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AP Digital Photography student junior Samuel Kang took this photo in Manorhaven. Kang is a digital photography enthusiast and has over three thousand Instagram followers.

Good Citizen Award

Senior Carolyn Rybecky has recently earned a Good Citizen Award from the Daughters of American Revolution (DAR) foundation. The DAR is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women service organization. The Daughters of American Revolution promotes patriotism, the preservation of American history, and securing America's future through better education for women. In order to be a member of DAR, you must be 18 and have a connection to someone that was in the American Revolution. There are 175,000 members of the Daughters of American Revolution and there are chapters in every

The DAR Good Citizens Award is a scholarship contest that is only open to high school seniors whose schools are accredited by their state. Only one student per year may be honored. You do not need a to have a connection to the American Revolution to win this award.

Rybecky was nominated by her guidance counselor, Ms. Nori Cerny because of her active role in the community. Rybecky serves as an executive officer of the Art Honor Society. At the time, Ms. Cerny did not know that Carolyn's family was connected to the DAR. Carolyn did a lot of research about her families history and found out that she is the seventh great granddaughter of the first governor of North Carolina, Richard Caswell. He is

often referred to as the "father" of North Carolina. He was also chosen as one of North Carolina's delegates to the United States Constitutional Convention.

For being nominated, Carolyn receives a partial scholarship. Recently Carolyn had to write an essay that answered a question that the DAR asked. Carolyn had no idea what the question was going to be about and she only had two hours to write her essay. In March, Carolyn will be attending a dinner where she and the other nominees will read their essays aloud.

Carolyn looks forward to joining the Daughters of Revolution in the future.

She said, "When I turn eighteen next month, I will become a member of the DAR to honor my family's history."

~Izzy Gold

Midterm Changes

January is a hectic month for students and staff, considering that midterms are held during the end of the month.

Unlike in past years, more departments and classes are offering midterms this year. Setting this midterm week apart from other years is that there are four days for more tests. This causes more testing conflicts to occur.

"I understand that this year's condensed midterm schedule allows for more time for class instruction in the long run, but I feel that it is unrealistic

that some exams are scheduled so close together," said junior Sally Kuan.

The midterm timeframe was changed to preserve class time, so that teachers would be able to teach more of the curriculum that needs to be covered by end of the year.

Furthermore, the administration wanted consistent testing, since some departments had been giving midterms during class time and others were giving midterms during testing week.

Assistant Principal Ms. Julie Torres created the schedule while taking the conflicts into consideration

"I tried to create a balanced schedule, taking into account all the possible conflicts. Unfortunately, since there are so many different moving pieces, some conflicts are unavoidable. Especially for the students who are off sequence, such as a sophomore in a junior class but also taking a senior AP class," said Ms. Torres.

However, to help students who have conflicts, the staff put effort and consideration into aiding the students as much as possible.

"Any student who has a conflict has been accommodated to make sure it is not a stressful testing situation," said Ms. Torres.

Students with conflicts can report to their teachers to schedule a room where they can take the tests during midterm

~Rachel Cho

The Schreiber Times

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Intel corporation announces three Schreiber semifinalists



Courtesy of Ruth Smi

Left to right: Seniors Simon Shapiro, Harry Paul, and Dillon Drukker pose for a picture with administrators and research teachers. The three students won semifinalist recognition for their projects in the areas of math, science, and social science, respectively.

By Sameer Nanda
Staff Writer

This year, three seniors, Dillon Drukker, Harry Paul and Simon Shapiro, were distinguished as semifinalists in the Intel Science Talent Search competition and will each receive a \$1,000 prize. Annually, the Intel STS recognizes 300 students as semifinalists. Out of that pool, 40 are then chosen as finalists. To students who make it to the semi-finals and beyond, the Intel Cooperation distributes a total of \$1.25 million in awards.

Drukker, a student in the social science research program, conducted research

under the guidance of Dr. Kathleen Miller at the University Buffalo Research Institute on Addiction. Her project was called, "The Correlation Between Energy Drink Consumption and Substance Use and the Demography of Consumers." Using data from an interuniversity consortium for political and social research (icpsr) database, Drukker ran regression analyses correlating an energy-drinking variable to each of the substance use variables. She found a positive correlation between energy drink usage and substance abuse.

"I always wanted to do a project involving addiction because I have seen how negatively it can affect lives," said Drukker. "I think that addiction is something that doesn't receive enough attention in the world of science."

Paul, a science research student, worked under the guidance of Mr. Christopher B. Straight at K2M, Inc. In his project entitled, "Growing Spine Implant and Test Method," Paul created a new surgical procedure and accompanying implants that allows for the treatment of scoliosis and the natural growth of the vertebral column.

Other researchers can use Paul's research when designing implants for the younger population. His prototype provides scientists with a way to test any spinal implant and how it would react with the biomechanics of the growing spine.

"This was simultaneously the most difficult and yet the most rewarding experience of my life," said Paul. "I couldn't have done it without K2M, Inc., which assisted me with funding, legal help in patenting, and in opening the door to me to use their facilities, ask questions of their talented and dedicated engineers, and perform a few manufacturing tasks."

Simon Shapiro, a math research student, conducted his research under the guidance of Mr. Ashish Raj, the co-director of the IDEAL lab in the Radiology Department at Weill Cornell Medical College. His project was entitled "Preferential Genetic Expression in Regions Selectively Vulnerable to Alzheimer's Disease." Shapiro's project focused on explaining how various genes worked to produce the effects of Alzheimer's Disease commonly observed in patients. Shapiro looked at the

correlations between the causes of the disease and the indicators and genetic expression data using various databases.

Shapiro's results indicate that the disease spreads gradually through neural networks.

"I obviously spent a lot of time doing work at the lab, most of the work was on the computer, but they have some pretty hardcore supercomputers at the lab which definitely improved processing time whenever I needed to do any demanding image processing," said Shapiro. "Writing the actual paper came naturally as a result of the research, my past years of research experience, and the guidance provided by Mrs. Gallagher."

All seniors in the school's research program are required to enter the competition, but other students who have conducted research outside of school are also able to enter.

Since 2000, Schreiber has had 70 semifinalists and six finalists. In recent years, the number of applicants has increased and competition has stiffened.

"20 years ago when high schoolers started doing research, there were many less schools doing research programs," said science research teacher Ms. Marla Ezratty. "What's been happening is that more schools are starting more research programs, but the number of competitions and the number of spots have not changed."

The forty finalists, announced on Jan. 22, will receive an all expense paid trip to Washington D.C. in early March to compete for the final awards.

Recent Schreiber graduates impart their knowledge on a panel

ву Madeline Fagen

Assistant News Editor

On Jan 9, over 50 Port Washington parents, students, and teachers gathered in Weber Middle School's library for an informative panel discussion with recent Schreiber graduates Hannah Fagen, Drew Feldman, Minah Kim, and Michael Krellenstein.

"Every year, this event is my favorite of the entire AGATE calendar," said Schreiber parent, Judy Epstein. "It's where I learn, as a parent and as an advocate, what really matters to our ultimate customers, the kids."

This event, held by AGATE (Advocacy for Gifted and Talented Education), was meant to council parents and students on successfully navigating through Schreiber academically and beyond from a student perspective. Additionally, AGATE hoped parents would become more informed on common areas of concern and eventually address these issues for future students.

"We figure that this is a unique opportunity for graduates to share their experiences and opinions in a wide range of topics, from their academic experiences at Schreiber, to their most enjoyable books or curricula activities, to their level of preparedness for college," said AGATE Co-President Lynn Steinberg.

Graduates who achieved excellent academic records and demonstrate the pursuit of an interest or talent were asked to be a part of the panel. Before the event, they were advised on the topics that would be discussed, including their level of preparedness for college, time management skills, AP courses, and

extracurricular activities among others.

During the event, Steinberg moderated by asking the panel members specific questions in each of these areas. Once answers were given, further questioning was opened up to the audience.

"I thought the homogeneity of the panel would make the discussion one-sided and boring," said Kim. "Despite these worries, the panel ended up being very informative and enlightening as well. I actually had a lot of fun reflecting upon my experience at high school."

This success was owed to the panel members' informative advice in varying areas and their willingness to answer specific questions from the audience

"The questions left a lot of room for us to discuss our experiences at Schreiber, and to give advice to the attending parents and students where we saw fit," said Fagen. "We discussed academics, extracurriculars, and strategies for making the most of the high school experience."

One major area of discussion was the necessity of self-advocacy in Schreiber. They advised students to take time to build relationships with their teachers and visit department resource rooms on their off periods in order to receive extra help.

"The recent grads spoke of a supportive faculty — even from teachers other than their own — and a supportive peer group," said Weber parent Marlene Ruskin. "I was pleased to hear the students speaking so positively about their high school experience."

Panel members recommended that students ask their teachers to edit drafts of their essays and improve their writing, for this is an important skill in college.

The importance of advanced courses



Dante Bombardier

Class of 2013 graduates Minah Kim, Michael Krellenstein, Hannah Fagen, and Drew Feldmen give advice at a panel on Jan. 6.

and extra curricular activities were also among the major topics of discussion. Panelists agreed that AP courses were very worthwhile to take in high school due to the more relaxed environment and reassuring teachers.

"I also came away with at least one parenting 'tip,' like the fact that it doesn't pay for a kid to pad their resume with lots of activities, so go ahead and let them just follow their interests (they're going to, anyway)," said Epstein.

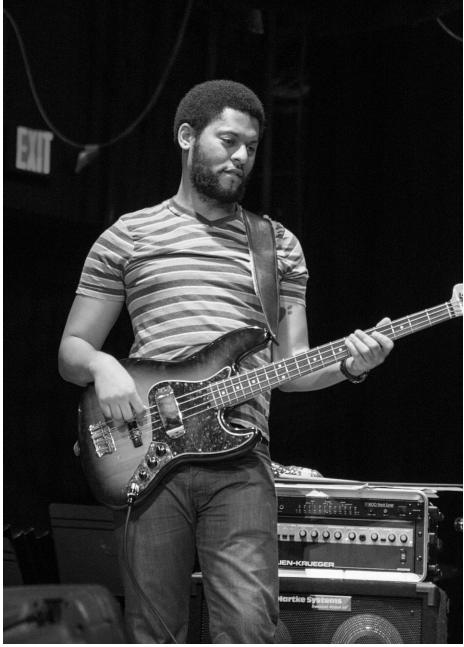
Panel members suggested that instead of trying to simply build a resume, students should take classes and join clubs that really intrigue them.

Additionally, panelists hoped to advise students and parents on balancing time commitments and managing stress.

"When a student doesn't have an older sibling or someone else to discuss Schreiber with, the choices he or she is presented with in high school can be overwhelming," said Fagen. "I hope that the information and opinions that the other panelists and I shared will help make high school easier to navigate for some future Schreiber students."

According to Steinberg, parents and students were enthusiastic about the event, and amazed by the achievements and advice given by the panelists.

"I thought it went well and that the attendees learned a lot," said Feldman. "It's a rare opportunity for parents to get advice from recent graduates and for the people more active in the district to hear what parents are concerned about."



Professional guitarist Mr. Barry Stephenson joins the jazz band in a performance of "Killing Me Softly" and others songs.

Jon Batiste and Stay Human entertain with jazzy medleys and originals

ву Eli Lefcowitz

Contributing Writer

With frigid weather and midterms approaching, everyone at Schreiber could use a change of pace. On Jan. 8, Mr. Jon Batiste and his Stay Human band provided just that as they performed for an audience of students and taught a unique music workshop.

Mr. Batiste performed multiple upbeat, energetic songs that were labeled as jazz but could also pass as pop. Along with music, Mr. Batiste and his band provided some humor and lessons that everyone could appreciate.

