support of the team.

“Probably the greatest accomplishment that one can receive is being praised by their peers. I look upon this as a reflection of my students’ accomplishments over the past six years and as an achievement for the Port Washington Educational Foundation, as there wouldn’t be a robotics club or class if it weren’t for them,” said Mr. Schaefer. “This award may have my name on it; however, the space required to list people individually would far exceed the allotted space in *The Schreiber Times*.”

“It was a very fun and a great learning experience, regarding both engineering and teamwork,” said junior Evan Kaminsky.





Aaron Brezel and Madeline Fagen

Parents, teachers, and administrators gather at Mineola High School to participate in a public forum regarding the recent changes in the state's educational policies. Mediator John Martins and Commissioner John King (top left) field questions from community members, parents, and educators such as Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kathleen Mooney (bottom right). North Bellmore parent Jeanette Deutermann addresses a protesting crowd (bottom middle).

BY Aaron Brezel and Madeline Fagen

*Editor-in-Chief and Assistant News Editor*

On a cold, late Wednesday afternoon, the front of Mineola High School was a hive of activity. Media vans from News 12 and CBS lined the street to capture the frenzy of protestors gathered in an adjacent parking lot.

From the back of a pickup truck, parent Jeanette Deutermann of North Bellmore addressed the crowd, who had come prepared with signs calling for the resignation of state officials and the abolishment of the Common Core. On Nov. 7, the Mineola High School auditorium became the latest backdrop in the ongoing battle over the fate of the new Common Core standards.

Tensions reached a boiling point the day before at Ward-Mellville High School when over 1,000 community members attended a rowdy public forum that saw State Education Commissioner Dr. John B. King get booed by disgruntled attendees. Dr. King was already forced to cancel several other public forum appearances across the state due to aggressive backlash from those communities.

At Mineola High School a day later, Dr. King was forced to kick the hornet's nest again as disgruntled parents, teachers, and school administrators sounded off in what ended up being a less acrimonious event. However, Dr. King was still the target of many picket signs and pointed questions.

The structure of this public forum was tightly controlled. Dr. King was joined by Regents Chancellor Meryl Tisch and John Martins, the elected representative of the 7th Senate district of New York, who moderated the event.

To prevent emotional outbursts that characterized many other Common Core discussions, all questions asked during the three-hour forum were submitted for approval prior to the event.

Additionally, the forum period was split into four sections, each with a different topic: Common Core, Student/teacher evaluation practices, new testing strategies, and student privacy.

## Educational public forum sparks debate at Mineola High School

Finally, admission to the event was limited to 700 people who gained entry using tickets that were distributed to school districts around Mineola.

While each question directed toward Commissioner King was technically limited to one minute, flaring tempers often led to prolonged dialogue. Some particularly animated speakers were able to whip the crowd into a frenzy of applause.

Throughout the forum, the major area of debate involved the Common Core standards. The purpose of the Common Core is to provide consistent guidelines about what students should be able to do at each grade level. Evaluative tests are administered on a yearly basis to ensure students have mastered the curriculum. The overriding principle is that adherence to these Common Core standards will ensure college and career preparedness.

Parents and administrators criticized these guidelines saying that they were interfering with the learning process and handcuffing teachers from tailoring the curriculum to individual needs. A common complaint was that too many hours were spent teaching to the test, and not teaching creatively.

Concerned community members cited the drop in state testing scores as proof. Compared with 2012 results, passing rates have dropped from 16 to 25 percentage points in reading, from 27 to 44 percentage points in math, and from 9 to 33 percentage points in science, depending on the test.

While there is a clear decline in performance and New York State insists that the Common Core is revealing deficiencies in public school curricula, it also understands that introducing the

new standards into the school districts is more than a one-year process. On the local level, however, administrators and teachers insist that the drop in scores is because it has been a year of too much, too fast.

"The NAEP [National Assessment of Educational Progress] results for New York students confirm what we already know: our students are not where they should be," said New York State Board of Regents Chancellor Meryl H. Tisch.

Despite the progress the chancellor anticipates, parents and administrators claim that since many aspects of the Common Core standards are untested, there is no definitive proof that there will be future success.

Many forum speakers claimed that their own school districts already prepared students well enough for life outside of public school without the help of the Common Core.

"How is your definition of instruction better and more effective than ours if yours is untested and unproven, while ours has seen 90% of our students continuing on the college and graduating?" said Port Washington Board of Education Trustee, Mr. Larry Greenstein. Essentially, Mr. Greenstein maintained that the Port Washington School District, like many other top districts, does an excellent job of preparing its students and doesn't need the Core standards.

It was suggested by one speaker that the new standards and the funding to implement them should only be applied to schools struggling to prepare students for later life.

Parents also worry about the budget to implement the Common Core and cooperate involvement in its execution.

Of the hundreds of million of dollars being poured into Common Core, more than \$160 million have been donated to promoting the Common Core by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Corporations collect data on students and participate in the development of district wide technological programs, such as the Emblem Project. While this data supposedly goes toward building a more comprehensive teaching database, community members fear corporations could use the students' data toward their own selfish economic advancement.

"How is this education and not marketing?" asked a concerned parent.

The speed and complexity of the implementation of Common Core was among the most popular concerns.

"The way this whole process was rolled out and shoved down our kids throats, they weren't ready for this," said another parent. "Halt. It's too much, too fast, too soon."

Teachers and parents said that children were not prepared for these changes, thus causing extreme stress in the students, and triggering educators to simply teach for the test instead of practice good instruction. By giving the state more time to implement the new standards, they can be more successful and effective, according to some.

In addition to all of the proposed concerns, parents wonder if New York State officials are even hearing their feedback. When asked if she thinks the Department of Education will listen to the concerns and incorporate some of the suggestions, a local parent replied, "No, but we're not going to stop."

Despite the claimed "federal takeover of our education" the department does not plan to cease execution of the Common Core standards.

"We are not going to stop the work on the Common Core. We are absolutely committed to it," said Commissioner King. "We see the Common Core as a path to ensuring that more of our students are college and career ready."



# Point Counterpoint

## Should Schreiber implement a flipped-classroom model?

BY **Michaela Gawley & Harry Paul**

*Opinions Editor & Photography Editor*

As students progress through high school, they often get bored of the typical classroom environment that they have been in since kindergarten. No matter how good of a student you are or how much you care about learning, continuous lectures can get boring.

Once you add in the heat of the afternoon, the staleness of sixth period, and the stress of a long night of studying ahead of you, the eyes start to droop, and next thing you know, everyone is laughing at you.

The world of education has changed drastically since the days of one-room schoolhouses and Webster's readers. Today, there is a whole field dedicated to improving education in order to better prepare students to excel in their futures. In order to accomplish this goal, educators are striving to combine innovative techniques with fun and engaging activities.

In 2007, two teachers from a Colorado high school discovered a quick and easy way to record their PowerPoints for a student who was on an extended leave.

When their peers began to use these lectures as study guides and previews for difficult topics, they decided to spread their idea to colleagues. This method evolved into these teachers putting all of their lectures on the internet, and reserving classroom time for discussion. This way of teaching became known as the flipped classroom model.

Students are much more likely to stay focused in class during an interesting discussion. Using aspects of the flipped classroom model at Schreiber would revitalize the learning process, and help students get the most out of their education.

"Sometimes you have those moments in class where you kind of doze off or are too engrossed in creating beautiful art in the margins of your notebook, and everything that's being taught in the front of the class goes in through one ear and out the other," said senior Annie Kim. "At this point, you're pretty much just mindlessly copying what is on the front board, and the learning process is at a temporary hold. So when you get home and are trying to study for a test that night, you look at your notes and it's like you're trying to decipher some ancient runes."

In order to ensure that students are able to maximize their educational experience, it is important for them to have access to reliable resources outside of the classroom. A partial adaption of these teaching methods to Schreiber classes, could provide the excitement needed to engage students of all ages.

"Given the availability of technology and the tremendous accessibility of academic information on the web I believe there are opportunities for classes to experiment with a flipped format," said Principal Mr. Ira Pernick.

These opportunities become increasingly more available with new websites such as the Khan academy: a hit website for online lectures, or teacher recorded apps and lectures.

"I go to Khan Academy and get a brief overview of what I missed during class, and it makes a lot more sense than it did before," said Kim.

Because the materials have already been covered at home, teachers do not feel pressure to rush through material during class time. Thus, they can focus on making sure that student's fully understand the subject.

Schreiber students, for the most part, enjoy learning as much as they enjoy freedom.

As students take charge of their educational paths in preparation for college and future employment, the ability to go at their own pace could be the boost of motivation that they need. They can prep well in-advance and come to class knowing that their teachers will be able to thoroughly go over the material, until they truly understand it.

BY **Dan Bidikov**

*Editor-in-Chief*

American education is not perfect—and it does not look like there is a way to make it perfect. At least, there didn't, until educators nationwide started toting the flipped classroom model. Advocating the use of video lectures as more than just a supplement to lectures, flipped classroom teachers think it is best to leave class time exclusively for discussion.

The theory of flipped classrooms, however, is so full of inconsistencies and so unfeasible in practice that it cannot be seen as an adequate solution to the problems of modern education.

Most of the issues with pushing the flipped classroom model are related to the fact that it is not definitely effective. Proponents of the flipped classroom model constantly cite examples of studies in which the model has worked—teachers in some districts flaunt the reduced failure rates in their classes and students in flipped classes outperforming those in traditional lectures. These studies are, to say the least, unscientific, comparing groups of completely different students sometimes in different subjects, and with no control over the variables.

These "studies" claim success in

school subjects ranging from science to English. In math and science, concept-based courses, there is a clear cut curriculum and order of material that needs to be followed in order for the material to be learned properly. This same structure of learning does not apply in humanities courses, where the value of the material is discerned via class participation and writing.

It is not easy, or really possible, to build this kind of classroom environment into a video lecture. Therefore, there is no way to tell how any teacher of the humanities might successfully flip their classroom structure.

The flipped classroom model is unreliable in that it does not fit all subjects, and cannot possibly treat the education of certain subjects. Are teachers of certain subjects in certain districts supposed to flip their courses while others do not? There is no easy way to implement the flipped classroom model, and no guarantee that such a risky endeavor will actually prove successful.

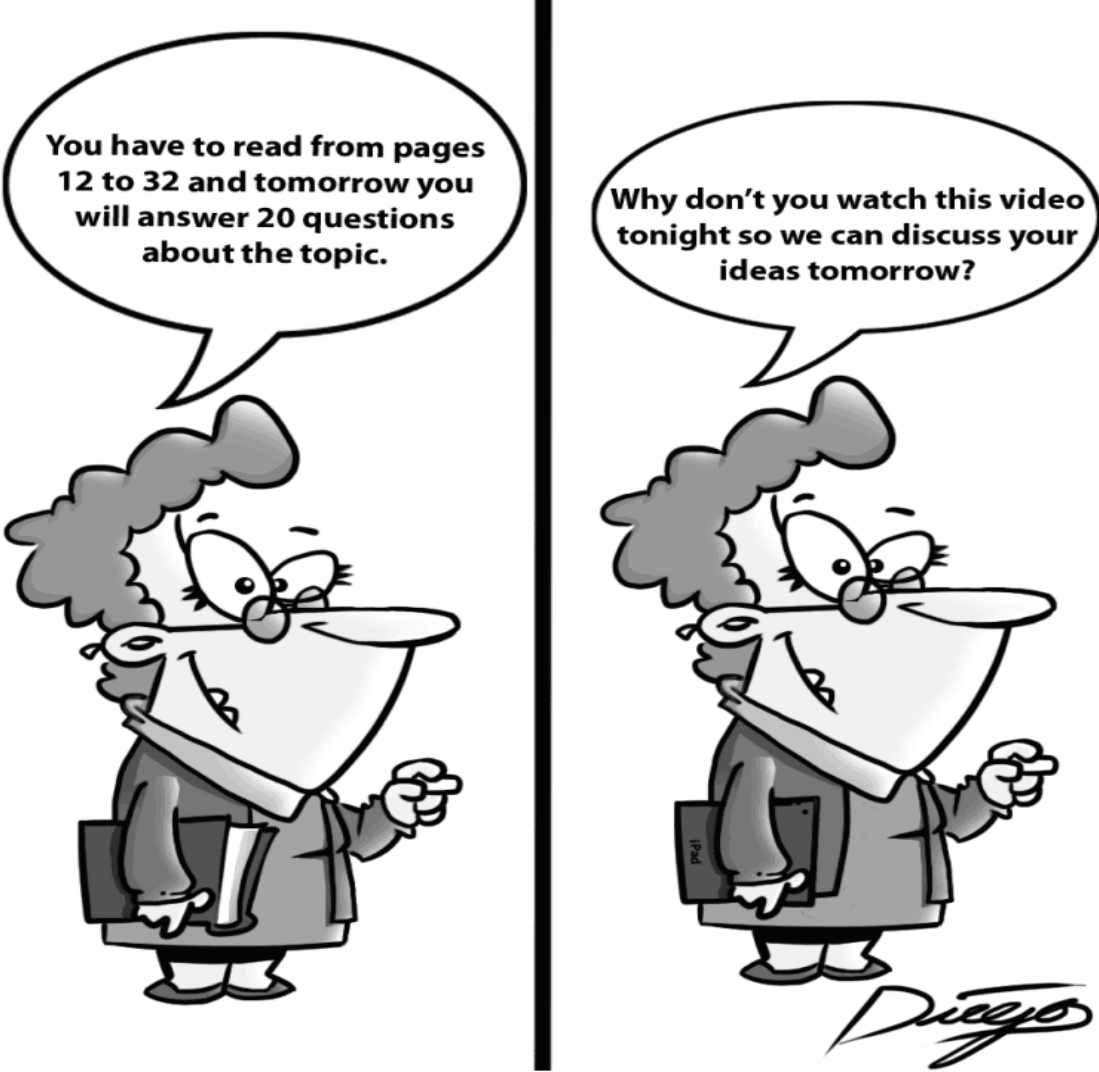
It is clear that there are too many issues in assessing the strategy's effectiveness to say whether or not it is effective. So why might the model be ineffective?

