

THE SCHREIBER TIMES

Paul D. Schreiber High School Port Washington, New York Volume LXIV No. 4 December 2013

'Tis the season,
So make it
your own



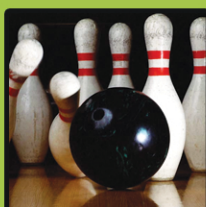
www.THESCHREIBERTIMES.com



Catching Fire

-A&E-

Pg. 20



Bowling

-Sports-

Pg. 24

Saturnalia

-News- Pg. 6

Current Events

-Opinions- Pg. 8

IN THIS ISSUE...

NEWS.

Chromebooks p. 5
Saturnalia p. 6
AP course changes p. 6

OPINIONS.

Charitable intentions? p. 7
College Essay p. 8
Current events p. 8

FEATURES.

Starbucks secret menu p. 11
Moe's vs. Chipotle p. 16
INVEST program p. 16

A&E.

Frozen p. 17
Timeline p. 18
Catching Fire soundtrack p. 20

SPORTS.

Wrestling p. 22
Year in sports p. 23
Bowling p. 24



Ann Woltke

Senior Ann Woltke took this photo over the summer for her AP Digital Photography class. Students were required to shoot a series of photos from different angles. The above photo was taken near Mill Pond in Port Washington.

NEWS BRIEFS

Wifi Change

In a turn of events that has gone more or less unnoticed, technology director Mr. Ryan Maloney has engineered a change in the current WiFi system.

The new district technology director first came up with the idea of updating the WiFi system as part of a broader initiative aimed at improving the school's technological service.

"This updated WiFi will have different access levels for students and staff, allowing for more people to access what they need in a more effective manner," said Assistant Principal Mr. David Miller. "Sometimes making things more efficient on the technological end may not cause an earth shattering difference, but it will lead to greater productivity and efficiency. And that in itself can be seen as a success."

A few of these humble changes that may appear in the future include the ability for staff to view and edit work folders using WiFi, which would allow for increased accessibility and convenience.

Many students, however, feel that these changes are not significant or particularly beneficial.

"There isn't really much change for the students. It's probably more for the staff," said junior Carmen Kam. "In any case, it is very nice that there's now full school

WiFi coverage. We didn't have that two years ago."

"As for content allowed by the system, current filters on the WiFi are pretty rigid," said Mr. Miller. "The new system will have more appropriate filters. The WiFi system is going to be run almost like that of an hotel."

For some, even these changes seem futile.

"There are always going to be kids who find their ways around the filters. Also, with 4G, WiFi isn't really necessary," said junior Gabby Robinson. "Although faster WiFi would be a nice thing to see in the future."

In the meantime, still no word on whether or not YouTube will remain blocked.

~Crystal Ren

Digital Filers

Due to the popularized "green" initiative, the Port Washington School District has decided to start posting community flyers online. Digitizing public announcements will limit the amount of paper used for printed copies.

For a while now the district has been attempting to go green when possible," said Assistant Principal Dr. Brad Fitzgerald. "Besides the obvious environmental

benefit, it has the complementary benefit of added convenience for those of us who live on computers and cell phones."

In order to maintain the availability of these flyers to those without access to the internet, hard copies will still be available in the main offices of the schools. Ideally, the amount of paper saved will help the schools both environmentally and financially.

"As a board member of the environmental club, I think it's a great way to save paper. It's also more efficient," said junior Kim Winter.

But some students feel that because parents and students will no longer receive hard copy notifications, the Port Washington School District will be less informed about community events.

"I think this is a smart way for the school to keep up with the times, but I fear that without actual physical notifications about certain events coming in the mail, we are less informed about what is going on," said junior Elizabeth Muratore. "Overall, it's just easier a lot of the time to read a piece of paper and instantly know what's going on."

~Tessa Peierls

The Schreiber Times

Editors-in-Chief

Dan Bidikov
Aaron Brezel

Managing Editor

Penina Remler

Copy Editor

Aaron Bialer

News

Editors

Rachel Cho

Ana Espinoza

Assistant Editor

Madeline Fagen

Opinions

Editor

Michaela Gawley

Assistant Editor

Rachel Kogan

Features

Editors

Caroline Ogulnick

Kelly To

Assistant Editor

Madison Cohen

A&E

Editors

Sophia Kim

Max Miranda

Sports

Editors

Seth Barshay

Eric Fishbin

Graphics

Editors

Brian Seo

Jane Nolting-Kolb

Assistant Editors

Diego Espinoza

Zareen Johnson

Photo

Editors

Harry Paul

Josh White

Assistant Editor

Ethan Bookstein

Business

Manager

Aaron Schuckman

Staff Assistants

Daniel Devlin

Stacey Kim



Published by the student body of Paul D. Schreiber High School. Letters to the editor should be addressed to The Schreiber Times, 101 Campus Drive, Port Washington, New York 11050. The editors reserve the right to refuse, print, edit, return, or not return any submitted material. All letters must be signed by each author. We have a circulation of 2,000 copies per issue with subscriptions available for \$12.00 per school year. We accept camera-ready ads or will design ads to your specifications. For information, call our business office at (516) 767-5862.

Ira Pernick, principal
Craig Medico, Evelina Zarkh, advisors
© 2013, The Schreiber Times

Staff Writers: Will Berger, Aaron Bosgang, Kyle Cohen, Lena Kogan, Sally Kuan, Lylia Li, Crystal Ren, Delia Rush. **Contributing Writers:** Neil Devas, Tori Finkle, Adam Keltz, Peter Kirgis, Jake Knatz, Eli Lefcowitz, Jesse Moskowitz, Elizabeth Muratore, Sameer Nanda, Tessa Peierls. **Staff Photographers:** Jeremy Ettlinger, Jake Knatz, Sophie Lampl. **Contributing Photographers:** Mitchell Mevorah. **Centerfold:** Rachel Cho, Ana Espinoza, Rachel Kogan, Penina Remler. **Backpage:** Seth Barshay, Peter Kirgis.

Subscribe to The Schreiber Times!

Subscriptions cost \$12.00 for the 2013-2014 school year

Mail to: Schreiber Times, Attn. Craig Medico or Evelina Zarkh
101 Campus Drive, Port Washington, NY 11050
Make checks payable to: Port Washington Schools

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

Painted selfies and ceramic plates find a home in the atrium



Ethan Bookstein

Art students and family members admire portraits and ceramic dinner plates. AP Studio Art students created the self-portraits and Drawing and Painting students created the plates.

BY **Dan Bidikov**
Editor-in-Chief

Schreiber art students have again succeeded in communicating their stories through the visual medium in the form of a gallery of work. On Dec. 12, student artwork from both upper class advanced placement art and Drawing and Painting classes was on display in the atrium.

The show demonstrated the art of

over 150 students spread out over two classes. Effectively, there were two exhibits. The older group of advanced placement students studied the popular “selfie” phenomenon through an artistic lens. After taking pictures of themselves, the young artists re-rendered them on canvas. Under the direction of art teacher Ms. Miranda Best, students explored the craft of the self portrait.

“They got to decide how they wanted to portray themselves using the

photographs as a beginning point,” said Best. The amount of freedom led the students to pursue different directions with their work. Some opted for a more realistic approach, making careful use of lighting to accurately portray their features. Others tended towards the abstract, exaggerating their physical traits and presenting their photos in a fashion that was less lifelike.

“It is always a struggle to try and replicate yourself on a canvas. There’s a conflict of what you want others to see, what is true to the photo you are working with, and what is true to yourself,” said exhibited artist senior Joelle Feinberg. “The portraits don’t just capture the physical attributes of the artist, but also their emotions and visions.”

In an exhibit titled Around the Table, Drawing and Painting students submitted detailed ceramic pieces. Assigned to tell a story about their heritage, the exhibit’s participants were required to locate some kind of family heirloom and make a statement about it using the medium of a dinner table item like a plate or a cup.

“A student could take anything that was a traditional symbol of their family—an artifact, story, recipe—and translate that idea into art,” said Drawing and Painting teacher Ms. Terri Hall.

The students involved in the Around the Table project had an experience that, while full of challenges, was totally fresh and not like what they were familiar with. “What I planned to do didn’t work. I had

to change what I wanted to do because of the medium,” said freshman art student Julia Hayden.

In order to fully master the procedures required to put together the work, the art department enlisted the help of professional ceramicist Jude Amsel.

Amsel is an accomplished artist with experience under her belt. Her specialty is putting photographic imagery into ceramics and glass, with unique techniques. Most recently, she was commissioned to build a sculpture in the new 9/11 museum. She tried to communicate a message about artistic purpose. “Works of art should be thoroughly provoking,” said Amsel. “They should pique an interest of the viewer—how did they do that? Storytellers can express themselves with photography and sculpture.”

She came from the Great Neck Arts Center after the reception of a PWEF art grant. The grant, co-written by several art teachers, allowed the school to receive funding so that Ms. Amsel could instruct the students in more high level ceramic ventures.

“Ultimately it’s about students and we want them to have quality programming,” said art teacher Ms. Marisa DeMarco.

The exhibit was documented by the Film and Television Production Club. The footage will be put on the school website to propel interest in school events as well as student broadcasting.

Board of Education plans new energy efficiency program

BY **Max Miranda**
A&E Editor

Over the past ten years, rising awareness of the human effect on the environment has forced people as well as institutions to change the way in which they operate. The school district is poised to become one such institution. Next month, the Board of Education will vote to approve a \$5.6 million contract with Johnson Controls that, if passed, will save schools significant amounts on heating, lighting, water conservation, school kitchens, and even vending machines.

On Nov. 12, Johnson Controls gave a presentation to the Board of Education that proposed to implement dozens of changes to schools across the district. The most expensive of which would be a \$1.3 million lighting retrofit, contributing to the projected 17.7% on electricity overall. As a whole, the project is expected to save the school nearly 23.41% in energy costs per year, which would allow the contract to pay for itself within 17 years.

“We are always striving for energy efficiency, it is an ongoing process. This contract is another step in the process. It will allow us to make upgrades to the mechanical systems which should have an energy savings and make the buildings more comfortable,” said Facilities Director James Ristano.

In this presentation, the project was referred to as the second phase of a 2006 project.

The company, established in 1885, is currently listed as 67th in the Fortune 500. Their business includes retrofitting existing buildings such as the Empire State Building and working on maximizing the efficiency in new construction such as

the Burj Khalifa in Dubai. Along with gigantic towers, Johnson Controls has done work for over thirty school districts on Long Island.

This project, even if voted on by the Board, would not yet be fully approved. After that, the proposal would need to be sent to the State Education Department (SED), who oversees all construction projects. Due to the fact that Johnson Controls is promising to pay the difference if the project does not pay for itself, the SED will primarily be looking to see that the project meets their standards and regulations. When it returns from the SED, it will need to be affirmed by the Board once again. The district will most likely adopt the plan sometime in the spring.

“Once the contract is accepted by the Board, then the information relative to the project will go up to the State Education Department... then it gets put into a queue to have an engineer and an architect review the information, and that can take up to six months,” said Assistant Superintendent of Business Mary Callahan. “Then, Johnson has to line up their vendors. We would want most of the work done over next summer if it’s possible. Things move very slowly in schools.”

Although the work would be done over the course of what will most likely be a one and a half year period, the payment for the construction will be done over the course of a 15-year period. However, it appears the program will be both energy and economically efficient.

“The cost benefit is in our favor as the positive changes and savings survive the payback period and continue to provide financial benefit long into the future,” said Board of Education member Alan Baer.

Community members frequent Small Business Saturday



Ethan Bookstein

An employee behind the counter of Impulse clothing store on Dec. 18. The store offered a spin of the above wheel of discounts to each purchasing customer. Impulse was one of the many local Port Washington small businesses that participated in and offered discounts on Small Business Saturday. The annual shopping holiday is meant as a counter to Black Friday and Cyber Monday, which benefit larger corporations. American Express began promoting the event in November 2010.

Chromebooks introduced for classroom use

by **Madeline Fagen**

Assistant News Editor

Through a district-wide technology department initiative, Port schools are implementing Google Chromebook laptop and Google Apps for Education in classrooms.

Mr. Ryan Meloni, Director of Technology, has plans to update the district technology infrastructure.

"I'm sure over time we're going to see a complete shift in the way we share files and data and that we'll move away from school storage and into this type of cloud storage," said Assistant Principal Mr. David Miller.

Last year, after evaluating the district's technology, an administrative decision was made to update technology.

"We wanted to create an instructional resource like the Google Chromebooks that the teachers can bring into the classroom that allows students to work collaboratively on a presentation, a document, a spreadsheet, or research," said Mr. Meloni. "They can produce and share documents with the teacher so they can review them, score them, and give advice on how to make it better."

The initial decision was made partly because of educational need resulting from the new Common Core standards. The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers, an organization working to develop a common curriculum for English and Math teachers in various states, is implementing a computer-based assessments system that delivers information on student knowledge that teachers can use to help inform instruction.

Because these assessments and other surveys like them are likely to multiply in the future and play an important role in education, the district saw the inexpensive Google Chromebooks as a good fit.

"I think there's great potential for what it does for the school and for the future. It will eventually allow us to communicate school wide without paper, flash drives, and all of the things that, in a way, weigh us down right now," said Principal Mr. Ira Pernick.



Jake Knatz

Students in Ms. Michal Cohan's English class use Google Chromebooks to work collaboratively on class assignments, research, and writing by sharing documents with each other through the Google Drive. The Chromebooks were recently purchased through a district-wide initiative by the technology department.

Currently, Schreiber has three carts of 30 Chromebooks, Weber has two carts, each elementary school has one cart, and there are two more carts definitely on the way for this year. The carts, stored in three separate locations throughout the school, can be reserved in the same manner a teacher would request a computer lab. Every student has been registered for Google accounts based upon their school ID number for Chromebook and Google Drive use.

A significant amount of training is being provided to the teachers beginning to use the Chromebooks and Google Drive online document storage and sharing system. Principals from each school in the district identified about three "building experts" to form the first group of educators to learn about the new initiative. They were given three days of training on the Chromebooks. The next group, also identified by the building principals, were "early adopters." These are teachers who are willing to try the new technology out in their classrooms, receiving one day of instruction.

"These training sessions focused

on using the various aspects of Google Chrome and the Chromebooks in different content areas and capacities in the classroom," said building expert and English teacher Ms. Michal Cohan.

Ms. Cohan, along with Schreiber's second building expert, science teacher Mr. Thom Johnson, has already begun classroom instruction using the Chromebooks.

"My classes have been using the Chromebooks for short quizzes, writing, and researching," said Ms. Cohan. "Students have been able to work collaboratively by sharing documents with each other. During class, students also share their documents with me, so I am able to work with them on their writing in real time."

During class time, students type their ideas and thoughts while working on files simultaneously with their peers. This is considered especially beneficial for English classes.

"I've been in a couple of classrooms where the use of Google Drive has begun creating really engaging, powerful conversations," said Mr. Pernick. "What

I've found most compelling is how the students treat each other when they are seeing each other's work. There's nothing but positive discussions."

These new methods of supporting traditional teaching enhance classroom practices, hopefully allowing higher levels of education to be attained.

"There appears to be a dearth of technology at Schreiber High School as compared to schools in other districts," said sophomore Andrew Gruber. "In any given classroom, there is only one computer. The addition of the Chromebooks to our school's technology service allows more students to access research materials and other means of bettering education."

Mr. Meloni has a long-term plan for the district, which will be officially revealed on Jan. 8.

"We are looking to expand it and bring in thousands of new devices for teachers and students across the district over the next three to five years," said Mr. Meloni. "I got a lot of good stuff that I cannot wait to share with the community."

Physical education teachers see ping pong in their future

by **Lena Kogan**

Staff Writer

Physical education classes have a new unit on the table during this coming year; ping-pong. The physical education staff has been hoping for the addition of a table tennis unit during past years, and starting in March, this plan will finally materialize.

