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THE SCHREIBER TIMES

Paul D. Schreiber High School Port Washington, New York Volume LXXXV No. 6 February 2015



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Junior and AP Digital Photography student Juliette Vasquez took this photo on her trip to Thailand. She used the concept of repetition to compose this photo.

NEWS BRIEFS

Hallway Signs

Following the end of midterm week, new signs were installed throughout Schreiber's hallways. Strategically located near department offices and major intersections, the hallway signs are a new development to improve Schreiber.

The idea originated four years ago at a meeting run by the Emergency Preparedness Committee. A member of the committee proposed the plan after getting lost at a Schreiber Open House and noted that the lack of signs may be a potential hazard during an emergency.

"When you're here, and you've been a student for a while, you know where things are, but when we have visitors, they often get lost," said Assistant Principal Ms. Julie Torres.

Assistant Principal Mr. David Miller accepted the recommendation. Because the new signs had to match existing ones, the signs cost roughly \$2000. As a result of more pressing budget matters, the hallway signs were pushed aside until this past September.

"Mr. Pernick came to me and asked me about these signs, and I said 'Well, I put together a plan,' and he said 'I think we can work together to get the money,'" said Mr. Miller.

The project was funded by the district's Building and Grounds' budget as well as previously allocated money. These new signs have been met with widespread approval. The new installations may aid incoming freshman in assimilating to Schreiber more quickly.

"I think that the new signs are a great addition," said freshman Rebecca Muratore. "Now, it will be easier for visitors or new students to find their way around the school when they first arrive."

~ Adi Levin and Sherry Shi

PSEG suing Town of North Hempstead

Last Thursday, PSEG Long Island and LIPA filed a lawsuit against the Town of North Hempstead, and are looking to block an ordinance issued in 2014 because they feel it violates the company's First Amendment rights.

This ordinance, which was first put into effect in September, requires utilities to post warning signs on utility poles treated with pentachlorophenol, or penta.

Although this chemical is considered to be harmful, it has been approved by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency to preserve wood. According to PSEG, the chemical can help to extend the life of

these utility poles approximately twenty times as long as those left untreated.

"The preservation of the poles is important, but the safety of people is supreme," said junior Kayla Shafkowitz.

PSEG and LIPA feel the requirement of these warning signs are unfair since they have not been proven to be true. In response to these companies' arguments, the U.S Environmental Protection Agency says that long-term inhalation can have a harmful effect on a person's respiratory tract, blood, kidney, liver, immune system, eyes, nose, and skin.

"We are confident that it is legal to require PSEG to warn town residents about the hazards of touching penta-treated poles when they put the exact same warning on their website," said Elizabeth Botwin, attorney for the Town of North Hempstead.

~ Katie McDermott

Correction: The Febuary issue did not correctly state the authors for "Midterm help evetns" and "New AP Capstone program under consideration." The first article was by Maxwell Silverstein and the second was by Carolyn Blunberg.

www.theschreibertimes.com

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Hakeem Rahim shares his struggle with mental illness

BY **Tori Finkle and Jesse Moskowitz**

Staff Writers

Mental illnesses severely affect approximately 20 percent of teenagers in America. On Feb. 10, youth mental health speaker Hakeem Rahim spoke about his experiences with mental illness to the freshman class.

“His story was touching. It helped me realize what a mental illness can really do to someone,” said freshman Allie Chase.

Mr. Rahim was brought to Schreiber by junior Bart Fuchs and Health teacher Ms. Pat Kosiba. Two years ago, Fuchs and Ms. Kosiba attended Mr. Rahim’s presentation at Jericho High School and knew they wanted to bring him here. They spoke with him after his presentation and eventually made plans for him to visit.

Mr. Rahim was valedictorian of his high school class and went on to study at Harvard University. When he was nineteen years old, he was diagnosed with bipolar disorder. Bipolar disorder is an illness that causes severe shifts in mood and energy levels, making it difficult to carrying out daily activities. These mood shifts are different from normal ups and downs; they are severe. In certain cases, a person with bipolar disorder may have hallucinations or hear voices.

Mr. Rahim has experienced these symptoms and spoke about the process he went through to discover he had bipolar disorder.

“When I was feeling down, I would sleep for eighteen hours at a time, yet when I was feeling up, I would stay awake most of the night and write poetry,” said Mr. Rahim. “At this point, I felt like I was literally bouncing off the walls.”

One night, Rahim went out with his friends and began to feel claustrophobic. This discomfort and claustrophobia were Mr. Rahim’s first signs of a panic attack, a symptom of bipolar disorder. Within that week, Mr. Rahim’s symptoms intensified.

He began to see people that were not there and often became overly excited over simple things. His friends were concerned about his behavior. They continued to question his actions, concerned about the state of his health.

A week or two later Mr. Rahim reached an ultimate low point in his developing depression. His concerned roommate called his parents and asked them to address the issue. Rahim’s parents took him back home and immediately admitted him to the hospital. There he was tested for a multitude of mental illnesses. The test results revealed that Mr. Rahim had bipolar depression. All throughout the first month of Mr. Rahim’s college experience, he had been suffering the high points and low points of his bipolar disorder.

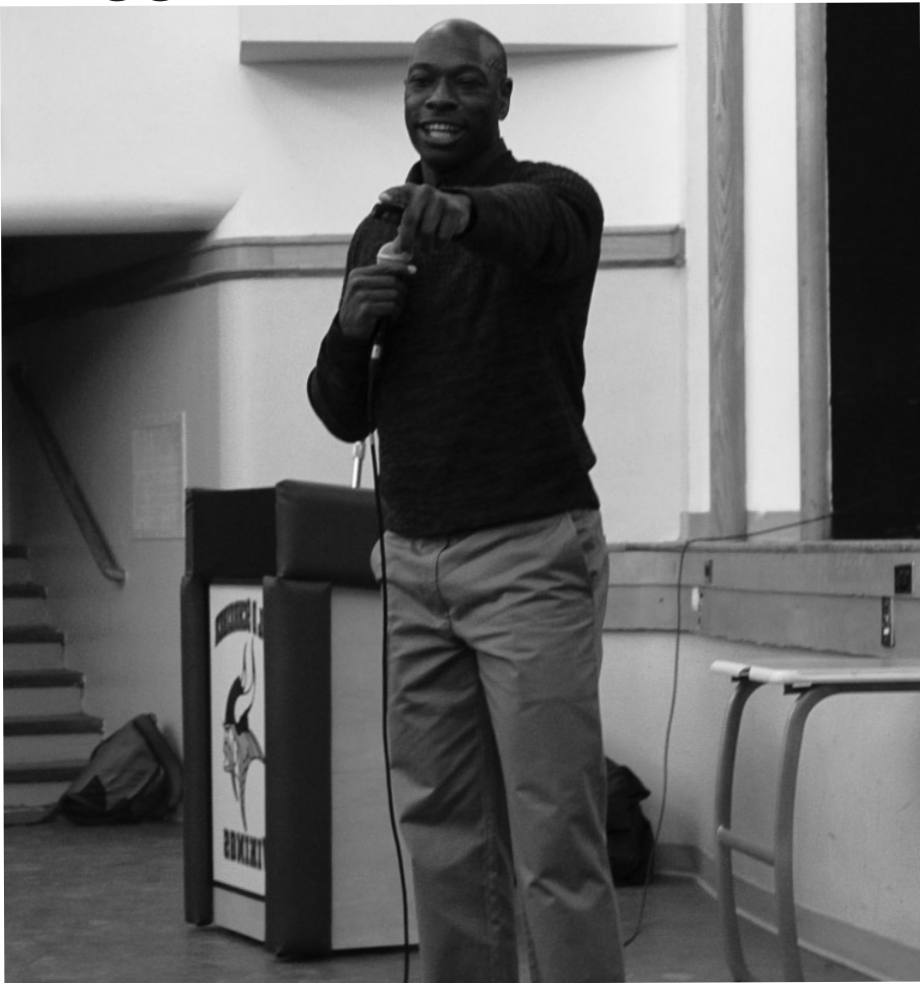
When Mr. Rahim was diagnosed, he decided to take the year off from school to focus on his illness. It was a difficult situation to overcome and Mr. Rahim took the issue seriously. He was jumping off the walls, yet also felt cold and trapped. Rahim was treated at the hospital and prescribed medication to control his symptoms.

For many years, Mr. Rahim’s story was private while he focused on getting through his difficulties.

“The biggest challenge I faced getting to where I am now was openly acknowledging my mental illness,” said Mr. Rahim.

He eventually went back to school to get a master’s degree in psychology and a degree in motivational speaking. His experience inspired him to speak out and educate others about his disorder.

His journey inspired him to devote his life to speaking about mental illness, hoping to make a difference. In order to do so, he began to speak to young adults, informing them on the severity of mental illnesses. Mr. Rahim felt it was important that people of all ages are educated about these disorders.



Sean Lui

Motivational speaker Hakeem Rahim describes his struggle with bipolar disorder. He addressed the freshman class about mental illness in the auditorium on Feb. 10. Rahim thinks it is important to educate adolescents on mental illnesses as it played such a huge role in his life.

“It was amazing how much he suffered for a period of time without knowing what he was suffering from. I was so touched that he was able to tell his story to people around the country,” said freshman Stevie Weingard.

There are over two hundred mental illnesses that millions of Americans alone suffer from. Fortunately, there are medications to help prevent many of their symptoms from interfering with one’s life.

“Mr. Rahim’s message was effective in not only showing the ninth grade class how dangerous mental illnesses can be to one’s life, but also giving us hope that people suffering from such illnesses do have a future despite their disability,” said freshman Drew Reiter.

Daly STEM Night promotes early STEM education

Schreiber and Weber students exhibit interactive presentations to elementary students

by **Madeline Fagen**

News Editor

Although recent findings publicized by the National Math and Science Initiative suggest a dearth of STEM education in the United States, Port Washington’s interest in and dedication to STEM education is thriving. On Feb. 10, Daly Elementary School held a STEM night to promote education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

“The goals of this event were to have Daly families come together with fun STEM-related activities, allow happy, engaged students who love learning about and doing STEM to be further exposed to the field, and make parents feel involved with their children and Daly,” said Ms. Adrienne Saur, AGATE co-president and event coordinator.

Planning for the event began in the early fall with outreach to Schreiber and Weber clubs and organizations, Daly parents, and outside organizations to find people who were interested in sharing their knowledge of STEM.

“I had reached out to the different Schreiber groups that were involved with STEM,” said Ms. Saur. “Mr. Schaefer

volunteered the Robotics Club and 3D printing class, while Ms. Gallagher said that the math research students were excited about participating.”