There is a dependence on students in every educational model. To say that any laziness or tiredness of students will be alleviated by the presence of video

lectures is both impossible to predict and likely incorrect. If students spend so much time at home watching lectures, why would they be any more willing to be engaged in forced classroom discussion?

Flipping the classroom removes a connection between students and teachers that is necessary to properly learn any subject. There is no interactivity in a video lecture. The classroom setting allows for instant discussion about the material. This means that the material is often not as effectively learned through video lecture as it would be in a classroom.

"In relatively simple classes watching videos can be an efficient means of absorbing the material, but having tried to learn calculus from online videos, I can attest that in difficult classes, having a human instructor is an invaluable tool," said Zach Herron. "To whom do I ask questions when the video starts to cover new and complicated material that I don't understand? The computer will certainly not answer any questions that are any more in depth than exactly what is occurring in the video."





# Students are not politically informed

By **Aimée Levinson**  
Contributing Writer

The political process is a major part of everyday life. Due to the ever increasing influence of the media, we are constantly bombarded by streams of information. This information comes from television, radio, social networking sites, and news sources.

Despite their level of exposure, students are unprepared when it comes to political decision making. Students should be better prepared throughout their high school education to make informed political choices.

Schreiber cannot take all of the blame for this lack of preparation. After all, there are classes such as AP Government in place to keep students informed on political proceedings.

So why are students not ready? The answer becomes clear when the structure of the curriculum is examined.

With pressure from the state to prepare for standardized tests, teachers do not have time to stray away from their lesson plans. That leaves a very narrow window of time for any extra discussion to occur.

“Students aren’t really exposed to politics or world issues because teachers and students hardly talk about it in school,” said junior Erin Gilmore.

Despite pressure from outside sources, teachers should be making an increased effort to discuss political happenings.

“I am so caught up in being a student, and dealing with homeworks, tests, and deadlines that it’s hard to keep up with intricate political events. I think that most students feel this way, like we are in our own little high school bubble. I think that teachers needs to be discussing these things in class so that they can be broken down and understood by students. In order to be productive members of society, we need to be able to understand the world around us,” said senior Annie

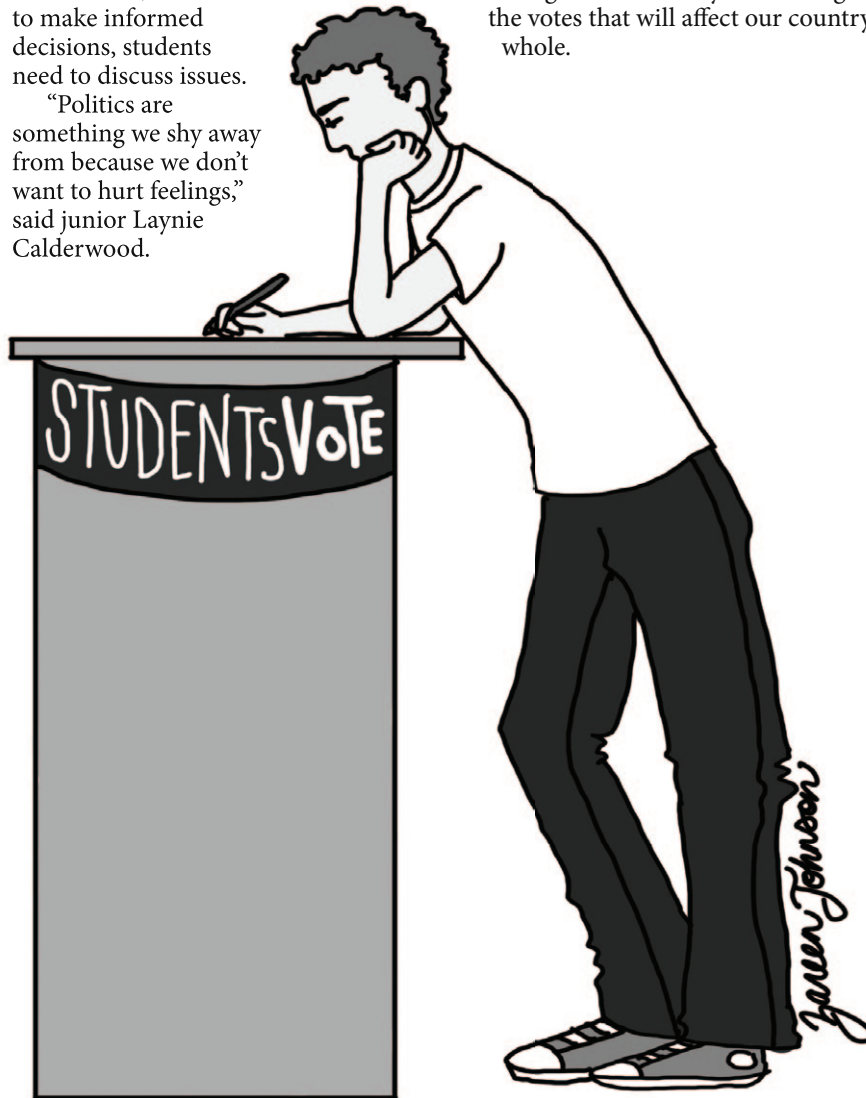
Kim.

If students have a better understanding of what is going on in the world around them, it will give them the tools necessary to critically think about their coursework.

It is understandable that teachers wish to be careful when discussing their political views. They do not want to offend anyone and want their students to make their own informed decisions.

However, in order to make informed decisions, students need to discuss issues.

“Politics are something we shy away from because we don’t want to hurt feelings,” said junior Laynie Calderwood.



An understanding of political events can also help students to make connections between what they are learning about in their social studies classes and both global and national political events.

Due to teacher’s concerns about discussing controversial issues and a lack of flexibility in the curriculum, Schreiber is not adequately preparing students to make informed political decisions.

This is a major issue because these teenagers will one day be in charge of the votes that will affect our country as a whole.

# Error 404: Healthcare not found

By **Will Berger**  
Staff Writer

Over the last few weeks, the Internet has been burdened by more than just adorable cat videos. HealthCare.gov is the Health and Human Services’ online marketplace for buying inexpensive health coverage under the Affordable Care Act, but apparently, it is easier to buy the *Washington Post* than it is to buy health insurance.

The website has been plagued by a variety of “glitches.” Many who want to sign up have had difficulties just getting onto the website. The website also contains wrong information on Medicaid eligibility and saddles customers with long delays and time outs.

According to the Associated Press, “although only 26,794 people signed up in health plans through the federal site the first month of open enrollment, 993,635 applied for coverage and were waiting to finalize decisions. For many it took hours of persistence, dealing with frozen screens and error messages.”

According to this data, only 2.7% of people who even tried to enroll were successful in the first month. But perhaps the saddest statistic of all is that “twelve percent of Americans said they believed that the law had been repealed by Congress,” according to the *New York Times*. In other words, more people believe that Obamacare had been repealed than were actually able to sign up for Obamacare.

But wait, there’s more. According to the *Wall Street Journal*, “emerging errors include duplicate enrollments, spouses reported as children, missing data fields and suspect eligibility determinations. Medical Mutual of Ohio said one customer had successfully signed up for three of its plans.” Fortunately for that man, if he gets sick or injured, he has three times the claims to fill out.

President Obama has promised a fix by the end of November, but many are asking why the website was launched with all of these errors in the first place.

In fact, days before the launch of HeathCare.gov, government officials and contractors tested the Web site to see whether it could manage tens of thousands of visitors at the same time. It crashed after only a few hundred people tried to log on simultaneously. Despite the failed test, federal health officials continued with the launch.

Imagine if Ford developed a new car that was really a kitchen blender with wheels but decided “what the heck” and released it anyway.

The problem with the Obamacare website is that it was created by the federal government. If the Department of Health and Human Services came together with private companies like Google or Microsoft, none of these problems would be happening. What some politicians fail to realize is that the key to a successful government is integration with private industry. There are certain things that businesses just do better.

# No varsity letters for the crew team

By **Nicole Boyd**  
Contributing Writer

There is no doubt that the crew team is an asset to the Schreiber community. Its members are individually dedicated and hardworking and, when brought together in competition, have made a good name for Port Washington in the athletic world. But despite all of their successes, these athletes still lack something: varsity letters.

Given to all upper level teams at the conclusion of their seasons, these awards stand as oversized, iron-on symbols of perseverance, sacrifice, and athletic excellence.

Given their obvious athleticism and unrelenting commitment, it seems natural that our rowers should receive them as well.

However, there is one main reason why they do not and should not.

There are many athletes who believe that crew team members should absolutely be awarded with varsity letters.

“Our rowers work just as hard, if not harder, than those who do receive varsity letters,” said junior Jenny Aguiar, a longtime member of the cross country

and winter and spring track teams.

However, the crew team is not given the award simply because it began as a club, independent from the school and all of its funds.

Although varsity letters do, in fact, symbolize dedication and athletic excellence, they are given only to those who partake in inter-school competition.

Crew members do not receive varsity letters primarily because they cannot receive varsity letters.

It would be unfair for members of the crew team to receive this recognition because they are not affiliated with Schreiber athletics.

If the crew team misses out on varsity letters only because it is not affiliated with the school, should it come under the direction of the Schreiber athletics department?

To this question, many might initially answer “yes.”

After all, with its countless victories, the crew team would naturally raise the caliber of the Schreiber sports community. However, after evaluating the team’s current situation, the answer is clearly the opposite.

Currently, the crew team is working optimally, and, in truth, any further

interference would most likely disrupt the balance that has been established. As put forth by some Port rowers, the crew program functions well on its own.

“Going from nothing to nationals in four years, and, since it is independent from the school, can do great things, like have a middle school team, a master’s team, and an adaptive team,” said senior Matt Brandes. “In addition to this, because crew is such an inherently expensive sport, Schreiber would most likely not be able to sustain the team as well as it does others. The equipment is expensive and needs to be maintained, something the school can’t really do.”

With these qualifications, the overall quality of the crew program would most likely diminish if put under the guidance of our athletic department.


This is not to say that the team’s members are not deserving of receiving varsity letters.

In the event that the crew team becomes affiliated with Schreiber (and, considering the possible implications that may arise, I do not think that it should), its members will be more than qualified for varsity recognition.



SchreiberSpeaks

If you could be any cartoon character who would you be?




“I would be Donkey from Shrek because I like to be annoying and antagonistic. Also, I love people and to talk to them constantly.

My personality is exactly like Donkey’s. A ton of my friends, especially my best friend, often say that I am very much like Donkey because I am and can be loud especially in public situations. I can be extremely blunt but I think honesty is a good thing.

Sometimes, I feel like I’m the crazy jokster of my friend group. I love to tell jokes and mock people all the time.

Also, I would like a dragon spouse who would take me to places never seen before and never been to.”

~ Akari Shimura, junior



“I’d like to be SpongeBob just because he’s just so cool. And he’s got like the best job ever, just flipping burgers all day long.


Also, he has an awesome friend who’s a starfish. And yes, I think that it would be awesome to have a starfish as a friend. Really, who wouldn’t want to.

I also think that it would be pretty cool to live in a pineapple and have a pet snail.

Also, I feel like I have the same personality type as SpongeBob’s. He’s really energetic and enjoys exploring the world around him. I find that I do that very often.

Also, I’m hilarious.”

~ Michael Fasano, sophomore



“I would want to be Timmy Turner from *The Fairly OddParents* because I can have all my wishes granted and dreams come true.

If I ever get my own fairy godparents, I would wish for so many things.

My first wish would be to get in to my dream college, Boston College.

My second wish would be to have a professional chef who would cook anything I want at any time and at any place. I mean, who wouldn’t want that?

Also, I wish that I could read other people’s minds. I just want to know what everyone else is thinking. It seems like such a cool talent to have.”

~Claudia Varner, senior

Reporting by Stacey Kim and Rachel Kogan, Staff Assistant and Assistant Opinions Editor. Photos by Josh White

# Skin tight and totally right: Schreiber’s favorite pants

BY Lylia Li  
Contributing Writer

When choosing an outfit in the morning, most people don’t stop to consider that they may face criticism for wearing form-fitting clothing, and simply choose whatever makes them feel happy.

Girls should not have to fret over deciding between leggings and pants, because leggings are pants. There. It needed to be said. How many times have you been criticized, or heard other people criticizing girls for using leggings as pants? This sentiment is both ridiculous and annoying.

First of all, according to Merriam-Webster, the definition of “pants” is “an outer garment covering each leg separately and usually extending from the waist to the ankle.”

Leggings fit all of the criteria in that definition, so right off the bat it doesn’t make sense to argue that they aren’t pants. But even ignoring this admittedly nitpicky point of contention, the flaws of the argument run much deeper.

The entire “leggings-aren’t-pants” movement sprouts from society’s compulsion to police what women wear

and how they present themselves to the public eye.

It can go one of two ways: Leggings are too revealing, or they don’t make you look good. But why it supposed to be a big secret that girls have bodies?

Why should we have to go around worrying about whether our garments are tight enough to suggest the presence of curves, yet loose enough to still leave a little room for doubt, all while being surrounded by boys who wear their pants with their boxers sticking halfway out of them?

Leggings are perfect because they’re comfortable but they don’t look quite as lazy or casual as sweatpants do. They’re tight like skinny jeans, but without being cruelly constricting.

There’s no reason not to be celebrating



Five fashionable ways to dress up and dress down a pair of leggings, for all different seasons and occasions.

them. We shouldn’t let a bunch of Debbie downers ruin leggings for the wonderful creation they are.

If you can stuff yourself inside a stiff denim prison every day, all the more power to you.

But really, let girls who want to actually be able to breathe and not feel like they’re trying to remove a tourniquet from their legs at the end of the day wear their leggings in peace.



# Editorials

## Lack of printers in computer labs

Some students feel it is much more convenient to work on their own laptops within the school than it is to use a school computer. Laptops allow students to work anywhere they wish throughout the school and to consistently use the same software for assignments. School computers can also be slow or malfunction.

Unfortunately, laptops are not able to connect to school printers, forcing students to relay extra time to logging in and working with any formatting changes.

Overcrowding in computer labs has become prevalent, causing inconveniences to a multitude of students.