"We have wanted to have it as part of a racquet sports unit but it seemed gym space was an issue, and the price of tables and supplies is costly," said Athletic Director Ms. Stephanie Joannon. "So, we waited until the timing and budget was right and here we are!"

The class is being piloted in only junior and senior regular PE classes, although in the future it might be expanded to all grade levels.

"The incentive was to bring in something new," said physical education teacher Ms. Robin Cooper.

During a board meeting, the physical

education staff discussed the budget and pitched the idea of using part of the money to purchase equipment for a completely new sport, as the equipment for existing units is in fairly good condition.

"We felt our weight room and project adventure equipment was solid for another year, so we took that money and added a new activity that we hope will be great for all students," said Ms. Joannon.

This year, only Ms. Cooper and Ms. Maria Giamanco teach 11/12 regular PE classes, so they were primarily in charge of planning the unit. At the moment, ping-pong is piloting as a six-hour unit during which the students will be taught how to properly use the equipment and develop proper playing technique.

"We can both play ping-pong, and we're fairly good at it, but we still needed to do a lot of research to organize this," said Ms. Cooper.

The physical education budget was able to cover the cost of nine new ping-pong tables, as well as all the equipment necessary to play. Four students can

play at each table, so the classes will be perfectly accommodated, although the program may expand in the future.

"The great thing is that everyone can participate," said Ms. Cooper. "With archery, for example, there aren't enough bows or targets for everyone to shoot at the same time, so you have half the class sitting around doing nothing. Here all the students can play for an entire class period."

There is no ping-pong team in the district, but that does not mean enthusiasm about the sport will not bring new developments. Several years ago, students expressed interest in creating a ping-pong club, but so far there are not any concrete plans.

"Similar to the success of the badminton tournament, that is a direct relation to the popularity of badminton in the PE classes, we would be open to a tournament," said Ms. Joannon. "I think there are many ways we can use ping-pong outside of the PE classes."

Whether or not this strand of the

racquet unit will be expanded in the future is based upon feedback, and already, many are excited about this upcoming addition.

"It's not a classic gym sport, so I think this is a very good idea," said junior Dylan Rothman. "Adding new things to the curriculum is always interesting."

However, other students are disappointed that this activity is not available to all grade levels and physical education courses.

"The moment I learned that we're not doing ping-pong in Outdoor Ed, my life fell into shambles," said junior Andrew Costenoble.

Although the ping-pong unit is still brand new, students and teachers are eager to explore the possibilities of incorporating ping-pong into other areas of our school.

"Right away, the enthusiasm is high for this activity," said Ms. Joannon. "I can tell you it's not as easy as it looks but should be fun to learn and even more fun to play."

School holds college Skype sessions

by **Jake Knatz**
Contributing Writer

Schreiber has started to utilize technology by conducting Skype sessions with universities. Students know that the college process can be very stressful. Balancing schoolwork, applications, preparing for exams and having a social life is considered difficult. Extra time is therefore very limited, so there is little time to interact with admissions officers. Guidance director Mr. Hank Hardy believed, there just had to be a better way.

Mr. Hardy pioneered an initiative to host Skype sessions with universities. “One of the things we wanted to do was to think of a better way to connect students to counselors,” said Mr. Hardy.

Video chatting with admissions officers via Skype instead of in person is efficient, and it is becoming more popular in the business world.

Skype saves students, parents, and staff time, but it also benefits university staff.

“By being able to now allow counselors to talk to students at their desk saves money for the college, and helps students develop relationships with them,” said Mr. Hardy.

Instead of traveling to our school, they can now get the same message across to students while sitting at their desk.

Students consider Skype sessions more flexible and convenient for everyone.

“I thought it was a helpful and easy way to learn about the university,” said junior Annie Connors, “It was convenient to ask questions directly to the admissions counselor without having to contact him outside of school.”

If students cannot attend the Skype

session, they can still obtain college information because each Skype session is broadcasted online. These recordings are stored in a virtual library. Students can watch previous Skype sessions of a college they are interested in by going to the virtual library. The Skype sessions are



Jake Knatz

Mr. Hardy and several students in the midst of the college process chat with a representative from the University of Richmond. The guidance department recently began organizing these meetings via internet.

meant to help students obtain a better understanding of the school and have questions answered in their homes.

In these video chats, admissions officers cover the college application process, the associated timeline, and financial aid resources, and they hold a Q&A session. Students are encouraged to

build a relationship with the admissions counselors.

These Skype sessions are fairly new; however, the general response is positive.

“From the first two we’ve had with Michigan and Indiana, the students and parents had very positive reactions,” said

Mr. Hardy.

There have only been a few sessions so far. In January, the school will begin to hold Skype sessions every Tuesday and Thursday. A schedule of the Skype sessions will soon be posted on the Portnet website.

College Board takes AP courses down a new route

by **Tori Finkle and Jesse Moskowitz**
Contributing Writers

Starting last year, the CollegeBoard has been revising the advanced placement curriculum. Courses such as AP Chemistry and AP Spanish Language and Culture have already changed for the upcoming May 2014 AP examination. AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based, AP Physics 2: Algebra-Based, and AP U.S. History will be adjusted for the May 2015 AP exam. AP Art History and AP European History will be modified for the May 2016 AP exam.

For insight into what the upcoming

“I’m sure that these changes for next year will benefit many stressed students in a positive way, myself being one of them, hopefully,” said sophomore Sydney Levy.

changes may bring, one can look at the alterations in AP Chemistry and AP Spanish Language and Culture courses. The AP Chemistry course has been revised to focus on the quantitative and conceptual parts of chemistry. It is modified so that the understanding

of analytical and reasoning skills are essential to the exam. The AP Spanish Language and Culture Course has been revised so that national standards such as communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities are integrated.

“My AP Chemistry class and Mr. Carmody, my teacher, are not yet sure of the effects of the change,” said junior Olivia Kalash. “It’s something that we are all learning together, and hopefully it limits the amount of stress put onto students for the AP exam in May.”

“We can spend more time in AP Spanish Language focusing on the fewer stories we read instead of cramming in a million different things,” said senior Alia Sani.

US History is a popular AP that will change next school year. On previous AP US History exams the content varied from different time periods, providing flexibility on these examinations. However, the lack of specificity on what was considered “important” made the teachers unsure of what to emphasize in their classes. The new AP US History curriculum will focus more on what students specifically need to succeed on the AP exam. The College Board will emphasize early and recent US History and deemphasize parts of the 19th century. Additionally, multiple-choice questions will have four choices instead of five.

The multiple-choice section will consist of 55 questions instead of 80, replacing the extra 35 with short answer questions.

This will give teachers the flexibility of being able to go into more detail on the parts that will be included the most on the exam.

“While many teachers at the recent AP US conferences suspected this would make the APUSH examination easier, the College Board insisted that the difficulty would remain the same,” said social studies teacher Mr. Andrew Vinella. “The reality is at this time, it is too soon to determine if the difficulty will increase or decrease.”

“I’m sure that these changes for next year will benefit many stressed students in a positive way, myself being one of them, hopefully,” said sophomore Sydney Levy.

Many students and teachers have different opinions regarding the AP course changes. Some students currently taking the AP classes find it unfair, while others who are going to be taking these AP classes in the future are more than satisfied with the changes that are being made.

“I think it is unfair to the students taking AP European History right now because the students who will be taking it in the future won’t have to spend as much time and put in as much effort as we do now,” said sophomore Aliza Herz.

“It frustrates me that it’s going to be changed the year after I take the course as opposed to this year because I work really hard in AP Euro,” said sophomore Carly Lanskowsky. “I don’t think kids will have the same experience I have in the class now.”

Pen pals chat across the pond

by **Sally Kuan**
Staff Writer

Later this year, French foreign language students will have the opportunity to communicate with students from France through a program called ePals. French teacher Ms. Chérie Delio introduced this idea to her students in an attempt to incorporate writing into the curriculum for her post-Regents French classes, including AP French and French Culture and Civilization. ePals is an alternative to writing traditional in-class compositions. Students correspond via e-mail with French-speaking students. Ms. Delio is currently organizing the first e-mail exchange.

“I wanted to do it in a way that would be a little more interesting, natural, and current,” said Ms. Delio.

About three years ago, Ms. Delio’s classes completed a similar activity. Those students did not use ePals and the process was less organized. This year, students can communicate safely and easily. ePals was designed in 1996 to be a safe and secure learning environment allowing students to freely hold conversations. Teachers are able to view their student activity feed to ensure that no dangerous, illegal, or offensive messages are exchanged. Student privacy is also ensured. There is also a built-in virus scanner to detect potential dangers in any e-mail attachments.

The function of ePals exceeds that of typical e-mail. ePals has a built in language translator that can instantly translate into 58 different languages for those who need assistance in communicating in foreign languages. ePals users operate in over 200 different countries across the globe.

“I think it will improve their writing skills; I think it will also be a great way to meet new friends, to learn current vocabulary and current expressions,” said Ms. Delio. “I think it would be a fun experience overall for the students.”

Some students feel that the program would be beneficial for improving their reading and writing skills in a particular language.

“It’s an efficient way to practice a language that you are weak in,” said junior Anan Rayn.

ePals offers the opportunity for students to communicate with others all around the world. It is different from the typical social networking community in that it facilitates connections between a wide variety of cultural backgrounds. It allows students to learn about the culture and lives of other students living under different circumstances. An added benefit of exchanging conversations one-on-one with native speakers is that it exposes students to commonly used colloquial terms that may not be taught in classrooms.

“When it comes to learning a language, it’s really important to learn about the culture as well, so this program is particularly helpful in that regard,” said senior Jackson Shain. “Speaking with a native is the perfect way to learn slang and save yourself from embarrassing miscommunications.”

“I look forward to forging a relationship with my ePal,” said Shain. “Who knows — maybe if I’m ever in France we could meet up!”

Students and staff move their feet to the Latin beat

by Rachel Cho

News Editor

To spice things up this year, the International Club hosted a Latin dance party in the Commons. On Dec. 1, English as a Second Language (ESL) students came together, with the support of ESL teachers Ms. Susan Goldstein and ESL teacher Ms. Sara Choit, to perform different Latin dances.

In order to prepare, the students worked before and after school to perfect their routines. They performed salsa, bachata, and more.

Students moved to the beats of DJ Jonathan Garcia Ortega (DJ Flow), who played songs including “Te Extraño” by Xtreme, “Suavemente” by Elvis Crespo, “Sube las Manos Pa’ Arriba” by Pitbull, and other dynamic music.

“We had a wonderful and talented DJ, Jonathan, who is also an ESL student. The kids just danced—and they got the audience to join them,” said Ms. Choit.

The party kicked off with the introduction of the dancers and a performance that included five different dances. Afterwards, the audience and the dancers enjoyed refreshments and food from different parts of the world, including pupusas and pizza.

“We had a lot of fun. We were all dancing, and I really liked it,” said freshman Mileidy Davila.

“As for myself, I had a wonderful time. I wish it could be an annual event. I was jealous of the great dancers, but knew I better just watch so that I didn’t embarrass



Harry Paul

Members of the Latin dance club perform at the pep rally in October. The club returned to the stage at the Latin dance party on Dec. 1, where they danced to the music of Pitbull, Ricky Martin, Daddy Yankee, and more. The ESL department hopes to host more Latin dance parties in the future.

the school with my awful moves,” said Assistant Principal Dr. Brad Fitzgerald.

Not only did those who attended enjoy it, but also the organizers expressed their satisfaction with all the hard work and sweat that was put into preparing the party.

“My favorite part was the group performance. We’ve been working a lot for that. It ended up really good,” said dancer senior Enrique Ascencio.

“It was definitely a success. Everyone seemed to have a great time as did we,” said Ms. Choit.

With the goal of continuing the entertainment, ESL teachers are planning to host more dance parties.

“There is a lot of talk of trying to extend the event. Hopefully we’ll be hosting future Latin dance performances,” said Ms. Goldstein.

Classes come together after hours to celebrate Saturnalia

by Sameer Nanda

Staff Writer

In the ancient Roman culture, civilians held the Saturnalia festival every December in honor of the god Saturn, making sacrifices at the Temple of Saturn located in the Roman Forum as well as participating in many other traditions. On Dec. 12, Latin students celebrated their own versions of the annual Saturnalia festival.

While they were not given permission to sacrifice any domesticated animals, the Latin community conjured up several traditions of their own. The gathering took place in the cafeteria over two hours. Students participated in a variety of events including human chariot races, musical chairs and the toga catwalk.

“The chariot races were spectacular,

filled with high tech gear and implausible techniques,” said junior Naomi Boico. “The musical chairs were even better; I have never seen passionate competition from such a large group of people. The Saturnalia catwalk was fabulous. We got to see such modeling potential—it was surreal. And of course the limbo was definitely a sight to see! I guess you could call us the traveling circus.”

Between the scheduled activities, attendants walked around the cafeteria, admiring artwork done by each grade level as a part of the annual poster competition. This year, students from each grade level were assigned to illustrate designated characters from *The Avengers* while including Roman themes. For example, in their poster, senior Latin students portrayed Iron Man surrounded by anvils—symbolizing Vulcan, the god

of metalworking. The juniors illustrated the Hulk leaving Rome in ruins and the sophomores portrayed Captain America bordered by Saturn’s varying forms. The freshmen Latin students created their own individual posters that spanned the walls of the cafeteria. At the end of the night, the juniors won the competition. Their creation will be showcased in the Foreign Language hallway in the following month.

“Everyone in our class put their souls into this poster. Everyone helped by either complimenting, commenting, painting, suggesting, making the slogan, cleaning, etc. We did this as the junior class. I think the impressive part of this whole process of making a banner and, to put it simply in cliché terms, was how our class came together to make this. Everyone participated in one way or another. It was truly a wonderful, collaborative experience,” said Boico.

Throughout the night, students ate various foods while conversing about Latin-related subjects.

“As a freshman, I never expected Latin to be so rich with events such as Saturnalia that illustrated people’s enthusiasm over the subject as well as the culture,” said freshman Maria Kogan.

“I loved the entire experience,” said Foreign Language Department Chair Ms. Carol Ferrante. “This event is the perfect medium for students to come together and celebrate something they all have in common—Latin. And it was wonderful to see that accomplished in such an enjoyable way, and Ms. Griffin and Dr. Lindemann as well as the administration, of course, are to thank for that.”

At the beginning of the year, Latin teacher Ms. Elizabeth Griffin prepares for the event with the Latin Club. Students gather in room A2 on Tuesday mornings

to discuss all things Latin, such as potential themes and other ideas that go into creating this event. Ms. Griffin’s participation in the event was welcomed and appreciated by her students.

“I feel great that I have been able to participate in this great event for four years,” said senior Ryan O’Reilly. “Ms. Griffin is a great teacher and has instilled a passion for Latin within me. So I’d like to say to Ms. Griffin: please, stay awesome.”

Attendees continuously praised her as the “queen of the toga party,” according to French teacher Dr. Louise Lindemann.

“Ms. Griffin does a wonderful job with Saturnalia. She really took charge and really shaped the event up to be the great thing it is,” said Ms. Ferrante.

“The students handled each event with such passion. That’s what I think is unique about Saturnalia. Every year, Saturnalia is a completely different experience because, with a whole new crop of students, each individual brings something different to the table,” said Dr. Lindemann. “This year, I think the students were very enthusiastic and participated actively in the festivities. It seemed like no one wanted to leave!”

Saturnalia is currently the only major event for Latin students. School administrators hope to change that.

“This event should definitely be publicized more than it currently is,” said Ms. Ferrante. “Also, the Foreign Language Department is planning on echoing this great event with a ‘Latin Week,’ similar to the ‘French Week,’ held several weeks ago by Mrs. Cherie Delio in March.”

As nine o’clock rolled around, students gradually made their way out with white castle boxes assembled into pyramids and smiles planted on their faces.