This performance has been a year in the making, ever since band teacher Mr. John Meyer and the symphonic band attended one of Stay Human's rehearsals. Mr. Batiste and Stay Human finally got to perform at Schreiber thanks to a grant from the PWEF, help from the HEARTS association, and support from Director of Creative Arts Ms. Sherri Suzzan.

By bringing Mr. Batiste and Stay Human to Schreiber, Mr. Meyer hopes to "make an example of their great music and showmanship." According to students and teachers who attended the concert, he succeeded.

The entire symphonic band, teachers, and students from various classes in session attended Mr. Batiste's period 4-1 performance.

'The performance was engaging and comical," said freshman Leonie Lerner. "You didn't need to love jazz to enjoy Mr. Batiste's performance."

"At first, I thought it would mundane performance, as I usually do not enjoy jazz, but by the end I was clapping my hands along with the beat. It was a really fun performance," said freshman Dylan Lebedin.

In addition, some admired Mr. Batiste's blending of two genres.

'What was especially interesting about the performance was the way in which the styles of jazz and popular music were seamlessly united," said freshman Dylan Langone.

Mr. Batiste also surprised many with his ability to make pop songs into powerful

"I never thought 'Wrecking Ball' could sound that good," said science teacher Mr. Chris Dardzinski.

The band also covered New Orleans classic "House of the Rising Sun" and



Seniors Amelia Pacht and Stephanie Anne Thomsen strike a pose after volunteering to dance with the Stay Human crew. Students were invited to come up and show off their dancing and scatting skills.



Mr. Joe Saylor, Mr. Ibanda Ruhumbika, and Mr. Jon Batiste perform for an audience of students. The performers, Julliard graduates, played music both on the stage and in the aisles of the auditorium.

played an original song entitled "Express Yourself"

Mr. Batiste and his band have been working on these skills for almost ten years, since he first met drummer Joseph

"Jon and I have been playing together nce 2004," said Mr. Saylor, "We started as a jazz trio and have morphed into

"At first, I thought it would be a mundane performance, as I usually do not enjoy jazz, but by the end I was clapping my hands along with the beat. It was a really fun performance," said freshman Dylan Lebedin.

several different band formations, the latest being Stay Human. I was inspired to play with him originally because I loved

to play super swinging jazz and so did he."

Mr. Batiste hails from Louisiana and has a degree from the Julliard School in New York City. He has collaborated with several artists, including Wynton Marsalis, Prince, Lenny Kravitz, and Harry Connick Jr. He also serves as the the Associate Artistic Director of the National Jazz Museum in Harlem.

Jon Batiste and the Stay Human band all worked hard in order to get where they are now, and they have advice for aspiring

"If you're serious, be serious. And always remember the good feeling music gives you and why you play," said Mr.

Jon Batiste's performance with Stay Human achieved drummer Joseph Saylor's goal.

"I hope to bring a love and vibe that's infectious and heals and uplifts everyone,"

In a time of academic anxiety, an uplifter is appreciated in Schreiber High

Point

Counterpoint

Are Schreiber clubs effective at promoting student activism?

BY Aaron Bialer Copy Editor

The United States was founded upon the basic principles of liberty and the power of the people to implement change. Under equality, these powers are intended to extend to every individual. On a large scale, American citizens will petition Washington, D.C. or politicians will propose new laws. On a much smaller scale, under the jurisdiction of the Schreiber High School administration, students are able to work with clubs to positively change the community and

Students can effectively promote change through various means and various clubs.

The Schreiber Key Club, for instance, conducts volunteer service intended to shape the community and school into a better, more charitable place.

"I feel clubs often create legacies in the school that wouldn't be there otherwise," said Key Club President Jackson Shain. "Key club's school-wide events, such as the Holiday Toy Drive, really bring the entire school community together and also create change in the Nassau County and Long Island communities as a whole."

Many clubs host drives to allow students the opportunity to donate to those less fortunate. These drives go beyond aiding people in the short-term, as they also work to prompt students to adopt a charitable lifestyle that will stick with them throughout their lives.

"Once students are introduced to the good feeling that charity inspires, they will donate more," said senior Ben Pan. "If a good sum of students leaves Schreiber with the inspiration to give to charity, the effect will multiply, following them wherever they should end up. That's economics! I call it the good heart multiplier."

From a smaller perspective, many club activities can shape the school into a place more accommodating to the student body.

Students can work with administration to better the quality of the school's infrastructure.

"The work clubs do on improving the school, such as the recent addition of the hydration station, really go a long way in making the school a better place for its students and faculty," said Shain.

The addition of the hydration station is a perfect example of the

power of students to initiate change.

The Tree Huggers Club organized the implementation of the station that not only encourages reusable bottle usage to save the environment but also provides the student body with a convenient method to stay hydrated. A simple idea in the mind of an environmentally concerned student sprouted positive change on both a micro and macro scale.

There are other clubs that do eventbased community service. The Relay for Life Club conducts fundraising throughout the year that all leads up to the Relay for Life in June, a single event raising awareness and money for Cancer Research and the American Cancer Society. However, the Relay for Life Club does not stop there.

"Every year, the Relay for Life Club goes to the city to volunteer at Hope Lodge, a sanctuary that offers cancer patients and their caregivers a place to stay," said senior and Relay for Life coach Ryan O'Reilly. "There, we are able to directly help people by playing games, serving food, and just talking to them in hope that we are able to make the fight

The power to effect change within the school and community lies within the hands of the students.

Club activities promote more

fortunate, whether through

donations to the poor or the

raising of disease awareness.

With the will to implement

implement change.

change comes to the power to

wholesome lifestyles and aid those less

those people are facing a little easier."

Prepare yourself for a dismally existential platitude: nothing that you do matters at all to anybody. And another, this one a little less depressing: extraordinary claims require extraordinary

BY Dan Bidikov

Editor-in-Chief

evidence.

So the claim has been made, and the enterprising, optimistic members of the student body await the evidence. They shake their fists and dismiss the sardonic champions of apathy, pointing with the other hand to the funding for their milliard ethnic dance clubs and hydration stations.

They write letters to the editor about the toys that they have collected and the cancer research that they have funded. They believe that through their club activities they are encouraging the spread of culture, environmentalism, and American human goodness. And they are so, so wrong.

"I have never paid attention to or attended a school dance performance, art show or concert. I have never used the machine in the lobby to fill my water bottle. I have never donated to a toy drive or participated in any of the school-based volunteer groups for more than a couple of meetings. I have seen

and spoken to a lot of people that agree with me. I don't believe that people take them or their goals very seriously," said senior Arjuna Lal. This will likely not satisfy opposing factions. It is a simply dismissed contention—people like he must be lazy abstainers from good works. Yet this assumption is baseless and incorrect, and the negative viewpoints towards the impact of school clubs on the school community do not come from people who have not made an effort to positively service their community.

"I have participated in community service and volunteer activity for years individually and through multiple groups," said Lal.

The burden of proof for the effectiveness of club activity is on the clubs. No record exists of the usage of the hydration station device.

There is no data collected on the amount of plastic water bottle purchases since the installation of the machine. There is no evidence of any tangibly positive effect of the club's work, therefore, which is evidence enough that the impacts of the club's initiatives are ultimately abstract.

It is not enough to say that the machine exists, the same way it is not enough to say that the fact that alleged community benefiting events like food and toy drives are beneficial to anybody because they exist.

The fallacy commonly held among would-be Schreiber activists is that club initiatives spring other club initiatives. An inaccurate perception exists that school clubs are inspiring, or at least inspiring to the degree that yields real results in terms of positive community

No individual student has reportedly taken community action as an individual branching off the kind of activity that they might be part of in a school club.

Perhaps the most upsetting (at least, to admit) indicator of the tendency for school clubs to fall flat in their attempts to exact change within the school community is literally right in front of you. How many other people will read this article? And how many will care? Likely very few.

Daniel Devlin

of papers be thrown away month after month while the contributors overcome difficulty both technical and human doing their best to perhaps offer either end of the student body a little bit of perspective.

Most, instead, will let the piles

And as with all other school clubs, at The Schreiber Times they will be proud of their work month after month, assuming that it is as appreciated as it is appreciable.

> How truly sad it is, everything.



New York state regulations create inequality

BY Michaela Gawley

Opinions Editor

As students, we always hear people grumbling about the changes being made in education, but most of us do not really see how much of an effect they have on the student body.

When I first started my senior experience attending a beginner English class, I knew that I would learn a lot about the lives of students in ESL. However, I did not realize that I would discover so many obstacles that the state has created for students learning English as a second

Students that come to this country as teenagers face an enormous amount of difficulty as they struggle to learn the basics of English while adapting to life in a new country, having often also left loved

ones behind in their home countries. Many of these students have large

gaps in their education, as the education systems in their countries are often unregulated and inconsistent.

Imagine how difficult it would be to sit in a classroom and learn about the complexities of the circulatory system, when you can hardly read English on an elementary level.

On top of all of this pressure, New York State requires students to pass five regents exams and accrue a total of twenty two credits to graduate. This may seem like a simple task, but as the state has continued to change the Regents, they have become increasingly more difficult.

For students who are unable to pass the Regents, there is not an alternate route to graduation.

Although an IEP diploma is available to some students, the only students eligible for this are those who are only in special education classes. So for both students with an IEP and in ESL, there is not an alternate route to graduation.

It is ridiculous that students learning English for the first time should be held to the same standards as those who have been speaking it their whole lives.

Schreiber is fortunate to have a stellar English as a Second Language Department that does its best to ensure that students are able to pass the Regents and

Due to their hard work and the hard work of their teachers, most ESL students pass the Regents, but with the implementations of the Common Core, both students in ESL and with IEPs are being left behind.

Why is the state making it more difficult for students who are already struggling?

It seems absurd to me that a society that claims to defend equality for all would take steps that make it impossible for students to receive a high school diploma, setting them up for a lifetime of inequity: like lower paying jobs, less opportunity for employment, and higher rates of incarceration.

We have to advocate for these students and we do advocate for them because they do not have a voice. Innovation comes from supporting those that need it. Without school, and without a high school diploma there is no equity," said ESL teacher Mr. John Davis.

History has demonstrated to us through the "separate but equal" Supreme Court ruling that claiming that something is equal for all does not mean that it truly is.

Holding students of all dif-

ferent levels to the same standards not only fails to provide an accurate portrayal of their strengths and weaknesses, but also

> disenfranchised as a result of the Voter ID within our society. Sometimes requiring an ID makes sense - after all, you need a government ID to obtain a driver's license, and like driving, voting can be incredibly dangerous and some people are really not

adds to disparity

fit to do it. However, it is evident that this is not the point that GOP lawmakers are arguing.

Voter ID

laws block

the vote

BY Will Berger

Staff Writer

government has been doing wrong lately.

Friday, Judge Bernard L. McGinley of

Pennsylvania, a state whose motto is

'yes, we know we have potholes," struck

down a requirement that nearly all of

the state's 8.2 million voters show photo

identification at the polls - a law whose

proponents claim targets voter fraud but

in reality suppresses poor minority voters.

present issue of voter fraud, while causing

a much larger issue in reducing the

fraud cases have shown that fraud occurs,

approximately five cases of known

voter fraud since 2000. During the 2004

election, Ohio, a key battleground state,

reported four incidences of fraud out of

of the vote in Ohio. You should run into

your homes and lock the doors because

in Pennsylvania alone it is estimated

that 750,000 voters would have been

this danger could be hiding anywhere.

Oh wow, that is a whopping .0000044%

In case you wanted more statistics,

fairness of elections.

9,078,728 voters.

but the rate is negligible.

The Voter ID law addresses the barely

Since 2000, 2,068 alleged election-

In Pennsylvania there have been

Too often I write about what our

Well, I have a bit of good news. On

Many Democrat and minority politicians argue that the Republican Voter ID laws intend to exclude poor or minority voters who often tend to vote for liberal and Democratic candidates.