Students pressed for time on an assignment are thrown off by the sometimes five or ten minute wait associated with logging into the slow school computers.

Additionally, it takes time to transfer a file from one computer to another, whether through email or a portable memory storage device.

The Schreiber Times recognizes that for students already intending to work until the bell, these time constraints can cause stressful, chaotic rushes at the end of the period, resulting in decreased quality of work.

The Schreiber Times feels that administrators should work to put the printers in main computer labs on wireless networks, so that students may connect and print from their laptops.

The benefits of such a system would far outweigh the technological difficulties that may be associated with setting the networks up.

Printers would be more easily accessible and would allow students to use only the software and defaults to which they are accustomed.

## Higher cost for healthier foods

Walk into the cafeteria, and you will see a large variety of foods available, from french fries and hamburgers to sandwiches and salads.

Recent state policies have placed an increased importance on healthy life styles. In accordance with these new regulations, Schreiber decided to promote healthy eating habits in students and staff members.

Healthy food options have become readily available in vending machines throughout the school and in the cafeteria. Although it is admirable that Schreiber is taking the initiative to promote proper nutrition, The Schreiber Times believes that the school does not provide enough incentive for students to eat healthy.

The healthy-lifestyle movement is meant to entice students into eating healthier foods and exercising regularly. Time and pricing are two important factors in students' lunch time choices.

Currently, the average lunch line wait is roughly ten minutes. Depending on which side they choose (hot lunch or cold lunch) the wait can be even longer. Although there is a salad bar at the cold lunch line, it moves very slowly. This discourages students from purchasing the healthy option.

Pricing of the two types of food also factors into student choices. A standard lunch for students costs \$2.75. At this price, students have the choice to eat either healthy food or unhealthy food.

High fat and high sodium options cost the same as the pre-made salad. Generally, students lean more toward eating unhealthy foods. Since there is no difference in pricing, students tend to purchase the unhealthy food over the healthy lunches.

The salad bar provides students with either a pre-made or make-your-own salad options. Students who choose the latter option must pay over a dollar more for something as simple as adding cucumbers. The Schreiber Times believes that adding vegetables or other healthy foods to salad should not cost more than the unhealthy food.

Healthy non-lunch options such as hummus cost as much money as chicken nuggets. Chips, on the other hand, cost only a \$1.25.

The overpricing of healthy foods limits what students decide to eat. The Schreiber Times believes that if the school decreases the prices of the healthy options, students would more likely eat healthy food.

## Poor and unprepared evacuation

Earlier this month, students and staff were forced to evacuate the school due to a gas leak near the gymnasium. Although the evacuation went relatively smoothly, The Schreiber Times believes that the school should institute additional policies to ensure maximum protection.

In the event of an emergency evacuation, students, under the supervision and protection of teachers, are required to exit the building as quickly as possible.

Classrooms located on the first and ground floor have relatively easy access to either the exits or the emergency windows. However, those on the second floor have a very difficult time leaving the school.

The in-case-of-emergency windows in each classroom on that floor serve little purpose. In a case of a fire or a shooting, students and staff would likely be in as grave danger remaining inside as they would be if they were to jump out the window.

Additionally, teachers and administrators should be aware of evacuation problems in the cafeteria. Especially during lunch hours when there are an overwhelming number of students in the cafeteria, it takes a very long time to get the area cleared.

In previous drills as well as during the recent evacuation, students were pointed

towards two of the three doors in the cafeteria. In the case of an emergency, every door in the building should be used as an exit. Therefore, the back door of the cafeteria should not be excluded as an emergency exit.

For the most part, Schreiber has an effective plan in keeping students and staff members safe during unexpected emergency situations. Students are attentive and efficiently make their way out of the building.

However, The Schreiber Times feels that the school should modify elements of these procedures in order to maximize safety and increase efficiency during emergency situations.

Interested in writing for Opinions? Then come to the next newspaper general meeting on November 25! All new writers are welcome!

Times Policy Statement

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## The Puppy Ate My Homework, By Ethan Bookstein





# ***Five Towns College***

***You're Invited to Our Open Houses!***

***Saturday, November 9 at 1 pm***

***OR December 14 at 11 am***

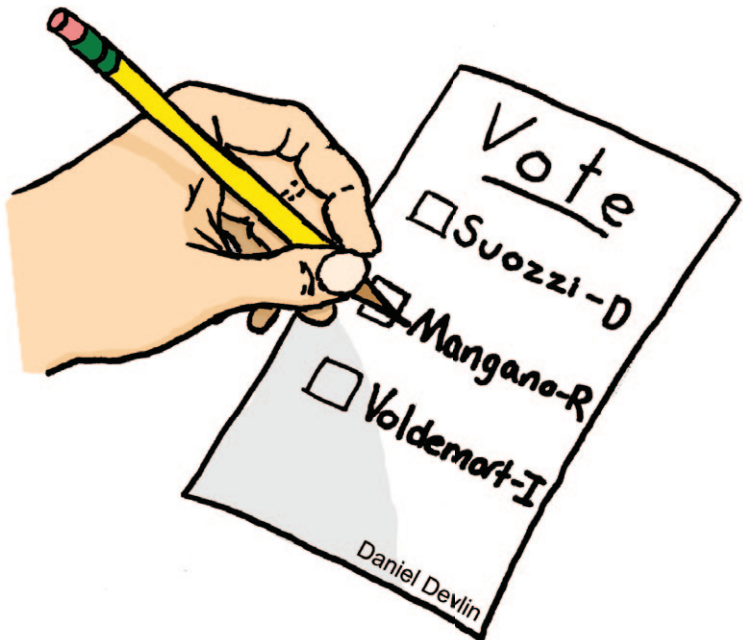
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# Nassau County What h and why w

**E**lection day 2013 may have come and gone without notice. As an odd year in the calendar, there were no presidential campaigns, no national debates, and no senate seats up for grabs. That is not to say that there was not plenty of action at the local level.

In the waning hours of Nov. 5, the polls closed and the results were in; the incumbent Nassau County Executive, Republican Ed Mangano, had won a landslide victory over his Democratic opponent, Tom Suozzi. With well over 275,000 citizens turning out, Mangano secured nearly 60 percent of the popular vote to Suozzi's 40 percent.

The margin of victory for Mangano comes in stark contrast to the nail-biting race that took place four years earlier. Mangano and Suozzi first squared off for the County executive seat in 2009; however, back then, Suozzi was trying to win the re-election and Mangano was a relatively unknown government official with 14 years of experience working out of Bethpage. In a massive upset, Mangano eked out the win by a mere 386 votes. Four years later, Mangano and Suozzi's rematch became the most highly anticipated outcome of the day.

Before voters cast their ballots, they were treated to the spectacle that was the Mangano-Suozzi rivalry. As soon as the campaigning season began, each

**"Modern politics has become this game that's based on mudslinging and finger pointing," said senior Annie Kim. "They focus on the opposition's flaws because they want to draw attention away from the weaknesses of their own campaign."**

candidate took the opportunity to attack the other in a variety of media outlets.

In addition to the usual road sign ads seen lining Nassau County highways, both parties utilized TV and the internet to spread their message. On occasion, the party tactics bordered on immaturity, highlighted by a picture of Suozzi in a Pinocchio outfit that surfaced on the internet. At times it seemed that both candidates were more con-

cerned with making the other look bad, than spreading their platform to the people. The focus on negativity rather than ideals was not lost on onlookers.

"Modern politics has become this game that's based on mudslinging and finger pointing," said senior Annie Kim. "They focus on the opposition's flaws because they want to draw attention away from the weaknesses of their own campaign."

Others took a more pointed stance. "Tom Suozzi is a fool and needs to understand that not everyone agreed with his positions," said Carl Finkbeiner. "He should be highlighting his own policies and not tearing other people down."

In addition to Mangano's victory, the Nassau County Republican Party won decisively in several other positions. Maureen Connell and George Maragos maintained their seats as County Clerk and Comptroller respectively.

Democrat Kathleen Rice was, however, reelected as District Attorney. In reality, there was little change in the political field of Nassau County.

Although the political parties did not see eye to eye on local issues, the parties both focused on economic matters.

Ed Mangano ran on a platform of spending cuts and tax reduction, promised to bring down the \$378 million deficit. Meanwhile, Tom Suozzi flaunted his ability to pull the county out of the terrible financial state that it was in before his term. A major motive for these policies is to draw a younger demographic to the county.

Mangano's main point was that high taxes are prohibitive to the younger public moving into Nassau County. By freezing county property taxes and cutting other tax increases, he has made it a point to cut costs and reduce the cost of living. A recipient of the State Local Government Efficiency Award, Mangano touted his ability to implement effective employment, increasing measures without increasing spending or taxes.

His focus is on creating private sector jobs, like in the case of the Hain Celestial Company. The Company ended up establishing their headquarters in Nassau County instead of New Jersey because of Mangano's tactics. His quest for improvement in the private sector has also included improving local employment within the film and television industry, and the formerly Nassau-based Grumman property. He cites the State Labor Department's estimate that Nassau County leads the area in job growth and employment as a measure of his success. Another significant Mangano plan has been to convert empty commercial office space into less expensive rental units for hous-

ing, with the idea that it will encourage a younger public to move into the county.

His plan was designed to counter Tom Suozzi's strategy, which focused on public works. His plan revolved around increasing the commercial property tax base to kick start his "New Suburbia Trailblazers" program. The plan would have selected suffering communities to receive assistance that would develop infrastructure and high-tech industrial activity within them.

The relevance of their plans to student interests may be greater than most of the Schreiber population realizes. During the campaigning period, Suozzi repeatedly attacked Mangano, blaming him for the 19 percent school tax hike that occurred during his term. In response, Mangano retorted that the school tax increase was a result of the taxing assessment system already in place, not a result of his incompetency to balance a budget.

While the validity of their claims are still in question, it is clear that school taxes are a pressing matter that the student body should concern themselves with.

How well does the student body stay up to date with the local political processes that are so important to their educational futures? In some cases, not at all.

## Teaching Local Elections in the Classroom

Local elections undeniably affect students' lives on a wide scale. However, there exists a question as to whether students should be taught about Nassau County Elections. This knowledge would interrupt class curricula, but may also be beneficial for students.

When polled, 77% of students said that they believed students should be taught more about local elections. Of the other 23%, most believe that it is not important for students to acquire knowledge about the Nassau County Electives until they are able to vote.

"If students wanted to learn, they could learn. Many students have the extra time needed, they just don't care," said senior Dustin Travis.

"I don't pay attention to local elections. I like to learn more about the big dogs," said senior Joel Kagan.

Such students may be unaware of how local elections impact their lifestyles.

"It's important to know what's going on in the community and where your tax money is going," said junior Kimberly Winter. "When students get involved with the community, it is one of the signs

## Newly Elected C

### Ed Mangano- R Executive

- Working in law since 2001
- Hopes to renovate the Nassau Coliseum
- Platform of tax cuts



edmangano.com

### Maureen O'Connel-R Clerk

- First woman elected to the State Assembly
- Headed taskforce on sex crimes
- Adjunct nursing faculty member at Adelphi



newsday.com



# ty Election 2013: happened, ve should care

of a healthy, positive community.”

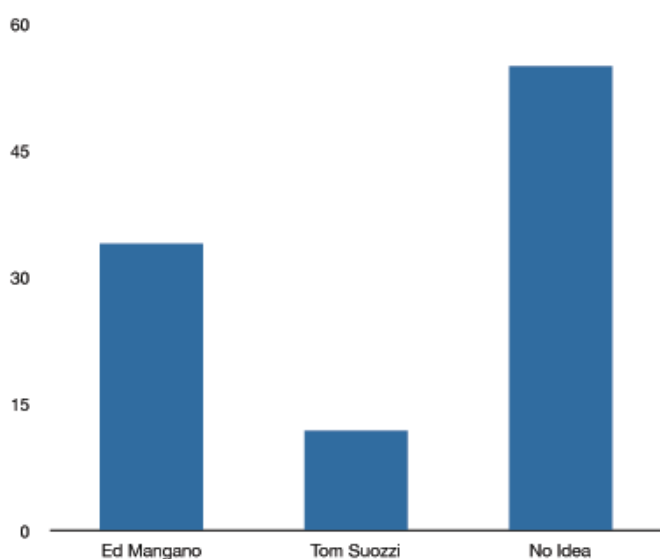
“Students can be greatly influenced by the outcome of local elections and as such, should be given a basic education on the subject. Education policies and programs are important issues in any local campaign,” said junior Wyndham Stopford.

“As members of a public school system, students are some of the first members of the community to be affected by any such policy changes.”

Teachers’ opinions on the topic vary greatly. Many feel that certain issues would get in the way of proper teaching about the elections.

“I feel that as a department, we try our

Who was recently elected county executive?



best to educate as well as possible given time constraints due to curriculum demands,” said social studies teacher Mr. Alex Sepulvida. “Personally, I do current event articles in my Global classes, and

during election season, I encourage my students to stay updated.”

With constantly increasing educational standards as a result of the implementation of the Common Core, teachers struggle to teach additional information that is not intended to be covered in their curricula.

Issues may also result from biases that may arise when discussing current politics.

“I think it would be difficult to do because biases get in the way, though I feel it’s important for students to know about elections,” said math teacher Ms. Tina Gallagher.

“The political affiliation of the teacher discussing these elections can easily remain separate from the discussion,” said Stopford.

In past years, campaigning has been reserved for television and public rallies. However, during the recent elections, candidates added YouTube advertisements to their list of campaign methods. These local advertisements appeared in the beginning of many videos that students have watched.

“I think that local advertising on YouTube is a very smart way of campaigning, seeing that a lot of people today rely on technology,” said junior Akari Shimura.

The campaign advertisements have gained the attention of many students. Many students who normally do not take the initiative to learn about current events in the community, watched these advertisements, despite the “skip ad” button on YouTube.

With the influx of biased political information, students were left to decipher their own thoughts, beliefs and political orientations. To many students, this was a problem.

“I do not feel prepared to state my political position because the commercials mainly state the negatives of the opposing candidate,” said freshman Maria Kogan. “Because I feel uninformed, I try to disregard them. But it’s upsetting because I would like to be more aware of what is happening in the community.”