Harry Paul

Latin students participate in a game of limbo at Saturnalia. They took part in this and other Latin-related activities, including a poster competition, a catwalk, and human chariot competitions.

Point Counterpoint

Do your intentions matter when giving to charity?

BY Rachel Kogan
Opinions Assistant Editor

The holiday break is approaching. The lure of sleep, presents, and little schoolwork seems to penetrate student and staff minds alike—but the holiday spirit does not stop there. The feeling spurs people to participate in acts of charity more than usual.

December tends to be filled with coat drives, bake sales, and any other forms of fundraising and philanthropy. People seem to be more motivated than usual around this time of year to aid those in need. With so many opportunities to help others, people tend to forget their original intentions of goodwill.

If you look up “philanthropy” in the dictionary, you will see that it originates from the Greek word for “love of humanity.” That is exactly what charities and community service events are about. Countless foundations and volunteer organizations are created based on a single principle: we should give back to the community out of thankfulness in order to spread the love.

“There is absolutely nothing that can replace the feeling you get from helping someone out,” said junior Anan Rayn. “It’s a feeling of pride that you went out of your way to make someone else’s life easier. It’s the ultimate reward.”

Receiving recognition for donations or participation in certain organizations or fundraisers has become prevalent over the past few decades. Although it may be pleasant to be rewarded for a good deed, non-for-profit organizations are created specifically to raise awareness about a certain issue, regardless of the financial benefits.

“I don’t agree with people who volunteer or donate to charity for superficial reasons,” said junior Paige Torres. “Charity is supposed to be for others, but a lot of people take advantage of that and do ‘selfless’ things just because they think it will reflect well on them. It seems as if charity is becoming more about selfishness than selflessness.”

Volunteering and participating in community service events is viewed as mandatory for students applying to college. It is good that students are helping others, but they no longer do it out of intrinsic desire. Rather, they are propelled by a negative stimulus: if they

do not participate, there will be harsh consequences.

“As they say, ‘It’s the thought that counts,’” said Rayn. “If you’re only helping out charity for the volunteering hours for colleges, you’re mainly just trying to help yourself.”

“What will happen if all of a sudden people don’t get rewarded for their ‘charitable’ actions?” said Torres. “People will just stop doing nice things for others. Meanwhile all the problems continue to persist. We need those people who truly care to be there to help those in need.”

So this holiday season, or the next time you volunteer, think about what you are doing. Are you participating because you truly believe in the organization’s message? Or are you just there to reap the benefits or to receive recognition? If you answered yes to the latter question, consider reevaluating your intentions. Yes, you are technically helping others, but are you actually becoming a better person? It is difficult for human beings to be selfless, but that does not mean we should not try to be.

BY Aaron Bialer
Copy Editor

Maimonides, a Jewish philosopher of the 12th century, detailed the eight levels of giving, ranking various charity-giving situations by righteousness. He emphasized the importance of selflessness, ranking double-sided anonymous donations as some of the highest value due to the fact that the giver will not feel especially good without knowledge of the benefits provided and the receiver will not feel indebted to the giver. Donations given with selfish motives in mind were rated the least righteous.

In the end, charity is charity. Selfish motives do not lessen the value of a given sum of money to a family in need.

“I think all charity is in one way or the other selfish. One may be genuinely concerned about others and may generously give charity, but even if one is not looking for

any return or benefits from such action, one feels content and self-assured in one’s ‘goodness,’ which can in some stretch be just as selfish, as one may only do it to feel good about oneself and feel as though one has done one’s part in the society,” said senior Helen Kim. “I’d say that because the needy still receive help through one’s actions, whether it be from selfish motives or not, charity is still charity.”

Health teachers often offer extra credit points for those who provide personal care items or food during various drives throughout the year. Additionally, some clubs, such as the National Honor Society, offer credits to those who donate to those in need. In the end, the act of providing students with such ulterior motives undoubtedly increases the gross gain of such drives. Whether or not students go through as much moral growth, needy people, those which the drive is truly about, are sure to more greatly benefit.

“I donated clothes for National Honor Society credits,” said senior Ben Pan. “I got credits. Needy people got clothes. It’s a win-win.”

Students benefit and so do those that receive donations,” said health teacher Ms. Patricia Kosiba. “It also helps to establish charitable ideals in students at a young age. Nobody loses.”

One must acknowledge that there exist some people who favor selfishness over selflessness. Such individuals would not donate their time or money at all if they were not to benefit.

“Students are driven by self-interest,” said senior Kahaf Bhuiyan. “You need to be the best at everything so by donating to drives in school, not only can you tell colleges that you like to help people out, but you may also boost your GPA with extra credit points.”

One may even go so far as to argue that selflessness in itself is driven by self-interest. Selflessness makes people feel moral and, thus, good about themselves. Additionally, it may provide moral or personal growth.

Though less apparent, these benefits may be thought of as roughly equivalent to those provided by other seemingly more selfish motives. Ironically, those acting in selflessness may also be looking to subtly reap benefits themselves.

In the end, it comes down to the gross benefits of donation. The receiving end will obtain the same satisfaction no matter how immoral the giver’s motives were. So, the greater the giver is able to benefit without harming others, the greater they should.

Selfish motives overall simply increase the gross benefits, especially if they increase people’s propensity to donate.



Diego Espinoza

Capping off our plastic bottle use

BY Rachel Kogan & Stacey Kim

Assistant Opinions Editor & Staff Assistant

Close your eyes. Imagine standing in a sea of 60 million water bottles spread out as far as your eyes can see. No grass, no trees, no land. Although it may seem breathtaking for a moment, sooner rather than later you will realize that you are standing in a pile of discarded plastic. Sounds gross, right? Now multiply the 60 million by 365. That is the number of plastic water bottles that our nation uses every year.

Despite the environmental issues that water bottles cause, Schreiber sells water bottles to students every day. Each water bottle takes approximately 1000 years to fully decompose on its own and when incinerated, it produces toxic fumes.

Some may say that people can simply recycle all water bottles and problems will be solved. However, this is not the case.

Only PET water bottles can be recycled and only one fifth of these bottles are sent into the recycling bin. Although the school sells PET water bottles, many of them do not end up in recycling bins. By selling water bottles, the school is contributing to the degradation of the environment.

“As a board member of the environmental club that funded the hydration station, it is upsetting to see the school sell plastic water bottles—directly countering all of our efforts,” said junior Kim Winter. “The purpose of the hydration station is to save plastic. People need to take initiative to reuse and reduce plastic consumption.”

Over the last few years, the price of water bottles in the cafeteria rose

from \$1.25 to \$1.50. Nonetheless, many students purchase the bottles at least once a day.

Thus students not only spend over \$25 per month, but also help pollute the planet. A typical reusable water bottle on the other hand costs no more than \$20 and can be used for years.

“Plastic water bottles are extremely wasteful in my opinion,” said junior Paige Torres. “Although I believe it is acceptable to purchase one every now and then, I believe that a reusable should be used if a student knows he or she will drink water everyday.

Considering our conveniently located hydration station in the lobby, there really is no excuse for buying water with each lunch.

“I look at it from both sides,” said District Director of Guidance Hank Hardy. “For the environment I think that anytime we can reduce the use of plastic or anything like that, that’s a good thing. Here’s my question. If we have the hydration station, how are students who don’t have plastic water bottles able to use it? So if they come to the school and we don’t have a place for them to purchase water, or a water bottle, how are they going to be able to use the hydration station?”

Both federal and state laws require schools to provide students with clean drinking water. Although the hydration station is a source of clean water, it is not



Daniel Devlin

counted as a being always available.

The best way to save our environment from overwhelming amount of water bottles is on the local level, particularly in our school. If students or staff members forget or misplace their reusable water bottles, they should not have to spend the day walking around with sandpaper tongues.

However, the answer to this problem does not have to be plastic water bottles. The school can instead sell reusable bottles or encourage students to utilize the water fountains.

If such policies are put in place, as a community we will contribute less plastic bottles to the landfills. Although it may be far away, maybe one day we could see the ground in our 60 million-bottle desert. But only if we start reusing and start now.

Fast food workers are fed up

BY Will Berger

Staff Writer

If you had to wait an extra thirty seconds on line at a McDonalds last week, it probably wasn’t because your Egg McMuffin took slightly longer to solidify into a food-like substance.

On Dec. 5, fast-food workers across 100 different cities led strikes against their employers, demanding an increase in wages. Each of these strikes, collectively organized by collaborating grass-roots organizations, lasted for one day.

“The point of the one-day strike is really to show the power that workers have when they walk off their jobs and embolden more workers within the store. That’s how we’ve been able to create essentially 12 months of momentum,” said the organizing director of Fast Food Forward, Kendell Fells to *TIME* magazine.

The one-day strikes last long enough to grab attention but not so long that workers lose their jobs, just as the Big Mac lasts long enough to store under a lamp for a week but not too long that the FDA has a problem with it.

The current minimum wage for New York is set at \$7.40 per hour, which is approximately \$15,000 a year for full time work. However, advocacy groups like the Service Employees International Union are pushing for \$15 per hour, which amounts to about \$30,000 each year. The “Fight for 15,” as it is known, is also making a request to form a fast-food workers’ union. Rev. Charles Williams II, president of National Action Network, urged customers to aid in the effort. Unfortunately, fast food isn’t known for being the most energizing substance on the planet.

These strikes are truly aimed at bolstering the “living wage” movement; a group whose main “beef” is that \$7.40 an hour is not a sufficient income to live on. However, the price of fast-food is so cheap that it provides an affordable option for families that are in need. What a coincidence! The companies that aren’t paying their workers enough just so happen to sell a product that fits their workers’ budgets. So by keeping their employees poor, fast-food companies can make more money. I’m sure, if given the choice, fast-food workers would choose not to eat the same food they “prepare” every day.

A living wage seems like a completely reasonable request, especially for an industry that is as profitable as the fast-food industry, but obviously there are many opponents to this movement. A spokesman from Wendy’s announced that they are “proud to provide a place where thousands of people, who come to us asking for a job, can enter the workforce at a starting wage, gain skills and advance with us or move on to something else.” What they fail to realize is that many people are not working in the industry as a stepping stool to a higher career; they need those jobs to support themselves in the short and long-term. Otherwise, they might have to resort to actually eating the food at Wendy’s.

Journey in Malaysia: a college essay

BY Dan Bidikof

Editor-in-Chief

In this issue, The Schreiber Times is launching an “essays that worked” column, in which accepted contributors share the writing that has earned them success in the realm of the college application. This month’s entry addresses the prompt to which almost every college essay boils down (for upper-middle-class applicants only):

Write about a time in which you like, totally, absolved yourself of your white guilt. Prove that you are intelligent, interesting, and emotionally mature enough to handle the rejection that awaits you.

Selamat pagi! That’s informal Malay for good morning. It’s a phrase I picked up this summer in the Kuching district, where I built a school for illiterate children. Actually, I painted the inside of a school. Actually, I painted one half of a wall of a classroom—but it took 250 hours and I don’t regret even one of them!

Actually, I regret one of them. In Malaysia, I spent a lot of time immersing myself in the local culture. The native children would invite me to play nature games and eat green things. Normally, I passed on the latter, but I loved to play games. Together we ran freely among the wild surroundings, while I cursed my parents for the privilege that they had birthed me into—forever I had been deprived of the primal pleasure of going

several days without a shower. Of course I still took showers, because if I didn’t that would be gross.

Speaking of gross—Malaysia! It is so much nicer in the pictures. I guess the overall takeaway here is that life is gross. There are bugs that give you malaria. Malaria sounds a lot like Malaysia. I would chalk it up to coincidence, if so many of the students at the school I painted hadn’t died of the vector-borne illness.

My best friend in Kuching was a boisterous youngster named Aiman. Aiman is the fourth or fifth or something most popular name in Malaysia. Aiman and I first became friends when I woke up to him shuffling through my backpack—when I asked him what he was up to, he responded that he was just organizing my money. Later, he agreed to help me find it when I had lost all of my dollar bills. He knew where all of them were because of his grasp of the topography of the country.

Sometimes, Aiman’s mastery of the land slipped. Once he forgot that there was a pit full of snakes underneath a surreptitiously placed formation of leaves, and I slipped into it. Now my leg is purple!

The concept of friendship in Malaysia is very different. My friends Stephanie and Sam are not anything like my friend Aiman. They respond to my expression of feelings differently, most likely because they speak fluent English and Aiman knows only lines of dialogue from 1980s television. Once Aiman didn’t react to

my obvious and obnoxious display of emotion at all. It frustrated me at first, but then I realized that at college there would likely be a lot of people who didn’t care about anything that I had to say. I am doubting that you care about what I have to say. What? Show, don’t tell—wait a second and I will recount my most emotionally trying experience.

One morning, after we had woken up to the grating croaks of an ugly local pelican, Aiman and I joined the traditional breakfast circle, where the locals gathered every morning to eat their traditionally bizarre foods.

Not really “feelin’ it,” I removed the last energy bar I had brought with me from my pocket and laid it in front of me, wondering if it was worth unraveling or if I should suck it up and finally eat something that wasn’t chicken nuggets. As I deliberated, Aiman reached out and grabbed the candy, popping it into his mouth wrapper intact.

I was upset but not completely defeated. Figuring that all hope was not lost, I offered a line that I could reach his (admittedly undeveloped) center of reason. It was a quote from Philip of Macedon, a conquerer of foreign peoples who used brute force to accomplish his most dastardly goals:

“You are advised to submit without further delay, for if I bring my army into your land, I will destroy your farms, slay your people, and raze your city.”

To which he eventually responded, “Selamat pagi!”

SchreiberSpeaks

What is your favorite book and why?



“*The Time Traveler’s Wife* by Audrey Niffenegger. The book is about a time traveler in love. I enjoyed the love story.”

~Martha Horowitz, junior



“Mine is *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*. It is very creative and inspired me to become a writer. I write poetry, short stories, and novels.”

~Peter Merani, senior



“Mine is *Tim and the Blanket Thief*. When I was young my mom read it to me. It just makes me happy when I think about it.”

~Morgan Kashinsky, senior



“I like murder mysteries that involve legal issues. They are intriuging and I like the forensics. They actually come to their conclusions by using math!”

~Dr. Valerie Siener, math teacher



“I love *Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett. I like that it is at an embassy. I think it is a wonderful story and I recommend it to all my friends.”

~Ms. Sally Reinhart, FACS teacher



“My favorite book is *The Great Santini*. It was written by by Pat Conroy. I really like that it relates well to real life.”

~Mr. Michael Campanella, science teacher

Reporting and photos by Michaela Gawley, Rachel Kogan, and Stacey Kim, Opinions Editors and Staff Assistant

Students are unaware of the need in our community

BY Michaela Gawley

Opinions Editor

It is hard not to get wrapped up in the holiday season in Port Washington. There are Christmas lights everywhere and Christmas carols every time you turn on the radio.

Students are so busy thinking of their own holiday plans, that it is easy to forget how many members of this community are having a difficult time pulling together the resources to celebrate. Many members of our community are worrying about how to simply feed their families.

Some of the best things about Port are the diverse cultures, religions, and socio-economic classes.

After the fire on Main Street, many students were concerned about the

people who lived in the apartments above the stores, but now that time has passed, most students have forgotten about these people. They are not aware that many of these people are still struggling to recover. Students should take advantage of the holiday time to try and help disadvantaged members of our community.

“In our town, the holiday season is overrun with gaudily decorated houses and the promise of lots of festivities,” said senior Nicole Boyd. “I think that for these reasons it is easy for students of all ages to get lost in the joy of the season and forget the harsh realities that other members of their community are struggling with.”

It is imperative for Schreiber students to understand the amount of need in their community, in order to become compassionate and productive citizens.

During the holidays, Our Lady of

Fatima’s outreach program that is run by Sister Kathy Summerville and volunteer Debbie Harari work hard to ensure that everyone gets to enjoy the holidays.