On his radio show, Rush Limbaugh takes it a step further. Limbaugh asked, "If people cannot even feed and clothe themselves, should they be allowed to

Yes Rush, I think we all remember the first time we heard Martin Luther King's "I have a dream, but only for people who aren't poor" speech.

Fortunately, Judge McGinley understands that this law "unreasonably burdens the right to vote." Wendy R. Weiser, director of the Democracy Program at the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University, said in The New York Times,

"Some of the past decisions have come without doing a real, close look at the impact. The issue is how they affect people in practice, not in theory. And in practice, it turns out that a

significant number of people can't get the photo ID they need."

Weiser makes a good point: why write a law that isn't even practical?

So if Republicans really want to solve the immigration issue, maybe they should get immigrants to the voting booth.

Daniel Devlin Dear @SchreiberSmack, #smackoff ed to take bullying to the twitter sphere. young adults commiting suicide af-

BY Penina Remler

Managing Editor

As we approach a completely revised midterm schedule filled with the most assessments yet, the majority of Schreiber students are cramming to find answers to study guides in the hopes of acing their upcoming tests.

However, there seems to be one communal question which cannot be confirmed in any of our textbooks-@SchreiberSmack: who are you and what are you doing wasting your time bashing on the entire student body?

It started on January 22nd, the first snow day of 2014 and the downfall of many Twitter news feeds.

Most students enjoyed their snow day by baking cookies or building snowmen.

Nearly all of Schreiber was snowed in and one obxnoxious student decid-

This single twitter account started to anonymously target students individually.

First it was circulating rumors, then it turned to bashing physical appearances and eventually led to falsely stereotype social groups.

So far these victims are limited to members of the junior and senior classes, though who knows what else is in store?

As a growing amount of students are devoting their attention to the current situation, the student behind this account has used this publicity to bring more and more students down.

It is not only embarrassing, but also pathetic that a member of the Schreiber community would willingly approve of bullying others and providing peers with the opportunity to join in.

In this day and age, we are all too aware of the consequences of bullying. Every time we turn on the television there is an abundance of reports concerning ter being subject to severe bullying. Even with programs and assemblies to warn us about the severity of bullying, somehow the conflict persists.

For some, @SchreiberSmack may seem like an overstated exaggeration, but it definitely should be taken seriously. As a whole, Schreiber's student body can not condone to this type of behavior.

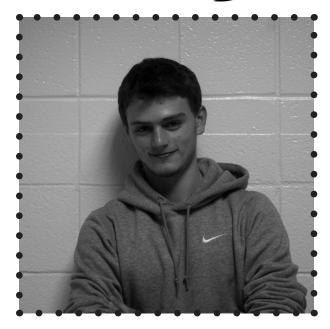
We are all dying to know, who is the culprit behind all of these false accusations and what does their activity say about Schreiber as a whole?

The lack of positive reception to the Tweets show that at least we are not in general stupid enough to find humor in the embarassing missteps of our peers. Evidently, though, somebody is.

So @SchreiberSmack, the next time you wish to tweet something insulting, don't forget to hashtag "#dignityact!"

Schreiber Speaks

What political change would you like to see in 2014?



"In the U.S. I would like to see congressmen and senators support an amendment for campaign finance reform to eliminate the corrupting influence of corporate money and raise the influence of the actual voters. Because money has taken more of an influence than actual votes in elections and that is a real problem."

~Joshua Curtis, junior



"I would like to see more actions taken in support of animal rights. I am really appalled at how the animals in the food industry are treated, because they are simply loving creatures that cannot protect themselves."

~ Jake Arlow, junior



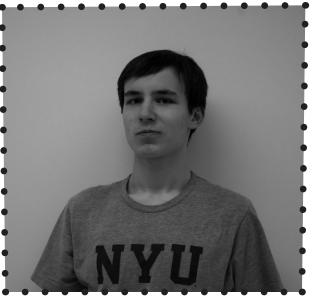
"I would like to see gay marriage legalized especially in the United States. It does not have to be through an amendment to the Constitution. I think that it should be done through state laws."

~ Matty Di Giovanni, senior



"It would be great if Republicans and Democrats would get along. There's just so many issues that they disagree about. If they would just agree, it would be much easier to pass necessary bills and laws."

~ Annie Kline, sophomore



"I would like to see changes in the funding for school systems to support the science and math departments so that they could fund clubs like Science Olympiad and the Robotics club to fund our experiments and projects."

~ Matthew Johnston, sophomore



"I feel that more knowledge about what's happening would be a good political change. For example, the environment. If we could just spread the word more people might join together to help."

~ Naomi Furst, senior

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

Liberty and justice for all: yet to be served in 2014

BY Emma Podolsky

Contributing Writer

In 2013, we improved by leaps and bounds. We created a living, lab-grown ear from a 3D printer, Pope Francis became the first pope from the Americas, Croatia became the twenty-eighth member of the European Union, and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons won the Nobel Peace Price.

Yet a series of events much closer to home, which had for many years

remained largely unseen, finally emerged into the mainstream media after decades of neglect.

These events involved something that most would imagine could not happen in the twenty first century U.S.—discrimination based on minority status and social privilege.

Possibly one of the most publicized cases to capture the attention of our nation's media outlets was that of Cece McDonald, an African American transgender woman and activist who, in June of 2012, was sentenced to forty one months in prison (but was finally released

after nineteen months) for stabbing a man who attacked her along with her friends in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Although this event occurred during the spring of 2012, it became increasingly prominent in the media in 2013, as it was contrasted by a number of court cases displaying a strong race bias.

There the case of the white Texan teenage boy who recklessly killed four people in a drunk-driving accident and simply could not bear the burden of being born into an affluent family with nearly every accompanying privilege—and was therefore pardoned from any jail

time on behalf of his debilitating disease, better known as "Affluenza."

These two cases are not the only ones out there; in fact, such cases with clear discrepancies based on social imbalance have largely been among less prominent news items.

It is my hope for the future that we will be able to bring justice to those like Cece Mcdonald, and at the same time create a safer environment for all groups in our country.

Here's to hoping 2014 is a year filled with political change—and for the better.

Editorials

School open during extreme weather

It is more than clear that the school administration's job should be to protect its students. And for the most part, they have succeeded. There is proper equipment supplied to athletes. The new security checkpoint on Campus Drive, and the new scanner system at the entrance to the school has eased minds against the horrific prospect of a school shooting.

Thus, The Schreiber Times was surprised and disappointed with the way the district handled the polar vortex that recently hit the East Coast.

On Jan. 7, temperatures reached as low as four degrees with the wind chill below zero. Students and parents alike protested the district's decision to keep the school open during the frigid weather conditions.

On that day, New York State Governor, Andrew Cuomo, declared a state of emergency and advised people to avoid travel, to exercise caution, and to stay indoors.

Considering the district is given extra days for such occasions, The Schreiber Times believes it was reckless for the district to open the school under such conditions.

Although Schreiber did take steps to safeguard students from waiting outside for their buses, it did not take into consideration those who had no means of transportation home.

Students who live less than a mile and a fourth from the school do not have a bus. These students usually ask their parents or friends to drive them or walk home.

Students who normally walk to and from school were forced to do so under extreme weather conditions.

In addition, the school's faculty members had to make their way farther distances than students in order to reach

conditions on Jan. 7 put Schreiber staff members at risk as well.

In the case of Winter Storm Janus, students would obviously be in danger. There were 11.5 inches of snow in Port Washington in addition to low temperatures that could increase the chance of ice. The decision to cancel school was more obvious.

The Schreiber Times recognizes that the school district is limited by the number of snow days granted to students due to New York State requirements.

The school district administration was clearly correct to grant students a snow day during Winter Storm Janus. However, this limited number does not mean that students should be placed in uncomfortable or dangerous situations as they were on Jan. 7.

The Schreiber Times believes that the school district must analyze situations more critically, making sure that students are safe at all times.

Stealing in the school cafeteria

Lunch periods are known for their congested hallways, loud cafeterias, and long lunch lines.

Although students have an option to bring lunch from home, many opt to buy food from the school cafeteria.

The small and narrow area reserved for ordering and paying for lunch fills up minutes after the first bell rings during periods 4.1 or 4.2, and this has created a

As students are crowded into the tight corners of the cafeteria kitchen without intense surveillance, incidences of stealing school food have increased.

Since the kitchen staff is occupied with distributing and selling food, many of these thefts go unnoticed.

There seems to be nothing stopping students from picking a muffin off of a rack and putting it in their backpacks. It standing in the lunch line, turn their heads, snatch a yogurt, and hide it under

Other methods of stealing, such as placing merchandise in pockets or backpacks, covering the object with napkins, and distracting the cafeteria workers have permeated the student

Some students will simply go out the entrance to avoid cafeteria staff.

The Schreiber Times does not support the actions of these students and urges them to stop.

This year, due to the closing of the atrium to students eating lunch, the cafeteria has grown increasingly overcrowded.

The discord associated with students claiming tables and cutting lunch lines makes it difficult for staff members to maintain order in the cafeteria.

As a result, the majority of the staff members concentrate on preserving order within the cafeteria itself. Thus, student actions are not monitored in the cafeteria kitchen.

The Schreiber Times believes that additional space should be designated for students to eat lunch in order to minimize the chaos in the cafeteria and allow Schreiber staff to focus on preventing student stealing.

Additionally, The Schreiber Times urges staff members and school officials to intensify their methods of surveillance in order to correct this problem.

Weighted midterms hurt student motivation

With midterm exams looming, many students are wondering how their final quarterly grades will be counted. It turns out that each department as well as teachers within the department has different policies for weighting midterms in their respective courses.

This results in students prioritizing midterm exams according to which ones affect their grade the most and, as a result, basing the adequacy of their preparation and review for midterm exams based on which one will have the most impact on their quarterly grade.

However, midterm exams are standardized for their length and in general

their difficulty. Therefore it is strange that teachers will devalue the necessity for review in their courses by counting the midterm for less than other teachers.

In this way, preparing for an exam in a course also becomes less about learning and reviewing material in the long run than about gaming the system to maximize the amount of effort proportional to the amount of points a student can receive in reward.

The lack of balance in priorities regarding midterm preparation also affects preparation for final exams. In Advanced Placement courses in which the AP exam is not counted towards the grade, students who were relying on incentives to prepare for their exams based on the amount that their exams would count towards their final grade will suffer.

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

Times Policy Statement

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

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

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

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

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

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

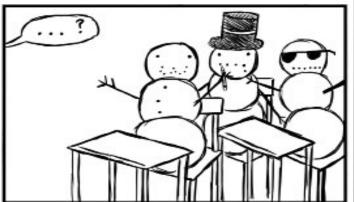
We will establish new policies if the need arises. Until such a point occurs, The Times will follow the policy described in this space as well as the guidelines of common sense and reason.

the school. The strong winds and icy is not uncommon to see students









Fashion

BY Caroline Ogulnick

Features Editor

Staying warm is the main goal during the winter season. While some prioritize fashion over comfort, with this year's temperatures, skin-bearing ensembles are simply unreasonable. Many will gravitate toward materials such as wool, cashmere or fleece to shield their bodies from the cold. Although it is typically a popular trend during the winter months, fur is taking more forms than usual this season.

Buying fur is extremely expensive, especially when you are on a high school budget. Clothing with real fur can cost hundreds of dollars, and a coat will be priced at \$1000 minimum. In addition to price, real fur needs to be properly cared for in order to keep it in mint condition. There is no throwing these items into the

This winter, fur is making a ferocious comeback

back of the closet at the end of the season, because they need attention all year round.

Though faux fur can still be pricey, it is a great alternative that will keep you on budget and on trend. Coats are the most common fur items produced during the season, but this year, fur is taking over all ends of the fashion spectrum. From jackets and vests to bags and shoes, fur is appearing everywhere.