Due to hectic school, work, or athletic schedules, many students find little time to look into political events. Some teachers discuss current events

in their classes. However, many classes do not discuss current global, U.S. or local politics during class time.

“I think it would be an interesting topic to discuss in class,” said Kogan. “It would be very beneficial because I would feel more informed about the current events.”

Voting turnouts for local as well as national elections have been decreasing over the past decade.

Student lack-of participation and in-

**“I feel that as a department, we try our best to educate as well as possible given time constraints due to curriculum demands,” said social studies teacher Mr. Alex Sepulvida. “Personally, I do current event articles in my Global classes, and during election season, I encourage my students to stay updated.”**

terest in politics has also become increasingly evident. Some students believe that exposure to politics early on can help increase political involvement in adulthood.

“I think teachers should educate their students on election events to encourage students to engage in the political world of their own community and country,” said Shimura. “If teachers educate students about different parties and values, then students will have the knowledge to formulate their own opinions and ideas for the future.”

By Dan Bidikov, Aaron Brezel, Aaron Bialer, and Rachel Kogan

## ounty Officials

### George Maragos-R Comptroller

- Business background
- Former vice president at Citicorp
- Focuses on reducing costs



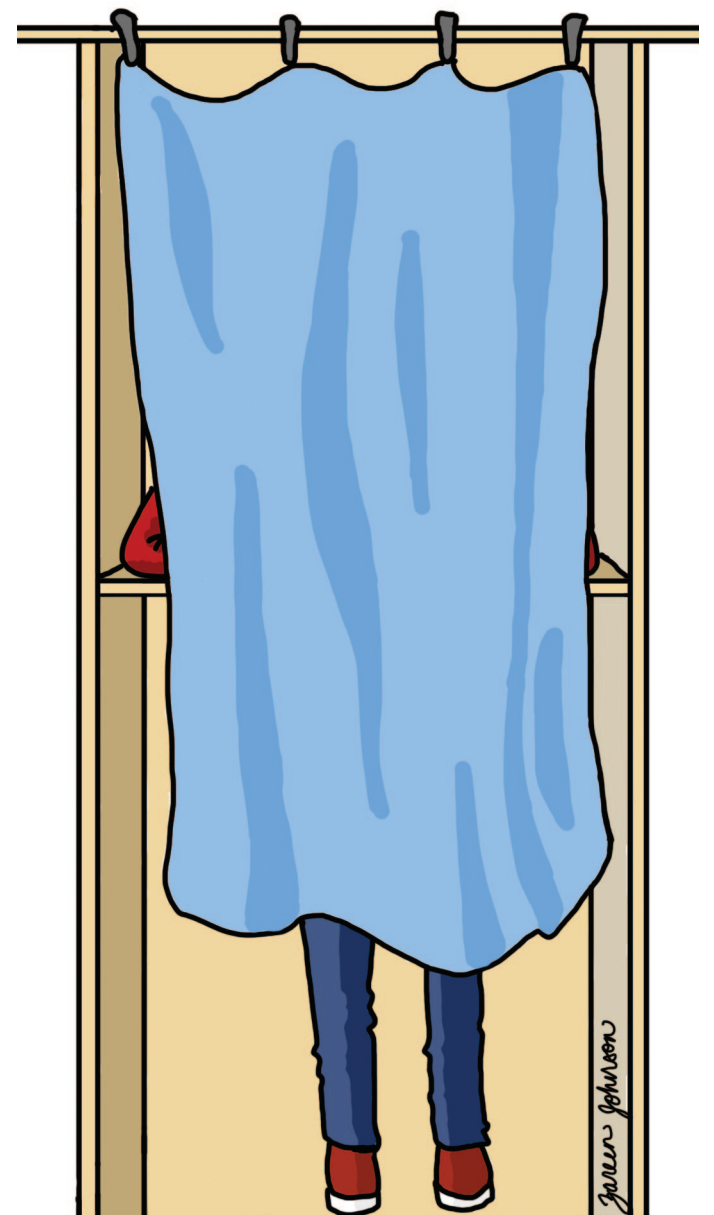
georgemaragos.com

### Kathleen Rice-D District Attourney

- Former assistant attorney in U.S. Department of Justice
- First woman to be elected Nassau district attorney
- Spearheaded DWI crackdown



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# Get to know the ones who make a sweeping impact

BY Annie Kim

Contributing Writer

Walking down the hallway at 8 a.m. on Saturday morning, you will notice the lights are off and all is quiet, except for the faint sound of music. The usual chaos of kids trying to get to class has disappeared; there is nothing but calm emptiness. At the end of the hallway stands a cart of supplies—garbage can, mop, cleaning fluid, paper towels—and sitting on the very top is a radio, which plays anything from lively Latin American music to classic rock. It provides good company for those cleaning and organizing the many classrooms throughout the building—an average Saturday morning for a custodian.

“The one thing about the school is that it’s always busy. A lot of people leave at 3:30, but they don’t realize that at night, people come in from all over town, so the building is always active,” said Assistant Head Custodian Mr. Patrick Novotny.

On weekdays, a new routine is in place to adapt to the presence of more than 1,500 students and staff within the building. The day shift custodians arrive at approximately 7 a.m. and work until 2:30 p.m., taking care of numerous mishaps and allowing everything to run smoothly throughout the day. At 2:30 p.m., the night shift takes over and works until 11 p.m. when the school is locked up. Every custodian is assigned to an area that contains around 20 classrooms, a few hallways, and one or two bathrooms. Every once in a while, they will encounter anything from pet mice to a squirrel roaming the science wing.

While it may seem like there is not much to do after school besides cleaning, the custodians are constantly occupied with setting up for shows, dinners, and meetings, which allow these events to operate efficiently and without disorder.

The custodians also address several other items besides cleaning and setting



In the picture to the right, Mr. Orlando Donato (left) and Mr. Patrick Novotny (right) are two of the school’s night-shift custodians. Mr. Javier Zambrano, in the photo on the right, sweeps the lobby and helps keep the school clean. Their job entails cleaning classrooms after school, as well as setting up for after-school events.



Harry Paul

up for shows.

“We change light bulbs and fix a wall if a kid puts a hole in it. We also now have a problem in the A wing near the end of the hallway. Somebody keeps throwing chocolate milk against the wall and making a mess,” said Mr. Novotny.

To the kid who insists on throwing chocolate milk against the wall: please stop.

Despite the occasional inconvenient messes, Mr. Novotny says that he would not have it any other way. “On the whole, this is a good school. I wouldn’t want

to work anywhere else in the district or outside the district,” said Mr. Novotny.

When coming across a custodian the next time, say hello or give a little thank you. After all, without them, the school would not be anywhere near as efficient or squeaky-clean as it is now.

## Port Café kicks out and replaces the old boss in town

BY Danielle Tawfik

Contributing Writer

Recently, Bagel Boss, one of Port’s most popular bagel stores, has transformed into Port Café. Many people who regularly attended Bagel Boss were confused about why their favorite bagel store suddenly altered into a cafe.

Bagel Boss is a franchise that has been around for over 50 years. It has various different locations around Long Island, including Roslyn, as well as within the Solomon Schechter schools. It is best known for its kosher menu, fresh bagels, Atlantic smoked salmon, pastries, and elaborate catering services.

The Bagel Boss in town was a very popular and convenient place to stop for breakfast as many students get dropped off there before walking to school. It seems that almost everyone in Port has tried a bagel from Bagel Boss. Their popularity comes as no surprise given their motto, “At Bagel Boss it begins with a bagel and ends with brilliance.”

Yet, if Bagel Boss proved to be such a success in the past few years, what sparked the sudden swap from bagel store to Port Café?

Debra Daniels, the wife of the owner of Bagel Boss’s explained that the store was receiving a surplus of non-kosher

food related requests. Customers who were not restricted to a kosher diet wanted different foods from Bagel Boss such as sandwiches and the mix of dairy and meat, so the switch was made to meet the desires of a larger group of customers.

Port Café continues to serve Bagel Boss’s beloved bagels, black and white cookies, chips, and brownie bites. Now they also serve chicken or turkey sandwiches, caesar salads, and more. About a week ago, their chef made chicken parmesan and it sold out within 30 minutes.

Port Café has the same employees and while the design of the store has changed a bit, it is still very similar. Since the change, business has improved.

Since it still has bagels, and offers the gourmet food platters for which they were always praised, Port Café has maintained all of the loyal Bagel Boss costumers.



Ethan Bookstein

Port Café employee serves newly added non-kosher foods. Although the store underwent changes, it wcontinues to sell its well-known bagels.

“We’re seeing the same people who love our bagels and cream cheese and lox and the same things we’ve always had, but now we’re seeing people who want things like bacon, egg, and cheese, people who aren’t restricted to a completely kosher

diet,” said Ms. Daniels.

The restaurant has also introduced a Schreiber student lunch card service so students can buy five sandwiches or salads and get the sixth free.



Fashion

Pantone releases updated fall fashion color report

The worldwide color provider offers most coveted colors that are trending this season

BY Caroline Ogulnick

Features Editor

There are specific colors that signify each season. While many correlate oranges with fall, blues with winter, greens with spring, and yellows with summer, these colors are not always the ones that dominate the seasons.

Pantone, the provider of color systems and leading technology for the selection and accurate communication of color, produces a Fashion Color Report for each season. Every report is conducted by a panel of 32 designers, including fashion giants Nanette Lepore, Christian Siriano, and Tommy Hilfiger, and represents the most coveted colors in the fashion industry.

This season's Fall Color Report is a set of colors named "A Palette of Many Moods." There are ten colors within the palette, and cover a wide spectrum of hues: Emerald, Mykonos Blue, Linden Green, Acai, Samba, Koi, Deep Lichen Green, Vivacious, Turbulence, and Carafe.

The Fall Color Report is displayed on Pantone's website, and allows you to take a virtual tour through the palette. By clicking on a color, you are brought to a separate page, which is highlighted by one of the designers on the panel, and includes a sketch by that designer of a figure sporting an outfit including the

specific color.

Emerald, the first color on the palette, is a deep yet vivid shade of green. Emerald is a gemstone, and this fall season, the hue is showing up on all types of garments. Since emerald is a statement color, many may want to stick to emerald accessories, instead of flaunting an all green coat.

Mykonos Blue is named after the Greek Island, Mykonos. This color resembles a muted indigo, and signifies the ocean that surrounds the island. As a muted tone, Mykonos Blue is a versatile color for the fall season. Wearing this color will allow you to complement the brighter hues in the palette.

Linden Green is the third color on the palette. This shade is a combination of lime and chartreuse, but represents a muted tone as well. Although toned down, Linden Green is great for accents. Within a dull pattern, the use of Linden Green will make any garment pop.

Acai describes itself simply from its name, as the intense purple depicts the color of an acai berry. While dark purples are commonly popular during the fall and winter season, Acai is offering a different take on this trend. This purple adds a richness to the palette, and matches well with any of the deeper or lighter tones.

Samba, illustrated as a brick red hue, is also the name for a Brazilian dance and music genre, which originated in Rio de Janeiro and West Africa. This color offers a more dramatic take on red, and pairs nicely with the other warn tones in the Fall Color Report.

Koi is another color within the palette that describes itself from its name. It resembles the decorative coloring of the Japanese koi fish, and exists as one of the statement colors of the Fall Report. Koi will allow you to counteract the grey tones of fall and winter, and will highlight any outfit.

Deep Lichen Green is a mossy hue that represents one of the duller colors on the palette. This is an ideal color for base garments, such as pants or jackets, or even full suits. Deep Lichen Green blends nicely with both the darker and lighter colors of the season.

Vivacious portrays a vibrant fuchsia. This color also resembles one of the statement colors for the Fall Color Report, and works well on its own or combined with other tones. Vivacious mixes especially well with Samba and Koi, and the colors illustrate the classic fall ambiance when worn together.

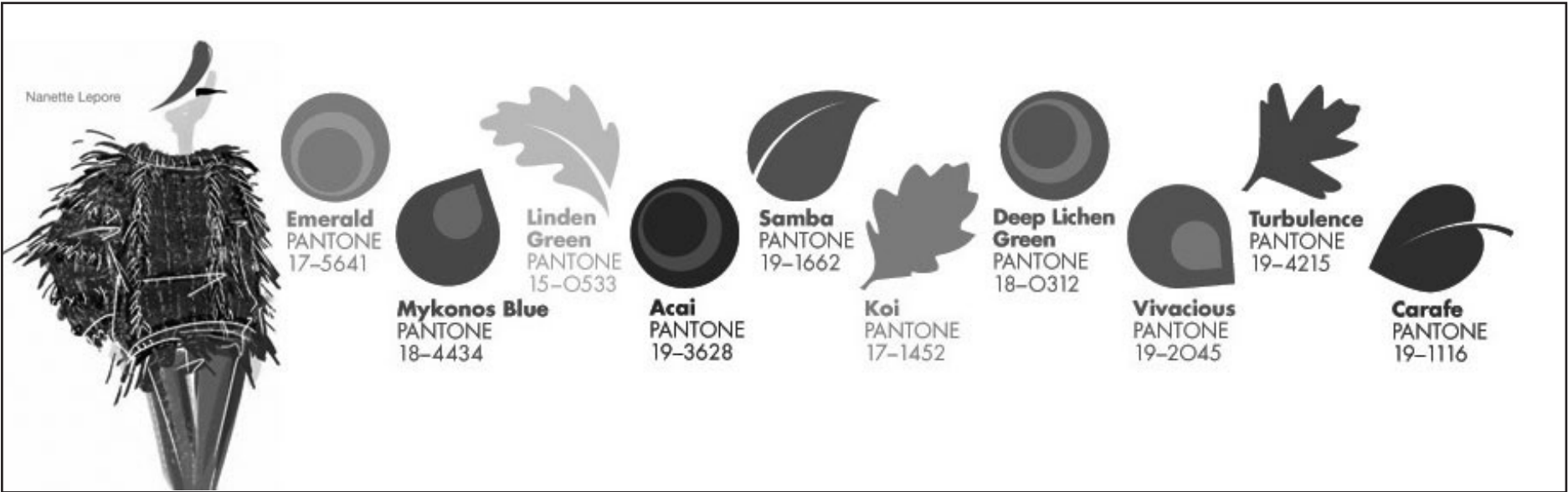
Turbulence and Carafe serve as the darkest colors on the color palette. Turbulence, a charcoal gray, and Carafe, an earthy brown, are this season's alternatives to basic black. These colors are essential when the winter winds hit, and provide a solid foundation for an ensemble.