“The needy population in Port Washington flies under the radar, but they are a large and important part of our community,” said devoted vounteer Debbie Harari. “Daily everyone interacts with people who are struggling...they work in many of our businesses in town. Our Lady of Fatima Parish Social Ministry services 82 families that are in need and St. Peter’s also helps a large number of families from our community. There are many hard working people who are trying to extricate themselves from difficult circumstances and Fatima is happy to be able to assist in their efforts.”

This parish helps these families with all different issues, ranging from legal

assistance, emergency medical care, and accesss to their food pantry, throughout the course of the year.

Each of these families receive special presents on Christmas. The parish has an “Adopt a Family” program in which the families’ wish lists are given to members of the community, who then buy gifts for the families.

The families that are not adopted receive gift cards. The parish also delivers catered meals to the elderly and home-bound on Christmas day.

Schreiber students who would like to volunteer can purchase gift cards or donate their time.

It is important for students to apply the values that are instilled in them to help members of their community. It is vital for students to try and take an active role in helping other members of their community.

Editorials

4:30 bus is gone

It is important for students who become involved in extracurricular activities to have some form of transportation to and from home. Unfortunately, their available options have been drastically reduced as of late.

Because of overcrowding on school buses, the 4:30 late bus recently barred high school students from entry. The bus was only allowed to transport middle schoolers.

This forces students who are let out of after school programming to wait anywhere that they can until the 5:15 buses arrive.

If the school wants students to be able to participate in extra curricular activities, then they need to provide adequate transportation for Schreiber students.

Instead of accommodating the increased traffic of students on the 4:30 bus, administration has decided to continue to fund the previously sparsely populated later buses.

As the weather gets colder, this becomes a less viable option and students are forced to sit around unproductively in school hallways—getting in the way of busy custodians or other extra curricular activities—as they can not spend their idle time outdoors.

Even more noteworthy is the fact that Schreiber students were not notified about the change in bus policy, which resulted in the embarrassment and frustration of affected students whose after school plans were altered by administrative changes.

School officials need to come up with a better strategy for managing transportation options.

At the very least, please offer the reasoning behind these sudden and drastic changes.

Many students go completely uninformed regarding the available means of late transportation. As many students

do not drive and have parents that work, a lack of transportation is inconvenient.

There is no easily available information about which bus routes apply to which students, and the appropriate routes are labeled differently than the buses that arrive immediately after school.

Students receive bus passes at the beginning of the year with no information about extracurricular transportation. This makes it difficult for them to commit to participating in activities, as it is not clear how they will be able to get a ride home.

If the argument, then, is that late busing is not fully utilized, it is invalid, because not enough students are aware of the late buses to take advantage of them.

Students deserve to know the status of their busing options. To ensure that all students have a safe ride home, that status needs to be improved.

Hall of Shame

For the last two years, the National Honor Society has created a “Wall of Shame,” in the lobby. The club has encouraged students to post their college rejection letters on this wall. Many students chose to hang up their letters on the wall in the hopes of reassuring themselves that they are not alone.

Students had a choice to either black out their names, remaining anonymous, or keep the letter as is, fully embracing their rejection.

Both inside and outside of school, students are constantly reminded of their negative decisions.

Bad feelings of rejection are exacerbated by social media alerts them when somebody that they know gets into college.

Nobody posts their rejections on social media, and many students end up feeling like they are the only person that

isn’t celebrating.

Therefore, the purpose of this wall is to demonstrate to students that they were not alone in the college process, and that other students were going through the same emotional roller coaster.

While some students feel that it is pointless to dwell on their rejections as this only makes them feel worse, *The Schreiber Times* believes that the, “Wall of Shame” provides students with a much-needed support system.

It is a simple yet powerful way to give students perspective and illuminate the unpredictability of the college admissions process.

Additionally, when students learn that they are not the only one denied from a college, it makes the process feel a little less personal. *The Schreiber Times* also thinks the “Wall of Shame” encourages a sense of camaraderie among students, and helps to take away from feelings of competition between students.

This is important for students because the pressure placed on them by their parents, teachers, and communities does not need to be heightened by their peers.

Although some students may argue the “Wall of Shame,” adds unnecessary negativity to the college admissions process.

The Schreiber Times feels that the Wall is a necessary and valuable addition to the lobby, encouraging students to lighten up about their decisions.

Letter to the Editor

I was disappointed with the article about leggings as pants in the last issue of *The Schreiber Times*.

As I began to read the article, I found myself nodding in agreement to the mentions of body policing, as well as other important concepts connected to the shaming of girls who choose to wear leggings.

I believe that no one should have to feel ashamed of what they wear; which is why I was confused when the article made the impression that girls who chose to wear jeans (another popular form of pants), were choosing to wear a sort of antiquated torture device, or as the article

Personally, I love jeans.

I find jeans to be amazing for insulating my legs in the chilly autumn and winter months; and very utilitarian in terms of pocket space for all my knick-knacks I carry with me on a daily basis

I wish that *The Schreiber Times* had considered making a point about body policing as an entirety.

Instead, the article chose putting down another favored variety of legwear, in order to raise awareness about the shaming of leggings.

Sincerely,
Emma Podolsky

Interested in writing for Opinions? Then come to the next newspaper general meeting on January 9! 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.

No Hats Allowed in Public Areas by Chris Goh



Favorite flavors on Starbucks’ secret menu

by **Danielle Tawfik and Sam Bizenov**
Contributing Writers

Ever get tired of the same old flavors and options Starbucks has to offer? Although their menu may have a variety of options to choose from, many costumers are not fully aware of the fantastic flavors and optional drinks that may not be directly offered on the regular Starbucks menu.

So where does one find these “special” Frappuccinos and teas? The Starbucks secret menu can be found online at starbuckssecretmenu.net, which provides all of the fancy flavors that customers crave. The drinks on the secret menu each have special combinations of different syrups and spices that are each put into drinks that are already offered at Starbucks. The combinations of ingredients in these drinks create a variety of unique tastes and flavors.

These drinks are not located on the original menu, and are not associated with the Starbucks franchise. In order to get the items, you have to tell the barista the exact recipe that you are looking for, so that they know exactly how to make it.

You would be surprised to find that the flavors on this menu consist of some of your favorite candies and cereals. If you have ever imagined that Captain Crunch cereal or Twix chocolate bars could be a Frappuccino flavor, you should consider the secret menu.

There are numerous flavors; a few of the more popular ones include Caramel Snickerdoodle Macchiato, Chai Cookie Latte, and the Turtle Frapuccino. There are even seasonal drinks such as the Holiday Apple Spice Latte, which is most popular during Christmastime, and the Pumpkin Patch Latte, an autumn favorite.

“There are tons of cool flavors I found on this menu, but my favorites are the Cotton Candy Frappuccino, and the Cinnamon Bun Frappuccino. Whenever I go to Starbucks, I order something different off the secret menu, because I love trying all the crazy flavors they have to offer,” said sophomore Dani Levitsky.

Next time you make a Starbucks run on an off period, consider ordering from the secret menu. You might end up falling in love with a flavor you never thought you would try.



www.yummyformytumtum.com
Starbucks’ secret menu offers exciting flavors such as Caramel Snickerdoodle shown above.

Secret Menu Recipes

Butter Beer Frappuccino

- Ask for a Creme Frappuccino base. Don’t skimp on the fat by asking for skim or 2% milk as whole milk is required for the right consistency
- Add 3 pumps of caramel syrup
- Add 3 pumps of toffee nut syrup
- Top with caramel drizzle

Caramel Snickerdoodle Macchiato

- Iced Soy Caramel Macchiato, upside down
- Add vanilla syrup (1 pump tall, 1.5 pumps grande, 2 pumps venti)
- Add cinnamon dolce syrup (1 pump tall, 1.5 pumps grande, 2 pumps venti)

The Pink Starburst Frappuccino

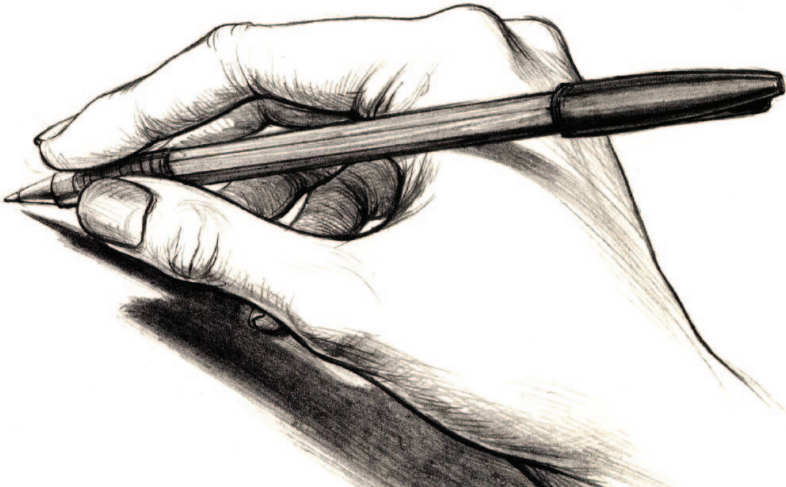
- Lemonade to the bottom line
- Add creme base (2 pumps tall, 3 pumps grande, 4 pumps venti)
- Add raspberry syrup (1/2 pump tall, 1 pump grande, 1.5 pumps venti)
- Add vanilla syrup (3 pumps tall, 3.5 pumps grande, 4 pumps venti)
- Add ice and blend!

S’mores Frappuccino

- Java Chip Frappuccino (or double chocolate chip if preferred)
- 1 pump of cinnamon dolce syrup
- 1 pump of toffee nut syrup
- Whipped cream blended in
- Top with whipped cream and cinnamon dolce sprinkles

THE WRITING CENTER

“The art of writing is the art of discovering what you believe.”
—David Hare



A place where any student can go for help with any writing assignment
WHERE? Room 212

WHEN? Every day during 4-1/4-2

Outside is Frightful Will Be Delightful

television show *Phineas & Ferb*, painted by the Science Honor Society. More than ten different clubs lent an artistic hand or two.

"It embraces the differences between people," said junior Melody Sagastume. "All the clubs come together, and it embraces the unity in Schreiber. It also shows the creativity of the students."

Another annual event that Schreiber has hosted for at least eight years is the Key Club holiday toy drive.

Students and staff are encouraged to donate new or lightly used toys, which the club sorts, packages, and subsequently hands over to the Social Services of Nassau County. The club collects at least 300 toys each year.

"The holiday spirit is surely present at this event!" said health teacher and Key Club advisor Ms. Janine Kalinowski. "It's great for everyone to be reminded of the true meaning of the holidays, and how good it feels to give back to our community."

"The Key Club Toy drive represents an essential part of the holiday season in the Schreiber community," said senior and Key Club co-president Jackson Shain. "The event allows students to give back to those less fortunate because the toys are donated to students right here in Nassau County. It's a really great way of connecting and fortifying our local student community."

Finally, the festivity continues under the roofs of students' homes too. Starting from the end of November or early December, many families begin preparing for the holiday season.

Bright lights and evergreen tree leaves seem to sprout on every street and corner in Port. But behind the union of town and school wide events lies a plethora of cultural and family traditions.

With school recess and vacations

from work, families tend to spend a great deal of their time together during the break and especially on the holidays.

"We would usually just celebrate at 12 a.m. on Christmas eve," said junior Akari Shimura. "Then we would eat dinner and talk about life and what

dinner table is one of the most important pieces of furniture.

We make tamales, calientes, atolio, and arroz con leche," said Sagastume. "We eat these during the holidays because it reminds us of our country."

"We are a very multicultural family,"

"Decorating the tree is what we do in the beginning of December," said Ms. Ezratty. "But after we open the presents on Christmas Day, we have a tradition where everyone has to decorate themselves."

"Being that we don't celebrate Christmas, we always see a movie



Harry Paul

Senior Alexandra Zwiener paints a window for the Art Honor Society at the annual cafeteria window painting. Held in early December, the event invites all clubs to paint windows with holiday messages and greetings.

the past year has been like and what we hope will happen in the future."

During the holiday season, the

said biology teacher Ms. Marla Ezratty. "On Christmas day, we all sit down and make this huge breakfast with Whigs, which are something like scones. It's a Scottish recipe. We eat them with jams and jellies that we've made over the summer."

and go to a Chinese restaurant," said sophomore Andrew Gruber. "They're the only places open for Christmas."

Much like for Christmas, family traditions vary from household to household for New Year's.

"Being Russian, we celebrate the New Year a bit differently," said freshman Maria Kogan. "The Russian New Year is extremely similar to Christmas. People would celebrate New Year's during which they would decorate a tree and give gifts."

But even with the various traditions in private homes, families and individuals from all over the community gather together to share a sense of festivity and union during the holiday season. It is important to maintain these holiday traditions to instill a sense of spirit and excitement during the cold and dreaded winter months.

We are a very multicultural family," said biology teacher Ms. Marla Ezratty. "On Christmas day, we all sit down and make this huge breakfast with Whigs, which are something like scones. It's a Scottish recipe. We eat them with jams and jellies that we've made over the summer."

By Rachel Cho, Ana Espinoza, Rachel Kogan, and Penina Remler



Josh White

A Plandome home exemplifies the local holiday spirit with decorations and lights.

Oh, the Weather C but Port is St

Look around you — leaves are falling off trees, temperatures are dropping on the daily, and the inescap-

ty members a chance to do some holiday shopping after work hours and at their own convenience. Many local businesses even offered free refreshments and food to make the night feel like a holiday party. Stores like Gail's Stride

Rite and Bluetique were open for kids interests and shops such as Frippery and Entrée stayed open for adults.

Shoppers also had the chance to enter a raffle drawing to win dozens of prizes including a \$300 bonus prize. The only requirement was that all shoppers pick up an entry form at a participating store and, then, visit at least eight different stores participating in Port Holiday Magic between Dec. 4 and Dec.15. This new bonus and grand prize offer was sponsored by the town and the Business Improvement District.

“I really appreciate how you don't have to pay for the parking meter because it's the town's holiday gift to us. Also the snowflake lights are very festive,” said junior Anan Ryan.

Clowns from the Big Apple Circus, four Santa Clauses handing out candy canes and bear bracelets, a toy soldier singing group, and a balloon twister entertain the crowds. Dancers from the Louise Bennes Dance Company performed original choreography for an

enthusiastic audience on Main Street in front of the train station. The Wright Brothers, the Schreiber Choir, and others performed live music. Shoppers could also ride old-fashioned trolleys for free.

Snowflakes, Christmas trees, menorahs, and other decorations fill Main Street. But the holiday spirit does not stop there. Every year around holiday season, the town presents the community with a gift: free parking. Red bags with “Happy Holidays” written on them cover every parking meter from Main Street to Port Washington Boulevard.

“I really appreciate how you don't have to pay for the parking meter because it's the town's holiday gift to us. Also the snowflake lights are very festive,” said junior Anan Ryan.

Many Port Washington families gathered at the Blumenfeld Family Park from on Dec. 8 to participate in the annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony. The event included singing, storytelling, a collection of tree ornaments and hot drinks.

Near the end of the celebration, two towns members dressed as Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus arrived on a firetruck to meet the little children.

Additionally, another holiday tradition is the annual “Mile of Lights” of Flower Hill. On the evening of Dec. 24, many families and friends drive through Flower Hill to find a “Winter Wonderland” of holiday lights.

Starting on Country Club Drive, many Flower Hill streets celebrate the holiday season and all religious beliefs with a trail of lights and decorations.

“It's nice to see such a wide spread neighborhood come together to honor the holiday season!” said sophomore Harlee Tung.

Aside from the celebrations, the holiday season is also a time to give back to those in need.

Port annually hosts the toy and food drive, “Make A Child Smile,” which donates new toys or food items so all children have the chance to receive a gift during the holiday season. This drive will be fundraising for its fourteenth year and has teamed up with Detective Anthony Guzzello, the Port Fire Department, and the Port Washington PBA to collect charitable donations.