Schreiber students were excited to participate to help introduce elementary school students to STEM and help them understand the field.

“Elementary school students are only just beginning to learn the core concepts they need to be successful in STEM, and it is easy to become disillusioned if you can’t see the important and fascinating ideas that these basic concepts can unlock,” said senior math research student Chris Wilson.

The evening was designed to be like a science fair or exposition where attendees could wander around at their own pace to check out different stations.

A wide variety of stations were present at Daly’s STEM Night. The NY Paleontological Society came with an Apatosaurus vertabrae, a cave bear scapula, and other fossils as well as some free fossils for students to take home including shark teeth and dinosaur bone fragments. The NY Entomological Society brought live and preserved insects and arachnids, including tarantulas, scorpions, black widow spiders, Manduca

caterpillars, and Madagascan Hissing Cockroaches. They additionally handed out protein bars and chocolate chip cookies made with crickets and roasted mealworms. The Weber Technology Department recruited 30 middle school students to let attendees record green screen videos, race air powered dragster cars, launch straw rockets, and design the slowest roller coasters possible. Daly parents had stations on orthopaedics, the human digestive system, paper airplane construction, water conservation, and building structures out of marshmallows, toothpicks, and spaghetti.

Various Schreiber clubs and classes were also represented at the event. The Robotics Club brought one of its robots which they let attendees control.

“I presented some demos of a lego mindstorm robot,” said junior math research student Asena Ulug. “The kids seemed to enjoy playing with the robot and some even wrote a program to make the robot do different things.”

Junior math research students presented some of their research and did math puzzles and experiments with attendees.

“We had dry ice, showed them what it did, how it interacted with water, and

explained the concept of sublimating solids,” said Wilson. “The general impression I got was that they thought it was cool, and they had a lot of fun playing with the substance.”

Schreiber’s 3D printing students brought samples of their work on display and explained the 3D printing process.

Students and parents were intrigued by the presentations made by Schreiber students and individuals from outside organizations.

“STEM Night was just amazing,” said parent Ms. Tonya Romero. “From seeing a 3D printer in action to controlling a robot to racing cars, every area opened the eyes of my children to something different. It was a night they still enjoy talking about and relate to their everyday lives. We can’t wait to be part of it again.”

Those involved hope to make Daly’s STEM Night an annual event in which Schreiber students can participate.

“We’re talking to the other elementary schools about making it a district-wide event next year and hope that more students from Schreiber will present,” said Ms. Saur. “Seeing older students’ passion for STEM and sharing their knowledge is one of the best ways to get younger students excited.”

The Herren Project comes to Schreiber

BY **Tori Finkle and Jesse Moskowitz**

Staff Writers

After visiting on Dec. 10, sharing his story about his drug addiction and recovery, and reaching the hearts of many Schreiber students, former NBA player Mr. Chris Herren has returned to Schreiber to help spread the Herren Project's message throughout the school.

The Herren Project was founded by Chris Herren, a recovered drug addict, in order to provide assistance for those in seeking sobriety, or in need of education assistance and awareness.

Schreiber students decided to get involved because of Mr. Herren's speech. Sophomore Ryan Perlman was one of the leaders in starting the project at Schreiber.

"The Herren Project is used to promote sobriety and educated the youth. Herren's story was so moving that I, along with other members of the Letter Club, decided to bring this project to our school," said Perlman. "We hope to reduce the amount of teens that do drugs and to provide teens with the support they need to fix their problems without turning to drugs."

In addition, the goal is to provide effective treatment and support centers for those suffering from addiction, and educate youth in order to prevent the start of drug use. Mr. Herren believes that insecurities are a primary factor in prompting drug abuse, and that increasing self-confidence will help solve the problem.

The Letter Club is bringing awareness to the school by hanging up signed purple hearts around the gym and putting flyers

in the hallways. These purple hearts and flyers symbolize sobriety, recovery, self-confidence, and are inspired by Mr. Herren's foundation, Project Purple.

Project Purple was created in 2011 after one of Mr. Herren's speeches at a high school. In the front row of the assembly, a group of students was wearing purple shirts. At the end of the assembly one of the students said, "Thank you Mr. Herren for validating what we do. We are the sober students of this high school and each year we take a pledge to not use drugs or alcohol." These students inspired Mr. Herren to continue making a difference and ultimately to create Project Purple.

Sophomore Lizzie Witkow explained the motivation behind Project Purple.

"The Letter Club decided to work with Chris Herren's Project Purple campaign in order to promote a drug free atmosphere amongst Schreiber students, especially for athletes," said Witkow.

The Safety and Substance Abuse Task Force was able to get Mr. Herren to speak to the students through a grant of \$25,000 from Senator Mr. Jack Martins. The co-chairs of the task force are athletic director Ms. Stephanie Joannon and school board president Ms. Karen Sloan, and they helped bring Mr. Herren to the school.

"He was different then most speakers we have had in the past because he seemed to catch the attention of many Schreiber students," said Ms. Sloan.

At the assembly, he explained how his drug abuse started with casual drinking with friends, an activity common among Schreiber students.

"The assembly was a big reality check for a lot of students," said Junior Emma



Courtesy of Portnet

Students filled out purple hearts that were displayed around the school in order to show their support of remaining drug-free.

Feldman. "It provided them with the mindset they needed to prevent drug abuse, improve decision-making, and get help for others in need. This mindset led to our involvement in project purple. Collectively, the Letter Club is advocating the expansion of this mindset. Since students all around the school were intrigued by this assembly, the club had a strong support system to carry out Herren Project."

The Letter Club hopes the Herren Project will actively inspire students around our school to pledge sobriety and to continue spreading this message to other teens across the country. The Herren Project intends to save or help at

least one student in every school where Mr. Herren speaks.

"Letter Club hopes that our school will take to heart Chris Herren's message that being yourself is good enough and that you don't need substances in order to have a good time," said Sophomore Andrew Gottfried. "If you feel like you need a substance in order to change, then you must address that issue in order to live a substance-free, healthy lifestyle."

Expanding on that message, many students have signed purple hearts that, below their names, say 'Good enough. Proud.'

Science Olympiad moves on after placing at Regionals

BY **Emily Ma and Rebecca Muratore**

Staff Writers

The Science Olympiad team recently qualified for States after coming in seventh place in the Nassau West Regional division. The competition was held at Kellenberg Memorial High School on Jan. 31. Schreiber competed against 33 other schools. In total, the team won nine medals out of the 21 events they entered.

"This year we placed seventh in Regionals so we are going to states for the second year in a row," said junior and Science Olympiad member Andrew Gruber. "After States would be the National Tournament, but it is extremely difficult to qualify for that."

In total, the team scored 174 points, medaling in Air Trajectory, Chemistry Lab, Disease Detectives, Dynamic Planet, Entomology, Forensics, It's About Time, Green Generation, and Write it Do it. These events include both technology and study events.

"Study events are just tests in a specific area of science," said Gruber. "In tech events, we build structures and test them."

Depending on how well students score in an individual event, they are ranked against other competing teams. That ranking determines who medals in each event, as well as the final score for the team. Ultimately, the team with the lowest overall score wins the competition.

The Science Olympiad team began practicing weeks before the regional competition. Although they formally met after school to prepare, many students studied information or built



Courtesy of Sabina Unni

Left to right: Mr. Carmody, junior Zareen Johnson, senior Chris Wilson, Ms. Ezratty, seniors Lena Kogan, Sabina Unni, Stacy Kim, Andrew Costenoble, Crystal Ren, juniors Tiger Gao, Zach Hage, senior Chris Bendix, juniors Joe Pizzuti, Dylan Lee, and Raj Talukdar form the winning Science Olympiad team.

models outside of school. Now that the team has moved onto States, they are practicing after school every day except for Wednesdays. The team has 15 members along with two alternates. Each event requires a team of either two or three students to work on it, giving each member about two to three events to compete in for each competition.

"Everyone gets along with each other and seems to enjoy their events, which makes the experience on the team fun and positive," stated junior Annie Kline.

The team members practice for their events in a number of ways. Most of the events require studying, so the students turn to multiple resources to help them

prepare. Practice tests in events from previous years as well as resource books in the varying subject areas help the students practice for information-based events. Some areas of study, such as entomology, require identification skills for their tests, so the students practice identifying the types of specimens that will be in the event.

This was one of the most successful years for the team at Regionals.

"This was one of our better Regionals for medals," said team advisor and science teacher Ms. Marla Ezratty. "Usually we don't get a huge number of medals, but we always figure in eighth, ninth, or tenth place. As long as you stay in that range

you'll have a pretty good score overall."

The technology events involve building structures and devices before the competition that will accomplish a required task. For an example, in Bridge Building, the team must build the lightest bridge that would also hold the most weight. On the other hand, Mission Possible requires teams to construct a Rube Goldberg device that carries out a series of chain reactions as close to an ideal time as possible.

If the team ranks high enough at States, they will move onto the national level of competition.

"While it would be very nice, the difference is that for a lot of the schools that win, Science Olympiad is part of their actual courses," said team advisor Mr. Carmody of the science department. "For our members, most of them are taking AP classes and participating in multiple clubs, so they are stretched thin. Schools that focus on Science Olympiad have an advantage."

Despite this disadvantage, the team puts its all into preparing for every competition.

"After the seniors left last year, we weren't sure how we would be able to pull together a team, but somehow we were able to make states," said senior Lena Kogan. "I think one of our main goals remains to be able to gather a foundation of members that will be able to hold up the team after we graduate as well."

"Well, I really enjoy the challenge of trying something outside of what we normally do in school," said senior Andrew Costenoble. "And I'm so proud of the team for making it to States."

Driving Excellence causes controversy with certificates

School threatened to revoke many certificates, DMV addressing issue case by case

BY Tessa Peierls
Assistant News Editor

A controversy erupted in December surrounding several Schreiber students taking driver’s education courses outside of Schreiber.

In past years, students have taken driver’s education through Driving Excellence, a company associated with Portledge School, rather than through Bell Auto Driving School. However, this year several students did not receive certificates of completion upon finishing the course.

“I was really annoyed since I took the time out of my summer to finish Driver’s Ed,” said junior Elana Isreal. “I also took my road test and passed so I had my juniors lisense when I got the letter saying my Drivers Ed was invalid.”

Mr. Roy Shepard, the owner of Driving Excellence, sent in forms to get his students’ certificates. Out of the ones who submitted for a certificate, 99 students were rejected by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

The DMV’s reasoning was that there was not proper proof that these students had completed the mandatory program that the state requires for students to receive the insurance deduction and earlier license.