Pantone's Fall Color Report provides

a color palette which embodies the most popular colors of this season. These colors, along with shades and tints of them, will be incorporated into garments throughout this fall and into winter.



This sketch for the color Mykonos Blue is done by designer Kelly Wearstler.



The Pantone Color Report includes 10 different hues, which are selected by a panel of 32 designers. To view this photo in color, visit [www.theschreibertimes.com](http://www.theschreibertimes.com).

iPad Air does not live up to sky high expectations of Apple users

BY Dan Bidikov

Editor-in-Chief

There is a mantle of filth beneath the crust of the very beautiful world. It is made up of the universally awful, packed with student loans, new episodes of *How I Met Your Mother*, and Apple products. The layer of garbage beneath us has recently thickened in conjunction with the release of the iPad Air, one of the dumbest things that will ever make millions of dollars.

It is like previous iterations of the Apple iPad except, like a pack of gum with three pieces missing, it is three pieces of gum lighter. Yet unlike a pack of gum, you did not chew the mass of your old iPad to a pulp until you needed to buy a new one. Instead, you are shopping for a slightly lighter replica of what you

already have likely because you fell for a slick television commercial or the article of some tech-journalist crying out, "revolutionary!"

Featuring technological specifications that leave it slightly worse than most Android tablets at a ridiculous price premium, the Air is definitely a good tablet computer to consider purchasing.

The Apple website offers the accounts of the new iPad's capabilities that you would expect from a corporation that has been tricking the benefactors of its unfairly huge market share into buying the same products for decades. For instance, Apple marketing mentions that the Air has WiFi connectivity that is "twice as fast."

The only reason that Apple can speak so highly of improvements in its products throughout the years is because they are compared solely to the company's already existing underpowered, overpriced hardware. The iPad that came out this year is certainly better than the iPad that came out last year. The issue is that none of the iPads that have ever been made have been worth buying over any other product besides old iPads.

Outside of an extremely negligible weight difference, the iPad Air has no features, hardware or software, that outclass most similarly priced Samsung or Google tablets. If you are looking for the most powerful, customizable tablet computing experience, buy something with a logo that doesn't keep the doctor away.



The iPad Air is equipt with a lighter body, although it does not differ greatly from the original iPad.



# No Shave November: the month of the beard

BY Cameron Appel  
Contributing Writer

Teachers and students have united in growing out their facial hair this month in honor of No Shave November. The movement all started with Movember, a charity organization that promotes awareness concerning men’s health issues and collect donations for research.

You might be thinking right now, “Okay. So people grow mustaches for money. How could that make any real difference?” It is important to note the impact of organizations such as Movember. In the last ten years, Movember raised almost \$450 million dollars and there have been over 300 million participants worldwide.

Everyone has their own reason for partaking in this event.

“I am participating because I’m lazy, and also for prostate cancer awareness,” said social studies teacher Mr. Alex Sepulvida.

Mr. George Muhlbauer is participating in No Sahve Novemeber in support of the fight against prostate cancer as well.

It seems that many choose not to shave just to change up their daily routines and facial appearance.

“What man doesn’t want to not have to shave everyday? Given this opportunity, why wouldn’t I take it? Also, eventually I’ll be wolf-like,” said Principal Mr. Ira Pernick.

So, how exactly did this tradition begin?

Movember originated in Adelaide, Australia, when three guys one day decided that they just really did not want to shave. They came up with the idea of letting their hair grow for a month to promote awareness for prostate cancer and other men’s health issues. Along with thirty other of their male friends, they collected donations from their community for their efforts. These men formed an official sounding committee called the Movember Committee. Other people thought that this sounded like a great idea, and so the idea spread.

There’s a website dedicated to it, named movember.com, which encourages people to sign up and take part in not shaving



Mr. Sepulvida (top-left), Mr. Pernick (top-right), Mr. Muhlbauer (bottom-left), and Mr. Reynolds (bottom-right) are just a few members of Schreiber’s staff that are participating in this month’s No Shave November.

their “Mo’s”. Through this website, Mo Bros (men who grow their ‘staches for charity) can raise money and awareness. Now ladies, try not to feel discouraged. On the off chance that you feel the need to take part, you can always be a Mo Sista. Mo Sistas raise money and get the men in their lives involved in the event.

We have these men to thank for doing

their very best to further awareness for men’s health issues.

And if you gentlemen do not wish to grow out your beards and mustaches, do not worry; you are not alone. “I need to shave, early and often. There is nothing that will keep me from shaving,” said social studies teacher Doug Matina.

# Alternatives to a home-cooked Thanksgiving dinner

BY Samantha Bizenov  
Contributing Writer

With Thanksgiving right around the corner, preparations have begun for the annual feast. While most holidays are full of traditions, Thanksgiving especially is filled with yearly rituals. Foods like turkey, stuffing, and mashed potatoes are usually present at most families’ meals, however, the location of the meal varies from house to house.

When envisioning a classic Thanksgiving dinner, people often think of eating within the comfortable setting of a relative’s home. You enter the house to see a long wooden table, adorned with fall colored decorations and the usual Thanksgiving specialties.

Eating this meal at home seems to be the more typical approach to the holiday. Some families have one or two relatives that do all of the cooking, and others have a potluck style dinner, where a handful of relatives bring dishes to contribute to the table.

“The amount of people that are at my grandma’s house on Thanksgiving

is overwhelming, but it’s nice to all be together to celebrate the holiday. Every guest brings a dish so that no one person has to do all of the cooking, because there are so many people,” said sophomore Danielle Tawfik.

Thanksgiving is a time for the whole family to gather together, and while it may be more unusual to see a family gathering at a restaurant rather than a house, many restaurants prepare for this holiday, and offer a Thanksgiving menu.

“We went into the city and decided to try something new. We ate the same kind of food as we did when we would stay home, such as turkey, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie, only this time the cooking was already done,” said sophomore Alexis Karmel.

Restaurants right in Port Washington, offer Thanksgiving menus. On November 28th, the Port Diner will have a Thanksgiving price fixe menu, which customers will be able to order from. This menu will include traditional Thanksgiving specialties, and will include dessert as well. In order to purchase food from this menu, you do not have to make a reservation, however. You may order

from the regular menu as well, if you are not in the mood for turkey.

Ayhan’s Shish Kebab approaches Thanksgiving a little differently because it is closed on that date. The Mediterranean Market, which sits next door to Shish Kebab, prepares food for Thanksgiving that can be ordered and picked up in advance before the holiday. This way, a family can sit at home and eat a delicious meal without dealing with the stress of preparing it.

Some are familiar to both types of Thanksgiving gatherings, and switch off from year to year. Coming together within a relative’s home has the benefit of spending the holiday in a more personal and comfortable setting. Eating at a restaurant can surely be just as welcoming as a fire-lit home, and it also excludes the time and energy it takes to prepare a meal on your own.

This year’s Thanksgiving will be just as joyful as the rest. Whether you are sitting in your grandmother’s home or are gathering around a table at a restaurant, the delectable food and loving family is the blessing you should be thankful for.

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Schreiber  
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BY Harry Paul  
Photo Editor

Walking down the halls of this school, it does not take long to figure out that stress is a major part of the ecosystem. From the guidance office to students’ overstuffed lockers to the classrooms filled with testing anxiety, the stench of stress is overpowering.

Most experts agree that modern stress evolved from the “fight or flight” response that was programmed into human ancestors.

When humans lived in caves, the “fight or flight” response came from animals and other humans, not bombs and cancer. We needed hormones to kick start our muscles and our brains to either stand our ground and take our chance in combat, or give us the energy to outrun the source of the danger. Both of these required split second responses and immediate collaboration of all bodily systems.

When faced with a scantron instead of a raging rhinoceros, we would hope that our body would react with calm, focused intelligence—but we all know it will not. Unfortunately, that scantron is interpreted by our brains and bodies to be the same as the raging rhinoceros of our forefathers, thus triggering a feeling of stress.

During a stressful situation hormone glands release cortisol. Cortisol is a steroid, and its job, at the surface, seems simple. It redistributes the digestion of glucose for energy to different parts of the body and suppresses the nervous system.

Here lies the heart of the problem with modern stress: in stressful situations, our bodies are programmed to move all the energy away from our brain and to our muscles as our feelings and senses are dampened. This leaves us fear-stricken at our desk, unable to concentrate on the task at hand.

Chronic stress is another ballgame entirely, one that comes from existing in a prolonged state of intense stress that may cause physical impacts which include increases in visceral fat, sharp rises in blood pressure, and damage to the immune and nervous systems.

The hyper-secretion of cortisol results in a permanent suppression of the nervous system, which can lead to damage in the memory-storing parts of the brain, effectively making students worse in school.

Recent research shows that the influences of stress on your body is extremely variable dependent upon the way an individual thinks about stress. Once we recognize that we are not in danger and are merely excited, the body pushes all of that extra energy to the brain, giving us more of an energy boost.

A recent double blind study conducted at Harvard University provided evidence that people who think stress is good have significantly lower incidences of health problems than those who think negatively of it.

The way that students view stress can make all the difference. Do not tweet about how much you hate school because of the stress—use those surges in energy to push you forward for bigger and better things, whether on stage, in the classroom, or on the field.



# arts & entertainment

## Ender's Game plays with your mind



After training at battle school, Ender (Asa Butterfield) enters command school, where his genius prompts the instructor, Colonel Graff (Harrison Ford), to place a lot of pressure on him (below). Ender's skills are put to the test in various battle computer simulations, where he commands a squadron of his peers (left). If you're a fan of the book, *Ender's Game* provides an astounding experience that realizes your favorite chapters.



BY **Aaron Bialer**  
Copy Editor

Even the most avid readers among us have stared at the summer reading list in an attempt to find the easiest book to get through over the last three days of summer vacation. There is always a debate as to whether the shortest work will be the least painful, or whether it is worthwhile to read one of the books that actually captures some degree of attention. Generally, after borrowing the shortest, maybe 100 page book from the library, students end up reading the SparkNotes version anyway.

*Ender's Game*, however, is a completely different story. The first novel in a series of five, *Ender's Game* has developed a large fan base since it was published in 1977, and has been well known within the school as one of the summer reading books that is actually read and enjoyed.

The book centers around a young boy, Andrew "Ender" Wiggin, who is forced to enter battle school in space to prepare for his command role in wiping out an antagonistic, ant-like alien race.

The idea of an *Ender's Game* film brought about mixed feelings in the dedicated fan base.

People questioned how the psychological layers and sci-fi atmosphere of the novel could be relayed on the big screen. Though director Gavin Hood could not follow the book's plot perfectly over the course of a two hour movie, the film was well developed, so that even the stingiest "book is always better" fans could enjoy it.

Hood's success is in part due to Asa Butterfield's exemplary performance as Ender, the emotionally detached genius around which the book centers. As in the novel, many of Ender's relationships feel somewhat hollow.

Where those having read the book will respect this characterization of Ender, those who have not may struggle to follow the plot, as many of the deeper relationships seem to appear out of nowhere.

The other characters, though portrayed in a way that is mainly true to the book, are less satisfactory. Harrison Ford covers the role of Colonel Graff, one of the few significant adults. Ford fans

may not be fully satisfied, as Graff is underdeveloped despite a fair amount of screen time.

Ben Kingsley's Mazer Rackham, the former general turned teacher, is also disappointingly underdeveloped, because Hood did not relay enough time to Ender's command school training. Rather than appearing as the genius Ender will have to grow into, Rackham, with his widely tattooed face and outlandish accent, is creepy, which to a certain extent makes some sense due to his fifty year gap in human contact.

That said, the lack of character development does not take away from the film, and Hood's depiction stays as true to the book as possible, with the help of CGI.

The special effects allowed viewers to fully understand the complex battle and command school settings, and, of course, marvel at the cool futuristic images.

These settings were difficult to visualize in the book, so the movie offered a greater level of understanding of how the battle room and the command room look, as well as the 3D monitor Ender uses to command the battleships. It is

difficult enough to create spaceships without having to create their image on a 3D computer monitor. Additionally, the aliens and the landscapes of their planets were manufactured exceptionally.

Hood was ultimately most successful in recreating the "mind game" from the book, with which Ender becomes captivated. It features a mouse exploring a tricky world that is developed in Ender's unconscious.

The animated sequences provided more depth to a fairly action packed film, while also providing an adrenaline rush to fans of the book.

With only a few glitches here and there, Hood sought victory in *Ender's Game* and triumphed. Those who have not read the book may struggle with the intricate plot. Those who have read the book, be prepared for an overwhelming sense of nostalgia that may leave you crying tears of joy.



# An adorable romantic comedy comes just in time

by **Sophia Kim**  
*A&E Editor*

An absolutely perfectly bizarre love story, *About Time* is a can't miss movie filled with good laughs, tears, and awkwardness.

If you choose to see it, the next two hours will teach you about love, family, and most of all, using the time you have to get the most out of life.

Director Richard Curtis has whipped up several beloved classics with heartwarming love stories like *Love Actually* and *Bridget Jones Diary*. His newest film is yet another sentimental romantic comedy, but with a sci-fi twist.

*About Time* follows the life of 21-year-old Tim (Domhnall Gleeson) when he discovers his time traveling ability, a hereditary trait passed down through the males of his family.

Usually, the time travel cliché is that the main character has a mission to stop a terrorist attack (*Source Code*), save the president or monarch from assassination (*11/22/63*), or otherwise save the world.

Tim's power only allows him to travel to the past to change what has happened and make his own future better. But he decides to make the best of it by pursuing the love of his life, Mary (Rachel McAdams).

However, getting a girlfriend is not as easy as he had hoped, especially with all his first-date-don'ts that require multiple trips to the past to fix.