The holiday joy and spirit continues within Schreiber's halls as well. This year the annual window painting event was held on Dec. 10.

“I think it's really important to Schreiber as a community because it's one of the only events where all the clubs come together and work together under a common theme,” said social studies teacher and Student Council advisor Ms. Patricia Dietz.

This year's theme was Disney. Featured characters included Rapunzel from the film *Tangled*, painted by the Art Honor Society, and Dr. Doofenschmirtz from the



Left: A parking meter on Main Street. Right: Senior Noah White shovels snow after the first storm of the season.



Josh White

able Halloween decor is suddenly being replaced by Christmas lights. All signs hint to the return of the holiday season.

Port's annual efforts of celebrating all of winter's festivities comes in many forms: musical performances, visual showcases, late night shopping opportunities, and many acts of community service.

As soon as the Thanksgiving season came to an end, residents come together in preparation for the winter holidays.

The annual Port Holiday Magic festival initiated the holiday season on Dec. 4 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

This year, the event promoted the concept of “shoppertainment” which strongly focused on encouraging residents to shop locally.

“It is important to support our local merchants and encourage residents to shop and dine locally,” said District Six Councilwoman Dina De Giorgio. “A thriving local economy and an attractive Main Street maintains property values and our quality of life in Port Washington.”

To show their support, more than four dozen stores offered discounts and free activities. Many stores extended their hours to give Port Washington communi-



Josh White

A Christmas tree and a menorah at Ayhan's Corner on Main Street. Every year Port Washington decorates the town for the December holidays.

Outside is Frightful Will Be Delightful

television show *Phineas & Ferb*, painted by the Science Honor Society. More than ten different clubs lent an artistic hand or two.

"It embraces the differences between people," said junior Melody Sagastume. "All the clubs come together, and it embraces the unity in Schreiber. It also shows the creativity of the students."

Another annual event that Schreiber has hosted for at least eight years is the Key Club holiday toy drive.

Students and staff are encouraged to donate new or lightly used toys, which the club sorts, packages, and subsequently hands over to the Social Services of Nassau County. The club collects at least 300 toys each year.

"The holiday spirit is surely present at this event!" said health teacher and Key Club advisor Ms. Janine Kalinowski. "It's great for everyone to be reminded of the true meaning of the holidays, and how good it feels to give back to our community."

"The Key Club Toy drive represents an essential part of the holiday season in the Schreiber community," said senior and Key Club co-president Jackson Shain. "The event allows students to give back to those less fortunate because the toys are donated to students right here in Nassau County. It's a really great way of connecting and fortifying our local student community."

Finally, the festivity continues under the roofs of students' homes too. Starting from the end of November or early December, many families begin preparing for the holiday season.

Bright lights and evergreen tree leaves seem to sprout on every street and corner in Port. But behind the union of town and school-wide events lies a plethora of cultural and family traditions.

With school recess and vacations

from work, families tend to spend a great deal of their time together during the break and especially on the holidays.

"We would usually just celebrate at 12 a.m. on Christmas eve," said junior Akari Shimura. "Then we would eat dinner and talk about life and what

dinner table is one of the most important pieces of furniture.

We make tamales, calientes, atolio, and arroz con leche," said Sagastume. "We eat these during the holidays because it reminds us of our country."

"We are a very multicultural family,"

"Decorating the tree is what we do in the beginning of December," said Ms. Ezratty. "But after we open the presents on Christmas Day, we have a tradition where everyone has to decorate themselves."

"Being that we don't celebrate Christmas, we always see a movie



Harry Paul

Senior Alexandra Zwiener paints a window for the Art Honor Society at the annual cafeteria window painting. Held in early December, the event invites all clubs to paint windows with holiday messages and greetings.

the past year has been like and what we hope will happen in the future."

During the holiday season, the

said biology teacher Ms. Marla Ezratty. "On Christmas day, we all sit down and make this huge breakfast with Whigs, which are something like scones. It's a Scottish recipe. We eat them with jams and jellies that we've made over the summer."

and go to a Chinese restaurant," said sophomore Andrew Gruber. "They're the only places open for Christmas."

Much like for Christmas, family traditions vary from household to household for New Year's.

"Being Russian, we celebrate the New Year a bit differently," said freshman Maria Kogan. "The Russian New Year is extremely similar to Christmas. People would celebrate New Year's during which they would decorate a tree and give gifts."

But even with the various traditions in private homes, families and individuals from all over the community gather together to share a sense of festivity and union during the holiday season. It is important to maintain these holiday traditions to instill a sense of spirit and excitement during the cold and dreaded winter months.

We are a very multicultural family," said biology teacher Ms. Marla Ezratty. "On Christmas day, we all sit down and make this huge breakfast with Whigs, which are something like scones. It's a Scottish recipe. We eat them with jams and jellies that we've made over the summer."

By Rachel Cho, Ana Espinoza, Rachel Kogan, and Penina Remler



Josh White

A Plandome home exemplifies the local holiday spirit with decorations and lights.

Unsolved mysteries and questions unanswered

One pasty kid’s journey to discover the truth: Is there really a pool on the fourth floor?

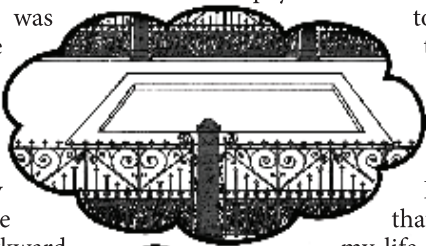
BY Aaron Brezel

Editor in Chief

When I first came to this school, the legend of the fourth floor pool was only told through whispers in the hallway and snickered remarks at unsuspecting freshman. But I still believed. When I first came to this school I asked a senior where my Global I class was. They said, “right next to the pool on the fourth floor.” Even after an awkward conversation in front of the health teacher’s office, I still believed that the legend was true.

There were subtle hints that kept my hopes alive. A sudden whiff of chlorine and water flowing from the social studies wing ceilings were tantalizing glimpses into what I was convinced was reality. I will not lie; it became something of an obsession. The thought of my becoming reality consumed me for years into high school. It must have been hard for my loved ones to see me lose control over what was real. I even started imagining there was still asbestos in the walls of the school. Crazy right? I vividly remember a conversation I had with my friend Bettina Cattaldi my sophomore year, “Aaron we are all worried about you. The pool on the fourth floor is only in your imagination. Come back to us. Come back to us!”

I did try to look for the pool several times, but each time I walked up to the fourth floor of the school, I left disappointed. Going into senior year I had almost given up on my dreams. Years with no payoff left me disillusioned



to the idea that I could ever find that pool. This September, I thought that part of my life was over. I was done with the pool, but the pool was not done with me. It hit me while I was doing physics homework. While contemplating life on the streets, as many kids do in this situation, I heard it calling out to me in an ethereal whisper, “Find me.” The hunt had begun anew. For my senior experience, I decided to do something productive and look for that fabled swimming pool.

The research was painstaking. I poured over old schematics with little results. The work began interfering with my personal life again. I was ostracized by those closest to me. Eventually the pool was all I had left, my only motivation. As time went on I took a more direct approach, asking around and talking to some of the higher-ups in the school. Every effort I made was rebuffed with a laugh and a shake of the head. I knew there was something the administration was not telling me. I guess I caught some of the administrators’

attention. I knew something was fishy when the school was evacuated due to a “gas leak.” After we were let back into the building, I rushed to my locker where I had kept all my notes on the subject only to find it ransacked and all my hard work gone. Every time I got a yard ahead of the administration, they moved the goal line to the other side of the field.

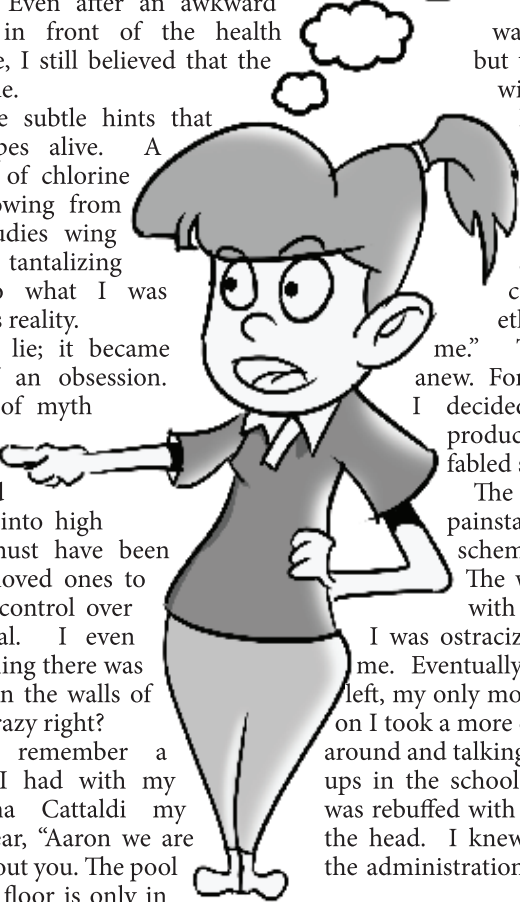
That was the last straw. No more games. I ditched my economics class, grabbed the bathing suit I had always kept in my locker just in case, and stormed up the stairs to the health office. I burst into the room for whatever answer awaited me. The room was deserted. I searched around the room and found nothing. No trap door, no secret hatch.

It dawned on me that maybe the fourth floor pool was a mystery that I was never meant to solve. I felt a pit in my stomach that was heavy with the weight of all the hours of devotion I spent on my fantasy. Just as I was about to turn around and leave the room, I felt a soft breeze on my neck. That ethereal whisper spoke to

me again, “Window.” Almost in a trance I moved toward a window on the far side of the office. I climbed through the window and dropped down onto the roof. As my eyes adjusted to the blinding light, I saw it.

Light glimmered off the water’s surface, shining bright in my eyes. It was everything I had dreamed of and more. I could not wait to jump in. I entered the conveniently placed changing room and removed myself from my stiff denim prison. Clad in bathing suit, I leaped high and far into the pool. Immediately, I remembered that it was Nov. 1 and I would probably die of hypothermia if I stayed in the pool for much longer. I had to quickly leave, but I knew that the experience would stick with me forever.

I ended up sitting in English class, freezing and soaking wet, but happy. I tried to tell my story to anyone who would listen, but everyone just laughed and walked away. They may not believe, but I know on that fourth floor, that pool is their waiting for me.



Diego Espinoza and Daniel Devlin

INVEST in equal opportunity

BY Amelia Pacht

Staff Writer

The I.N.V.E.S.T. program is a hidden gem found in our school’s special education department. Since its beginnings in September 2012, I.N.V.E.S.T. has helped Individuals in Need of Vocational, Educational, and Social Transition skills. The goal of I.N.V.E.S.T. is to aid students with some level of special needs in order for them to be prepared for real life situations. To help mold these students into members of the larger community, the advisors, Ms. Gloria Vasserstein and Ms. Shantay Betty-Denton, frequently take the three enrolled students on enriching field trips. The group may, for example, take a public bus after learning how to read a bus schedule or go out for lunch to learn about calculating a tip. I.N.V.E.S.T. centers around increasing these selected students’ professional, academic, behavioral, and vocational skills and, in doing so, this program provides for a smoother transition from Schreiber into supported employment. This program was started in Herricks High School and then brought over here by Ms. Mehri Fryzel. The model Ms. Fryzel has brought to Schreiber is really helping to enrich the academic and social

aspects of the lives of its participating students. Each day, students attend a two hour period structured as a single block to go over important academic material: math, reading, writing, and health and hygiene. This block period is made up of 45 minute periods of more traditional classroom learning followed by a 15 minute segment to help reward students through a positive reinforcement plan to help the students to stay focused and engaged. All classes take place in the same room, both providing a level of convenience to the student and eliminating the need for the 5 minute passing period. Their days are further enhanced by a class period on social learning. Next is a slot for electives and vocational learning opportunities followed by a class on socially diverse topics. While there is a schedule in place, no two days are ever the same; students are always doing something new and interesting. Ms. Vaserstein also heavily encourages volunteering within the program. “We have encouraged members of specific after school groups to come play games or work on certain areas of interest with the students in the program. It is an amazing experience for everyone involved,” said Ms. Vaserstein.

Happy halal-idays!

BY Dan Bidikov

Editor in Chief

Life is sad, and hard. College is expensive and difficult to get into, a majority of marriages do not last, a lot of people live below the poverty line. Where are we supposed to find solace? Where are all of the fascinating, enjoyable experiences that are supposed to surround us? Your parents will tell you that there is existential value in starting a family and undertaking several hobbies. But there is a shortcut in the pursuit of happiness—you take a right onto Northern Boulevard and keep driving for fifteen minutes. When you arrive at your destination you will find a fountain of chicken and rice, youth and happiness. It is the Bayside

of them have only positive things to say about the impact of Halal food on their being. “Halal is good and I like it, and it rhymes with my name,” said senior Arjuna Lal. Eloquently put, Arjuna! The power of Halal transcends generational gaps. Senior Brian Sims recently gave the gift of Halal to his father, accomplished dentist Bruce Sims, DDS. It was positively received—“spicy, but delicious,” said Dr. Sims. Somehow, that rich combination of white and hot sauces can appeal to the heart in more ways than a possible cardiac arrest. People have an even deeper relationship with the Americanized cuisine of the Middle East. Senior Eric Wolf, easily considered the number one local Halalgoer, has been marked deeply by the religiously safe seal of that



maps.google.com

The map above displays the location of the halal cart at point A: 21220 Northern Boulevard, Bayside, New York.

Halal cart, and it offers justification for life at \$6 or less. The cart sits across from a White Castle and next to a CVS. Manning the operation is one of several friendly ethnic men combining pure satisfaction with meat of questionable origin. It is hard to believe that such a basic resource can offer such satisfaction. Rest assured, though, the customers of the cart are always satisfied. Some of these customers are Schreiber students, and all

pleasantly salty chicken over rice. He has been over 100 times, finding satisfaction both in the food and the experience. “The Halal guy says great stuff,” said Wolf, “he gives me helpful advice—‘Drive sober and don’t get pulled over!’ And once he asked me to hang out.” So there is not just fried food but friendship to be found in Bayside. Or is there? “I said ‘no,’” said Wolf, “it’s weird.”

Uptown Gifts provides personalized products for all occasions



Josh White

Uptown Artworks, owned by Lori Blum, works with a customer interested in purchasing from the store. Displayed on the racks (above and to the left) are personalized pillows and wall decor available for purchase.

BY **Maddie Cohen**

Assistant Features Editor

In early September, Uptown Artworks, a company known for its handmade custom pillows, opened next to Let There Be Bagels on Port Washington Boulevard. The shop offers customized wall art, monograms, and gifts for all occasions.

The shop offers more than a hundred creative, modern, and funky designs inspired by vintage subway signs. In addition to handmade pillows and artwork, the store also has custom Lucite serving trays which can be used for housewarming or party gifts as they only take a few days to make and come in all different sizes.

"I thought a store like this would do better in Port Washington rather than Great Neck because I feel the customers here might be more artistic and hip," said

owner Lori Blum.

Consumers can pick from a large palette of colors to design gifts printed with water-based inks. The fabrics used are natural linen to minimize production waste.

Uptown Artworks has been featured on ABC News as well as in *New York Magazine*, *Brides*, *American Baby*, *Country Living*, *Natural Child* and *TimeOut New York*.

Prior to opening their first store, Uptown Artworks has been selling their products online on their website, UptownArtworks.com, and in many stores across the country. Uptown Artworks is opened Tuesdays through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Uptown artworks is a perfect place to pick a holiday gift that is specialized for your recipient. Stop in soon to search through the array of custom products to bring to your next occasion.