Junior Elana Israel explained why she

chose Driving Excellence over the program offered through Schreiber.

“I chose the company because you can choose your own times and I knew of a lot of people who had used them before,” said Israel. “During driver’s education, I loved the company so much.”

The revocation spurred controversy that got students, parents, lawyers, and state officials involved in court. Their goal was to try to get students their certificates without having to retake the class. Lawyer Mr. Arnie Herz explained the concerns of the DMV.

“DMV has a legitimate concern and mandate to ensure that only properly educated drivers get licenses,” said Mr. Herz. “They already know that at least one kid received a Certificate of Completion of Driver’s Ed that never took the course. They need some level of comfort and proof that your child did fulfill the driver’s ed requirements.”

Although some students had not taken their driving exam yet and just had their certificates revoked, other students were in danger of losing their junior licenses. Israel spoke of her annoyance with the situation.

“I was really annoyed since I took the time out of my summer to finish Driver’s Ed,” said Israel. “I also took my road test and passed so I had my juniors license when I got the letter saying my Drivers Ed was invalid”

One of the parents’ goals was to halt the license revocation process. Students like Israel had already received their junior licenses, and parents wanted to sort out the issue before any final decisions were made.

However, some options are being looked into by Driving Excellence and the DMV in order to legally restore the certificates. One considered possibility was to have the students take a condensed session of “make-up” classes.

Assemblywoman Michelle Schimmel



Josh White

Senior Brandon Carla is pictured taking drivers education through Bell Auto Driving School, which is the school that works through Schreiber.

also worked on resolving the issue, and to make sure that those who completed the course receive their certificates. Israel responded early to the situation.

“I will either have to retake driver’s ed my junior year, which is why I took it over the summer, or wait until I’m 18 to get my license,” said Israel. “There are also some people fighting for people to get their certificates so there’s still a chance that I might receive mine.”

As of now, each student is being evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Most students have had their Drivers Ed certificates restored, but several evaluations are still ongoing.

THIS MONTH IN SCHREIBER HISTORY

February 20, 1929

The school offered a show called “Wonders of Electricity” that featured an alarm clock, electrical fire works, and a monorail car, all for 25 cents.

February 14, 1962

Schreiber’s Delta fraternity was admonished by the administration for forcing students who wanted to be initiated to call all members ‘sir,’ and to propose to random girls in the hall.

February 5, 1969

A program discussing the “pro’s and con’s of the black man’s life” attracted the “Black students of the school and a few Whites.” The program ended with the song, “Tell Me Why You Treat Me So Bad.”

February 14, 1990

Students published romantic notes in the paper to their significant others, including, “Was Freud Right?” and, “You got an A+ for the first marking period of our love- keep up the good work.”

February 12, 1993

A ringworm epidemic spread through the varsity wrestling team, causing the team to cancel several matches.

February 27, 2004

Teachers put on the second annual Faculty Talent Show, hosted by Mr. Jeremy Klaff and featuring an eating contest and a boxing match won by Mr. Petro Macrigiane.

Students progress to second round of LISEF

BY Andrew Adelhardt
Staff Writer

On Feb. 23, students in Math and Science Research attended LISEF, the Long Island Science and Engineering Fair. These students had prepared projects during the summer with professional researchers who guided them through the process. The selection to have an opportunity to compete was a rigorous one, with over 25 eligible competitors at Schreiber, contestants had to be pared down to 13 of the best projects. After logging countless hours of laboratory research, writing research papers and displaying their findings on a tri-fold board, students had to present their projects to Ms. Marla Ezratty, Ms. Tina-Marie Gallagher and Mr. John Schineller, the research teachers of Schreiber.

“It is always pretty nerve racking presenting in front of your teacher, but especially so when you know that this person is judging you and a big decision will be made off that one presentation,” said junior competitor Carolyn Blumberg.

Students were chosen based upon

the strength and quality of their project, their presentation skills, and their overall enthusiasm for their project and attending LISEF. Projects ranged from studying cerebral spinal fluid to analyzing plant genes infected with disease. Thirteen of Schreiber’s students participated in round one and only five students moved to the second round. Juniors Carolyn Blumberg and Madeline Fagen, and seniors Sabina Unni, Sam Goldman and Chris Wilson will compete in round 2 on March 12. The amount of students who moved on is a testament to the difficulty of the competition.

Founded in 1986, Col. Charles Duggan founded LISEF in an effort to inspire Long Island student to excel in fields of math and science. As Long Island’s excellence and work in science and math has grown, the competition has increased exponentially. Approximately 550 students participated this year and 33% of students moved on.

“It’s a nice feeling to advance, and it’s definitely a testament to the work we do in research. But I think my goals are a little loftier than making it to the second day, and I know there’s still work to be done,” said Goldman.

Snow days create confusion during midterm week

BY Madi Reiter

Staff Writer

School districts across Long Island have been closing school due to dangerous weather conditions created by recent snowstorms. Despite the safety precautions taken, there have still been concerns amongst students and parents. Not only have these snow days, including the unusual chain of a delayed opening on Monday, no school on Tuesday, and a delayed opening on Wednesday during midterm week, caused confusion, but they have also sparked controversy.

The first major storm of the season fell during midterm week. As predictions for the storm worsened, administrators began to prepare for the possibility of a snow day.

"Snow day determination is something that comes from the superintendent," said Principal Mr. Ira Pernick. "I sometimes get a phone call from the superintendent letting me know that a snow day may happen based on the forecast. This call may come the night before or at 5:00 in the morning, depending on the nature of the storm. Dr. Mooney began discussing the midterm storm with the assistant principals and myself on Sunday."

Because this storm was arriving during midterm week, the decision to cancel school was especially complicated.

"We spoke about the possibilities," said Mr. Pernick. "It was supposed to be 30 inches of snow, so we were questioning how long we were going to be out of school for, what do we do if this happens, or if this happens, and so on."

Throughout the process, students were interested in finding out whether or not they would be having their exams on their intended dates.

"The snow was really distracting and made me worry if my midterms would be changed to a different date," said junior Sophie Lipstein.

Students voiced their concerns on social media, especially on Twitter. In anticipation for answers, students furiously tweeted @SchreiberPrin asking about the revised midterm schedule. However, many of the reply tweets expressed incon-

clusiveness. As a result of the administration's uncertainty, students were unsure of what to study and how much they had to study for a specific test.

"A number of different factors weighed on us when making this decision," said Mr. Pernick. "The uncertainty of the storm forced us to take a look at a number of different options. Because we didn't know how long we would be out of school at the beginning of the week, we first considered making up canceled midterms on Thursday and Friday. In this case we would be doing exactly what we wanted to avoid: over testing. We knew that we wanted the second semester to start on time."

A delayed opening was decided for that Monday, and decisions for the next few days were made thereafter.

"Before we were dismissed on Monday, I met with the department chairs and assistant principals and we discussed all of the different options and what would be the easiest thing for us to do," said Mr. Pernick. "Because there were so many questions about it, we thought the best solution was to drop out whatever we have to drop out, figure out what to do with the things that were missed, and leave everything else in place."

Eventually, the school sent out an e-mail to all parents, notifying everyone about the plan for updating the schedule. The e-mail stated, "Given the anticipated magnitude of this storm it is possible we will be out of school for even longer. Makeup exams and contingency plans have been developed and can be viewed below." The administration ruled that final exams for first semester classes would not take place. Therefore, course grades were determined based solely upon student efforts in the first and second quarters. In addition, qualifying exams, such as the Social Science Research Qualifying Exam and Science Research Qualifying Exam, were rescheduled to take place after school. School reopened Wed. Jan. 28 with a delayed opening, and tests on and following that day were given at the original day and time. The teachers whose midterms were canceled had to decide how they would handle the situation on their own. While some teachers decided



Josh White

Anticipated blizzard takes its toll on midterm week and creates scheduling problems. The photo shows the thick flurries piling in a students' backyard.

that students would take shortened versions of the tests when they returned to class, others decided to cancel their tests altogether.

"Although none of my midterms were altered, I felt that it was unfair that some students had canceled midterms while others still had to take them," said sophomore Mallory Winick. "It would have been better if all the teachers agreed on a final solution".

Although some might argue that the midterm scheduling was handled poorly, some commend administration for being cautious.

"I remember my mother being extremely nervous about driving under these conditions, even though she is a confident and experienced driver," said freshman Nealie Silverstein. "I don't blame the school for taking safety precautions, the administration was just trying

not to put anyone at risk of danger."

Regarding future snow days, the district has no more days off built into the calendar as of press time. There are a number of possibilities if another snow day is needed. Ultimately, the superintendent makes the decision. Dr. Kathleen Mooney would discuss possible decisions such as taking days from vacation with the school board, administrators, teachers, and parents.

"We understand that every solution to every problem isn't always elegant," said Mr. Pernick. "We're working with a lot of unknowns when it comes to snowstorms. All you can do is try to put together a system that makes sense. This situation doesn't occur often and could have been handled differently, but would it have been better or worse? Who knows?"

Programs suffer and are cut due to low budget

BY Jake Knatz

Assistant News Editor

While most schools usually only have Spanish, Italian, French and Latin as foreign language class choices, Schreiber is unique in which that it also offers three levels of Chinese. Mandarin is the most popular spoken language on Earth and is commonly used in the world of business. The program is an opportunity for students to start to learn the language. Unfortunately, due to budget cuts, the language will no longer be an option for students next year.

Mrs. Tiffany Fan has taught Chinese at Schreiber for four years. Ms. Fan used to work at Huntington High School in the morning, and at Schreiber in the afternoon. This year she resigned at Huntington to become a full-time teacher here at Schreiber. Current Chinese students are upset about the loss.

"It's terrible. Chinese is one of the most unique classes our school has too offer

and it is truly a shame that it will not be an option to students next year," said junior Daniel Ernst.

Senior and Chinese 1 student Jesse Epstein, was so displeased after hearing that the program would no longer be available next year that he spoke out about it at a Board of Education (BOE) meeting.

"I just felt compelled to say something. It really is such a great class. It's part of what makes our school so unique and it is truly a loss to Schreiber. Although I am a senior, I was angry because I feel that underclassmen should have the opportunity to take this class and be involved in the club," said Epstein. "The class is so important to me that I have now chosen to study Chinese next year in college. It was truly life-changing."

"It is unfortunate that this school district is discontinuing Chinese program," said Mrs. Fan. "One fifth of the planet speaks Chinese and China is the second largest economy in the world. I've heard so many good things from my former students who are in college now,

telling me how our Chinese program in Schreiber has helped them in their college-level Chinese class, and even gave them an advantage during college and job interviews."