While fur is widely known for its warmth, it is also known for its versatility. Most fur items are produced in neutral colors, such as brown, beige, white and black. The neutral colors allow you to add fur to any outfit, and mix it with different patterns. Although it is not as common, fur can also be dyed a color. Some of the most common colors that fur is being displayed in are deep tones of purple, red, blue and green.

Fur accessories are all the rage this season. Fur is used to accent bags and shoes, and even jewelry. It seems quite normal to have fur detailing on a pair of



www.streetpeeper.con

The Phillip Lim clutch above is an example of the fur accents that are being worn this season. Blogger Danielle Bernstein is shown below flaunting a white fur coat.

boots, but fur slip-on sneakers, which are being exhibited by top designers and sported by fashion icons, are under the spotlight this winter. Fur accents on bags are becoming increasingly popular as well, as they add a subtle yet unique flair to an outfit.

Investing in fur, whether it be real or faux, is essential this winter. Fur apparel and accessories immediately enhance an ensemble, and provide comfort and warmth, which is necessary during the winter months. If you are looking for real fur items, department stores such as Neiman Marcus, Bloomingdale's, or Nordstrom will be the locations to look. For faux fur, lower-end department stores and boutiques including Zara and Urban Outfitters will help you in your search.

The fur trend is unleashing the ferocious side of the fashion industry, and will continue to have a fierce impact throughout the cold winter months.



www.weworewhat.com

These Celine fur slip-on sneakers are one of the most coveted items this winter.

THE WRITING CENTER

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—David Hare



A place where any student can go for help with any writing assignment

WHERE? WHEN?

Room 212 Every day during 4-1/4-2

MIDTERMS: ANITY OT TUE EI YTINA ITWWW BMAXXI 81

OPINION

BY Anan Ryan

Staff Writer

In previous years, Schreiber reserved a full week of the school year to administer midterms. This year, however, the schedule has changed to test students from Monday to Thursday and utilize Friday as regular school day. Controversies over the new schedule and rumors of eventually eliminating midterm week have permeated the student body as students feel that they have been robbed of their preparation time for these exams.

Over the past years, there has been a decrease in the number of midterms administered during the designated midterm week. Due to complaints from numerous parents and Port taxpayers, midterm week was in danger of being eliminated.

"If midterm week was taken away, students would be forced to take all midterms in class so we wouldn't have the full two hours of testing that is necessary," said

iunior Paige Torres. "In addition, a full week of school would leave little to no time for studying for midterms."

In order retain the week, the school is administering an increased number of exams. This has resulted in students having an exorbitant a m o u n t exams during week. " M i d -

term week is helpful because it gives students more opportunity to study for tests that are worth a large portion of their second quarter grades," Astrid Phillipson. senior

Aside from classes being held the Friday of midterm week, not much has changed with the overall scheduling. Tra-

their complaints credible. If it is the districts in-With a tightly packed midterm schedtention for students UNTIL MIDTERMS to perform well on these exams, it "I tell myself that I should study way should create a schedule that protionally, midterms were held from Tuesday to Friday with Monday classes. In reality, everything has just been switched to a day later. Conveniently, Martin Luther King Day fell on midterm week last year. As a result, students were able to spend the entire week preparing for their exams. The added number of exams in the schedule forces students to take as many as three two-hour exams in one day with ten minutes in between. Students do not have enough time to take a mental break or eat a snack as they are forced to run to a different classroom and take a test in a completely different subject. The additional stress associated with this is not conducive to students' health and may lead to lower test scores. "I know a ton of people who have midterms one after the other, five minutes in between," said Torres. "I think that this is insane. This schedule is even harsher time-wise than the SAT and ACT exams." Although students should be thankful that the school has preserved this week



rather than forced teachers to organize in-class midterms, the unfair scheduling makes vides them with enough time to study as well as take a mental break between exams. This would allow students to have a better grasp of the material, and feel more confident going into their exams.

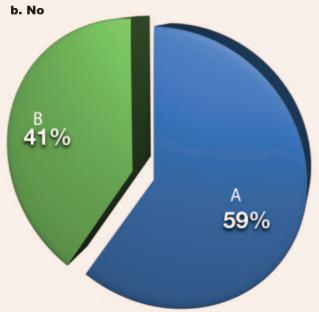
ule it's all the more important to be prepared and plan your life accordingly.

in advanced for midterms, but that's probably not going to happen, so fingers crossed," said senior Lauren Livingston.



Are you planning to attend school on January 31st

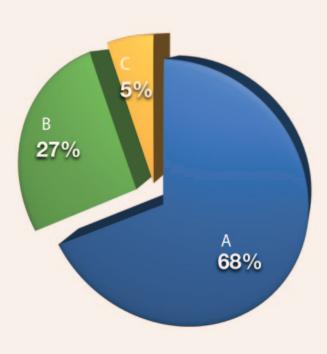
a. Yes



What is your ideal midterm schedule?
a. Midterm week reserved for midterms for all core subjects

b. Midterm week with some midterms administered before

c. No midterm week with all midterms in class

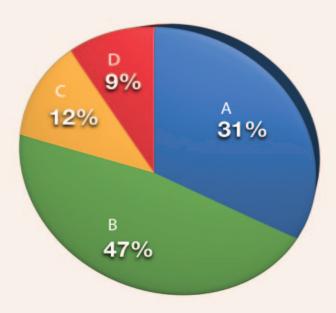


In how many consecutive time slots do you have midterms?

a. 1

b. 2 c. 3

d. 4



STUDINT SA

ву Maddie Cohen

Assistant Features Editor

It is that time of the year again that students dread—midterm season. With the halfway point of the year rapidly approaching, it is common for students to experience test anxiety and stress as they prepare for their exams. Feeling nervous before any test is normal; however, in certain cases exam anxiety can overwhelm students. Periods of prolonged high stress situations manifest in behavioral symptoms such as mood swings, mental breakdowns, eating disorders, drinking, and illness, as well as causing decrease in productivity and performance.

Students under eustress, the good kind of stress, may feel motivated to study and do what they need to do to prepare. Unfortunately, during midterms, stress transforms from eustress to distress.

"Too much anxiety is disabling and counterproductive as students will spend hours worrying, instead of actually study-

ing," said school psychologist Dr. Joan Bester.

"Too much stress can also lead to depression. There is a concept known as "self-efficacy" in psychology. Research has demonstrated that people with higher self-efficacy tend to welcome pressures and challenges;

while those with lower self-efficacy often dread or back away from

cy often dread or back away from it. So some students might work best under this type of pressure, while it may be crushing or overwhelming for others," said psychology teacher Mr. Larry Schultz.

Many students use the term "I'm so stressed out" often; however, what many do not realize is that students with high-level anxiety can actually develop disorders.

"The stress and pressure of testing like this can contribute to various anxiety and depressive disorders. These types of conditions in particular are affected because they feed on fear, self-doubt, stress, and fear of failure," said Mr. Schultz.

There are many ways to deal with anxiety and stress before midterms such as squeezing a stress ball and using an anxiety spray

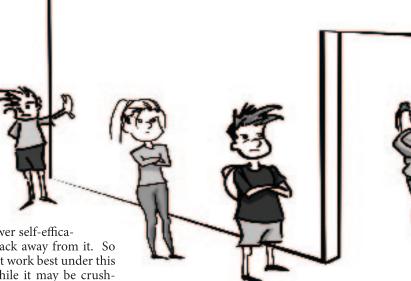
or a pillow which contains natural herbs.

"A student should start to prepare well before the date of the exam, so students feel more confident and prepared. Also, exercising, doing yoga, and getting enough rest can reduce anxiety. One should eliminate negative statements such as 'I am going to fail, it is too much, etc.' and reframe them with more realistic and positive self-take," said Dr. Bester.

"Students need to realize that they are not alone and many of their peers are experiencing the same stressors. Students need to take care of themselves above all; get proper sleep, eat well, and exercise. They need to balance their study habits with things they enjoy so that they do not feel as stressed out," said guidance counselor Ms. Diana Rafferty.

To reduce stress, the guidance office offers some advice.

"Don't compare yourself negatively with your peers. You will only think they are studying more, or are smarter. Try to tune out that pre and post test chatter by listening to music or getting your mind off the tests," said Dr. Bester.



Test anxiety is also caused by the intense external and internal pressures placed on students in high performing schools.

"Many students here are expected to excel, and many students expect themselves to excel. The fear of that not happening can be overwhelming and potentially harmful," said Mr. Schultz.

Although during this moment, midterms may feel as though they are of the utmost importance, and they will determine your future, students need to keep things in perspective. Life is about balance and many students have to find that balance.

MIDTERMS:

ANITY IS PUT TO THE AS EXAMS MOUNT

OPINION

ву Anan Ryan

Staff Writer

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With a tightly packed midterm schedule it's all the more important to be prepared and plan your life accordingly.

"I tell myself that I should study way in advanced for midterms, but that's probably not going to happen, so fingers crossed," said senior Lauren Livingston.





Turn up the heat with Bikram yoga

By Michaela Gawley & Penina Remler

Opinions Editor & Managing Editor

Deep breath full lung!" my yoga teacher melodiously chants. I focus all of my energy on my breath and clear my head to prepare for the next 90 minutes. I have been practicing vinyasa yoga for the past few years, but two months ago I tried my first Bikram yoga class at Bikram Roslyn and was instantly hooked. I have tried many different forms of exercise but there is nothing that makes me feel as incredible as Bikram does.

"The hardest part of surviving this 90 minute class is always the first stepgetting yourself in the door," each professional will reassure the class. And after managing to drive across the chaotic intersection on Roslyn Road in one piece, one will likely find truth in this statement. After reaching Roslyn's Bikram Yoga destination, it is now time to let out a sigh of relief and relax.

However, Roslyn's Bikram yoga is not your typical yogi session. In fact, each teacher will usually announce that, "Bikram always says it is better to suffer 90 minutes than 90 years"... this is certaintly true as although class may be a struggle, if you continue with the practice you will see a tremdendous change in both your body and your state of mind.

Once you settle into the newly conditioned studio with a yoga mat, towel and lots and lots of water (all which are available to rent/buy), you will soon be on your way to a one of a kind Bikram yoga experience.

Bikram yoga is a 90 minute experience which consists of 26 postures that are all performed twice. Starting with unique breathing exercises each session, the studio quickly heats up to an intense 105 degrees.

At first, this drastic temperature change may come as an utter shock and result in fatigue or nausea, but as the class continues, one will be pleasantly surprised that his or her focus will be more devoted to the poses than the insane heat.

Yoga is an ancient practice that has been practiced for thousands of years and Bikram was created at the end of the 20th

The relaxing feel of the heated studio





www.bikramyogaroslyn.com

from the Bikram Yoga studio in Roslyn where several classes are held daily. To the left is a class holding the chair pose, one of the 26 poses. Bikram yoga is a great cardio work out for all kinds of people, especially athletes.

Above is a room

allows your body to receive an incredible workout while also deepening your connection with your body, spirit, and mind. Bikram yoga is commonly used as a method of cross training for competitive athletes hoping to work on strength and flexibility.

Bikram Yoga Roslyn was opened last year by Jamie and Jen Weil. Weil is a long term Bikram activist who has built up an incredibly warm and inviting atmosphere.

The studio's team of Bikram trained professionals will always challenge you to work to your greatest potential.

The sense of community is striking as soon as you enter and see that everyone has arrived early to chat with both the instructor and their fellow yogis. It is immediately clear that this Bikram Yoga Roslyn is not only about mastering the postures, but also about embracing a calmer and more peaceful lifestyle.

Who knows, maybe you will be taking breaks for pranayama breathing to cool down during midterms—namaste!

For those of you are excited to try a class, here is a list of pointers to make your Bikram experience a great one:

- 1. Drink lots of water before, during, and after class. It is extremely important to stay hydrated.
- 2. Bring a washcloth to dry off your face and body throughout class. Also, bring a towel to put on your mat because the heat will make your mat slippery.
- 3. You will definitely need apparel you do not mind sweating in.
- 4. Be patient with yourself. It is completely normal to struggle with the poses and always challenging to try something new.

hreiber ience 44.9559

BY Harry Paul

Photo Editor

For Northeastern Americans, the flight of the bumblebee no longer has the fast tempo and incessant buzzing as captured by the often-played piece by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov. The regular bee-stings of our childhood are now in decline.