‘Tis the season to surprise friends with Secret Santa gifts

BY **Julia Zeh**

Contributing Writer

It is that time of year again, when all throughout Schreiber the words “Secret Santa” are heard just about as frequently as “Do you have any gum?”

In a typical Secret Santa exchange, a group of people creates a circle of gift giving, based upon names drawn anonymously from a hat. Many groups of friends in Schreiber plan Secret Santa every year.

"I love Secret Santa. I think it's so much

fun and no matter what you celebrate, it's a fun excuse to get into the holiday spirit and spend time with friends," said senior Kim Byrne.

But Secret Santa does not always involve tight-knit groups of friends or even the traditional gift exchange. Students participate in many different types of Secret Santa, including those among very large groups of friends, the individual research classes, and even on Tumblr.

In a Tumblr Secret Santa, anonymous messages, rather than gifts, are sent to owners of other blogs.

“The messages are sweet and encouraging and boost their self-esteem,” said freshman Naome Sajnani. “The gifts are not material but just the happiness that our Secret Santas bring us.”

It also provides an opportunity for Tumblr users to meet new friends online.

Giving tangible gifts poses a slightly more difficult task. The perfect gift is not always obvious. Because people are unsure of what to buy for whomever they picked, the secret does not stay a secret for long. Herein lies one of the possible problems with Secret Santa.

There is always that one person trying to organize a Secret Santa and forcing everyone to re-pick names eighteen times in order to ensure that no one picked themselves and there is no possibility of someone figuring out who another person has.

Despite the fact that Secret Santa does not always live up to the “secret” in its name, it is usually an overall fun activity that anyone can participate and take pleasure in to spice up and enjoy the holidays.

Fashion

Pajama wear is stirring more than pillow talk

Slouchy pants and chiffon sets are among the most popular of the sleepwear inspired trend

BY Caroline Ogulnick
Features Editor

During the cold winter months, it is likely for students to show up to school in their most comfortable pair of sweatpants and a chunky sweater. While this is usually not the most fashion forward ensemble, when the temperature is below freezing it is not ideal to squeeze into a tight pair of jeans.

This winter season, a new trend had risen, which will surely be attractive to students fighting the harsh winds on their way to school. “Pajama wear” allows you to stay cozy and casual, yet remain fashionable at the same time.

One of the most popular items in

the pajama wear trend are slouchy sweatpants. These aren’t your normal baggy and body-widening sweatpants, however. These trending pants are waist hugging and tight around the upper leg, and become loose around the lower leg. Most pants also have elastic or become more fitted at the bottom, so that you can adjust the pants to change how slouchy you would like them to be, or to make them a different length.

Slouchy sweatpants are being produced in all colors, but are mostly shown in dark hues such as gray and black. Many brands are changing up this casual item by adding on zippers, side-paneling, and leather accents. These sweatpants can be worn with almost anything in your closet, from a classic white t-shirt and flannel, to a cropped metallic sweater. Although

pajama wear seems like it can only be worn casually or while you’re getting in to bed, you can easily dress it up with fancier items.

Chiffon pajama sets appear old-fashioned, but this is another item that is emerging in the pajama wear trend. Whether you decide to wear the full set or flaunt the pants and top individually, these sets are being exhibited in top designer boutiques and magazines around the world.

Although you are used to seeing these silky pieces as sleepwear, fashionistas are spicing them up by sporting them with motorcycle jackets and heels. The chiffon gives off an effortless look and can be worn as the focal point of an outfit or simply for layering. Unlike slouchy sweatpants, these sets are more commonly produced

in bright colors and patterns.

The pajama wear trend is being displayed in high end boutiques, along with department stores and local shops. Prices cover a wide spectrum, so you won’t have to completely empty your wallet in order to be a part of the fad. Pajama wear is versatile, so whether you want to wear a pair of slouchy sweatpants to be comfortable or to be on trend, you’ll get double the benefit, while putting in half of the effort.



www.gabrielayosefina.blogspot.com



www.shopbop.com

Starting on the runway this past spring, the pajama wear trend has made its way to designer boutiques and has become a staple for many fashion icons.

Moes vs. Chipotle: which chain holds the title of the best burrito?

BY Cameron Appel
Staff Writer

There has been a shortage of seniors on campus. Some of you may have noticed. Many of you may be pleased. These seniors have been slowly disappearing during their lunches and off periods, magically arriving back at the school before the start of class. Where do they go? How do they do it? Why do they always look like they are so full that they just might pass out? The answer is not a secret. These folks are just supporting their favorite team in an age-old battle. The most hotly contested skirmish of our generation is raging on around us, while most are unaware of it. This battle is: Moe’s vs. Chipotle.

The voice of the people will decide the winner.

“Moe’s is so much better. It’s got something for everybody, spicy or not, and the best queso to ever exist on this Earth,” said senior Kim Byrne.

An emphatic remark, and one that is refuted by diehard Chipotle fans.

“Chipotle all the way. Their burritos are better because they’re spicier,” said senior Lylia Li.

However, some have a different take on the subject.

“Chipotle was good for the first hour... and then came the toilet,” said senior Sara Pinkus. Truer words have never been spoken.

Some people defy logic and can enjoy both restaurants, though they are members of a rare breed. “I love the

and beef, and mostly-organic black beans. While widely known for its burritos, Chipotle also serves tacos, burrito bowls, and salads. You also cannot forget about their guacamole.

“Chipotle’s better. It’s fresher. They have better guacamole,” said senior Emily Youner.

On the other hand, Moe’s brings to the

everywhere.”

For those of us not willing to go all the way to Mexico for a good burrito, Moe’s and Chipotle are fairly reliable resources. Moe’s keeps its promise to provide guests everywhere with food by having over 460 highly accessible locations all around the world.

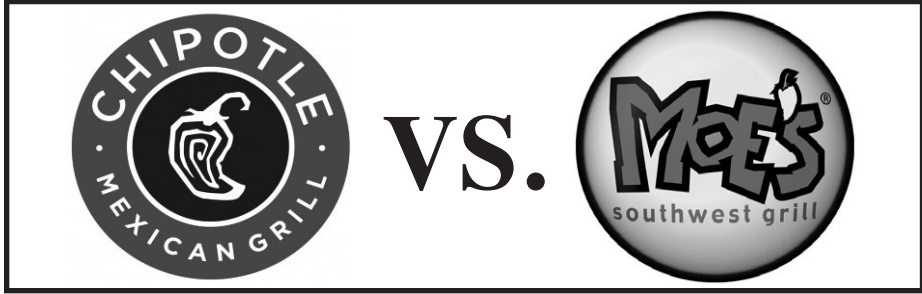
Chipotle has Moe’s beat by quite a bit, with over 900 restaurants. When our zip code is typed in to the Chipotle Restaurant Finder, eight locations come up within 10 miles of us. Moe’s only has two. In this respect, Chipotle seems to win.

There are also the naysayers, defying the very concept of a chain restaurant for burritos. In an act of rebellion, senior Becca Schaub admits her real desires.

“I’d rather eat my mom’s rice and beans,” said Schaub.

So there you have it. The conclusion is... well, there is no conclusion. Some like Moe’s, some like Chipotle, and some could not care less.

Both are viable options for the ravenous student. So, next time you’re looking for a missing senior, try one of these restaurants first. You’re more likelthem there than doing schoolwork, that’s for sure.



www.bubblews.com

stacks from Moe’s, but if I want a burrito I’d rather have one from Chipotle,” said senior Madeline Omeltchenko.

Moe’s Southwest Grill and Chipotle Mexican Grill are two of the premier fast-food joints around. Founded in 1993, Chipotle is the veteran of the two. Chipotle first opened in Colorado out of an old Dolly Madison Ice Cream store. The chain serves all-natural pork, chicken,

table its all-star queso. On certain days, it even has promotions that provide the buyer with free queso, somehow drawing even more hungry teenagers than usual.

Moe’s also serves up all-natural meats and ingredients, giving Chipotle a run for its money. According to the Moe’s Southwest Grill website, “Moe’s Food Mission is to bring the highest quality ingredients to every guest, every day,

arts & entertainment

Disney’s *Frozen* warms our hearts with sisterly love

BY **Lyllia Li**
Staff Writer

Disney’s newest princess movie, *Frozen*, is a spinoff of Hans Christian Anderson’s *The Snow Queen* as well as a spinoff of Disney’s classic princess formula—sure, the essential elements are all there: the handsome prince, the love at first sight, and the happily ever after, but not without many surprising twists and turns along the way.

On top of that, there are two new princesses instead of one: Anna, who is bright, inquisitive and playful, and Elsa, her older sister and her opposite, who has a more withdrawn and, yes, icy personality. Both have their flaws and differences, and the film successfully portrays their complex relationship, the real heart of the film; the emotional and heartfelt rebonding of the two sisters.

After spending the majority of her life shut off from the rest of the world, Anna rejoices when she hears that the castle gates will be open, noted by the song “For the First Time in Forever,” while Elsa treats her kingdom with a cold shoulder because she has to hide her magical powers from everyone, including her sister. Provoked by Anna’s enthusiasm, Elsa loses control, accidentally curses her kingdom to an eternal winter, panics, and flees.

All of this snowballs into an action-packed quest filled with various life-or-death situations, endearing and lively comic relief characters, including a live snowman, and one show-stopping musical

number in true Broadway power ballad fashion.

Frozen’s strength lies in its cast, which includes many Broadway stars including Idina Menzel, Jonathan Groff, Josh Gad, and Santino Fontana, as well as Kristen Bell in the lead role.

The music also has its roots in Broadway, composed by Bobby Lopez of *Avenue Q* and *The Book of Mormon* fame. Lopez doesn’t disappoint, and the new songs in *Frozen*, including “Let It Go” and “Love is an Open Door” are sure to be hits with veteran Disney fans and little kids getting their first tastes of Disney alike.

Unfortunately, the terrific cast cannot save *Frozen* from some of its glaring flaws. Although most of the animation was beautiful, as is typical of Disney movies, there were parts that lacked a certain subtlety that made them cheesy, like Elsa’s Sims-like transformation into a Barbie doll ice queen, the formation of



In “Fixer Upper,” the gnome family attempt to convince Anna (Kristen Bell) that Kristoff (Jonathan Groff) is “the one” for her, despite her announcement that she is already engaged to Hans (Santino Fontana).

the giant snowflake patterns, and the ice chandelier at end of “Let It Go.”

In addition, the strong bond between the sisters could have been more moving and effective if one large plot hole had been tied up at the end of the movie instead of completely forgotten.

Frozen is a great movie, and fits in perfectly with the other Disney classics. In fact, it can be just as good as *Beauty and the Beast* or *The Little Mermaid* if you can watch it with the same kind of nostalgia-induced blinders that let you ignore the flaws of your own favorite childhood movies. If you cannot, it is not

outstanding, but at worst, it is an hour and a half of a fun movie.

One thing is sure, though: after *Tangled*, the last Disney princess movie, *Frozen* was a little underwhelming. Instead of building off of *Tangled*’s best features, like its gorgeous imagery and tight, clever script, *Frozen* seemed to take the most inconsequential—the design of its main character, Rapunzel.

In the future, Disney should aim to reproduce qualities that make its stories strong and cohesive instead of recycling its old designs.

Arcade Fire brings groove in new album *Reflektor*

BY **Eli Lefcotiww**
Contributing Writer

Arcade Fire, the indie rock band admired by great rockers including U2 and Bruce Springsteen, shifted its image with the newly released album, *Reflektor*.

Reflektor is the fourth studio album of the Montreal-based band. Arcade Fire, despite their former solemn tone, lightened up the discography with disco beats and groove.

To market the new album, Arcade Fire, using the pseudonym The Reflektors, went on a series of warm-up low-capacity concerts held in

unsuspecting places, such as a warehouse in Brooklyn, where the band held a semi-secret Halloween party. To go along with the brighter attitude, these shows had a mandatory dress-code requiring a costume or formal wear with the band members themselves performing in festive costumes.

However, Arcade Fire’s new album is not all dancing and costume-parties. Unlike most popular artists today, Arcade Fire continues to incorporate serious messages in their lyrics, involving religion, socioeconomic status, and social identity.

In “Here Comes the Night Time,” which has a title that implies it is about revelry, lead singer Win Butler sings, “If there’s no music up in heaven, then what’s

it for?”

The album’s lead single, “Reflektor,” begins with a thumping disco rhythm. The 10-person band gradually leads up the beat during the first minute of the song, then lead singers Butler and Regine Chassagne take over as they sing in a mix of English and French.

As the song progresses, the meaning of the title is apparent. “Reflektor” is a commentary on how face-to-face social interaction has diminished since the invention of social media. Butler and Chassagne sing, “Now, the signals we send, are deflected again/We’re still connected, but are we even friends? We fell in love when I was nineteen/And now we’re staring at a screen.”

Arcade Fire understands that their deep lyrics are unusual as they explained on *The Colbert Report*. When Stephen Colbert asked if frontman Butler would prefer fans to think about the message of their lyrics or to dance and enjoy the music, Butler comically responded that, ideally, his fans would be dancing with a tear in their eyes.

By taking a break from their typical somber tone, Arcade Fire reveals their ability to make dance music without losing their signature touch to embed meaningful lyrics into their songs. With a slight change up to a more upbeat discography, Arcade Fire shifts the sound to their tastes, but still produces music that the masses love.

This year



contactmusic.com



imdb.com

Jan. 5
The song “Thrift Shop” takes its place on the Billboard Top 10. Only two weeks later it would go on to become number 1, staying at the top for six non-consecutive weeks. This milestone marked the beginning of Macklemore & Ryan Lewis’ rise to fame.

January

Mar. 21
Amanda Bynes takes another large step in her breakdown, tweeting an incredibly vulgar message to Drake. Months later, Drake would respond in great disgust, marking the celebrity’s complete fall from stardom.

March

June 21
The Food Network decides to can top chef Paula Deen after Deen admits to using racial slurs. Deen’s empire of cookbooks and magaiznes is completely ruined. It would be months before Deen would make a public appearance.

June 9
Neil Patrick Harris hosts the Tony's for a second time as Cyndi Lauper makes her return to the spotlight with her show, *Kinky Boots* winning the Emmy Award for Best Musical of 2013.

May

February

April

June

Jan. 4, Justin Bieber is photographed smoking what is believed to be marijuana in a hotel room in Los Angeles. These photos sparked outrage amongst his teen fans and spurred an infamous trend known as #cutforbieber.

Feb. 24
At the Academy Awards, Jennifer Lawrence trips when going up to accept her award for Best Actress in a Leading Role in a film, for *Silver Linings Playbook*. However, this fall could not stop the actress from rising to stardom, as one of the most famous actresses of 2013.



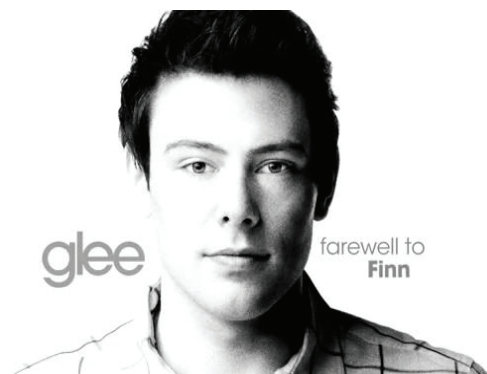
cbs.com

Apr. 11
Jay-Z responds to criticism over his trip to Cuba with wife Beyonce by releasing a freestyle titled “Open Letter.” The infuriated song addresses his extremely negative views of government and makes headlines by eliciting a reaction from President Obama himself.



associatedpress.com

in A&E



July 13
Cory Monteith found dead in a Vancouver hotel from drug and alcohol overdose. Fox makes a tribute to the late actor by airing a *Glee* episode named “The Quarterback,” in which glee members perform songs dedicated to Monteith’s character, Finn, in the wake of the character’s sudden death.