The class is not the only thing compromised by the district's shrinking annual budget. Club funding has decreased, and this has begun to take a toll on the Drama Club, which is currently self-funded. The club usually puts on three shows a year, but due to a tight budget, is now only able to perform two.

"I want to see my peers and the younger students be able to pursue their passions in the same way we were. If they keep cutting programs like theater, it will hurt the growth of the very people this board is supposed to support," said senior Caitlin Ferris.

The annual budget cuts have also increased class sizes. Some classes have doubled, while others were completely cut. Senior and co-founder of the Student Union Party of Schreiber (SUPS) Christopher Wilson was particularly

concerned about the budget's potential impact on the research program.

"Merging by grade level would make the classes too big to succeed," said Wilson. "Merging the classes across research lines would also make the classes too big, and prevent students from having a choice in what they wish to study, and how they wish to study it," said Wilson.

Senior and fellow SUPS co-founder Josh Curtis agreed.

"Our school is known for being so good because we had a great research program, and great clubs," said Curtis. "This benefited all of our students. Unfortunately, many clubs have been losing funds for their activities. Meanwhile, class sizes have been obviously expanding, causing difficulty for non-lecture style teaching."

SUPS helped organize speeches at the latest BOE meeting. They assisted students who wanted to speak about problems at school prepare their speeches, and invited students to support their peers at the meeting.

Point Counterpoint

Should the school organize an underclassmen dance?

BY Shiraz Johnson & Rachel Bernstein

Contributing writers

Juniors have J-Prom and seniors have Gambol, so why can't underclassmen have a dance as well?

"High school is all about giving equal opportunities to every student," said freshman Mia Froccaro. "And I really believe that a dance is something that everyone could benefit from."

It is reasonable that underclassmen are entitled to the same kinds of events that older students get.

"Giving the underclassmen the privilege of a dance or formal is a great idea because it provides us with a chance to bond with other classmates in a new environment," said Froccaro.

Students want to make great memories with friends all four years of high school, not just during junior and senior years.

Dances are fun events for all grade levels, not just upperclassmen. Allowing freshmen and sophomores to have dances helps students become more involved in school activities, and feel more a part of Schreiber. Having a dance would be an enjoyable addition to the events that underclassmen can already participate in after school. It would help us, underclassmen, feel closer to our friends, as well as to students in the other grades.

"Dances give us the chance to forget about all of the pressure and schoolwork that would stress us out, and just have fun with our classmates for a night," said sophomore Mallory Winick. "I think that underclassmen definitely deserve that opportunity as well."

Underclassman dances would give underclassmen a sense of freedom.

The administration shared a similar opinion regarding underclassman dances, but commented on a few issues that may arise from it.

"I think a dance is a wonderful idea," said Principal Mr. Ira Pernick. "The challenge that the school has faced is getting students to attend."

Even if a dance is organized, there may not be enough underclassmen students willing to participate in it.

"A dance is a timelessly traditional school function, but we live in not-so-timeless age," said Mr. Pernick. "We live in a world where a lot of people connect with their friends virtually."

It is definitely evident that students are less eager to spend time with their classmates, and getting the underclassmen to go to the event is something that would need to be addressed.

If there ever were a dance that catered to the lower grades, many things would need to be taken into consideration. The junior and senior proms take a lot of funding and hard work. The various committees start raising money for the proms over a

year in advance and organize the dance months before the event. Because of this, it may be useful to have one dance or formal for all of the underclassmen instead of one for freshmen and one for sophomores. This could also help bridge gaps between the two grades. Having a dance together could bring the freshmen and sophomores closer, and may help people in different grades get to know each other.

Another thing that has to be addressed when considering an underclassman dance is timing. Towards the end of the year, there is a lot of chaos. With both upperclassmen proms, graduation, and finals at nearly the same time in late June, it would take careful planning to add the new prom into the mix.

To combat this schedule-related issue, it may be easier to host the hypothetical underclassman dance in the winter. Selling tickets is another factor that needs to be taken into consideration. As previously stated, many kids would rather be enjoying their time alone with their friend groups than attending a dance at school. In order to persuade people to attend, there would have to be a committee to plan and coordinate this event, and possibly create a theme to attract students.

Creating a dance for the underclassmen and giving them equal opportunity may take a lot of hard work, but many, even upperclassmen, believe that it would be worth it.

"Underclassmen should have the opportunity to go to school dances made specifically for them," said senior Jennifer Bernstein. "They give you something to look forward to, and the ability to let go for a night."

Many people, including upperclassmen and administrators, agree that giving the underclassmen a dance could be beneficial. Who knows? Maybe in a few years the freshmen and sophomores will be attending the first annual Underclassman Prom.

BY Lena Kogan

Staff Writer

Every year, one of the biggest events for upperclassmen is prom. Prom season is always stressful, what with the scramble to find the perfect dress, and top the latest promposal. However, many students long await the tradition, and part of its magic is the fact that it is reserved for upperclassmen only. Of course, underclassmen are able to attend if a junior or senior takes them as their date, but it's still a custom reserved for upperclassmen.

"Reserving prom festivities for the upperclassmen makes the events more special, because then, as underclassmen, there is something more to look forward to," said senior Iliana Ioannides.

Last year, when there was talk of the Student Council organizing an underclassmen formal, students were worried that the formal would be too similar to the already existent Junior Prom and Senior Gambol.

"Are you kidding me? Ninth and tenth graders are still having sweet sixteens," said biology teacher Ms. Marla Ezratty. "I can't think of a good reason as to why they should have an excuse to have another party."

Many current upperclassmen have waited for two or three years to attend one of these events, and believe that having an event in their earlier years of high school might take away from the excitement of upperclassmen dances.

"I see it almost as a rite of passage of being a junior and senior that you get to have a prom," said senior Elizabeth Muratore. "I think if underclassmen also had a prom, the whole prom tradition would seem less special."

It's like having to wait until you turn 18 to donate blood and then being told that your 15-year-old sibling can donate now too. It's not only unfair; it's a health risk. Okay, maybe it's not exactly like that, but you get the idea.

Even some underclassmen see the idea of having a formal occasion simply as another unnecessary burden that they will have to worry about earlier on in their high school careers.

"It would spoil the anticipation and excitement of junior and senior prom," said sophomore Amelia Zeh. "It couldn't even compare to walking down the red carpet to the castle. Not to mention that the awkward underclassmen are still getting used to the school."

If you went to Weber, you might remember the infamous Six Mixes, and no one wants to see a repeat of that.

Furthermore, prom is not cheap. Even with the funding provided by the school, tickets still range close to \$100. If you factor in the price of dresses and suits and corsages and boutonnieres, Junior Prom and Gambol add up to be very pricey.

Spending that kind of money beginning in ninth grade might actually discourage people from attending dances by the time they are an upperclassmen. Not only is it expensive for the people attending, it is a financial burden for the school as well. Many clubs are already completely self-funded due to budget cuts, and it would not make sense to direct money toward funding another dance.

"With more and more clubs getting their budgets slashed, it seems wasteful to spend it on an event so many students seem opposed to," said senior Andrew Costenoble.

It would make much more sense to use the money on extracurriculars (or maybe tissues) rather than reallocating it to a new school event.

Some students also worry about what the underclassman dance could be titled.

"Since there are already two proms with different names, it would be absurd to have to name two more," said junior Evan Gilmore.



Zareen Johnson

The inconvenience of dropping classes

BY **Eli Lefcowitz**
Staff Writer

No one goes into a class expecting to drop it. Yet, for many, dropping a class becomes necessity instead of an option at some point in their high-school career. When the time comes, the process can be arduous and even humiliating. A competitive school, Schreiber has many students who challenge themselves with difficult classes and a heavy workload—almost 50 percent of sophomores, juniors, and seniors take at least one AP course.

Additionally, the majority of students participate in sports, extracurricular activities, or religious activities. Because of the magnitude of these undertakings, students can become overwhelmed. In order to lighten their load and focus on other subject areas, students may find it necessary to drop a class. One would think that, after enduring a difficult class, the process of dropping it would be a relief. Think again.

The dropping process begins with a trip to your guidance counselor from whom you retrieve “the drop slip.” Next, the student must visit their teacher, department head, parent, and assistant principal, collecting signatures at every stop. The bright yellow form is like an autograph book of your favorite movie stars, yet instead of meeting an actor you

must take time out of your day to talk to numerous members of Schreiber staff

“Why should I have to ask permission from so many people just to drop a class,” said a student who declined to be named. “Speaking to my assistant principal is definitely not going to change my mind about dropping a class.”

and show them the often abysmal grades you have received. The process can, at times, be degrading and embarrassing.

“Why should I have to ask permission from so many people just to drop a class,” said a student who declined to be named. “Speaking to my assistant principal is definitely not going to change my mind about dropping a class.”

The dropping process is unnecessarily long and involved. Why should we punish students who try to challenge themselves? If anything, this process will

only discourage students from exploring the many options at Schreiber.

According to the guidance department, the many steps are necessary for the well-being of the student body.

Dropping a class can “affect college choices, overall class sizes, and even the overall reconstruction of a student’s schedule,” said guidance director Mr. Hank Hardy. “Therefore the more interaction and discussion which take place before the change occurs is beneficial and warranted.”

Indeed, students may need to ponder their decision to drop, but talking to their teacher, parent, and guidance counselor should confirm or change their resolution. Many students rarely talk to their department head and assistant principal. They should not be a required part of the dropping process.

Granted, dropping a class does not need to be an enjoyable process. However, in its current state, the process is a nuisance for Schreiber students. The class dropping system can be reformed by removing some of the unnecessary safeguards, such as requiring a student to visit their assistant principal. Whenever someone decides to drop a class, they are already stressed out and inundated with work. The process of dropping should be simple enough to not overwhelm students further, yet still allow students to consider their decision.

Briefly summarized

BY **Sabina Unni**
Assistant Opinions Editor

President Vladimir Putin’s Russia is not a historical hub for humanitarian rights, but the murder of Boris Nemtsov still comes as a shock. Mr. Nemtsov, in prominent opposition to Putin’s policies, served as the deputy prime minister in the 1990s, and was planning on releasing a pamphlet about Russia’s involvement in the conflict with Ukraine before his death. Even though Putin is notorious for silencing criticism, this has been deemed the highest profile assassination in Putin’s Russia. American leaders and politicians, including President Barack Obama, have spoken out against this apparent act of silencing critics and have promoted a transparent and clear investigation of his assassination.