Tim's journey to win Mary's heart is downright hilarious. McAdams portrays the adorable socially awkward girl and Tim is right behind her in the awkward character contest.

Their characters are both arranged so they do not have the most attractive



Mary (Rachel McAdams) and Tim (Domhnall Gleeson) run through the subway passages after a date in *About Time*. Behind the couple, Jon Boden, Sam Sweeney, and Ben Coleman sing the main theme from the film, "How Long Will I Love You."

appearances, but the ingenuity and rawness of Tim and Mary make each other and the audience fall completely in love with them.

Tim's love life with Mary is definitely a major plot of the film, but his bond with his father, played by Bill Nighy, and his sister Kit Kat (Lydia Wilson) give just the right amount of depth to the movie.

Through them, Tim learns that unfortunately, even a time traveler cannot always avoid all obstacles in life.

But *About Time* is not really about a do-over. Tim's unique ability teaches him and the audience to live everyday like

you traveled back in time to re-live that particular day.

It is about the choices we make in our lives, no matter how insignificant, and how they may lead to an entirely different future.

No one knows what the future will bring and people rarely live a perfect life, but we all have the ability to make it as close to perfect as possible with our choices.

The performance, screenplay, and direction of the whole film are simply perfect. Witty lines, heartfelt acting, and an engaging storyline bring the audience

all sorts of emotions. *About Time* also blesses its audience with a first class soundtrack.

Songs by Ellie Goulding, The Cure, and The Killers complement the accompanying scenes perfectly.

The highlight of the film's soundtrack is Ellie Goulding's "How Long Will I Love You" covered by Jon Boden, Sam Sweeney, and Ben Coleman, which will most certainly continue to play in your head long after you exit the theater, reminding you that *About Time* is one of the best romantic comedy films you will see in your life.

# Eminem revives Marshall Mathers with LP 2

by **Penina Remler**  
*Managing Editor*

Guess who's back? Back again? Eminem's back. Tell a friend. The infamous Slim Shady has put an end to his short music hiatus by releasing his eighth

and latest album, *The Marshall Mathers LP 2*.

*The Marshall Mathers LP 2* is the sequel to Eminem's original record, *The Marshall Mathers LP*, which came out in 2000.

*The Marshall Mathers LP* was an immediate crowd pleaser for fans and to

this day can be considered a classic album for Eminem. Thus, when the artist chose to release a sequel to his Billboard record thirteen years later, many of Eminem's followers worried whether *LP 2* could live up to its predecessor.

Per usual, Eminem did not disappoint. Ever since *The Marshall Mathers LP 2* was released on Nov. 5, it has been a success. According to *Billboard*, *LP 2*'s sales come second best for any album so far in 2013. The number of copies sold skyrocketed up to 792,000, exceeding the predicted 750,000 (Justin Timberlake's *The 20/20 Experience* takes the lead with 968,000).

Rather than trying to "one up" his initial record, *LP 2* simply perseveres and enhances all of Eminem's favorable traits. Listeners will find the same witty lyrics and story-telling songs which seem to seal Eminem as a prominent and classic rap artist.

*The Marshall Mathers LP 2* consists of 20 tracks, starting with "Bad Guy," a seven minute opening. which can be considered a reaction to the 2000 hit, "Stan." "Stan" to this day causes commotion because the song is based on an overly obsessed fan who kills himself in desperation over Eminem's apparent "ignorance" toward his attention. "Bad Guy" is a response to "Stan," in which Eminem chooses to tell the story from Stan's younger brother who wants revenge for his lost loved one.

Eminem addresses another damaged

relationship in "Headlights (feat. Nate Ruess)." The song is devoted to Eminem's mother, Debbie, as an apology track to make up for the constant criticism and hate he produced about her in his past albums.

For the first time, Eminem seems to be addressing his personal issues from a reasonable perspective, as opposed to simply finding an excuse to blame it on, like he did in the past.

In addition to the new track, "Bad Guy" which covers a rather personal and emotional aspect of Eminem's past, *The Marshall Mathers LP 2* also contains some friendly collaborations.

Some of these hits, such as "Love Game (feat. Kendrick Lamar)" and "The Monster (feat. Rihanna)," have quickly made their way to top radio stations.

*The Marshall Mathers LP 2* is not only an accomplishment for Eminem's musical career, but also champions a better self-image for the star.

This time, Eminem's new album, *The Marshall Mathers LP 2* seems to leave an impact on the audience that will allow them to further understand Eminem on a more personal level, and not just as an artist.

Often, the truth and authenticity of an artist's music can be blurred by the cost of producing good music, but Eminem does a great job of delivering a truthful narrative while still establishing a catchy album that satisfies his fans.



Eminem performed his hit single, "Bezerk," on *Saturday Night Live* on Nov. 2. However, many viewers question whether his "live" performance was lip-synced.



# Make sure to bring home a disappointment this holiday

BY **Dan Bidikov**  
*Editor-In-Chief*

There are new things for you to buy! Rest assured they are better than the things you already have. They are video game consoles and, unlike your old ones, they feature streamlined user interfaces, touch screens, and voice controls.

They are the Sony PlayStation 4 and the Microsoft Xbox One, and they are being released this month to much excitement. Neither of these products is worth purchasing. If you are going to buy either, please, please, do not buy either of them for at least another year. And then when you decide to ignore the aforementioned advice, at least consider the following information so that you end up making a less regrettable mistake.

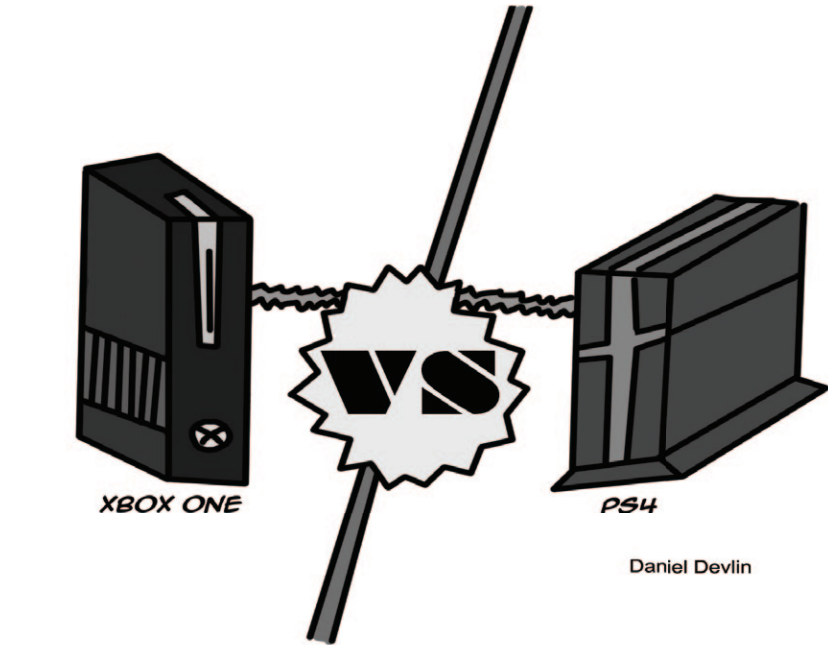
The new devices are extremely powerful. Both game systems have a significantly higher Peak GPU Shader Throughput, 8-core processing units, and 8 gigabytes of Random Access Memory. This means that you can hook either one of them up to a really big TV and the images won't be stretched out.

Unless you sit an inch from a television set the size of three classroom blackboards, though, you will likely not even notice that the graphics are any better on current games than they were three years ago.

Each system comes out of the box with 500 gigabytes of data storage, leaving users with plenty of space to download entire games, TV shows, movies, and dumb applets that serve only to take up space on the hard drive. The increased data capacity is impressive until you have owned the system for three years and have only used a tenth of the available storage space.

The platforms have their own unique, exclusive, cutting-edge features.

Sony's latest technological outing offers new social media functions, including easy options to share information from your video games (i.e. high scores, footage) with your friends on a variety of social



networks and video hosting services.

While it is too early to measure the exact impact of these features on the video game industry, it is safe to say that there is no rush for any of them to exist. Breathe easy if you can't take advantage of these features yet—none of your friends even remotely care about how many kills you got in one game of *Call of Duty*.

The Xbox One is breaking ground with its updated Xbox Kinect system.

An entirely motion control-based platform, the Kinect relies on the use of advanced video cameras and sophisticated software to provide users with an experience that does away with the traditional controller method of gaming.

It sounds innovative. Really, though, it only exists to make playing video game tennis almost as unbearable as playing real tennis.

Okay, you get it, both systems have a slew of unnecessary and borderline awful features that you will almost never use.

But you are a hardcore gamer, and want to purchase a new platform because you care about the games!

In that case, you should probably wait until more than ten decent games are out for each system and decide which ones you like the best.

But if you wait just a little longer, you will realize that the video game industry is bloated and malicious, and that you can count the number of games that have come out in the past five years that have actually been worth playing on your fingers.

Then you will grow bitter, using the free time that you once expended on video games to loudly criticize the absence of proper storytelling in interactive entertainment. You will become estranged and lose social relevance.

You will be left behind by your friends, who are fixated only on each other's KillCam Footage (Shared Exclusively on Facebook via PlayStation Network™).

Or, you will buy a PS4... for \$399.

# Thor: The Dark World doesn't exactly shine bright

BY **Rami Chaudhry**  
*Contributing Writer*

Riding on the success of consecutive hit blockbusters, Marvel has hit a minor snag with *Thor: The Dark World*. Following the box office success of *The Avengers* (2012), the stakes have never been higher for the Disney-owned studio.

After the 2012 spectacle, fans of Marvel's cinematic universe were expecting the subsequent individual superhero movies to match the same level of excitement and intensity. Unfortunately, these expectations were barely met with the latest Thor flick. *Thor: The Dark World* is just a continuation of a pretty bland story that fails to take the Thor franchise to new heights.

Following the events of *The Avengers*, Thor (Chris Hemsworth) returns to his home of Asgard to bring peace to the nine realms. Meanwhile, Jane Foster (Natalie Portman), the astrophysicist who first discovered Thor, takes possession of a dark weapon known as the Aether that was hidden thousands of years ago from Malekith, the leader of the Dark Elves.

Now that the Aether has been uncovered from its hidden location, Malekith's goal is to harness its power and envelope the universe in darkness. With

Earth in peril, you guessed it, Thor takes the job into his own hands and attempts to save the day yet again while reuniting with Jane Foster. Yawn.

This derivative and unimaginative plot makes Thor's third big screen outing a bland and unnecessary addition to the Thor saga. Too many ideas from the comics were muddled into a movie runtime of less than two hours. Most casual viewers probably will not understand many of the references made in the plot.

It also did not help that the film's main antagonist was such a poorly developed and weak villain. The audience has little information regarding his motives, forcing him to serve only as the foil for Thor. This makes Malekith another statistic in the growing list of disposable villains that Marvel rolls out for each move.

One Marvel villain that has avoided this fate is Loki, Thor's mentally unstable adopted brother. After being defeated by the Avengers, Loki (Tom Hiddleston) returns to Asgard as a prisoner. This movie made it clearly evident that Loki is a necessity for this franchise. Every scene with him is like a breath of fresh air, and it is truly a shame that he does not have as much screen time this time around. Loki is such an intriguing character

with complex layers that are only slightly shown in *Thor: The Dark World*. Loki saved this movie in so many ways, which illustrates how Thor just is not that great of a character without his brother beside him. This may be a problem if Marvel decides to stray away from him in future films.

*Thor: The Dark World* did bring something new to the table, however, and surprisingly did not end in the cliché city-wide destruction and apocalyptic scenario that has plagued so many superhero films recently.

It contained a satisfying and unexpected conclusion that balanced out the negative aspects of its dull story line. Also, the great action sequences directed by Alan Taylor and the witty one liners apparent in all of Marvel's films in addition to Thor's humorous fish-out-of-water persona were warmly welcomed.

The result is a decent Thor movie that is entertaining at times, with an uninventive story. If you are a die-hard Marvel fan, go out with your friends and enjoy Marvel's latest entry, because it was made for you. However, it is by no means a must see this holiday season.

If you are a casual viewer of Marvel films and do not care much about the hammer wielding Norse god of thunder and lightning, you are not missing out on too much.

# The season finale of a show which is in a league of its own

BY **Josh White**  
*Photo Editor*

One of the most rib-tickling and hilarious television shows currently on TV has just finished its fifth season. The writers and cast of *The League*, a semi-improvisational show on FXX, have proven to viewers that even five seasons later, there are new jokes to keep you on the edge.

The show stars Stephen Rannazzisi as Kevin MacArthur, an assistant district attorney.

Kevin MacArthur's main objective in life, just like any other member of *The League*, is to win the Shiva Bowl (named after Shivakamini Somakandarkram: a high school classmate to whom Kevin MacArthur lost his virginity).

Kevin is married to Jenny (Katie Aselton), who is both the only female member of *The League*, and one of the most knowledgable. While Pete Eckhart (Mark Duplass), the most decorated member of *The League*, is a three-time champion who viewers will support regardless of his constant cocky attitude.

Ironically enough, in real life Katie Aselton is actually married to Mark Duplass, and they have a six-year-old child.

Among the other members of *The League* are Rodney Ruxin (Nick Kroll), Dr. Andre Nowzick (Paul Scheer), and Taco MacArthur (Jon Lajoie). Ruxin is a ruthless Jewish liability lawyer, Andre is a clueless plastic surgeon, and Taco is an unemployed stoner who is more concerned with his family of "Eskimo brothers" (people who have slept with women he has slept with) than *The League*.

Most people think that the show is entirely based on fantasy football; however, in truth *The League* simply revolves around a group of friends coming together to make fun of one another.

So, just because you are not a fantasy football fanatic, you may still enjoy the raunchy, witty, humor, which certainly appeals to many teenagers and young adults.

However, many critics claim that *The League's* central characters tend to get caught up in improvisational joke battles rather than taking legitimate steps to advance the plot, while countless other sources critique the show for being offensive just for the sake of it.

Despite this kind of disapproval, the show has built up a very committed fan base through what has been called a plotless season four.

As season five of *The League* draws to a close, avid fans are building up a dose of withdrawal from their favorite comedic relief series.