Since the early 21st century, the Apis mellifera has been in dire straits because of a situation known as colony collapse, in which the death rate amongst a single colony vastly exceeds the regional norm.

As entomologists and molecular biologists have been studying this collapse in search of finding a cure, it has been the common consensus since 2006 that colony collapse is caused by a vast mixture of dangerous variables. It has also been suggested that as very fragile organisms, the death of bees could be an 'early warning sign' of the overall decline in the health of our environment.

But this week, scientists from the Agriculture Department labs in Beltsville, Maryland, and researchers from the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences in Beijing are buzzing with newfound evidence that a virus may be the cause of all this bumble-misery. Since the deaths of commercial honeybee colonies are greatest during winter, scientists have bumbled upon a correlation between heights in growth of tobacco and of death in bees.

The mysterious culprit: the tobacco ringspot virus. Tobacco ringspot virus is a plant pathogenic virus of the family Seoviridae from the genus Nepovirus. Based on a genome of RNA, this group of viruses is generally transmitted by nematodes, commonly known as roundworms.

Viruses with genetic material made of ribonucleic acid are among the quickestspreading and include such human diseases as the flu, polio and measles.

The nematodes are infected by the tobacco plants, which are then transferred to soy plants that are used in conjunction with the farming of bees for agricultural products. Due to the rapid reproductive nature of nematodes, the tobacco ringspot virus is able to infect foraging bees directly from the pollen they use to make 'bee bread'.

As detailed in an article that recently appeared in the prestigious journal mBio, this finding is incredibly important not just for biologists but for agriculturalists as well. Approximately one fourth of American's daily crop intake is reliant on honeybees, to a value of about \$15 billion each year.

The study found that the virus spreads systemically throughout the bee's bodies, eventually reaching every corner but their eyes. What makes this so scary in relation to human health comes from its inherent nature as an RNA virus. Since these viruses replicate so incessantly, they also mutate with much greater speed, enabling them to easily overcome immune systems of whatever animals they may infect. Having crossed the species barrier from tobacco to bees, researchers worry what the effects could be if the nematodes managed to breach the defenses of the human body.

Nutella spreads love across the nation

BY Danielle Tawfik and Sam Bizenov

Staff Writers

Have you ever stuffed your face with the delicious chocolate hazelnut spread known as nutella? Nutella has become a worldwide phenomenon and is a guilty pleasure for all who taste it. Nutella contains roasted hazelnuts, skim milk, and a hint of cocoa to give its unmistakable sweet taste.

Nutella allows consumers to get very creative. Varying from fruits, pretzels, waffles, ice cream and all other types of food, Nutella can be put on almost anything. Not only does Nutella serve as a delicious topping for many foods, but it has also become a popular ice cream, frozen yogurt, and latte flavor. However, Nutella lovers and experts would have to agree that it tastes unadulterated on a spoon.

In Chef and Restaurateur Mario Batali's gourmet food market Eataly, located in Chicago Illinois, a Nutella bar has recently opened. The Nutella stand



www.eater.com

The Nutella Bar in Chicago's Eataly provides a variety of Italy. In addition, snacks fit to complement the hazelnut spread.

offers amazing options such as crepes, croissants, and even brioche rolls, which are all filled with the delicious spread. If you are a Nutella fan, this place is a must.

Imported from Italy, Nutella has been around since the 1940s and has been making costumers happy ever

the proud founder of Ferrero S. p. A., the company produces that Nutella. He came up with the idea for this spread due to the lack of cocoa during World War II rationing. As a result of this, Ferrero used hazelnuts with just a hint of cocoa, which are plentiful in the Piedmont region of the hazelnuts offered a great taste and a

since. Pietro Ferrero

silky smooth consistency.

The Nutella phenomenon has made its way to the U.S. and is for sure an all-time favorite. This craze over the delightful spread has led to Nutella being the #1 selling brand of hazelnut spread in

A guide for males: Useful tips on how to get girls

ву Dan Bidikov

Editor in Cheif

Being alone is difficult. While it may not be essential for happiness, companionship is very helpful for combating depression and maintaining emotional stability. Having a few close friends is great, but for ideal results lonely souls should consider courting a member of the opposite sex. How, you may ask, does a quivering Nervous Nellie like myself go about finding the woman of my dreams? Not only that, but when the time is right, how will I make my move?

No fear, Shakespeare! Getting females to like you is unbelievably simple. This instructional piece is by no means comprehensive, but it is definitely a good starting point. You'll need a few material items before you enter the field. Invest in a smartphone (probably made by Apple, because if you're clueless enough to use this guide for advice then an iPhone is likely your speed). This will come in handy when you need quick access to information about musical groups and bad literature (more on this later).

Nice shoes are prerequisite to catching the female eye. I personally opt for bold colors and sweet Nikes, but there is stylistic value in all walks of footwear.

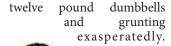
You need to buy at least one college tee shirt—because how else are they going to think that you went there?

Other items of interest that can only help include but are not limited to: a money clip (it looks like you have more money), breath mints (self explanatory), and-for the particularly adventurousbelts that open like the ones on your car seat (they undo quickly).

this guide seriously will require a girl who can handle a lot of emotional insecurity. capability generally associated with maturity and intelligence. But how can you pick that with just eyesight?

Telltale signs of brainpower include glasses (but be sure to verify that they actually have lenses), tasteful clothing, and hair. clean When vou think you have set your sights on the right girl, be prepared to get down to business.

O n c e you have the essentials squared away, work on getting the moves down. If at a night club, approach your target confidently. If you are well prepared, you are wearing a brightly colored tank top



Do not bother saying anything the music is too loud for conversation. Instead, present your best raveappropriate dance moves.

Hold your position for as long as possible. Then, when the party is over, approach your person of interest and engage her in discussion about physics. Girls love physics.

If in a quiet environment (e.g. an Asian culture appreciation party — and from speaking experience, Asian culture appreciation party is a great place to meet females), you will need to approach the situation differently.

When your eye is caught by for an interest of hers that you can feign. Use your phone to web search the terrible indie band that is on her shirt, so that you can brag about the songs that they played at a show of theirs that you did not actually attend. Hopefully you have pockets deep enough to fit crossed fingers, providing luck from the Heavens that she does not immediately see through your facade.

In the best case scenario, you will come across as interesting and relatable. At worst, you will end up ostracized and with a drink all over your shirt. Aren't you a little young for that anyway?

Moving discussion along can be difficult. As soon as possible, get in a position from which you can freely talk about yourself. Embellish your achievements as much as you can. Make sure everything that you have ever done proves how selfless and cultured you are. This is where the shoes come in handy. "I love those sneakers," she might say to which you respond, "thanks, it was the dying wish of the starving African youngster that I tried to save that I wear With a line like that, you're definitely in.

Now that you have made a good first impression, it is crucial to lay on the lasting appeal. Try and set up a date. Don't approach the issue with a line like, "what are you doing this weekend?" Be more steadfast. "Hey, you should definitely hang out with me this weekend!" is a line with an r-value for positive correlation somewhere between .6 and .8. That's pretty good, and sounds really science-y so maybe you will neglect the fact that I completely made it

This guide doesn't really extend to dating. To be honest, I don't normally



BY Cameron Appel

Staff Writer

The weather this season has seemed like a roller coaster. One day it is in the mid-forties, the next, below twenty.

The significantly low numbers, reaching as low as five degrees, are the most intimidating; whether being warned by meteorologists or nagged by our parents, we have been well aware that these temperatures are extreme. Precautions must be taken in order to avoid the potential dangerous effects of the freezing weather.

The prolonged cold can lend itself to winter wonderland of snow and ice. However, the sudden and random spikes in temperature melt everything before more snow can stick. All in all, this weather has not been too enjoyable.

Starting a fire would get things heated up quickly. Go ahead and burn your old notes from that class freshman year you hated so much; do not worry, you are not going to need them again. A raging fire that was created by the pages of paper you hated so much will make you feel even warmer than a normal, non-angst fed one.

While you have a nice fire going in the background, make a pillow fort. Everyone made at least one of these as a kid, so don't even try to say you're better than that. Pillow forts are cozy and warm. and since you're a bigger kid than the last time you built one, think of how awesome this one could be.







Mitchell Meyorah

A few of the many ways in which one can stay warm this season: on the left is a pillow fort built for optimum comfort for a snow day. In addition to the fort, one can also put on a ski mask and drink a cup of hot chocolate.

You are probably not going to want to get out of your pillow fort once it is been built, but there are other warm things outside of it. Go to your kitchen. Find a sturdy thermos. Grab some hot chocolate mix. Maybe even use two bags this time because you are worth it. Make the hottest hot chocolate you've ever made. Consume it in large quantities. Repeat.

After you have made enough hot chocolate to make your pillow fort float, hunt down the thirty or so bar/bat mitzvah sweatshirts you have tucked away in your closet. By layering them on top of each other, you will look like the popular abominable snowman, but at least you will not be frozen.

Now, say you don't feel like doing all of this. Maybe you hate fires. Maybe you do not have a soul. There are other ways to prevent you from feeling like a block of ice. Another alternative would be to go exercise. It is never too early to work on that Speedo body. Lift some weights, so if someone asks you "do you even lift, bro?" you can confidently answer "yes." Running is also a great way to up your body temperature, and is something anyone can do. Work off that hot chocolate!

If you want to leave the house, a surefire way to stay warm would be to go make friends with the Dunkin guys. You can try to get them to give you free hot drinks. Maybe it will work, maybe it will not, but it has to be worth a try.

If you go out, whether it is to Dunkin or not, wear a balaclava. You know, the things that bank robbers wear on their faces to conceal their identities. Balaclavas look silly, but so does frostbite. Plus, the looks you'll get will be well worth it.

There are plenty more ways to keep warm during these cold winters months. Some are a little ridiculous, such as finding Channing Tatum and cuddling up with him or raging as hard as possible. Others are humdrum, like throwing your clothes in a dryer to warm them up or eating spicy foods. Whatever you decide to do, have fun with it and stay warm.

arts8. Centertainment

Leonardo DiCaprio stars as the big bad wolf...of Wall Street



Jordan Belfort (Leonardo DiCaprio) throws one of his signature parties using some of the \$200 million which he acquired through defrauding his investors. The movie is based on an autobiography of the real life of Jordan Belfort who grew up in Brookville, New York, one of Port Washington's neighboring communities.

ву Rami Chaudhry

Staff Writer

The energy and sheer enjoyment The Wolf of Wall Street injects into its viewers' veins are surely indications that Martin Scorsese and Leonardo DiCaprio have done something right in this vigorous dark comedy. The film marks the fifth time this duo has worked together, and The Wolf of Wall Street showcases them at their very best.

Based on Jordan Belfort's memoir of the same name, The Wolf of Wall Street chronicles Belfort's American dream that quickly escalates to a life of corporate greed and excess.

Belfort begins his rise to stock market "wolf" by briskly making a fortune on shady sales of penny stocks. With the help of his drug-dealing pals and his big toothed friend Donnie Azoff, played by the talented Jonah Hill, Belfort makes the leap to IPOs after creating his firm, Stratton Oakmont.

Shortly after this, the film escalates into a dark comedy epic of women, drugs, and money that is at times difficult to watch and simultaneously hard not to watch.

At the heart of the film is DiCaprio's Golden Globe winning portrayal of

Jordan Belfort. DiCaprio displays his comedy chops as Belfort, a surprising change of pace from his usual humorless characters.