Mr. Nemtsov was a politician dedicated to fearlessly opposing the injustices of the Kremlin, often standing in poorly attended protests in the rain, just to support a cause and draw attention to human suffering. As a means of diffusing blame, there have been countless rumors spreading about the reasons for his death, including a claim that his own opposition party killed him. There have also been rumors of Islamic extremists and Ukrainian separatists committing the murder. This is similar to a Soviet style tactic in which officials spread rumors in order to confuse civilians and distract from the larger perpetrator.

That being said, it’s not hard to forget that on Feb. 20, a week before his death, he called Putin a “pathological liar” and provided unwavering criticism of the president.

To members of Parliament and government officials, this ushers in a new era of fear. Duma member Gennady Gudkov tweeted, “Mr. Nemtsov is dead. Who is next?”

In comparison to the events in the previous month, I ask myself, is this the year of censorship? It is barely March, and journalists Kenji Goto, Randa George, Dalia Marko, Musa Muhamed, Boutros Martin, Adam Juma, Bernard Maris, Georges Wolinski, Jean Cabut, Stephane Charbonnier, Bernard Verlhac, Elsa Cayat, Moustapha Ourrad, Philippe Honoré, Khaled al- Washli, and José Moisés Sánchez Cerezo were killed in Syria, South Sudan, France, Yemen, and Mexico.

The problems with censorship should not be trivialized—the *Interview*’s condemnation by hackers is merely the tip of the iceberg. The prevention of the spread of ideas and the centralization of one point of view is very harmful. Think of your least favorite politician or writer. If he or she had the sole ability to control information, what would happen? What if facts being presented were wrong?

Understanding what goes on, in government, in society, in our foreign affairs, is key to living in a critical world. I really want to live in a critical world, where we have the ability to criticize our government and aspects of life, and equally where we can provide others information to do so. The death of Boris Nemtsov should stand as a reminder; a reminder of the dangers of censorship, but simultaneously a reminder of how lucky we are to live in a country where we can be critical.

Jake’s take: the imprisonment of senior options

BY **Jake Arlow**
Staff Writer

Second semester has begun, and for all seniors this means that graduation, and therefore sweet freedom, is fast approaching. However, there is one remaining task that all of us must accomplish before this time arrives: senior experience. It’s something we hear about all throughout high school. Talk ranges from hushed rumors of awesome projects to the panic of not knowing what senior experience even is.

Although proposals were due a while ago, I thought I’d suggest some ideas for seniors who are a little late to the “party” (I use that word lightly), and for underclassmen, who are absolutely free to use my suggestions for their projects in the coming years. My first recommendation is one that requires not only fluency in hieroglyphics, but also a large breadth of knowledge of the history of space travel. I can sum it up in one word: aliens. Why are there crop circles? Were the ancient Egyptians skilled architects, or more plausibly, were they instructed by a superior extraterrestrial being? I would suggest choosing the late Alan F. Alford, notorious alien theorist, as your mentor if you embark on this project.

Not your cup of tea? Well here’s a project that a real (and currently living) Schreiber student is completing this year: “I’m working with Mr. Block and friends to make a movie of largish scale,” said senior Gabe Lyons. “We’re still early in the process, and will be developing it over the next few weeks.” Nothing can make a person feel inadequate like a peer making an actual movie.

Here’s another suggestion, though I must warn you, it is not for the faint of heart. While some students may settle

for shadowing their pediatrician or volunteering at a hospital, a truly great Senior Experienter (it is now a verb) will shadow a heart surgeon who is in the midst of performing emergency open heart surgery. Not only will the lifeblood of a dying human moisten your freshly donned scrubs, but you will also get real-world experience in anatomy, and learn how to better yourself in high-pressure situations, or at least that’s what you can write on your resume.

If your project is something along the lines of “sit on couch, write stuff down, have mentor sign papers,” you may need another suggestion, and luckily I have one. It’s an idea I call “Living Diorama.” We all know how exciting making a shoe box diorama of the Civil War can be—not exciting at all. That’s why this project is perfect. All you need are willing friends, costumes, a background, and some props. Pick your favorite moment in history (or in the future if you are psychic) and sketch a scene. Then, set the stage with props and your costumed friends, and have them stand there completely still for 4 or 5 hours while people mill around and gaze in wonder at your giant diorama. If one of the living prop pieces (a.k.a. your friend) has to go to

the bathroom, stare at them until the urge passes, because that would ruin the magic of your senior experience.

With these suggestions, and the inspiration from your peers, you will be able to create a dazzling and exciting senior experience. Then, and only then, will you be able to graduate high school and experience your life to the fullest.



Diego Espinoza

SchreiberSpeaks What is your favorite movie and why?



“Austenland is my favorite movie because it is goofy and very funny, just like me! And who doesn’t love a good laugh?”

~ Laynie Calderwood, senior



“The Dark Knight is the best movie. It takes a superhero story that tends to be overly optimistic and puts it in a much darker setting.”

~ Robert Jester, junior



“My favorite movie is *Monster’s University*. It’s an adorable flashback. It’s also a mixture of our childhood and where we’re going: to college.

~ Sarah DeMarino, sophomore



“Johnny Dangerously is not only very funny but also has great actors. It is one of the greatest spoof movies of all time.”

~ Mr. Joseph Lorge, guidance counselor



“One of my favorite movies is *Fight Club*. In the movie, they make soap and making soap is chemistry!”

~ Ms. Lindsay Di Fazio, chemistry teacher



“The best movie is *Star Wars* because it’s a western movie. It is a space western and is perfect in every way possible.”

~ Mr. George Muhlbauer, social studies teacher

Photos and reporting by Stacey Kim and Josh White, Opinions Editor and Photo Editor

A trimesters system: optimizing and promoting fun learning

BY Mikayla Hyman and Sabina Unni

Contributing Writer and Assistand Opinions Editor

Currently, Schreiber runs on a semester system in which most of the classes that students take are year-long, with a few exceptions including English classes or electives. The trimester system would cut the year into three equal units rather than two. This enforces a positive learning environment, where students are encouraged to take a greater variety of courses, and are able to learn in a more successful way.

There are always electives that students are interested in but don’t have room for; I have wanted to take pottery for the past four years, but unfortunately, due to the lack of sections, I have been unable to fit it into my schedule. The trimester system

would help to end that problem; I would end up with a pretty plate and everyone would be happy.

“I would love to take more classes, especially something like hunting or masonry,” said senior Jina Lay.

This allows students to enjoy school more and allow students to take classes that they have a genuine interest in. If I got pottery in my schedule, I would be a devoted and tireless potter. Take the example of college and higher level universities; when students are able to have increased freedom to choose their courses, they try harder and are more devoted.

“A wide breadth of classes has always been one of Schreiber’s staple attractions. I personally have benefited from the range and variety of courses Schreiber has to offer. I have met teachers I might

have otherwise never had the pleasure of learning with. Shout out to Doc Oc and basic psych,” said senior Sandra Riano.

Another positive aspect of this system is that each final or midterm (which would happen at the end of every semester for a year-long course) would be scheduled much earlier than with a two semester system. These finals and midterms would also occur more frequently.

“The trimester system allows for students to constantly keep on top of material from the year. The trimesters have a smaller amount of material on each individual test, because of the increased frequency, remembering the material for finals, Regents, or AP tests is much easier; it allows you more time to pull up averages,” said junior Andrew Gruber.

Firstly, this allows for easier memorization because of shorter courses.

Secondly, this promotes students to actually learn the subject material, rather than cramming before major tests. Cumulative review also allows students to incrementally revise and look over material and ensures that nothing gets left out of studying.

Students are also able to take shorter classes, so by nature they will have increased depth and intensity. For AP classes, breaking up the year into segments could promote a better learning system. More material could be covered, and the fact that tests are in May could be factored into the scheduling. Long breaks could be used to separate terms instead of dividing them. Students could get a break without needing to study, and teachers would get to use less red ink.

Editorials

Food allergy problems

Food allergies are very common; there are more than 3 million cases in the United States every year. At school, many students who come into contact with or are in the presence of tree nuts, peanuts, shellfish, seafood, a variety of fruits, dairy, and other products can be at risk of severe injuries and unnecessary harm. And unfortunately, just sitting at a classroom desk can prompt these complications. Many teachers allow students to eat lunch in their rooms, and numerous students eat lunch in the English computer lab each day. Because students often eat their lunch in computer labs, the hallway, or even in class, there are no real safe zones for allergy-prone students.

The administration can set rules about what to bring for lunch (i.e. no peanuts) but there is no real way to enforce this upon such a large student body. Imagine the assistant principals checking school lunches for potential allergens each day, akin to when they checked backpacks for senior pranks. Furthermore, this would involve careful scrutiny: “did she bring a peanut butter sandwich or is this apple butter?” Rather than this, some schools have decided to implement a policy where lunch provided by school is mandatory.

The Schreiber Times believes that Schreiber could follow these schools’ example and institute a mandatory free lunch policy for all students. This system would provide lunch for all students as well as factor in dietary restrictions, such as vegetarian and kosher preferences. This system would also benefit families with financial burdens; although there

is a system in place for students unable to afford school lunch, this system does not account for fluctuations in families’ disposable income. Under this general free-lunch system, this issue would be avoided.

Likewise, this system would likely only be feasible if the schools had an NSA sized budget, which was over \$50 billion in 2013, although this is probably an underrepresentation of what was actually spent. Unfortunately, Schreiber does not have the luxury of an ever expanding budget. Perhaps, a more economically sound means of establishing peanut free, and other allergen free zones, should be implemented.

This is commonplace in numerous elementary schools and middle schools, and costs nothing to implement. It’s also something that would cause no flack from the student body; no one would object to safer lunches with no added personal restrictions.

Closed library computer lab

While walking by the library most mornings, it is not uncommon to see a large crowd of students waiting in front of locked doors. Although most school buses arrive before 7:30, the librarians usually do not open the library and the library computer lab to students until well after that time.

Students do not have a quiet area to work in the morning, right before their classes start. The lab in the English office is usually somewhat noisy and fills up with students quickly, and the Social Studies department lab is closed before 8:00 a.m. So for many, the library is their only option.

We at the Schreiber Times believe that students need a place to work before school that opens when they get there, not a place in which they need to wait in front of locked doors for much of their precious time before school.

In addition, if students are unable to print assignments from home, the supposed availability of computers in the mornings usually discounts the former as an excuse. But how can students print their homework and get credit if the lab in the library is not available to them during the time before school?

Restricted entrances

If you live in Salem and walk to school, park your car on Park Avenue, or get dropped off by the back entrances, you have probably experienced a number of uncomfortably cold walks to Schreiber’s main entrance this winter. You bundle up in a heavy sweater, coat, hat and gloves, but even these precautions can’t keep your body heat from sticking to you the entire walk. Your face begins to hurt against the dry and bitter wind, your lips begin to chap, and your eyes begin to water, all while the locked side entrances tease you.