July

September

November

August

October

December

Sept. 22
History was made as Netflix became the first online video distributor to win not one but three awards at the Emmy Awards. Netflix challenges the TV establishment by scoring three Emmys with *House of Cards* including best director prize for political drama.



Nov. 30
Fast and Furious star Paul Walker dies at 40 in a car accident in southern California. Walker was not only a talented actor, but a generous philanthropist who founded the charitable organization, Reach Out Worldwide, which is currently supporting the Philippines typhoon relief effort.

Aug. 25
This year’s MTV VMAs raised much noise from the live audience to online on twitter. Miley Cyrus and Robin Thicke’s duet at the MTV VMAs left the audience gaping while twitter blew up. Cyrus’ overly sexual performance with animate and inanimate objects, such as Thicke and a foam finger, conjured much controversy over the past year, almost eclipsing Justin Timberlake’s epic number, including the much awaited ‘NSYNC reunion.



Dec. 12
Pop royalty Beyoncé spontaneously dropped the much anticipated surprise album *BEYONCÉ*. Featuring 14 songs and 17 videos, the “visual album” is only available for purchase as an album on iTunes. Individual songs will be accessible for purchase on Dec. 20. Despite such ultimatum, fans and critics regal the surprise as an early Christmas present from Queen B as the album storms the charts.



Elton John can still light up Madison Square Garden at 66

BY Elizabeth Muratore
Contributing Writer

Veteran musician and singer-songwriter Elton John showed why he is still revered after all these years. John took the stage at Madison Square Garden on Dec. 3, as part of his ongoing tour commemorating the 40th anniversary of his magnum opus, “Goodbye Yellow Brick Road.” As the lights dimmed and the opening chords to “Funeral For A Friend/ Love Lies Bleeding” blared through the arena, John strode on to the stage, sat at the piano, and showered the fans with musical charisma for the next two and a half hours.

The opening act was Croatian group 2CELLOS, consisting of two of John’s touring cello players, and their rousing renditions of songs by Michael Jackson and Nirvana got the audience pumped up for a fantastic show.

But it was not until Elton John began banging out his greatest hits on the piano that the real show began. John performed a variety of songs within a massive setlist that ranged from crowd favorites like “Bennie and the Jets” and “Tiny Dancer” to more recent compositions such as “Home Again” and “Hey Ahab.” He played hit after hit, with each song eliciting a roar



Elton John is still rocking after 40 years in the entertainment business, with his new album *The Diving Board* reaching the top 30 on iTunes charts

from his fans after only a few notes, and interspersed tracks with frequent waves to the audience and comments on how much he loved New York. Even so, the

music was the real focus here, as John transitioned seamlessly from song to song with no intermission and only a few sips of water. By the time he came back out

for an encore of two of his greatest hits, “Your Song” and “Crocodile Rock,” John had proved to the audience that he was still at the top of his game.

The audience at the sold-out show was treated to an absolutely fantastic performance by Elton John. His singing voice was clear and powerful. He hit every note of each song with his combination of poise and confidence. John’s lauded piano playing was on full display, and he added lengthy improved flourishes to nearly every song. The band behind him was spot on, providing a lively backing for songs such as “Grey Seal.”

One of the show’s highlights was John’s stellar solo performance of “The One,” during which the audience was silent with awe. The caliber of this performance set the bar at an almost unreachable level for contemporary artists. His genuine enthusiasm and love for performing shined throughout concert, and he showed once again why he has been one of music’s premier live performers for over 40 years.

If you find yourself intrigued by this review of the legend that is Elton John, be sure to check out his new album, *The Diving Board*, which is available now on iTunes.

Comparison of music services

BY Neil Devas
Contributing Writer

With the recent release of iTunes Radio, Apple has attempted to extend their influence into the Internet radio ring. The tech powerhouse is putting the software up against several established competitors like Spotify and Pandora. Each radio service uses their unique set of algorithms to try to match the music that they play to the music their audience wants to listen to, but which service does it most accurately?

Spotify, Pandora, and iTunes Radio specialize in providing music tailored to each listener, taking into account artists, genres, song history, and key tonality, among other attributes.

Pandora is widely viewed as the pioneer of the group, having launched in January of 2000. On Pandora, users can search for artists, albums or genres, or pick from pre-existing stations.

Despite its early start, Pandora has the least amount of music on their service compared to the two others. Their one million songs looking insignificant when put up against Spotify’s twenty million. The limited music selection is only the tip of the iceberg. The playlist feature is flawed. For instance, users can neither search for songs nor repeat or rewind songs that they like. However, Pandora is looking to expand their audience with their new alarm-clock feature.

iTunes Radio, introduced in September as part of Apple’s iOS 7, is extremely similar to Pandora, with the addition of a few Apple-related features. iTunes Radio takes into account users’ download/purchase history from iTunes and creates playlists based on those tracks. In addition, while listening to playlists, users can create playlists based on the song or artist to which they are

listening.

However, iTunes shares a group of flaws with Pandora: listeners are both limited to the songs already provided for them in the playlist, as well, the amount of songs he or she is allowed to skip.

Although Pandora offers a lesser-known paid service (Pandora One), which removes advertisements and gives a limitless amount of skips, Spotify’s paid service (Premium) allows the users to browse and play any of their 20 million songs.

This paid service contains music from nearly every genre. Listeners can search for specific songs, artists, and albums, receive suggested music based on song history, and listen to any song as many times as they would like. They also create an extreme variety of genre-specific playlists, in addition to their non genre-based playlists like “Power Workout,” “Intense Studying,” or “Sunday Stroll.” In addition, Spotify’s partnership with Facebook, allows users to share music with their friends.

Spotify Premium clearly sets it aside from its competitors. Diverging from the radio-station format that Pandora and iTunes Radio are based on, Spotify is designed not only for listening to music, but also for finding music. For example, searching for a specific artist gives users all of the albums and songs produced by that artist, which are all available for listening.

Despite the fact that it requires a monthly payment, all of Spotify’s on-demand features make it the easiest and most enjoyable music streaming service of the three. The web company is geared toward the individual and makes searching for music hassle-free. However, users looking for a simple, radio-station style service will be satisfied with what Pandora and iTunes Radio have to offer.

The hottest soundtrack around

BY Delia Rush
Contributing Writer

The Hunger Games series is known for its powerful themes of sorrow, strength, and persistence. In *Catching Fire*, the second film of the trilogy, these themes are integrated into the film through the movie’s famous soundtrack.

The popular novels and films are set in a post-apocalyptic era, subject around a young heroine, Katniss Everdeen, who fights for survival in a competition known as the Hunger Games. In *Catching Fire*, Katniss returns to the games, as an act of revenge against the president, who believed Katniss was becoming a symbol of rebellion. The author, Suzanne Collins, brings the topic and setting across in serious and passionate matters.

Every song on the soundtrack echoes *Catching Fire*’s prevalent themes. The songs mix well with the passion of the film and display power, sorrow and joy all in one. Most of these songs have more alternative sounds, allowing the film to portray its various accents and crescendos.

The album begins with the song “Atlas” by Coldplay. The melancholy background to the song matches the desperate background to the film. Coldplay’s music is generally placed under the alternative genre and their distinct sound serves to emphasize the film’s unique qualities.

The next song of the album is Of Monsters and Men’s “Silhouettes”. The song’s heavy drumbeat is representative of the military lifestyle that citizens of the twelve districts are forced into. The lyrics describe a heavy weight on one’s shoulders, appropriate for the protagonist Katniss who is faced with multiple extreme conflicts throughout the film.

Christina Aguilera’s “We Remain”, although a pop song, has a hopeful sound that symbolizes the determination of the rebellion in the film. This factor in addition to the catchy melody of the song makes it a favorite among fans.

“The Devil May Cry” by The Weeknd has a heavier sound that shows the confusion and sadness present in the trilogy.

The list of these songs goes on, all pertaining to the alternative genre. The lyrics and instrumentals display the select intensity of the trilogy.

Those that were not necessarily appropriate for the album leaned towards different genres.

“Capitol Letter” by Patti Smith completely strays from the emotions surrounding the rest of the soundtrack. The country genre that this song falls under seems irrelevant to the setting and passion of *Catching Fire*. Although the song describes a fearless heroine, Smith’s voice and southern instrumentals add a less intense effect to the song. Otherwise, the lyrics are meaningful and would be more appropriate for the album if they were a different genre and musician.

The large fan base of Collin’s trilogy is constantly growing and this relatively successful album will most likely attract others. Although some of the songs did not fit the specific emotions to match the film, those that did were perfect.

Overall, the soundtrack is fitting for *Catching Fire* and portrays the power that shines through the main characters and general concept.

Athletes of the Month

Olivia Foye



Josh White

Senior captain Olivia Foye attempts to record a perfect score on the uneven bars against Carle Place on Dec. 13. As captain, Foye leads the gymnastics team, on and off the mat, with enthusiasm and high spirits.

Leo Potters



Harry Paul

Senior captain Leo Potters (center) trains in preparation for a meet at the Armory in New York City on Dec. 19. Potters led the 4x8 to a first place finish in Port's first meet on Dec. 6.

Captains' Corner: Ryan Kriftcher and Matt Siegal

BY **Aaron Bosgang**
Staff Writer

Aaron Bosgang: I'm here with the two captains of the boys basketball team, Ryan Kriftcher and Matt Siegal. How are you doing, guys?

Ryan Kriftcher: I'm doing great!

Matt Siegal: I'm awesome! Let's get to it!

AB: Alright! For starters, when did you start playing basketball and what made you stick with it?

RK: I started playing when I was five years old. I always loved watching my dad, uncle, and grandpa play, so they inspired me to play too. Basketball has always come naturally for me, and that's why I love it.

MS: For some reason at a really young age I just always loved basketball, according to my dad. I played all different kinds of sports when I was a kid, but basketball was the one I was most dedicated to. I just remember loving Allen Iverson and the fancy point guards that I really wanted to be like. It was kind of like a fairytale.

AB: That's cool! I always wanted to be like Kareem Abdul-Jabbar. Absolutely no

one can touch that skyhook. As a captain, what do you guys want the team to focus on this season?

MS: As a whole, our goal as a team is to win the County Finals. Out of all the three years I have been on varsity, I think this is our best shot. However, the team knows it is a hard goal to accomplish. So we try to focus on becoming a family, and not just a team. We feel it is important to look at the little things that can make us stronger because that is what builds the big picture.

RK: I really want to focus on helping our team reach its greatest potential. I believe that we have an incredible amount of talent and chemistry, so as long as we can keep the team focused we will do great. I also want to stress how everyone on our team has an individual significance and importance to our team. Everyone on the team is here for a reason and without them we are not the same.

AB: And with those goals, how do you get the team excited for games and focused on what the team sets out to do?

MS: Ryan and I like to reinforce our goal to win the County Finals by really just pushing our teammates in practice everyday in a positive way. We do not want to be commanding. We want everyone to feel like brothers. That is how we

try to look at things. We end each practice with a [chant of] 'family' on the count of three. The fact that we are all just playing basketball together really gets us pumped for the games. We all love the energy we feel before that opening tip.

RK: Throughout practice, Matt and I will pull kids over to the side to let them know what we think will make them better. Also, our team just has a great sense of enthusiasm and intensity most other teams lack. We are all comfortable around each other and we know when it's time to joke around and when it's time to get serious. For us, some music and each other is all we need to get ready for games.

AB: Nice, there is nothing like a little pre-game music! A lot of players on the team this year are seniors, what are your thoughts on this being the last season for you, and how will you try to make it special?

RK: Most of the guys on the team have been playing together since fifth grade, so this is our last opportunity to come together and win a championship. We are not going to settle for anything less than the best we can possibly be.

MS: Coach Dooley is doing a really great job so far getting everyone into the game and having a role. But because it's hard to play every senior so much in a

game, we try to have fun in every practice so it feels like game situations. So far this season, David Kobus and Oren Mizrahi have made this season special with the humor they share and the intelligence they bring on and off the court.

AB: Finally, let's say there was some way to attain access to a three sided basketball court with three hoops. Then, take Kobe Bryant, LeBron James, and Michael Jordan in their primes and have them play. Who do you think would win?

MS: Well, out of those three, I think LeBron is the best only because with his body and athleticism combined. It makes him a freak of nature. However, I believe the best basketball player of all-time is either Allen Iverson or, "White Chocolate," Jason Williams. Williams is more skilled than any other basketball player.

RK: Well, I got to go with my man Kobe. He has been my favorite player my whole life and after years and years of intense studying and analyzing, I have come to the conclusion that the Black Mamba is just too unstoppable. Once he gets the ball, it's all over. Some things are just too easy for Kobe.

AB: Thanks for your time, and good luck this season! Hopefully it lives up to yours, and the teams expectations.

Calling the Shots

BY Eric Fishbin

Sports Editor

The great Yogi Berra said it best, “It ain’t over till it’s over.” It is a mantra repeated by coaches from the peewee level all the way up to the professionals. As long as there is time remaining on the clock, anything is possible.

Just this year, there have been several notable examples of inconceivable last minute comebacks.

In the Americas Cup, the world’s premier sailing competition, the United States team trailed New Zealand 8-1. Almost out of nowhere, United States sailors won 8 events, capturing a 9-8 victory.

In the NHL, the Boston Bruins trailed the Toronto Maple Leafs four goals to one in game seven of the first round of the playoffs. Despite the game appearing to be over, the players rallied and forced overtime, in which they won 5-4, successfully moving on to the next round.

The most recent, and arguably the most improbable of these examples, is Auburn University’s stunning upset over the top ranked Alabama Crimson Tide.

In brief, the Auburn Tigers were tied 28-28, with the Crimson Tide with only one second remaining in the game.

Alabama had the ball and decided to attempt to kick a 57-yard field goal for the win.

The kick ended up falling short, but Auburn return specialist Chris Davis was in the back of the end zone, ready to attempt to make a miracle happen.

He ran the missed field goal all the way back 109 yards for a touchdown, ending the game with a win for Auburn, and shocking football fans around the coun-

Last minute victories rejuvenate excitement in sports

In light of Auburn’s comeback, fans are reminded of hope in sports

try. Many of these fans dubbed the game as an “instant classic.”

This play has been on highlight reels all around the country since it occurred, and videos of fans reacting have made it even more popular. The excitement of fans is displayed as grown men collapse to the

floor, crying with joy over a football game played by teenagers and young men in their early twenties.

What made this game even more meaningful was that it decided who would play in the Southeastern Conference (SEC) finals.

Consequently, Auburn clinched a spot

in the BCS National Championship game, which will be played on Jan. 6 against the now first seeded Florida State University Seminoles, led by Heisman winning freshman quarterback Jameis Winston. Winston recently became the youngest Heisman winner in the trophy’s existence.

While sports fans around the country watched this happen, former Boston College quarterback Doug Flutie’s miracle Hail Mary against the Miami Hurricanes in 1984 was remembered.

It was in the Orange Bowl, with 28 seconds left on the clock, when Boston College got the ball back.

Only six seconds remained before the start of the final play, with Boston College down 45-41, having to get 48 yards down the field in a miniscule amount of time to win.

Everyone in the stands had thought it was over, but not Flutie and BC.

He escaped pressure in the pocket and hurled the ball towards the end zone. The ball was miraculously caught, sealing an improbable victory for Boston College.

Not only do the players involved in these miraculous wins get a thrill from the experience, it rejuvenates the reason we watch and love sports.

Those last seconds of a game can make or break the game, and even a season.

Fans around the world continue to watch until the last seconds of a game, waiting for that clutch miracle win.



auburnauthority.com

Auburn kick returner Chris Davis (center) runs up the sidelines as time expires en route to a game winning return against Alabama. This win ensured that Auburn would move on to the SEC Championship game against Missouri.

Boys wrestling cuts weight to prepare for season

BY Kyle Cohen

Staff Writer

If you ever see a male student staring longingly at a picture of food on the internet, odds are he is a wrestler.