DiCaprio's charismatic and energetic portraval of Belfort compels the audience to watch despite images of gut wrenching excess. Belfort swiftly becomes a selfindulgent and drug-crazed maniac who alienates himself as his mental state deteriorates.

Even though the audience and Belfort know that his demise is inevitable, they both take pleasure in watching his world spiral out of control.

The story line closely follows Belfort's perspective as his voice guides the actions while Scorsese stylistically conveys the vigorous and fast-paced scenes. Belfort even delivers monologues to the camera while in the middle of scenes, providing an engaging device to delve inside the character's point of view.

For a film this crazy with such an absurd subject matter, Scorsese retains a sense of control in all of its debauchery and fast pace. The excessive drug use, profanity, and sex may be a bit too much for some, but these elements of The Wolf of Wall Street are arguably necessary to convey the essence of the life of the real

For some reason that is difficult to pinpoint, the absurdity of it all is what makes The Wolf of Wall Street so enjoyable.

The definition of a "wolf" is a wild,

carnivorous mammal. For three hours of your life, why not step into the shoes of one? It may just be the most fun you have had at the movies all year.



Belfort (DiCaprio) attempts to get Donnie Azoff (Jonah Hill) off of the phone as his conversations are being monitored by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This phone call becomes one of the pieces of evidence used to convict Belfort.

Ron Burgundy stays classy in Anchorman 2

BY Elizabeth Muratore

Contributing Writer

Ron Burgundy has been everywhere for the past few months, from starring in TV ads for the Dodge Durango to doing a live news broadcast in Bismarck, ND. He has informed just about everyone of his new movie, *Anchorman 2*, with an incredible amount of press and hype. Although there were some doubts the second Ron Burgundy movie will live up to the original, it stands on its own as an uproariously funny comedy.

Directed by Adam McKay, this movie spirals into motion when the friction between Ron Burgundy (Will Ferrell) and his wife and co-anchor forces Ron and the rest of the Channel 4 news team, Brian Fantana (Paul Rudd), Brick Tamland (Steve Carell), and Champ Kind (David Koechner), to transfer to New York to form the first 24-hour news network in history, GNN.

The majority of the movie focuses on the team's attempts to become the highest-rated news network on television by reporting only what the public wants to hear, which often involves reporting exciting car chases and patriotic speeches instead of actual news.

It frequently digresses into hilarious and unexpected subplots, which may also leave audience members scratching their heads in confusion. However, if you have seen the first *Anchorman* and appreciate its silly, nonsensical comedy, you will not

be disappointed by this sequel.

In Anchorman 2, Ferrell once again masterfully portrays the arrogant, often idiotic Ron Burgundy with the brash, deadpan comedic style that has become his trademark, and Rudd and Koechner continue to be reliable sidekicks.

Carell's portrayal of the strangely lovable Brick Tamland is by far the standout performance of this film, and one hilarious subplot involves his childlike romance with a co-worker, Chani Lastnamé (Kristen Wiig). Brick gets quite a bit of screen time, but his character is never overused, and his lines are consistently among the funniest in every scene.

Throughout the movie,

there is an underlying satirical message that Americans will only pay attention to entertaining, "fluff" news stories instead of actual world news, and this element of satire helps make *Anchorman 2* a fresh update and not a tired reboot of the original.

Anchorman 2 caters to fans of Anchorman by bringing back Ron's



imdb.con

Ron Burgundy (Will Ferrell) consecutively sneezes during the news broadcast with his wife and co-anchor Veronica Corningstone (Christina Applegate). This leads to Corningstone's promotion as the lead anchor and Burgundy's firing. During the interim, Burgundy worked at Sea World before eventually moving to New York to join GNN with his Channel 4 news team.

famous talent for jazz flute, but this sequel also develops its own outrageous situations, such as a rivalry between Ron and fellow reporter Jack Lime (James Marsden), that will surely satisfy devoted fans

Anchorman 2 is one of the most highlypromoted movies this year, and it lives up to the hype as a hilariously funny and thoroughly entertaining film that any fan of Will Ferrell, the original *Anchorman*, or Ron's life-saving dog, Baxter, will love.

If you have not seen it yet, you might want to reevaluate your own life choices and get yourself to the theater for 119 minutes of non-stop laughter. In the meantime, stay classy Schreiber High

Kids take over Broadway with supernatural acting in Matilda

BY Lylia Li

Staff Writer

Remember when you were in kindergarten and it was story-time, and you and all your classmates sat criss-cross applesauce in a circle around your teacher, who read you a picture-book aloud, pausing in between each passage to show the illustrations and holding you rapt with attention the entire time? That is essentially *Matilda the Musical*.

Except instead of the library, you are sitting in the velvet-lined seats

of the Schubert Theater; instead of kindergarteners you are surrounded by people of all ages, enthralled as any children; and instead of looking at pictures in a book, you are watching them come to life in front of you on a \$16 million Broadway budget.

Casting the wonder of childhood—a vivid, dreamy filter—over surprisingly dark themes, *Matilda* is an intricate work of art, with all of its faces working in perfect harmony.

It treads the line between ridiculous and rational without overstepping into stupidity. It has moments of extreme hilarity and extreme sincerity. Its fiveyear-old heroine is someone grown men and women wish they could grow up to be.

In fact, the show is carried by its prepubescent ensemble. The majority of its cast members are around the ages eight to twelve, and none of the Broadway Matildas are older than eleven. The kids exceed expectations. It is hard to believe they can be so talented at such young ages, but then again, it should not be that surprising considering the musical's central premise is the extraordinary abilities of one gifted little girl.

And indeed, the girls who play Matilda have no trouble holding their own against more seasoned actors. Matilda and Miss Honey anchor the show, while the other characters are more caricatures of real people. Matilda remains practical and unperturbed in the face of the ludicrous adult world and is immediately likeable from her determination, her mischievousness, and, of course, her cuteness.

But there are so many more things to love than just Matilda. For example, Gabriel Ebert, who won a Tony for his role as Mr. Wormwood last June, is a joy to watch onstage. With his exaggerated movements and vivid green and orange suit, his scenes are never dull and provide great comic relief.

If the show's witty script and brilliant actors were not enough to make it a masterpiece of storytelling, the visuals themselves are. *Matilda*'s set is built with grand proportions, with towering school desks, a blackboard as high as a wall, and a library that looks like a labyrinth. They emphasize the smallness of our protagonist, highlight her proportionally huge emotional and mental strength, and add to the show's excitement, reminding the audience how big and exciting the world seems when you are young.

But what really steals the show is its lighting and staging, which form intensely illustrative compositions onstage. Scenes like Mr. Wormwood looming over Matilda in a mean orange hallway, the children cowering before the menacing iron gates of the school on their first day, and Miss Honey, cast in purple shadow, looking on a small Matilda lit in gold and wondering how she can help this poor little girl, are fleeting but instantly memorable.

Matilda is what musical theatre can achieve when it is at its best. It is immersive, holds you at the edge of your seat the entire time, and tells a captivating story even for viewers who are not familiar with the book or the movie. The emphasis on storytelling in the plot is directly proportional to how well the musical is executed.

Every element—script, actors, and staging—comes together perfectly, making it feel like a peek into Road Dahl's mind and bringing the story to life in a way that simply can not be compared to any other medium because it is live and experienced firsthand. For anyone who has wanted to jump into their favorite book, it does not get any better than that.



Oona Laurence, one of the four girls who scored the title role of Matilda, sings "Miracle." *Matilda the Musical*, with its dramatic lighting and imaginative set designs, won Best Scenic Design of a Musical and Best Lighting Design of a Musical in the 2013 Tony Awards.

British invasion continues in third season of *Sherlock* | Spotlight on:

ву Annie Kim & Julia Zeh

Staff Writers

In 1887, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle began writing about the famous detective, Sherlock Holmes, and his trusty sidekick, Dr. Watson, in a series that revolutionized the way crime stories were told.

The four novels and 56 short stories are told from Dr. Watson's perspective, where he recounts with admiration the stories of the oftentimes strange clients who came to visit him and Holmes, the crimes and mysteries which they were given to solve, and the incredible ways in which Sherlock Holmes went about solving them. Holmes was a genius with incredible powers of memory, intelligence and deduction and could seem almost inhuman at times.

Sherlock Holmes had a huge fan base around the turn of the century, and devoted fans still exist today. After all, without Sherlock Holmes and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle we wouldn't have the same crime television series or mystery novels that are around now, let alone the many Sherlock Holmes remakes and spinoffs. Of these adaptations, one of the more popular versions is the BBC's Sherlock.

The BBC's Sherlock was created by Mark Gatiss and Steven Moffat, two brilliantly creative writers who are also ardent fans of Doyle's beloved series. The show stars the talented Benedict Cumberbatch as the titular character and the equally adept Martin Freeman as the detective's faithful companion.

Set in modern-day London, the crime-solving duo makes use of current technologies and trends while retaining many aspects of Doyle's original characters.

Cumberbatch's Sherlock is a brilliant "high-functioning sociopath" who lacks social grace and compassion, while Freeman's Watson is one that is imbued with such genuine emotion that he is essentially the detective's polar opposite.

Yet, throughout the series, it becomes



Sherlock Holmes (Benedict Cumberbatch) having one of his esteemed revelations alongside his partner, John Watson (Martin Freeman). The series takes place in modern day London, as Sherlock tackles cases 100 years after his conception.

clear that both men rely heavily on each other, with Sherlock providing the excitement that John longs for, and John acting as Sherlock's moral compass. Simply put, both actors are brilliant, and their chemistry is one that lies firmly at the foundation of the show.

Departing from the traditional crimesolving backbone of Doyle's stories and subsequent adaptations, Moffat and Gatiss have chosen to focus on the development of Sherlock and John's friendship.

From the series premiere to the series three finale, Moffat and Gatiss have beautifully crafted the show's characters multidimensional individuals who each undergo noticeable personal growth. These individual changes are particularly evident in the series two finale, "Reichenbach Fall," where Sherlock sacrifices everything he has in order to save those he cares for most.

This series tackles more serious and slightly unexpected themes of sexuality, human fear, and love, toying with the audience's emotions and its ability to discern between reality and illusion.

Sherlock is a brilliant show that is supported by equally incredible music, writing, and cinematography. Sherlock's personalized deductions appear as words on the screen as unique transitions are made between scenes, allowing for an unusually in-depth analysis of the show.

While the plot can be a bit outlandish, whatever is lacking in feasibility is compensated by the characters themselves. Sherlock causes both laughter and tears while making your head spin, and with plenty of references to Doyle's original series, such as in the titles of the episodes, it is sure to please traditional fans as well as new ones and is well worth the 90 minutes per episode and two year wait between seasons. In the meantime, you may want to log onto Tumblr.com and watch the fandom flail as "Moftiss" trolls its audience.

Kurt Hugo Schneider and Sam Tsui

By Annie Kim & Kelly To

Staff Writer & Features Editor

How many people actually become famous via YouTube, and how many of those are musicians?

The answer to both of those questions is very few. With musical talent residing in all corners of the world, it is quite common to become lost among the countless videos uploaded by aspiring musicians. It takes a great deal of talent, perseverance, and luck to gain recognition as a YouTube musician, which make Kurt Schneider and Sam Tsui two of YouTube's

Kurt and Sam have worked with Coca-Cola in a campaign called "The Sounds of AHH," which consists of a series of music videos that feature Coca-Cola bottles, glasses, and cans being used as instruments. In 2013, Kurt was asked to create an original soundtrack for the Coca-Cola Red Carpet Live Digital Preshow at the 2014 American Music Awards. Over the course of six weeks, Kurt was able to interact with his extensive fan network across the country, by having them choose the elements they wanted to include in the soundtrack.

Even more recently, their music made for Coca-Cola is being aired as commercials during American Idol Kurt and Sam began collaborating while attending Wissahickon High School in Pennsylvania (a partnership that continued during their time at Yale University), featuring Sam's crowd pleasing voice and Kurt's talented skills as a musician, arranger, and producer.