The back entrance doors are locked from the inside for valid reasons. Due to growing support for tighter school security due to events elsewhere in the U.S., Schreiber has decided not to allow students to enter the school through these side doors anymore. It is a safe move no doubt, but the precaution has made mornings for a number of students more difficult than they have to be.

The Schreiber Times believes that students should be allowed to enter school in the mornings from the back doors, while also keeping safety in mind. Instead of locking the doors and forcing students to walk the perimeter of the building, students should be allowed entrance to the school at certain specified times, while responsible adults

sit behind the doors. This is exactly what the school does at the main entrance of the school. Whatever safety precautions are set up there should be mimicked at the back entrances.

Not only will this allow students to get inside the building faster to get warm and go to class, but it will actually secure our school even more by having multiple secure entrances. It’s doubtful that an intruder would follow the “no side entrance” rule.

Interested in writing for The Schreiber Times? Then come to the next newspaper general meeting on March 12th! All new writers are welcome!

Times Policy Statement

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sick of the Cold Weather by Ethan Bookstein



Students volunteer for the good of the community

by Logan Katz and Lauren Seidman

Contributing Writers

Many Schreiber students participate in community service. Usually, it starts out as just something students feel they have to do to add to their college applications. However, volunteering can soon turn fulfilling and rewarding. There are many different ways students can volunteer. Some community service programs are through school and others are outside of school.

Weber Individual Needs Students, also known as WINS, is a program in which high school students are matched with academically struggling Weber students.

The Schreiber tutors are selected by members of the faculty. This tutoring session is after school, twice a week at Weber.

“Being a tutor for someone who is struggling is extremely gratifying. It is really special to be making a direct difference in another kid’s life, especially in my own community,” said sophomore Maddy Lavin.

There are also many ways to get involved in helping within religious communities. At St. Peter of Alcantara Church, student volunteers teach religion classes to first grade students.

“I love working with kids, and it feels great to be a positive role model for them,” said sophomore Olivia Gellis.

Another program, called BBYO (B’nai B’rith Youth Organization), brings together members of different synagogues to participate in various volunteering activities.

“We help out at soup kitchens sometimes, along with many other volunteering opportunities. It’s great to help people in and out of our Jewish community,” said sophomore

Jack Lefkowitz, president of the Port Washington boys chapter of BBYO, Port AZA.

Students who belong to other religious groups should ask students of the same faith or leaders in their places of worship about ways to get involved as well.

Another volunteer opportunity for Schreiber students is located in our local public library. Every Saturday, teens from our community gather at the

most of whom have a developmental disorder.

Those involved with Creative Readers spend every Saturday with the same buddy for the entire year, playing, reading, and interacting with them, becoming a true friend.

It is important for teens to understand that they can have a major positive impact. Volunteering in a way that is exciting and interesting can be a great



Courtesy of Sophie Lipstein

Junior Sophie Lipstein rebuilding homes in New Orleans, Louisiana with other members of the Jewish Community Center in Roslyn over February break.

Port Washington Public Library to help children with their reading skills through a program called Creative Readers.

“I love being able to see my reading buddies get better each week. It’s really great to see my efforts pay off,” said junior Julia Gellis.

Creative Readers helps students create bonds with the different children involved,

way to do something you feel passionate about while bettering your community.

It is not only important for a college résumé, but also to establish students’ understanding of their worth as helpful individuals in their town. Everyone can make a difference by doing something they are passionate about.

Trio mashes-up three major aspects of social media *A full combination of moving, still, and audio moments*

by Aliza Herz

Staff Writers

Have you ever wanted an app that combines all of your favorite popular media sources into one? Well, look no further. The new app, Trio, was released on March 4 and is available on the Apple app store for free.

Coming from the creators of Meograph, an app directed towards an audience of journalists, Trio has the potential to be the next Instagram and has already gained steam with high school students throughout the country.

Trio is an app that helps you become funny and creative by making videos out of many different media, including video, pictures, and music.

What this means is that it remixes other people’s Instagrams, Vines, Gifs, and iTunes music into one video. The app has already been featured on PBS and Pinterest.

The way the app works allows the user to have the world of popular media at their fingertips. The user has the option of including images, videos, or animated Gifs in their final Trio product.

The media chosen are called “moments,” with a limit of twelve moments, or twenty seconds per project, a lot more time than allowed by apps like Instagram and Vine.

A user can incorporate images from different sources, including Google, the personal device’s camera roll, or Instagram, or a picture taken at that moment.

Clicking “Gif” allows the user to include media from the app “Giphy,” and “Video” brings a user to the device’s video roll, the social media source Vine, or a new video.

In creating a Trio, you can choose multiple still images or Gifs at a time.

Once the media have been decided upon, the user has the power to control the number of repetitions, or “loops” of each Gif or the timing of different stills.

Using the bubble previews along the bottom of the screen, the order of media can be easily adjusted.

Trio users can add text, voice-overs, or a soundtrack to their final products.

And at any point of the creation process, moments can be added and the project can be viewed to

assess the progress of the Trio creation.

Despite its creativity, Trio is social as well. Users can find friends by connecting with Facebook friends or email contacts who also use Trio.

The app makes it possible to like, comment on, or share other Trio creations, as well as create a Trio project in response to different prompts in what is known as the “Challenge” section of Trio.

Otherwise, users can make their own original Trio projects without a prompt at all.

While posting the Trio project, captions and hashtags may be added, as well as uploaded to other social media outlets like Facebook.

Today, most social media sources do not stick to just one type of media. Instagram allows users to share both pictures and videos, Facebook allows for pictures, videos, and words alone. Trio takes all of these basic functions and remixes them all into one final product.



www.vonclausburg.com

The app Trio allows users to combine posts from various social media sources like Instagram and Vine to create a final product such as a remix or mash-up that gives creativity a whole new meaning.

View of the iking

by Ilana Grabiner and Maddie Lane

Staff Writers

If you’ve ever spotted a kid wearing a funky hat in the hallway, no need to be confused. It was probably junior Evan Gilmore, otherwise and more specifically referred to as Lord Evan Gilmore.

As you could probably guess, Evan is not your average high school student. He is a unique and fascinating person who possesses extraordinary confidence.

Firstly, let’s address his magnificent title: Lord Gilmore. He received lordship from the Northern Principality of Sealand after his parents donated fifty dollars. It’s pretty official.

Still, Gilmore was not completely satisfied with being the lord of the small island, so he requested a title of royalty from the United States of America. Although this offer was denied, it takes great nerve to contact our country’s top officials with such a request. But of course, Gilmore did not let this bring him down. He still dreams of becoming the emperor of our country and renaming it, “The Separated States of Gilmoria.” Ambitious, definitely, but who ever got anywhere while holding back?

“Yeah, I heard Evan’s a Lord. That’s pretty cool,” said sophomore Christian Hill.

Often times, you will see Gilmore wearing a large crown to represent his royal status. However, this is not his only headpiece. Lord Gilmore owns over thirty hats, including a top hat, a beret, and a purple hat. He first started wearing them after seeing “Alice in Wonderland” in sixth grade.

Wearing a different hat everyday is not only a form of amusement for Evan. “Wearing cool hats is my way of battling the ultimate evil, also known as conformity,” said Gilmore

It is obvious that Lord Gilmore has no interest in blending in with the masses.

Gilmore’s hats have a way of catching people’s attention. At this point, hats are Evan’s staple accessory. He sports a different head piece everyday, rain or shine, morning to night.

“I remember the first time I saw Evan, I was in fifth grade. I was like, ‘Who’s this kid with the crazy hat?’” said sophomore Naome Sajani.

If you have ever spoken to Lord Gilmore, you know he is very funny. In fact, he is a stand-up comedian. It’s no surprise that thus far, he has performed in three comedy shows in the city. The first two he said went well, but he called his most recent show a disaster.

Still, Gilmore will not let this small setback get in his way; he foresees more stand-up comedy in the future. In fact, he states, “I am going to be the world’s most famous actor and comedian.”

It’s clear that no matter the obstacle, Evan remains positive, getting right back up even when he is knocked down, a pretty important characteristic for anyone with such big dreams.

No one can guess what else is in Evan Gilmore’s future, but what we do know is that it will be certainly extraordinary. After all, how many sixteen-year-old lords do you know?

R SLAM III: OF AN ERA



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This act was followed by a triple tag team match between professional wrestlers with science teacher Mr. Peter Travis and Assistant Principal Mr. David Miller as opposing managers. The two fought over which New York ice hockey team was the best with Mr. Travis representing the New York Islanders and Mr. Miller representing the New York Rangers. At about this time students began to notice the startling lack of pants on the professional wrestlers. Mr. Travis and his Islanders emerged victorious and Mr. Miller was forced to wear an Islander jersey the following day in school.

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Julia Hayden. “I personally would have enjoyed a shorter match with a lot more crazy stunts, but it kind of just dragged on towards the end.”

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event, MACHO awards were presented to two Schreiber students, seniors Joshua Curtis and Brittany Arnett.

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As Schreiber Slam III comes to a close, the possibility of a fourth event comes into question.

“It’s really hard to say whether or not there will be a Schreiber Slam IV,” said Principal Mr. Ira Pernick. “We don’t know just yet; Schreiber Slam III just ended.”

Despite the uncertainty of Schreiber Slam’s future, enthusiasm and optimism for a fourth event is widespread.

“It is a wonderfully unique event that separates us from other places and I think the proof is in how many kids attended. I would love for it to happen again,” said Mr. Pernick.

“I completely think there should be a Schreiber Slam IV,” said junior Matthew Johnston. “I love Schreiber Slam. It was fantastic this year and I think it should run for many years to come.”

Although many teachers express interest in a fourth Slam, the process of planning an event of this caliber is difficult and those involved are unsure if staff members will be able to dedicate the time to plan yet another Schreiber Slam.

“It’s a tremendous undertaking, not by me but by Mr. Matina and the other teachers involved in creating it,” said Mr. Pernick. “If they’re willing to continue then I am absolutely willing to support it.”

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teachers will be a factor in addition to the time involved in planning it.

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Finally, attendees began to lose interest, leading some to believe the third Slam should be the last.

“We actually had higher attendance this year than ever before but a lot of kids bailed at the end, which was a little disheartening,” said Mr. Matina. “I think it’s because I’m not sure that pro wrestling is big in this town or if it ever will be. Also, Benny Scheckner was a tremendous draw for kids to come and stay. Now that new classes are not as familiar with him, they don’t know where Schreiber Slam has its roots.”