However, this is not the end for *The League*. Season six will air next fall with similar shenanigans, off-color jokes, and even a few insanely famous guest stars from America's very own National Football League.



# Lady Gaga makes an aesthetic statement with her new album, ARTPOP

BY **Delia Rush**  
*Contributing Writer*

When Lady Gaga was first introduced to pop culture, her style and music was refreshing, new, and different. Her unique music videos, costumes, lyrics and sound were captivating and intriguing.

She has held to her eccentric ego ever since. She is always expected to be the artist with an outgoing style. Therefore, it is no surprise that Gaga's new album *ARTPOP*, which dropped worldwide on Nov. 11, has been received with open arms.

Lady Gaga, both in her personal life and in her music, has put a big emphasis on confidence and security in oneself. Such self-celebration has fueled her vehement support for gay rights, further encouraging her status as a prominent figure in society and pop culture.

Her originality serves as the basis to her incredibly loyal and passionate fan base, lovingly deemed "the Little Monsters." These fans have been a major driving force in the star's success: promoting her albums and singles alongside Gaga.

However, over the years, pop culture has grown with Lady Gaga, making her status seem not as outrageous as when she first entered the business.

Artists such as Nicki Minaj, Katy Perry, and Miley Cyrus have all gotten well within reach of this standard of creativity with memorable looks, performances, and hits.

However, Lady Gaga seems to have



Lady Gaga opens the MTV VMAs earlier this August with her performance of "Applause." She switched in and out of a total of four outfits, mimicking the costumes she wore in her "Applause" music video.

retained her place on top, as over 300,000 copies of *ARTPOP* have been sold thus far.

Much like other artists, Lady Gaga released singles from the album as a sneak peek. "Applause," the album's lead single, raced to the top of the charts after its release.

Gaga's performance of "Applause" at the 2013 VMA's in addition to her Twitter

account (which currently has over 40 million followers) have built hype for the album.

Lady Gaga's approach to controversy makes it no surprise that the majority of the songs on *ARTPOP* are labelled explicit, a large portion of which are collaborations with other artists, again serving as an opportunity to expand her already immense fandom.

However, the enormous pop star has been rebuked by several critics for her lack of originality, as they notice many common themes and some lyrics of other popular songs. Many have speculated that Gaga has run out of ideas.

After claiming that she wants to have first performance staged in outer space, Lady Gaga has left many wondering if her ambitions may be too far out of reach.

# How YouTube takes over our lives, one video at a time

BY **Max Miranda**  
*A&E Editor*

2013: The world is now filled with social networking sites and apps easily accessible through your smartphone, tablet, or laptop. We spend a good portion of the day snapchatting silly-face selfies, planning and filming vines that we predict will get the most re-vines, and posting edited pictures of sunsets on Instagram. You would think that by now, one of the newer social networking sites would have stolen YouTube's spotlight, but it continues to champion its title as the go-to site for mp4 entertainment ever since 2005.

The domain name [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) was first registered on Feb. 14, 2005 by founders Chad Hurley, Steve Chen and Jawed Karim. The company started out small, situated above a pizzeria and Japanese restaurant in San Mateo, California. At that point, they had not even found a way to monetize their site.

However, within the first couple of years, YouTube skyrocketed. The site began registering tens of millions of viewers per day. It was such success that led to Google's buyout of YouTube in exchange for \$1.65 billion worth of Google stock. With the addition of Google's multi-billion dollar search engine, in addition to a new advertising business model, YouTube quickly rose to its current prominence.

Such prominence includes more than one billion unique users who visit YouTube each month to watch a total of 6 billion hours of video, while thousands of new users, seeking to quench the audience's thirst for content, upload over 100 hours of video to YouTube each minute.

The primary reason for the website's success is its versatility. YouTube's collection of channels is immense, offering online clips of TV shows, original content, full-length movies, music videos, and footage of cute cats.

Numerous "YouTubers" have become common house-hold names because of their videos. Users Michelle Phan and juicystar07 have both gained recognition from the fashion and cosmetic industries due to the high view counts on their tutorial videos. Michelle Phan scored a position as the official Lancome video makeup artist last year, and is currently promoting her own line of cosmetics.

YouTube has also been a place to form a solid fanbase for aspiring musicians, and a handful of them have actually been able to gain enough attention from the music industry to sign a contract. Justin Bieber and Karmin are the most prominent examples of stars whose musical origins lie on YouTube.

However, even without going pro, some users continue to build up their fame on YouTube, such as Kurt Hugo Schneider and Sam Tsui, who are renowned for their original covers of pop hits. Recently, Schneider and Tsui have also been promoting their own songs and performed at the Make It Up Highline Ballroom NYC with fellow YouTubers Alex Goot, King the Kid, Ajr Brothers, and Landen & Luke. These aspiring artists also occasionally broadcast live on YouTube, allowing fans to enjoy their music in real time, as well as interact with them through chats.

Then of course, Youtube provides your usual dose of the latest music videos and concert clips from the individual artists' YouTube page, or on channels sponsored by music companies like Vevo. It would

not be wrong to say the amount of views an artist gets on the most recent music video determines his or her popularity. It would be difficult to find someone in New York State who is not familiar with PSY and his worldwide mega-hit, "Gangnam Style." The music video became most watched on YouTube on Nov. 23, 2012.

With over three billion hits on his video, PSY, a Korean pop singer whose fame was restricted in South Korea, became an international icon with the amusing choreography in the "Gangnam Style" music video.

But the music industry is not the only commercial enterprise that uses YouTube for promotion. Just about every big name broadcasting company has a YouTube channel dedicated to keep viewers thinking about their favorite shows 24/7. YouTube pages by NBC, ABC, and FOX regularly post sneak peeks and short clips of each running show, and any other videos related to their shows such as the actors' interviews.

But these features have been around in YouTube for quite a while, unlike the new Webisode channels the site has been hosting. Aptly named by combining the words "web" and "episode," a webisode is an episode of a series that is distributed

as web television available for streaming on YouTube. Each webisode lasts no longer than fifteen minutes, and the series themselves are also relatively short and usually only include ten to twenty webisodes. For example, *Blue* is a drama episode series by WIGS, a part of the YouTube Original Channel Initiative, and began streaming episodes in May 14, 2012. *Blue* features Julia Stiles as its main character, and WIGS posted several other drama series centering around the lives of women. Artists like Avril Lavigne and Sara Bareilles also utilize webisodes to regularly interact with fans, casually talking to the audience about their newest projects.

YouTube even manages to host its own awards ceremony. On Nov. 3, the YouTube Music Awards (YTMA's) were held, featuring dozens of stars from Lady Gaga to Eminem. YouTube seems to have become the world's one-stop shop for entertainment.

Without YouTube, it's safe to say that things would be very different: revolutions may never have caught on, thousands of YouTubers would be out of a job, and millions of cats would simply be lazily sitting around, begging for someone to film them.





# Boys varsity football team falls shy in conference finals

## Season ends in one point loss to division rival Roslyn Bulldogs

BY Kyle Cohen

Contributing Writer

The heat was on in the final minutes of Port Washington football's conference championship game.

The Vikings were leading up until three minutes remained in the fourth quarter.

After stopping Roslyn for three downs, on a fourth-and-six, Roslyn converted and scored a touchdown to take a one point lead. This was all that Roslyn needed to hold off the Vikings, and the Vikings went on to lose by one.

So it happened that the Vikings finished the season with a 7-1 record. They came in at second place in Conference 5, losing the championship game to Roslyn with a score of 15-14.

"We started off with a rivalry game that meant a lot to anyone who was on the team last year, as LuHi was the only team to beat us last season. Every week after that, the team got closer and closer, and we really became a family," said senior captain Kyle Granger.

The Vikings did not let the loss define their season.

"We played some of the best football Port has seen in a long time, and we played our hearts out each week, especially in the championship. We succeeded in building an amazing team and we played really good football, but we failed in that we didn't win the championship game," said Granger.

Despite the team coming up short in the championship game, many of its players see it as a learning experience and wish to improve on what they have already accomplished.

"The season was a great success and we want to keep building off it," said junior Anton Livshin.

There is still a question that looms as the Vikings enter what should be a busy offseason. After having two winning sea-



Danielle Snyder

**The Viking offense huddles up to discuss its next play on the turf on Sept. 28. The Vikings went on to beat Great Neck South 55-28. This was one of the Vikings most dominant victories throughout the entire regular season.**

sons in Conference 5, they may be looking to move up.

However, conferences are set up by school size, rather than skill, so it has been difficult to find the middle ground between entering Conference 1, or staying in Conference 5, with a better opportunity to be successful.

"I think that the team we are leaving behind is very capable. A lot of the core pieces to our team this year were juniors who could handle themselves in conference one. If they move up to a different conference, they'll hold their own. It's all

about whether or not Section Eight opens their collective eyes and see that the conferences should be based off skill rather than population, like every single other sport. If it were done this way, Port would be conference 2 or 3. I think the program should be in the conference where they are given the best chance to compete," said Granger.

Returning players also believe that moving up in conferences would prove to be successful for the Vikings.

"I definitely want to move up, because I feel like we left our mark in this division and it's time to prove ourselves to the rest of

Long Island," said Livshin.

The Vikings believe they would be able to handle the more difficult competition in a higher level of play.

"I think we should be moved up a conference or two because we have played some of these teams in scrimmages and competed with them, and even beaten some of them," said junior Scott Belarge.

The Vikings are eager to move up from Conference 5, however; it may not be that simple due to Schreiber's population.

## Captains' Corner: Chelsea Nachamie and Carolyn Rybecky

BY Aaron Bosgang

Contributing Writer

**Aaron Bosgang:** I'm here today with the captains of the girls field hockey team, Chelsea and Carolyn, and we are looking back on the recent season. It's awesome to be talking to both of you. How are you?

**Chelsea Nachamie:** I'm great! Glad to be here!

**AB:** Radical! Let's jump right in! So you'll have to excuse me, but I've never played on a girls field hockey team. For you guys, when did you decide to play and what do love so much about it?

**Carolyn Rybecky:** I started playing through Port Washington Youth Activities (PYA) when I was nine years old. Since then, it has been a huge commitment. What I love most is the fact that I get to spend time with a wide variety of athletes. Playing with them has taught me how to adapt to different group dynamics, personalities, and playing styles.

**CN:** I started a little later. I played on an outside soccer league for most of life up to the seventh grade, and I had the choice to try out for the team, but there was no guarantee that I would get

in. It was either that, or follow my sister's footsteps and play field hockey. I looked up to my sister a lot, and when I saw how much she loved the sport, I decided that trying it out was what I wanted to do. What made me stick with it was the passion I saw from everyone on and off the field. There was always a lot of excitement and competitiveness that I came to love with the new sport.

**AB:** Awesome! Having that kind of passion is really important to have, especially as captains. How do you try to translate that enthusiasm into practices and games?

**CR:** The whole team worked really hard this season. We knew that we had to work hard if we wanted to go far. Since it was Mr. Lederer's last season as the coach, we wanted to end his final games on a high note. He was our biggest motivation.

**CN:** Everyone on my team has become some of my best friends. At first, we didn't really know each other, so Carrie and I worked as captains to bring the team together. During games and practices, we learned from our mistakes and played as hard as we could. Whatever it was we had to do, it was done as a team. By the end of the season, I saw all my fellow teammates as sisters.

**AB:** That was very powerful. The bonds on the team seem really strong, and you guys have truly made a team that will stick together. Compared to previous seasons, how did this one stack up?

**CR:** The past three years that I have been on the varsity team have been solid. Coming into the season, we were worried that it may not be as successful as the years in the past. However, we used that doubt to motivate us more. The first couple of games started off slow, but we eventually managed to work as one team. That's when we started really to pick it up. I like to look at this year as the, "Come Back Team." It was hard work, but it paid off. We were able to make it to the playoffs, just like the last two seasons.

**CN:** With all the seniors who left last year, we knew it would be tough. Our main goal was to win the county finals. It was a step-by-step process, but we made it much farther than we had expected.

**AB:** It seems like you guys really defied all odds this season. The amount of work you put in looks to have really paid off. Finally, what are your thoughts on Mr. Lederer retiring, and how do you think it will affect the team?

**CN:** When I heard that Mr. Lederer wouldn't be coaching anymore, I cried,

even though I knew I wouldn't be here next year. He really brought us together. He's been coaching for twelve years now, and he knew what he was doing. He always made the team work together. I think what Emily Youner said is really important, "He made me want to make him proud and inspired hard work from all of us. Personally, I played harder in games for him."

**CR:** I have learned so much from Mr. Lederer. He has taught me how to be a better player and person. He has put so much energy into this team and he is one of the reasons we are one of the highest ranked teams in Nassau County. He always is making us laugh during games and practice, whether intentional or not, he always can make the team feel better. One time, he was upset about the lack of communication during one of the games. He suggested that we all start calling 'mine' when we were going after the ball. He said he wanted us to sound like the seagulls from *Finding Nemo*. The huddle rang out in a chorus of "mines" and everyone laughed as we jogged back onto the field.

**AB:** It was a pleasure to talk with both of you. Thanks for taking the time and Go Vikings!



# Boys varsity basketball team hopes to outhustle competition

## *Veteran-led team wishes to get off to a quick start, make a deep run in playoffs*

BY **Josh White**  
*Photo Editor*

The boys varsity basketball team last won its conference in 2009. They came close last year, finishing third in their conference, and were able to advance into the Nassau Class AA-2 playoffs as the seventh seed. Port Washington was later defeated by tenth seeded Carey Seahawks, by a score of 59-42 in the first round.

Even though the Vikings have not won a conference championship in four years, head coach Mr. Sean Dooley sees many similarities between this year's team and that of 2009.

"Both teams put in a ton of effort and play a good game of basketball. They want to have fun, but also win by playing good basketball with their friends," said Coach Dooley.

Despite losing five of last year's seniors, the Vikings are led by an experienced group of players for this season. Senior guard Ryan Kriftcher, who was the leading scorer of last season's squad, averaging sixteen points in eighteen games, leads the Vikings.

The returning Viking players, who have experience in the varsity system, will maintain leadership roles and look to welcome new players, along with orienting them to the team.