The duo began by performing covers of popular songs, with their first video being a cover of High School Musical 3's "Can I Have This Dance."

Since then, they have produced covers of virtually every popular artist, from The Goo Goo Dolls to Bruno Mars. The duo has uploaded several "viral videos" that have garnered more than 30,000,000 views each, the first of which was a medley of Michael Jackson songs. The two have even been featured on The Oprah Winfrey Show, as well as The Ellen DeGeneres

This growing recognition allowed the duo to branch out and collaborate with other YouTubers, such as Dave Days, Alex Goot, Tyler Ward, Christina Grimmie, and Max Schneider. More recently, they have produced covers- "The Other Side' with Jason Derulo, as well "Everybody's Got Somebody But Me" with Jason Mraz and Hunter Hayes.

Besides performing covers, Kurt and Sam have written original songs, some of which were featured on an online series called "College Musical," a spin-off of High School Musical. They have also released their first original album titled "Make It Up," which contains 14 original songs written by both Sam and Kurt. The duo toured across the US, Canada, and Asia performing these original songs for fans across the globe.

They have more than 3.7 million subscribers on YouTube and more than 750 million total views, and these numbers continue to increase every day. Although they have been around for a few years, their careers in the industry definitely have a long way to go.

Live from New York, Seth Meyers takes Late Night

ву Penina Remler

Managing Editor

As Jimmy Fallon will soon graduate into Jay Leno's seat onto The Tonight Show, it is time for a fresh face to don the Late Night crown.

Starting Feb. 24, Saturday Night Live (SNL) head writer and cast member

Seth Meyers will take over the position, making him the fourth man in over 30 years to sit at the desk in NBC Studio 6.

Meyers is best known for his eight years as an anchor of SNL's "Weekend Update" segment, a position that was once held by his Late Night predecessor, Iimmy Fallon.

Inevitably, Seth Meyers will be compared to his highly acclaimed and talented forerunners. In order to make a successful television host like Letterman, O'Brien and Fallon, one needs the perfect combination of humor, wit, knowledge, and originality.

Luckily for NBC, Meyers has exuded a surplus of these characteristics during his 13 years on both the writing staff and acting cast of SNL.

Meyers' ability to deliver every day news with witty punch lines that walk the border along people's insecurities makes Meyers a compelling candidate for the job.

Seth Meyers' ability to deliver crudeness confidently makes him an asset to America's oldest major broadcast

One favorable aspect of Meyer's "Weekend Update" (which is now coanchored by Cecily Strong) is the presence of fellow comedian performers—a tradition Seth Meyer's insists on bringing to Late Night television.

Meyers has already asked his former Weekend Update co-host Amy Poehler to appear as the show's first guest.

Though fans are certainly sad to see Seth Meyers' departure from SNL, we can all expect to see the same style of satirical humor on Late Night with Seth Meyers.



Late Night predecessor Jimmy Fallon, along with Michael Bloomberg, joined Seth Meyers for SNL's "Weekend Upate" on Dec. 21. Late Night with Seth Meyers will premiere on Feb. 24.

Her: a cinematic triumph that redefines the meaning of true love

BY Aaron Brezel

Editor-in-Chief

Her. Who? Her. Who? The title is more than fodder for a lame joke; it captures the coexisting uncertainty and familiarity that defines the movie, Her.

Her is the story of a young man, Theodore Twombly (Joaquin Phoenix), seemingly in his early 30s, who falls in love with his computer, Samantha (Scarlett Johansson).

They talk late into the night, enjoy the city, and go on double dates just as any couple would. According to the previews, the concept itself seems borderline ridiculous. What those who make the trek to watch the movie in theaters will realize is that Her is not an elaborate gag poking fun at the technological generation.

Rather than dismissing the concept as the end of human contact as we know it, Her, written and directed by Spike Jonze, open-mindedly tackles concepts of love, consciousness, and connection.

The setting of *Her* is just as important as any of the characters. Following up the compelling setting that he created for Where the Wild Things Are, Jonze places Twombly in a mega-city of the near future. While Her supposedly takes place in Los Angeles, the city has been transformed into an unrecognizable sea of endless skyscrapers.

The architecture of the sets echoes a modern minimalist style with muted colors and sterile white surfaces, essentially it is as if the entire city were an Apple Store. Jonze's setting for the movie was carefully deliberated. It was important to create a new setting that was foreign enough to allow the audience to view it with a degree of detachment, but familiar enough to see it as a possible cultural future.

The opening scenes serve as credence to all those who fear the advancement of



Theodore Twobly (Joaquin Phoenix) expressing the bliss radiating from his lifechanging artifically intelligent program, Samantha, voiced by Scarlett Johannson.

technology. In a clear display of a loss of emotional connection, it is revealed that Twombly's job is to write heartfelt letters for clients who lack the passion to do so on their own. All conversation that he has in the first 20 minutes of the film is platonic and without substance.

He has a single friend, Amy (Amy Adams), but there is a certain degree of unfamiliarity between the two, as if one or most likely both of them have walled themselves off from intimate contact. As Twombly is established to be a lonely and depressed individual, the irony of his occupation as a heartfelt letter writer becomes clear.

This creation of a society without community merely serves as a backdrop for the main themes of the film. The disconnect of that world is thrown into sharp relief when Samantha is ushered into Twombly's life. Introduced as an artificially intelligent operating system that can grow and mature just like any human, Samantha connects instantly with Twombly. Much of the film consists of lengthy conversations between the two main characters.

It is in these scenes, with soft words exchanged in bed, as Twombly describes his day when the acting of Phoenix and Johansson shines. Tasked with portraying a character whose long buried emotions are drawn out like poison from a wound, Phoenix had to operate essentially talking to a wall.

In another sound studio far away, Johansson had to voice a disembodied computer that alternates between the girlish glee of discovering a world for the first time and soft pillow talk to sooth Phoenix's tortured soul.

In writing and directing Her, Spike Jonze took a huge risk. Had the connection between Twombly and Samantha not seemed sincere and just a result of some program, the heart of the story would be

Twombly and Samantha's relationship, which contains all the facets of a regular relationship, including the sexual, appears as sincere as in any other romance movie. Surprisingly, their relationship is mostly accepted by society. On a double date with Twombly's co-worker, Paul (Chris Pratt), Samantha is easily able to engage in girl talk with Paul's girlfriend. The biggest obstacles come from Twombly Samantha's own interactions. Samantha's lack of physical form leads to some stressful circumstances, but their love evolves.

The purpose of *Her* is not to condone introverted relationships with computers. The pitfalls of a highly technological society are clear with the crushing sense of loneliness that is projected onto the audience throughout the film.

Rather, it emphasizes the importance of human connection. For what Samantha lacks in physicality she and Twombly make up for in their complete emotional openness exchanged with words.

Is their relationship not better than the people whom Twombly writes letters for, the ones who have become so absorbed by technology that they cannot communicate with their loved ones? In short, the movie proclaims that it is not where the connection comes from that matters, but once that connection comes, you appreciate it and hold on to it even if it is not tangible.

Throughout the movie, the audience's emotions oscillate between uneasiness and understanding. At times the movie borders on creepy.

The premise of falling in love with a computer at times presents a reality that many fear we are heading towards. However, this offbeat romance movie resonates deeply for those looking for an experience that tests the true definition of

Community of fans inspires a fifth season for the critically acclaimed series



The "Greendale Six" are shocked as their beloved study hall table goes up in flames. This burning of the table is a symbol for their total restart as a new group.

BY Aaron Bialer and Josh White

Copy Editor and Photo Editor

Think about your favorite horror movie. A soft dissonance crescendos into an immense monstrosity of noise, building suspense. The combination of bloody visuals and eerie music provides the audience the adrenaline rush for which one watches a horror movie. Now imagine that same movie, with Abba's "Dancing Queen" playing in the background. The

same bloody visuals meld with the upbeat song into a conglomeration that could only be described as bizarre and leaves you unsure as to whether to laugh or scream. This is the plot of an episode of NBC's Community.

Community started its fifth season on Jan. 2, 2014. The beginning of the fifth season marked a return for Creator and Executive Producer, Dan Harmon, who was let go by Sony and NBC after season three. Under Harmon, the show flourished. Its cult fan base watched

every episode with bated breath due its strangeness and seemingly unstructured plot. Unfortunately, to viewers' dismay, season four without Harmon did not live up to Community's previous legacy. Harmon himself deemed the fourth season an unflattering impression of his previous work in seasons one through three.

The show is set at Greendale Community College, where seven diverse students form a study group. The first episode of season five is entitled "Repilot," suggesting that those who did not watch season four, or even the first three seasons, may start anew. Three years after graduating, Jeff Winger (Joel McHale) returns to Greendale to research a potential lawsuit after his practice goes under. When he returns, Winger finds out that the rest of the gang, excluding Pierce Hawthorne (Chevy Chase), has also re-enrolled in Greendale after failing in their respective fields. Dean Craig Pelton (Jim Rash) and Abed Nadir (Danny Pudi) convince Jeff Winger to pursue a teacher position at Greendale.

As the characters are reintroduced and reestablished, Harmon slowly eases new and returning viewers into his unique production style. Thus, the first episode does not feel quite like those of previous seasons.

The second episode of the one hour premiere reassures cult viewers that Harmon has not lost his talent. The students enroll in a two day class entitled "Nicholas Cage: Good or Bad Actor." Abed's eccentricity returns as he becomes obsessed with determining whether Cage is talented or terrible. Upon close analysis, returning viewers familiar with Harmon's story will realize that this subplot is undeniably self-referential. Abed in his obsessed deliriousness says, "That's why critics could call him a genius or an idiot and be right no matter what." This lies in parallel with Harmon's past critical reviews.

With its fairly unstructured plot, Community is dynamic and entertaining. From episodes dedicated to intense paintball games to existential episodes creating meaning through ordinary objects like trampolines and pens, Community enthralls its cult viewers, even if it is not able to gain any critical acclaim. However, because of all the time spent orientating the viewers to the relevant situation and climate of this new season, there is not a huge amount of room for new jokes. Harmon clearly understands the dangerous line he is treading between pleasing his bosses and his fan base.

For Community fans who have considered splitting from the comical series, stick with it because Dan Harmon has made a convincing promise to keep with six seasons and even a potential

Athletes of the Month &

Neve Devine



Courtesy of Neve Devine

Junior captain Neve Devine jumps over 5'2 bar in last year's spring track season. Devine currently holds the school record for the high jump at 5'3.

Will Smith



Senior captain Will Smith swims against Great Neck South on Jan. 14. Smith currently holds the school record for the 100 meter breast stroke with a time of 1:06:98.

Portettes kick away two more successful seasons

BY Adam Keltz

Staff Writer

Meet the Schreiber Portettes. Originally created as a recreational club, the Schreiber Portettes now stand as a 24 person squad who are classified as a varsity team.

Many people underestimate the role of a Portette when, in fact, it is a very extensive job. Each year the process for joining begins in late June when students gather for a two day tryout (one day dedicated to learning the routines and the second day for an evaluative performance). The prospective Portette turnout is usually made up of interested incoming freshman and a selection of soon to be sophomores, juniors, and seniors who, for the most part, have already been on the team. However, aside from the elected captains, all previous Portettes must re-try-out for a spot each year.

"Even though I have been on Portettes for three years, the thought of trying out again is always a nerve wracking and exciting experience," said junior Rachel

Towards the end of the summer, the selected Portettes come together in late August to perfect their football routine and march routine which they debut during the annual Pride in Port weekend. The practice and training persists throughout the football season and into winter as the squad transitions from a football to basketball routine, and later put a close to

their talents at the Memorial Day Parade. "By the end of the year, our team

has spent so much time together that it no longer feels like we are four different grades, but instead one unified team," said sophomore Jesse Moskowitz.