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*By Seth Barshay, Maddie Cohen
Madeline Fagen, Max Miranda,
Delia Rush, and Josh White
Photos by Josh White*



Professional wrestler Jack Gallow and Rage grasp Mr. Medico’s arm and head during a surprise attack.



SCHREIBER THE END

On a day when llamas ran rampant across the streets of Arizona and a dress took over the Internet, one event stood out among the rest: Schreiber Slam III. Whether they were there for the enjoyment of watching grown men whom they typically refer to as “Mr.” in hilarious costumes wrestle, or to take a selfie for extra credit, the hundreds of students who attended Schreiber Slam III were not disappointed, to say the least. After all, Schreiber Slam is a time for students to sit back, relax, and not take notes. The choreographed match of physical strength between teachers and professional wrestlers was organized to raise money for the MACHO Foundation. The time was here and the ring was set for the battle of the year. It was the moment that everyone was waiting for: to see if Schreiber Slam III would live up to the hype.

The first ever Schreiber Slam was held on Feb. 28, 2013, along with the Schreiber Radiothon. The Radiothon, hosted by then-seniors “Radio King” Benny Scheckner (‘13) and “Radio Queen” Debbie Oyarzun (‘13), was a 24-hour radio broadcast that began at 9 a.m. on Feb. 28 and ended at 9 a.m. on March 1.

A main event in the first Schreiber Slam was the faceoff between Scheckner and social studies teacher Mr. Douglas Matina. Both individuals had a team to back them up throughout the night. Scheckner’s team consisted of then-senior Nathan Lefcowitz, science teacher Ms. Joy Grasso-Krebs, math teacher Mr. Mark Reynolds, and science teacher Mr. Michael Campanella. Mr. Matina, on the other hand, was supported by a team made up of members from the social studies department: Mr. Craig Medico, Mr. Petro Macrigiane, Mr. George Muhlbauer, and a masked teammate believed to have been Mr. Alex Sepulveda. To oversee the night and ensure fair play, stood social studies teacher Mr. Larry Schultz.

In the end, amidst the Scheckner-Matina faceoff, team interference prevailed. Chairs, and even a guitar, struck unassuming backs, as Mr. Medico

emerged victorious after leaping into the ring to steal the championship belt from Mr. Macrigiane who betrayed Mr. Matina.

Although Scheckner graduated in 2013, Schreiber Slam II came around by popular demand. Even if it was without the “Radio King,” Schreiber Slam must go on. As in the previous year, there was an eating contest (this time with White Castle instead of pizza) after which the winner, Mr. Muhlbauer was body slammed through a table by Mr. Macrigiane.

More members of the social studies department participated in the second annual Schreiber Slam than in the first. Social studies teachers, Dr. David O’Connor, Ms. Alicia Cotter, along with teachers from outside of the social studies department such as Mr. Thom Johnson participated. Additionally, there was an increase in student-body presence, that included appearances by then-seniors Joseph Finkelstein, Noah White, Simon Shapiro, sophomore Dylan Langone, and senior Neil Devas.

A major feature of last year’s Schreiber Slam II was the advertising aspect of the night. Numerous YouTube videos were released in the weeks leading up to the event to hype up the student body and encourage attendance, using the flat screen in the lobby to their advantage. Hashtags such as “#hotjambalaya” were created, and tweeted before and during the event by staff members such as Principal Mr. Ira Pernick. Twitter played a large role in spreading the word about Schreiber Slam II as teachers routinely used their social

media connections to their full potential. By the end of the night, the promotion was clearly effective, as Schreiber Slam II accumulated over \$2,000 for the Steven and Alexandra Cohen Children’s Medical Center.

For this year’s Schreiber Slam, those planning the event opted to focus on just wrestling. While Schreiber Slams I and II had sideshows like an eating and trivia contest, Schreiber Slam III was planned to be a series of matches.

One of Schreiber Slam’s staples was used to raise hype for the event: the trademark series of YouTube videos. However, one notable part was missing: a hashtag for the event, Schreiber Slam I’s “#nopipes” and Schreiber Slam II’s “#hotjambalaya.” Instead, each video ended with the tagline, “Wrestle for a Cause, likely to increase the focus on wrestling. In addition, one of the videos showed a message near the end that read, “No eating contests, no quiz shows, just wrestling.” While there were several distinct plotlines within this year’s series of videos, this message was the thread that linked them together.



Mr. Medico makes an entrance in his new neon leather jacket to come face-to-face with Mr. Reynolds in “Reynold’s Rally Plt.” “Reynold’s Rally Plt” is a spoof of “Piper’s Plt,” an interview segment in the WWE.

ters during the actual event. Part of The Cure were the student-sensei duo of Mr. Michael Campanella and Mr. Scott Carmody from the science department, the latter playing a different role from last year’s memorable Carmio.

Another plot focused on junior and hat aficionado Evan Gilmore trying to expose guidance counselor Mr. Joseph Lorge as a vampire and defeat him in the ring.

Gilmore was one of several students involved in the event this year. Other students to note included seniors Mark Livshin and Matt Nicholson, the latter announced the event over the PA along with Mr. Jeremy Klaff.

However, these students were apparently kept in the dark for much of the details of the actual event in order to avoid spoilers.

“I was told by Matina what I would be doing, but that was basically it,” said Gilmore. “I had some questions that I wanted to find out, but he told me I would find out in the show, so most of it was basically as much a surprise for me as it was for everyone else.”

The night began with Mr. Reynolds entering the ring in a kilt in a segment titled



Mr. Matina submits the Siberian Nightmare with his signature move, the Dragon Death Lock to finish the match.

SCHREIBER SLAM III: THE END OF AN ERA



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Photos by Josh White*



Professional wrestler Jack Gallow and Rage grasp Mr. Medico’s arm and head during a surprise attack.

Conquer the dreaded college apps

Firsthand advice on how to get through the process!

BY Ana Espinoza
Editor-In-Chief

Although applying to college in the United States is an increasingly confused mess of deadlines and inequity, it's also a really important thing that you have to do. So here's some college application advice. It's partly extracted from my own experiences, but mostly stolen from other people that I've talked to:

- Start your essays the summer before your senior year. Most people end up not doing this but wishing they did. If anything, write your Common Application essay (the one that will go to most of the colleges you apply to) before school starts, so you can leave time for a few people to look it over. Writing well is a lot easier when the only other pressing thing on your schedule is finishing *Orange is the New Black*.
- Apply to schools you want to go to. This is obvious, but don't apply to seven extra colleges that you don't like because they're just "really good schools," or places that you will definitely get into. The application process is a lot less stressful if the prospect of attending most of the colleges you've applied to isn't totally unnerving.
- Make a list of deadlines. Don't forget to include application deadlines from each college, which can vary, financial aid deadlines, and scholarship application deadlines. This information can come from a lot of different sources, so it helps to have it one set place on a single document.



Ethan Bookstein

- Visit the schools you're applying to. You can do this during your junior year or after you've been accepted to several schools. A visit can communicate more than a website can, like whether or not students will give you directions if you ask them, or if you find classes engaging. It's also a good chance to talk to admissions representatives in person, which I should note is way more important in aiding your decision process than somehow boosting your chances of admission.
- Don't fixate on your intended major. Actually knowing what you want to do with your life is great, but your goals might change unexpectedly. In other words, don't choose a college only because it offers the program you want to study, because you might take a class that makes you think differently.
- Be honest in your essays. This sounds like an empty cliché, but a lot of clichés are

true. People notice if your writing sounds too polished or too romantic. But they also notice when you're being honest, and that usually happens when you're writing about true, ordinary things. Pretend you're talking to someone that you've known as long as your parents, but without having to hide anything that dumb old people like that just wouldn't get. I think that some measured informality goes a long way.

Remember that where you go to college doesn't really matter that much. In high school, everything that you do or choose to do seems to matter a lot, but it really doesn't matter any more than what you do when you're 12 or 75. Likewise, a 2011 study found that attending an elite college had little impact on earnings or job satisfaction. Where you go to college matters less than what you accomplish there. It just matters that you go.

A spotlight on clubs in the shadows

BY Carly Perlmutter and Katie Oppenheim
Staff Writers

Have you ever wanted to add some excitement to your life by picking up a new hobby? Or, have you ever wanted to learn more about something you are already interested in? If so, Schreiber has many exciting clubs that you can choose from.

There is a wide selection of clubs for people who are interested in music, religion, language, community service, education, and more. You've almost definitely heard of Key Club, Drama Club, and Relay for Life.

But did you know that Schreiber has a weekly Quiz Bowl, a club for future business leaders of America, and a club against substance abuse? This article is a guide to Schreiber's underrated clubs.

If you are looking for a fun way to start your day, Quiz Bowl may be the club for you. With club adviser and social studies teacher Mr. Jeremy Klaff shouting out random trivia questions, you are guaranteed to have a good time.

The person who answers the most questions correctly becomes the Quiz Bowl student of the week. This club meets Monday mornings at 7:30 a.m. in room 215.

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) is an interesting and informative club that teaches students how to organize and manage a business.

"Ever since I joined FBLA in tenth grade, Friday morning has been my favorite morning of the week," said said junior and FBLA vice president Jenna

Hecht. "I love learning about the economy and basic business and investment strategies. The club promotes careers in the business field and influences young people to think about and plan for the future. FBLA has greatly impacted the way I look at business in America."

The club also holds fundraisers at school events such as Open House and Schreiber Slam, so swing by on Fridays at 7:30 a.m. in room 204 to see FBLA in action.

Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) has been working with the Schreiber community for years. The club helps spread awareness of different mental disorders, promotes

abstinence, and discusses the harms of substance abuse. Recently, the club held a Valentine's Day sale, raising money for several different organizations chosen by the members of the club.

"It feels great to know that I am supporting an important mission statement and encouraging a healthy lifestyle by doing fun activities and learning interesting facts in the process," said sophomore and club member Jessica Hyland.

If you're looking to learn about living a happy and healthy life, or if you want to spread awareness about worldwide or local issues, join SADD on Monday mornings at 7:30 in room 125.



Josh White

The members of SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) participate in one of their weekly Monday morning meetings.



BY Sam Bizenov and Danielle Tawfik
Assistant Features Editors

What is the best place to get breakfast nearby? This question often boggles students' minds. In order to alleviate the stress that this question causes, we set out on a mission to find the best spots to dine. Whether you're looking to feast on delicious pancakes, an omelet, or just a quick bite, we've got you covered.