Many of the Vikings new players have played for the Weber team, and these two squads share many of the same basic plays and rotations, so each player who comes

up already has a background in how the team works.

In order for the Vikings to succeed in their conference, they need to do something that no Schreiber varsity basketball team has ever accomplished: beat the Baldwin Bruins.

Last season the Vikings lost to Baldwin by a close score of 52-51.

In that game, the Vikings had to rebound after falling into a quick 17-4 hole after the first quarter. Later on, the team bounced back with the assistance of twenty-two points tallied by guard Ryan Kriftcher.

The trend of falling into scoring deficits early in games was a chronic issue for last year's team.

"We started off way too slowly last season and dug ourselves into a hole game after game, making it much harder to win," said Kriftcher.

In order for the Vikings to succeed this season, they need to drive to a fast start and not look back. The boys can be competitive if they can avoid turnovers and play the game to the best of their ability.

"If our defense can hold up this season, we can go undefeated at home," said Coach Dooley.

For this goal to be achieved, they would need to beat every team in their conference at home, including Baldwin, and win a few other non-league games.

Despite the difficulty of the task, the Vikings believe that this goal is attainable. For this goal to become reality, a few play-

ers will need to increase their playing level.

"Last season, Max Mastbaum was a huge spark off the bench. I definitely could see him along with other players making a huge difference down the stretch in close games this season," said Kriftcher.

In addition to its defense, which the team prides itself upon, the depth of the team allows it to run an up tempo offense. While some teams may become tired in the second half, the Vikings try and maintain high energy and stamina throughout the course of the game, and believe this can help them win games down the stretch.

A lot of the boys on the team have played together since they were at the elementary level and on different leagues and teams outside of school. Over time, players have developed an understanding of each other's style.

The Vikings tip off their season on the road against the Great Neck South Rebels on Dec. 3, at 6:30.



Courtesy of Elana Galassi

Senior guard Ryan Kriftcher shoots a free throw against the Manahasset Indians on Dec. 7, 2012. The Vikings went on to win 51-46.

## Senior signs National Letter of Intent



Ethan Bookstein

Senior Natalie Ledwitz commits to Old Dominion University by signing her National Letter of Intent on Nov. 15. The captain of last year's Schreiber team will be playing lacrosse for the Monarchs at midfielder.

# SPORTS TRIVIA CORNER

Which Schreiber sports team had the highest average GPA last year?

A. Last year, the boys cross country team had the highest average GPA.



## Calling the Shots

BY Seth Barshay

Sports Editor

Different societies, cultures, and environments include elements of bullying. Schools are a prime example. Throw a bunch of teenagers together for an extended period of time and there will be bullying. The recent addition of social media and electronic communication adds to the problem. However, Port Washington and other school's zero tolerance policy with bullying has gone a significant way toward combatting bullying in the schools.

The nation has recently gotten a glimpse into another environment where bullying takes place, the locker room of the Miami Dolphins. According to Jonathan Martin, an extended period of bullying by teammate and fellow offensive lineman Richie Incognito recently caused him to take a leave of absence from the team.

The facts are not yet clear, but this much appears to be true. Martin, a Stanford graduate in his second season in the NFL, left the Dolphins on Oct. 30 to address "emotional issues" caused by repeated hazing led by Incognito. The hazing included a graphic, expletive-filled voicemail containing racial slurs sent by Incognito to Martin, along with threats to both Martin and his mother. The Dolphins subsequently suspended Incognito indefinitely for conduct detrimental to the team. More unpleasant facts are sure to follow.

It probably came as a shock to many of us that bullying exists on an NFL team, but maybe it should not have. Many members of football teams are young men, recently out of school. Professional football is violent and many who play carry themselves with a warrior mentality. It is not difficult to see how these elements could come together in a relatively unsupervised environment to permit bullying.

The closed culture of many teams is also a contributing factor.

"When you're part of a team, it can become even more difficult. This is because of the culture that teams sometimes carry with them, that nothing is supposed to leave the team and their locker room," said Principal Mr. Ira Pernick.

Not surprisingly, Incognito does not take full blame for his actions. The violence, harsh words, and overall nasty tactics present in his relationship with Martin are, to Incognito, completely justified.

To Incognito, the two were buddies.

## Recent scandal shows bullying is not just in schools



washingtontimes.com

**Fellow Miami Dolphins offensive linemen Richie Incognito (left) and Jonathan Martin (right) exchange words during a game during the 2013-2014 NFL season. Neither player is currently with the team. In the Dolphins' following game, the team lost to the previously winless Tampa Bay Buccaneers on Monday, Nov. 11 with a score of 22-19.**

He "had Martin's back." Threats, racial slurs, and overall subjugation were just Incognito's method of "team building." Of course, the results of this so-called team building are a suspended lineman and a possibly permanently wounded psyche.

Incognito obviously does not get it. Bullying is wrong, and should not be tolerated in any environment, not even the tough guy environment of an NFL locker room. While in the past the public has overlooked this, countless graphic examples of the consequences of bullying in schools has turned society against bullying. It may exist, but when made public, the perpetrators reputations are ruined; this appears to be Incognito's fate.

But fault in this case does not lie only with Incognito. Rather than being supportive of Martin, members of the Miami Dolphins have rallied around the man who has been ranked as the dirtiest player in the NFL. In their eyes, Martin is in the wrong for not having stood up for himself or spoken up. Martin broke the code of

the team's culture by shedding light on the bullying to the public. In their view, it is the victim who is at fault.

Team culture is a creation of team members. The real question to ask here is not why Martin did not stand up for himself earlier; it is why did Martin's teammates not lift a finger to help him. Where were the men with enough courage to stand up to the league's dirty player when he was bullying one of their own? Why did they not insist, if for no other reason than for the good of the team, that Incognito behave like a human being? Clearly men of such courage and conviction are not present in the Dolphins locker room, just as they are not present in many other bullying situations.

Coaches and management bear a large amount of blame as well. Either Dolphins Head Coach Joe Philbin knew about the bullying, or he should have known. In the NFL, the head coach is the leader of the team both on and off the field, and it is his responsibility to know if one of his players

is bullying another and put a stop to it. It is also his responsibility to create a culture on the team where players do not live in fear of threats and acts of violence.

Further, management is responsible for putting the team together. This includes making sure the team includes mature, thoughtful, and courageous team leaders who can keep bullies, like Incognito, in check.

A critical measure to put in place to protect the victims of bullying is to provide them with figures of authority to whom they can turn.

"In general, I think the hardest thing to do is the most important thing to do, and that is to go talk to an adult," said Mr. Pernick.

Fortunately, in Schreiber and many other schools, adults who will take action and enforce the zero tolerance rule are present. Unfortunately for Martin, this did not appear to be the case for the Miami Dolphins.

## Varsity gymnastics seeks success in its upcoming season and looks to win conference

BY Eric Fishbin

Sports Editor

The gymnastics team will begin the 2013-2014 season on Dec. 11 on home turf, Sousa Elementary, against a Great Neck South team that beat the Vikings in the final meet of last season, forcing a 7-5 record. It was the Vikings' closest meet of the season, with a score of 142.85 to 141.65.

"Despite that rough loss last year, we really are just trying to focus on what is ahead of us. It is great that we get an opportunity to avenge ourselves from last year, but we just want to focus on one meet at a time," said junior Lauren Rudman.

Getting that first win might prove to be crucial for the Vikings motivation for the rest of the year.

"The team has done awesome in the past couple of years. We all work together so well and it is always so much fun to be with the team. Coach Patterson and I both expect the team to work hard and to be there for each other," said senior Emily Perlman.

In a gymnastic meet there are four events that a team competes in: floor, beam, bars, and vaults. Each of these events is scored by judges with scores out of a possible 10 points. For each event, except for vaults, a routine must be choreographed prior to the meet. For example, for the floor routine, the gymnast does a routine to a song of her own choice.

"We really enjoy our practices and have a lot of fun, but we do work hard. As a team, we want to achieve as much as we can. Even if we don't win a meet but get a higher overall score than the last one, we would still feel accomplished. Our main

goal is to improve individually, and also as a team," said Rudman.

The team is currently placed in Conference II, along with Great Neck North, Great Neck South, South Side, Roslyn, Valley Stream Central, North Shore, Long Beach, Garden City, and Cold Spring Harbor. The Vikings will mostly face teams in their conference, along with a few non-conference meets throughout the course of the season.

"It is really important for us to win the conference matches so we can be in the best position when playoff time come around. Hopefully we can go as far as we can this season," said Rudman.

Another perspective shown by the team is learning by mistakes, and improving for the meets in the future.

"If we end up winning the meet, we win, and that's awesome, but if we lose, we just have to work harder to win the next

meet," said Perlman.

Although the scoring for gymnastics is cumulative, each event has great importance, and each individual works hard to improve herself, in order to contribute to the team as a whole.

"I hope to help my team win and also I want to become a better gymnast throughout the course of the season. As for others on the team, Sam Hoffman and Eleni Kouvaras are both excellent, and of course it is always exciting to see what the new freshmen can bring to the table," said Perlman.

As individuals, the girls are given the chance to qualify for both invitationals and states. For invitationals, a gymnast can be invited if she has reached a certain individual score for the season. If successful at invitationals, the gymnasts move along to compete in states.



# VIKING SPORTS

## Boys volleyball wins Nassau County Championship

*Varsity team ends season with loss in Long Island Championship to Sachem East*

BY Seth Barshay and Adam Keltz

*Sports Editor and Contributing Writer*

On Nov. 6, the boys varsity volleyball team won its first Nassau County Championship in 14 years, with a regular season record of 12-4 in Conference 1. En route to this accomplishment, the third seeded Vikings defeated the second seeded Plainview Hawks in the semifinals, and first seeded Massapequa in the finals.

“The commitment that the boys made to the team, the focus that we practiced with every day, and the belief that we could win it all contributed the most this season,” said Coach Ms. Maria Giamanco.

Led by their captains, seniors Ben Moy, Kwan Park, and junior Steven Lopez, the team ultimately fell to Sachem East in the Long Island Championship at Hofstra University.

“I think a lot of it can be attributed to strong leadership, but more importantly as the season progressed we learned how important it was to be mentally tough. It took us a long time to procure that just right attitude that we needed to play in those big do-or-die situations, this important balance of calm and confidence, but once we had that we were golden,” said senior Simon Shapiro.

Both Plainview and Massapequa had met Schreiber twice during the regular season, and beat the Vikings each time. The finals win erased Massapequa’s bid to an undefeated season, finishing overall at 13-1.

“The one thing that our coach stressed to us in both the Plainview and Massapequa matches was to have fun. She realized we play better when we aren’t pressured. We all love the sport with such a passion that playing for fun was a difficult task,” said Moy.

In the semifinals of the Class ‘A’ Boys



Josh White

**Junior Alec Nadjari bumps the ball to captain Steven Lopez in the Nassau County semifinals against Plainview. Port won in four sets on their way to the County Championships.**



Josh White

**The boys varsity volleyball team huddles up for the Long Island Championship against the Sachem East Flaming Arrows. The Vikings lost this match in three sets, with a score of 25-16, 25-19, 25-23.**

Volleyball Championship, held on Nov. 4, the Vikings beat Plainview in four sets, by a score of 25-13, 26-28, 25-21, 25-19

Lopez finished with 16 kills, 10 digs, and two aces, while junior Alec Nadjari had 14 kills and three blocks.

The beginning of the county finals, held at SUNY Old Westbury, saw Schreiber going into an early hole, losing the first game by two points. This was followed by a rally, in which Port won the next three sets with scores of 25-18, 25-21, and 25-19.

“We never got worried, even after we dropped the first set. We knew we were 100% in this match, and we came out firing right away in the second. I think my teammates and I felt, that once we hit a lead halfway through the set, the moment was completely in our hands, and we were able to finish each of the final three sets decisively,” said Shapiro.

Lopez finished with 26 kills and three aces, and clinched the match with the game’s final kill, which caused a mob by his teammates at center court. He and Park combined for 53 assists.

“Having the clinching play in the County Finals was easily one of the best moments I had in the season. I was left in shock because we

had just won the championships, and we as a team were unbelievably happy. Overall as a team we had an amazing performance, and we did everything we needed to do. This was one of the best accomplishments we had together,” said Lopez.

Park was named the tournament’s overall MVP, while Lopez was named to the All-Tournament team, and junior David Adler received an Honorable Mention.

“Winning felt amazing. It’s something I’m going to always be able to carry with me. I knew we had the capacity to be the best in Nassau, and we were able to prove it by winning the title. It’s great to know that we were able to make a lot of people proud,” said Shapiro

In the Long Island Championship, Schreiber lost to Suffolk County’s fourth seeded Sachem East in 3 sets, by a score of 25-16, 25-19, 25-23.

“To be able to participate in the Long Island Championship is something I would never trade anything for. This opportunity was a once in a lifetime thing for me... I’m a little upset about ending our season in such a way, but I’m glad to show Port Washington that our volleyball team has what it takes to make it this far. I’m sure my teammates who are younger than me will see this opportunity in the future,” said Moy.

Despite this loss, the team still feels that this season was a successful one. Before next season, seven seniors will be

graduating.

“The seniors this year were certainly great for the team. They all led very well and shaped the team. They all were a strong foundation for the rest of the team to build upon. It’s going to be tough to not have them next year, but we will have the players to fill in their spots, and we will have to move forward and bring it to every game,” said sophomore Andrew Kerr.

Graduating seniors include Moy, Park, Shapiro, Will Smith, Matt Shevrin, Diego Hidalgo, and manager Aaron Schuckman.

“Even though we have some very, very important seniors leaving, we have a large number of returning players that were starters or major contributors. We have a solid group of players coming back for next year, and there is also some great potential from players on JV this year,” said Ms. Giamanco.

Looking toward next season, the returners are confident with their chances to contend.

“My hopes are that we will make it to the championship again next year, and take the title. G. is a great coach and always pursues a successful season, regardless of who her players are. If the team’s confidence level and attitude remains the same, there are no doubts in my mind that we have the potential to win the Long Island Championship,” said sophomore Zach Jimenez.