This year, the Portettes have four senior captains: Natalie Martinek, Penina Remler, Liana Saidai, and Emily Shlafmitz (four seniors who have been on the team since their freshman year). Together, the captains are responsible of choreographing two original dances which they perform during Schreiber's Pep Rally, varsity Football, and varsity Basketball games.

Throughout the fall, one could find the Portettes perfecting their skills on the turf as they kicked to the crowd pleaser, "Scream and Shout" by Brittany Spears and Will.i.am. Frequently, the Portette's football season consists of a strict kickline routine which aims to emulate the Rockettes. Though as the football season came to an end, the squad took their talents indoors and are currently performing a great half time show during varsity basketball half-times.

"During Basketball season, the squad is very influenced by the Knick City Dancers who put on a similar half time show," said Saidai.

This two minute and thirty second performance is performed to a homemade music mash-up which the captains developed on their own time.

"Our squad is extremely hard work-



Josh White

Juniors Annie Connors, Zoe Mankes, and Danielle Stalnaker stand together, preparing to kick as part of the Portettes routine at a boys varsity basketball game.

ing, disciplined and devoted to dance both in and out of school. The Portettes dedication is evident within every performance," said head coach Ms. Robin Cooper.

Additionally, in recent years the Portettes have provided a variety of choreography throughout the basketball season as the team's sophomores, juniors, and seniors have made up their own separate first and third quarter dances. These one minute routines not only give non captains the chance to experience what it is like to choreograph a routine, but also

learn the technicality behind creating their own original mix tapes.

'Getting the opportunity to create our own dance was a total learning experience. We [the sophomores] had to learn how to make up our own dance as opposed to simply following instructed choreography," said sophomore Harlee Tung.

The Portettes squad enjoyed yet another successful year of performing, and for the seniors, it will be one that is remembered.

Calling the Shots

BY Eric Fishbin

Sports Editor

As an era comes to an end, 2014 will be ushering in a new one. Some of the great athletes of our generation's time have come to an end. Although the sports world's greatest athletes are departing, some dancin' and prancin' new players are arising (thanks Clyde Frazier).

In the National Basketball Association (NBA), stars of the late 1990s and 2000s are entering the twilights of their careers. Four time NBA Finals champion, three time Finals MVP, and fourteen time all-star Tim Duncan has shown signs of fatigue in his 17th season in the NBA. After failing to win his fifth Larry O'Brien Trophy against the Miami Heat dynasty last year, his points per game have dropped from his career average of 20.0 to 14.6. As one star dims, another brightens to fill the void. During only his second NBA season, Anthony Davis of the New Orleans Pelicans has wrested the title of most dominant big man in the league from Duncan. After playing at University of Kentucky, Davis is averaging nearly 20 points and 11 rebounds per contest. Already a member of the national United States basketball team, Davis has become more than just the NBA's most unibrowed player.

Duncan is not the only legend heading out of the Association. Acclaimed Canadian point guard Steve Nash is a shell of his former self. Expected to retire following this season, the former Phoenix Suns player, and two-time MVP of the league will hang up the jersey as a Los Angeles Laker. Yet, once again, there is a new player to take his place. Out of Weber State, Damian Lillard of the Portland Trail Blazers has already made his mark in the league by leading the formerly defunct Portland Trailblazers to a 30-9 record and a second seed in the Western Conference playoff bracket. Laker legend Kobe Bryant even encouraged NBA fans to vote for Lillard over him in the All-Star game. Known for his shooting prowess, Lillard is posting close to 22 points and 6 assists a game. In a few years time, expect this

New era of all stars emerge in sports for 2014

point guard to be one of the top players in the Association.

An exciting new generation is taking over the NBA, but it is definitely not the only sport that this is currently happening. In the National Football League (NFL), the quarterback controls a team's outcome. Peyton Manning, of the Denver Broncos, is the best at controlling a game in the league. Despite several severe surgeries, Peyton showed his resilience and is in a position to win his second Super Bowl. The 16 year vet is expected to retire within two years (at least there's still Eli). Although the game will miss him, the quarterback driven NFL will get a taste of the new generation of dual threat

quarterbacks in the NFC Championship game. Russell Wilson of the Seahawks and Colin Kaepernick of the 49ers have helped rescue their teams from mediocrity experienced just a few seasons ago. For the Seahawks, Wilson and co. are hoping to win their first Super Bowl in franchise history. In its 38 years of existence, the second year QB, along with a top defense, and the "12th Man" of CenturyLink Field will try and make history. The former Wisconsin Badger has great mobility, and is one of the most athletic players in the league. Drafted to the MLB and NFL, the under-sized Wilson will try and prove his doubters wrong. For the other team in the NFC Championship game, Colin Kaepernick has proved himself after taking over the 49ers over Alex Smith last season. The monster athlete has shown his ability to throw the long ball, and make plays in the open field. Russell Wilson and the Seattle Seahawks will face off against the old guard of Peyton Manning in the Super Bowl this year at Metlife Stadium. In a quarterback driven league, the emergence of capable replacements for all-time greats cannot be understated.

The trend follows in the MLB. In wake of the Alex Rodriguez scandal, and during the offseason, some fans might forget about the success of the young and talented Mike Trout. Only in his second year in the Majors, Trout has been selected to two all-star games, and he won the AL Rookie of the Year Award in 2012. Trout's statistics tell it all. The versatile, 5-tool player led the AL in runs scored, stolen bases, walks, and he also won the 2012 Heart and Hustle Award. On and off the field, Trout has proved to be one of the game's best players, and he is only entering his third year. The 2012 and 2013 MLB Player of the Year winner has made baseball fans forget about aging players like Ichiro Suzuki and Miguel Tejada. Along with Trout, Washington Nationals pitcher Stephen Strasburg has already climbed to the top of the list of baseball's best starting pitchers. At 25 years old, Strasburg has been an all-star and recorded a Nationals record for most strike outs in a major league debut (14). The first overall pick in the 2009 draft has made his mark in the league, and is contributing to ushering out pitchers such as Johan Santana and Roy Oswalt. Strasburg should be in consideration for the Cy Young Award if he

can manage to stay healthy.

These three main sports in the United States are excited and ready for the new emerging stars. Despite us being ready for the new talent, many of us will yearn for the games between Manning and Brady and the days where Kobe could post 45 on any given night or Duncan putting up 20 and 20. Sports fans around the country seem ready for the thrilling games ahead



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Quarterbacks Peyton Manning of the Denver Broncos and Russell Wilson of the Seattle Seahawks shake hands after a preseason matchup between the teams on Aug. 13, 2013. The two teams will face off in Super Bowl XLVII this year, at Metlife Stadium on Feb. 2, 2014.

Coaches' Call: Schreiber coaches predict outcome of Super Bowl XLVIII

Mr. Kevin Braddish, Girls Varsity Bowling	Mr. Anthony Schettino, Boys Varsity Wrestling	Mr. Sean Dooley, Boys Varsity Basketball	Mr. Joe Del Gais, Boys Bowling	Mr. Matthew Spier, Boys Football
Seattle Seahawks over Denver Broncos	Seattle Seahawks over Denver Broncos	Denver Broncos over Seattle Seahawks	Seattle Seahawks over Denver Broncos	Seattle Seahawks over Denver Broncos
"Seahawks win 21-10 because they have the number one defense. Peyton's past history in the playoffs says that he will throw a lot of picks. That combo results in a Seahawks win."	"The Seahawks secondary and run defense could be the difference. Manning is a pocket passer and he should receive pressure in the pocket from an athletic defense. I think they win 28-24."	"I think Seattle will beat the 49ers at home, but then won't be as tough playing at a neutral site. Denver's offense will score just enough to beat Seattle, 28-24."	"Although Peyton is on a mission to get his second Super Bowl, Seattle is the stronger defensive team, and defense wins championships. Seattle's secondary will end up being the difference."	"The saying goes that defense wins championships. Because of this, I think that Richard Sherman and the Seahawks will beat Peyton's Broncos in Super Bowl XLVIII. Seattle beats Denver."



Lady Vikings look to improve as season progresses

Girls varsity basketball team hopes to break .500 and make a playoff push

BY Kyle Cohen

On Jan. 11, the girls varsity basketball team faced the MacArthur Generals. After the 1st quarter, the Vikings jumped out to an 11-8 lead. Leading the scoring for the quarter was senior Maddie Omeltchenko.

The staunch Lady Vikings' defense held MacArthur to a mere three points in the second quarter, while posting 10 points of their own to end the half with a 21-11 lead.

The MacArthur Generals then started the second half with a 13-6 run. By the end of the 3rd, the Lady Vikings lead had dwindled to a mere three points at 27-24.

After a high scoring fourth quarter, the Lady Vikings came up on top, winning the game 43-40.

Senior captain Emma Nadel made two free throws down the stretch with 6 seconds remaining to help ice the game.

Omeltchenko posted her first career double-double, with 11 points and 10 rebounds.

The Lady Vikings improved to a conference record of 2-3, along with an overall record of 5-5.

Led by coaches Mr. Dennis Trottier and Ms. Kristina Shackel-Wood, they have had an up-and-down season thus far. After winning their first two games, they proceeded to lose two, win two, and finally lose three and win one.

"The team fought back with hard work, and sticking to the game plan," said coach Shakel-Wood.

Wins have come over Wheatley, Clark, Mineola, East Meadow and MacArthur, and losses have come at the hands of Friends Academy, Mepham, Hicksville, Valley Stream Central, and Baldwin.

Their 2-3 conference record places them in seventh in the conference stand-

'The seniors and captains just set the bar for our team. They are good at always pulling through for us and being real leaders," said junior Gabby Friedman.

The team captains are Nadel and senior Megan Murphy.

'They are leaders on and off the court, and well respected by their teammates. They have set good examples for the team, along with keeping a positive attitude, even in tough times," said coach Shackel-

Both of the captains have experience on the team, and have previously played for a couple of years under the coaching

There are many things that teams do to help get through a stretch such as the three game skid that the Lady Vikings experienced before the MacArthur game.

The coaches and leaders of the team contribute by keeping its confidence up and pushing harder every practice and

'We try not to let it get to us and use the close losses as motivation to work harder and play better," said Friedman.

The fact that the Lady Vikings lost three crucial games in a row, but were able to come back and win a very close game with MacArthur, can speak volumes about the team and its resiliency.

'We take it day by day. Win or lose we know that our team is our family. Each time we step on the court we expect to grow and get better," said junior Anna Ca-

After the losing streak, it was vital for the Lady Vikings to pull out a win in a close game against conference rival Ma-



Senior Maddie Omeltchenko sets herself up to shoot a free throw against the MacArthur Generals on Jan. 11. The Lady Vikings went on to win the game 43-40, increasing their record to 5-5.

cArthur. At 2-3, there is still a chance to compete for a playoff spot.



Josh White

The Lady Vikings huddle up to discuss the game plan for the second half of its game against MacArthur on Jan. 11. The Lady Vikings' game plan was to better its defense, and it paid off, as the team won the game.

With upcoming games against Plainview, East Meadow, and Hicksville, the team is primed to make a playoff run.

"We want to push the ball up the court, so daily conditioning is critical. We are also concentrating on our free throws; those can really make or break the outcome of a game," said coach Shackel-

Often times, basketball teams become a one-person show. Teams have their one really good player that they give the ball to, and sometimes they rarely pass. Teammates often begin to resent each other. They do not truly play as a team.

However, that is not the case with the Lady Vikings. The team plays and wins together, always sharing the ball.

"When we win it's because we all play together as a team, not because of one single person. We all love to share the ball and when everybody is involved we play well and have fun," said Friedman.

The Lady Vikings previously beat East Meadow and their last game against Hicksville was competitive, so history dictates that their next two games are winnable.

If the girls escape this stretch with three straight wins, the Lady Vikings could potentially stand at a record of 5-3 in the conference, with a greater chance of a playoff berth.

All stats are as of Monday, Jan. 20.