In preparation for upcoming competitions, wrestlers must often undergo intense diets to fit into weight classes.

People who fall in the same weight range are matched up to wrestle against each other. In order to gain a competitive advantage, wrestlers try to cut weight in order to be placed in a lower weight class than they would have been placed.

However, these diets have their dangers.

They can often be unhealthy, and trying to lose weight at such a rapid pace could present health issues over the long run.

“Cutting weight can definitely be dangerous. However, the danger can be avoided as long as it’s done the right way,” said junior Michael Petty.

In the past, wrestlers utilized systematic dehydration in order to lose weight before the season. This practice has since been banned in order to ensure the safety and long term health of the wrestlers.

To guard against unsafe weight cutting practices, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) created a system where each wrestler registers his weight and body fat percentage at the beginning of the season.

Then, the NYSPHSAA calculates a “certification weight,” or a minimum weight at which each wrestler can com-

pete. This is the weight at which the wrestler will have a body fat percentage of 7%, which is what they have deemed to be a healthy percentage.

Cutting weight seems to be a staple of being on the team. Wrestlers know the procedure they must follow while trying to lose weight on the team.

“I don’t cut weight hard,” said junior Sam Goldman. “I maintain my weight through a careful diet. I’ve never actually starved myself or been grossly dehydrated. Because of this, it isn’t that bad. Of course it’s not the most fun experience, but it’s a part of the sport.”

Each wrestler does seem to lose the weight in slightly different ways, and at different paces.

“I’ve never had to really cut a whole lot of weight. I try to start dieting a month or two before wrestling season actually starts to avoid cutting all that weight in a short amount of time. That way, during wrestling season I only have to maintain and cut a little bit of weight. It’s definitely hard to go through eating less and going through tough practices. I personally would enjoy wrestling more without having to worry about making weight,” said Petty.

While cutting weight seems dangerous at first glance, when done with concern and while following the regulations, it is both safe and effective in keeping the rapid weight loss to a minimum.

“Clearly, the wrestlers have learned to approach this the right way. It is encouraging to know that the state, along with the coaches at the high school, have been monitoring the weight loss to ensure the safety of kids,” said Goldman.



THE SCHREIBER TIMES

WWW.THESCHREIBERTIMES.COM



The Schreiber Times is ONLINE!

Visit

www.theschreibertimes.com

anytime for the latest

Schreiber News, Opinions,

Features, Arts &

Entertainment, and Sports!



This year in sports: 2013's major moments

BY Adam Keltz

Contributing Writer

As 2013 comes to a close, *The Schreiber Times* would like to take a look back at the year of professional sports. 2013 was filled with upsets, comebacks, and even a repeated title in the National Basketball Association. From the basketball courts in Miami to the soccer fields in Munich, this past year in sports will be remembered for a long time

NFL:

The year started with football and will end with it. On Feb. 3, the Baltimore Ravens squared off against the San Francisco 49ers in Super Bowl XLVII.

The game was played in New Orleans, Louisiana, at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome. The final score was 34-31 in favor of the Ravens. This game was made more interesting by the fact that the opposing coaches of the teams are brothers.

Jim Harbaugh coached the 49ers and John Harbaugh coached the Ravens. The win gave the Ravens its second ever Lombardi Trophy, its first one came in 2001 against the New York Giants.

On Sept. 5, the National Football League kicked off its 2013-2014 season with the Super Bowl champion Baltimore Ravens against the star-studded Denver Broncos. The NFL is now in week 16 of the regular season. The league leaders in the American Football Conference are the Denver Broncos (AFC West), the New England Patriots (AFC East), the Cincinnati Bengals (AFC North), and the Indianapolis Colts (AFC South).

In the National Football Conference, the leaders are the New Orleans Saints (NFC South), the Detroit Lions (NFC North), the Philadelphia Eagles (NFC East), and the Seattle Seahawks (NFC West). The Kansas City Chiefs are the league's biggest surprise this year. Currently placed in second in the AFC West they have a 10-3 record, which is better than most teams in the NFL. Last year, the Chiefs had one of the worst records in the NFL (2-14).

Super Bowl XLVIII will be played on February 2, 2014. The game will be played at Metlife Stadium in New Jersey, the home stadium of both the Giants and Jets.

NBA:

The NBA ended its 2012-2013 season on June 20 with the Miami Heat defeating the San Antonio Spurs to win their second consecutive Larry O'Brien trophy. The Heat, led by four-time MVP LeBron James, dominated for almost the entire regular season. The Spurs, led by veterans Tony Parker, Manu Ginobili, and Tim Duncan, stayed under the radar throughout the season and quietly earned themselves the second seed in the Western Conference.

In the semi-finals, the Spurs cruised passed the Memphis Grizzlies, sweeping them in four straight games. Miami had a more difficult time. The Heat played the Indiana Pacers, a young, yet skillful team featuring guard Paul George, and center Roy Hibbert. Both teams kept a competitive series as it went into a final seventh game. The Heat prevailed.

The 2013-2014 season for the NBA started on Oct. 29, with former champions, the Miami Heat against the Chicago Bulls, in which all-star point guard Derrick Rose returned to action for the Bulls.



whtc.com

A key moment of the 2013 season of the NFL was its conclusion. 13-time Pro-bowl linebacker Ray Lewis won the second Super Bowl of his career with the Baltimore Ravens. Lewis had been in the league since 1996, and never played for any team except for the Ravens. The Ravens beat the San Francisco 49ers in Super Bowl XLVII by a score of 34-31.

It was Rose's first game since tearing his ACL in game one of the 2011-2012 playoffs against the Philadelphia 76ers. Rose was re-injured on Nov. 22 and was declared out for the remainder of the season a couple of days later. Before the opening game, there was a special ceremony in which the Miami Heat players received their championship rings. Nearly two months into the season, the current leaders are the Indiana Pacers in the Eastern Conference and the Portland Trail Blazers in the Western Conference.

Last season the leading Trail Blazers finished in 11th place in their conference, so this season has been a huge turnaround.

Another surprise this year came from the New York Knicks and Brooklyn Nets, two teams that made the playoffs last season, but now have two of the worst records in the NBA.

The Knicks had a nine game skid, lasting from Nov. 10 to Dec. 5, when the team finally snapped the streak, beating the cross-town rival, Brooklyn Nets.

Soccer:

The UEFA Champions league is a league made up of the best 76 or 77 teams in Europe.

In the semi-final match, Bayern Munich faced off against FC Barcelona. Munich won the match 7-0 on aggregate and earned its spot in the finals.

In the other semi-final match, Borussia Dortmund faced Real Madrid, a Spanish team. The final score on aggregate was 4-3, and Dortmund earned its spot against Munich.

The final match was between German powerhouses Bayern Munich and Borussia Dortmund, an exciting rival match-up that was anticipated from the start of the tournament.

The final was played at Wembley Stadium in London, England on May 25. This was the 58th season of the UEFA Champions League. A whopping 86,298 people

were in attendance to see the match. The match ended 2-1 in favor of Bayern Munich with a late goal in the 89th minute by Dutchman, Ajarn Robben.

Robben was later named the UEFA Man of the Match.

The World Cup will take place this summer in Brazil. U.S. soccer fans were disappointed to see the group drawn by the team. The United States (14) was placed in a group with top teams including Germany (2), Ghana (24), and Portugal (5). Despite the draw, the U.S hopes to advance past group stages, and make a run, like that of the 2010 World Cup.

MLB:

The Major League Baseball season started on Mar. 31 and ended on Oct. 30. In almost every division, the standings were close throughout the regular season and provided an exciting finish.

By the end of the postseason, the National League Champions were the St. Louis Cardinals and the American League Champions were the Boston Red Sox.

The World Series began on Oct. 23 and ended on Oct. 30, with the Red Sox winning the series in six games. This was the Red Sox's eighth World Series title. David Ortiz of the Red Sox won the World Series MVP award after hitting multiple home runs to secure the win.

Some exciting news has recently popped up in the MLB. Robinson Cano, long-time New York Yankee and all-star second baseman, signed with the Seattle Mariners for a 10-year/ \$240 million deal. Despite the loss of Cano, the Yankees made a splash this offseason by signing three of the strongest hitting free agents in former Atlanta Braves catcher Brian McCann, former Boston Red Sox outfielder Jacoby Ellsbury, and former St. Louis Cardinals outfielder Carlos Beltran. Beltran is making his second appearance in New York, but this time, in pinstripes for the Yankees.

Another Yankee was signed to a different team around the same time as Cano's signing. Outfielder Curtis Granderson signed with the opposite borough of New York, in Queens, making him a member of the New York Mets. Granderson signed a 4-year/ \$60 million deal. Both of these signings occurred in early December.

NHL:

The 2012-2013 strike-stricken National Hockey League season yielded success for two of the three New York teams. The Islanders, and Rangers both made the playoffs and found their identities along the way.

The Islanders forced a game six against the first seeded Pittsburgh Penguins.

The Rangers beat the Washington Capitals in game seven, but then lost to the Boston Bruins, who then went on to the Stanley Cup.

The Chicago Blackhawks, seeded first in the Western Conference, went on to win the Stanley Cup in six games, defeating the Bruins 4-2. The Conn Smythe Trophy (MVP) went to Blackhawk right winger Patrick Kane. The 25 year old became the fourth American to win the trophy and the third in a row.

Thusfar in this season, the Chicago Blackhawks have continued its dominance and have the best record in the league.

However, the Islanders and Sabres sit at the bottom of the pack with a mere 23, and 16 points.

Looking ahead to 2014, sports fans around the world have a lot to be excited about: the Super Bowl at Metlife Stadium, the World Cup in Brazil, and, of course, the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. The Winter Olympics will begin on Feb. 7 and end on Feb. 23 with the medal ceremony. 65 countries will compete in 15 events, including ice hockey, luge, bobsledding, and curling among others.

VIKING SPORTS

Boys bowling team starts season with perfect game from captain *Santelli’s 300 moves varsity team toward goal of winning conference*

BY **Seth Barshay and Peter Kirgis**
Sports Editor and Contributing Writer

On Wednesday, Dec. 4, senior Jameson Santelli made Schreiber history, bowling a perfect game for the varsity team with a score of 300.

This achievement by the captain contributed to the Vikings winning 644-597, 738-536, 659-594 over the Manhasset High School Indians.

“It was incredible, just incredible to watch. The first game he bowled he had a bunch in a row, and everybody in the alleys were watching like ‘holy cow.’ It wasn’t like baseball where a guy hits a home run and the accomplishment happens almost right away. This was a gradual build up, where first he had three in a row, then six, then nine, and now he’s got ten in a row, and then eleven in a row and all of the sudden he had it. I had never been a part of anything like that, and it was an incredible experience,” said Head Coach Mr. Joe Del Gais.

The perfect game was achieved in the second of Santelli’s three games played at the match. In his first game, he narrowly missed a perfect game, scoring a 289.

“During the first game, I was really nervous. But after getting the first strike in the second game, I wasn’t very nervous because of how well I performed in the prior game, but I was very excited. I would say that this is one of, if not the, greatest accomplishment of my life so far. For the rest of the season, my goal is to help lead the team to win our conference, which is what the team and I have been aiming for this season,” said Santelli.

Achieving a perfect game is anything but an easy feat. It involves rolling a strike on every frame, meaning that Santelli needed twelve strikes in a row.

The fact that he was only in twelfth grade during his perfect game means that there still could be an upside for him.

“What Jameson did was really sick, mainly because of how hard it is to do and because it’s never been done before

at the school. I’m really happy for him. Hopefully it’s a start for us getting a banner for the school. We’re doing well and hope to get a trophy this year,” said sophomore John Gallagher.

Currently, Vikings bowling stands at 37-18, which is second place in their conference behind only the Garden City Trojans.

“We are playing to win the conference. We aren’t there to eat hot dogs and french fries at the lanes. We want to be as competitive as we can, and that means winning the conference, which I believe we can do,” said Coach Del Gais.

The way that the records of bowling teams are made does not follow the traditional win-to-loss record system of most other sports. Each player plays three games each match. After each game, the scores of each teammate are added up, and compared to the sum of the opposing team’s scores.

For each combined score that is higher than the opponent’s, the team is awarded three “points.” Each point awarded to a team goes in as a win, and each point that is awarded to the opponent goes in as a loss. During each match, there are eleven total points that could be won or lost.

Another aspect that is different about the bowling team compared to other Schreiber teams is that the varsity and junior varsity teams are combined. At this point, the junior varsity team is 41-3, which is first in the conference.

This combination of varsity and junior varsity gives the team more flexibility in the roster of twelve players, with four of these players in the varsity lineup.

The lineup varies, as the only two locks at this point for varsity are Santelli and co-captain and senior Murphy Siegal.

“Having the two teams combined gives us the ability to mix and match however we like. It also certainly makes for more team camaraderie, because the varsity and JV kids are bowling with each other side by side and next to each other. I definitely think that this format helps



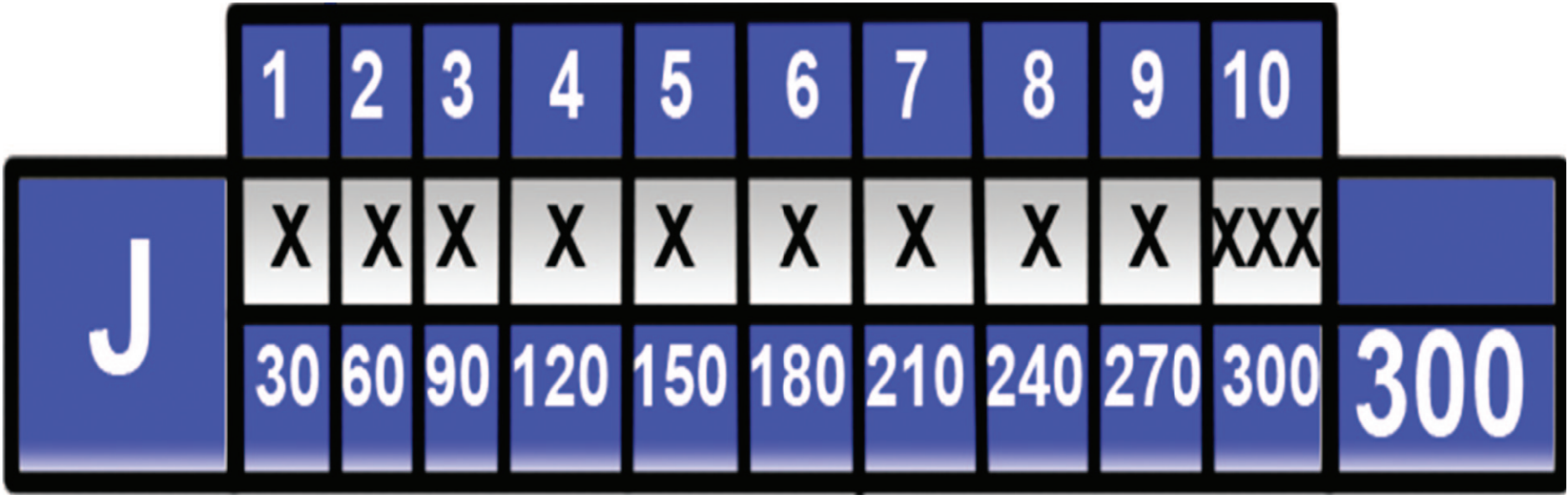
Jeremy Ettlinger

Senior Jameson Santelli bowls against the Manhasset Indians on Dec. 4. Jameson finished the game with a perfect score of 300. This means he only got strikes, in all ten frames, successfully knocking down every pin on each attempt.

us a lot as a team. We’ve been bowling very well so far overall. Everybody is competing, which is our second priority to winning. This competitive nature

will contribute a lot to our main goal of winning the conference” said Coach Del Gais.

All stats are as of Dec. 16, 2013.



Senior Jameson Santelli’s stat-line from his perfect game on Dec. 4 against Manhasset.