Pancakes are among the most popular of breakfast foods so it is important to know where to go to find the best ones. The first stop on our journey immediately popped into our minds: the International House of Pancakes, or IHOP. Although the drive was a bit annoying, it ended up being completely worth it. The International House of Pancakes certainly does its name justice. IHOP offers a variety of pancakes including the classic chocolate chip pancakes, fruit-filled pancakes, and many other options. Some of its more unique pancakes include the New York Cheesecake pancake and the Cinnastack.

After hearing people rave about the Cinnastack we knew we had to try it. The Cinnastack is a combination of pancakes and cinnamon rolls. After finishing it, we both decided it was the coolest pancake either of us had ever had. These pancakes have a creamy sweet cinnamon layer in between, and is topped with a sweet cream cheese frosting instead of syrup. If you're in the mood for fluffy, buttery, authentic pancakes, look no further than IHOP.

Although sit-down breakfasts are a fun way to spend your weekend mornings, not everybody has time for a long breakfast. If you want to catch a quick bite for breakfast, we have great options for you as well. For something really quick and healthy, look no further than Port Nutrition. They offer amazing smoothies made from the most natural and freshest ingredients. While our personal favorite is the sweet and fruity Berry Powerful, they have a wide variety of smoothies to choose from. These drinks are a perfect and quick way to start your day!

Last, but certainly not least, we have to talk about what is probably the most popular breakfast location in town, the Port Washington Diner. The diner is a great place to spend your weekend mornings. From its friendly atmosphere and great food to its convenient location, it is no surprise that the diner is almost everybody in Port's go-to breakfast location. Its menu consists of almost any breakfast food you can imagine, including pancakes, waffles, French toast, and of course their amazing omelets. Their omelets, served with their signature home fries, are our usual order. By coming here on your Saturday or Sunday morning, we can guarantee that you will run into somebody you know. Yes, it is that popular.

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day, so why not make it your favorite? Weekend breakfast is a great way to catch up with your friends and family after your week. Although these foods are supposedly meant for breakfast, they taste good at any time of day. Don't be afraid to come to these places for any meal!

Discover the secret life of Schreiber’s Research programs

BY **Julia Kim**
Staff Writer

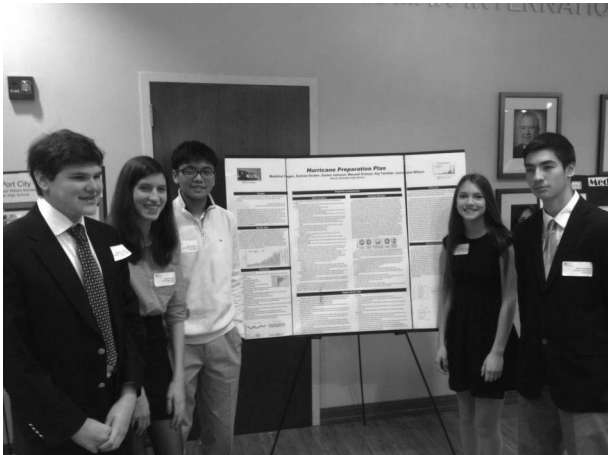
Does the prospect of a life beyond Schreiber overwhelm you? With a large number of colleges and careers to choose from, participating in a high school research class is a way to apply knowledge learned in class to real issues.

The school website reads, “One of the highest quality educational experiences a Schreiber student may be offered is the opportunity to participate in the school’s research program.” Schreiber offers three distinct research programs: science, math, and social science research.

Research programs offer opportunities for students to compete amongst students of the same caliber, research a topic of choice, and delve deeply into a favorite subject. Researches can allow students to expand their knowledge beyond math, science, or social studies classrooms.

Thirty students are accepted in their freshman year and continue in their research class for the rest of high school. A test and an interview must be taken for consideration, and math research requires an additional resume.

Unlike an elective, a research program cannot be dropped, so students must decide what research is best suited towards their interests. Each program is unique in terms of the research competitions they require students to enter and the areas of study they focus on, but they share



Courtesy of Mr. John Schineller

Left to right: junior science research students, Andrew Gruber, Zareen Johnson, Raj Talukdar, Madeline Fagen, and technology class representative Maxwell Rudman stand in front of first place poster for best presentation at a competition. The team constructed an in-depth analysis about how to prepare a town for a hurricane.

the same attitude towards homework and projects. w

“The workload only affects you if you push it into too small a timeframe,” said senior Caitlin Ferris.

In class, students in social science research read books and papers and work on social science research papers and experiments, which can be about subjects like education, history, and psychology.

“Every class is essentially a study hall period, where you are free to do

anything you want. Once in awhile, I meet with my research teacher to discuss revisions on something I wrote,” said senior and social science research student Jacob Bloch.

“In science research, students do more of the hands-on projects. They discover their own idea they want to do research on. They will order all the materials they need, design their own experiment, and execute their project over the course of two to eight weeks depending on the complexity,” said science research teacher Mr. John Schineller.

Math research students work on their math projects during class, and learn about solving difficult math problems. Math research students also study computer science, which focuses on teaching students how to code programs and websites.

Students in social science research may submit pieces of writing to the New York State Archives competition, the Ayn Rand Institute competition, or the Society of Professional Journalists competition. They can also enter to have their works published in the Concord Review,

a prestigious high school history journal. Workload varies between each grade because younger students are still in the process of learning how to showcase their research.

“Math research students attend competitions like the Math fair, LISEF, and NSF Noyce Math Symposium. Older students have more experience, so they know what competitions are looking for,” said sophomore Maria Kogan in math research.

All juniors in research work on the Intel Science Talent Search project to their senior year and submit it for consideration.

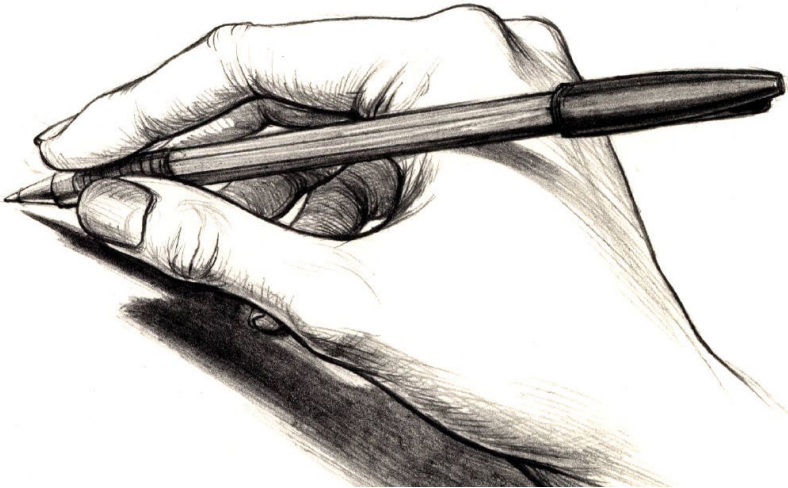
The Intel Science Talent Search is a prestigious research competition dealing with students all over America, who compete for prizes and scholarships. Each student works towards researching a topic related to math, science, or social science, and they meet occasionally with their teachers to discuss progress.

“We receive help from our mentors Ms. Ezratty and Mr. Schineller, but a lot of the work is independently driven,” said junior Andrew Gruber in science research.

If you are interested in exploring different subjects and researching a topic of interest, research programs are definitely the way to go.

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—David Hare



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Humans of New York: more than just a blog

BY **Miranda Tanenbaum**
Staff Writer

Humans of New York, a blog run by Brandon Stanton, features pictures and interviews with random pedestrians of New York City. About one month ago, Stanton interviewed a 13-year-old boy named Vidal whose response inspired millions across the Internet. When asked to name the most influential person in his life, Vidal responded that it was his principal, Ms. Nadia Lopez.

Eager to learn more about Ms. Lopez, Stanton visited Vidal's school, Mott Hall Bridge Academy (MHBA). MHBA is located in Brownsville in the Bronx. On Jan. 22, Humans of New York began a fundraiser with the goal of taking the students of MHBA on a trip to Harvard.

"Ms. Lopez's school is situated in a neighborhood with the highest crime rate in New York," said Stanton. "Some of them are very much 'stuck' in their neighborhood. And many have never left the city."

As a result, it is hard on the teachers to work for students who think that their only hope in the future will be the same low-paying jobs that so many others in their community have.

As an educator, Lopez was frustrated with the hard work that she had put into MHBA, because there seemed to be few results. Once Lopez saw Stanton's post, she knew this wasn't the end.

Stanton and Lopez both wanted to help the students of MHBA realize that they could do anything that they set out to do. So they began brainstorming. Mott Hall Bridges Academy has a very low budget, which is all spent on teacher salaries and school necessities.

Because of this, there is no extra money for school trips, and most students

come from a low-income families who cannot afford to go on trips of their own. So Principal Lopez decided that at the beginning of each school year, she would take the ncoming sixth graders, or scholars, as she calls them, to Harvard University in order to show them that there is a life beyond Brownsville. Lopez is confident that this trip to Harvard will broaden their horizons and help them see beyond their neighborhood.

"She wants them to know what it feels like to stand on the campus of one of the world's top schools, and know that they belong," said Stanton about Lopez.

Stanton made some calculations and estimated that the cost of the trip per grade would be \$30,000. This is when social media took charge. Stanton posted Vidal's inspirational story on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, and other websites, which received thousands of reposts and

shares as people were moved by what Vidal had to say.

In just 19 short days, Humans of New York raised \$1,418,984, surpassing the original goal of \$100,000.

"I've been following this campaign since the start and the stories that the teachers and students have shared are inspiring," said sophomore Remi Mankes. "I'm so happy that the students and staff members at MHBA will get to go on the trip because it will definitely impact the students and I look forward to hearing about their experience at Harvard."

Not only did the fundraiser raise money for MHBA, but it also gave the school tons of publicity. What began on the streets of Brownsville made its way to the *Ellen DeGeneres Show* and all the way up to the Oval Office.

President Obama, inspired by the story, invited Stanton, Vidal, and Lopez



Vidal Chastanet, Nadia Lopez, and Brandon Stanton received an invitation to the White House where they sat down with President Obama to share their incredible story. When they first caught sight of each other, the President told the teen, "You look sharp man" and Vidal even got to sit in Obama's seat in the Oval office. The president also offered words of encouragement and inspiration.

Fashion

BY **Talia Silvertstein**
Staff Writer

Though it may not feel like it, spring is rapidly approaching, which means that it is almost time to say goodbye to those heavy winter jackets and hello to shirts and warm sunshine. This spring we will be seeing many of the same trends as last year but with some updated styling that would make your spring looks standout and look better than ever.

Our first, and my personal favorite, trend is the fashion forward and comfortable look featuring a long shirt as dress. This look can be worn casually or dressed up for a more formal occasion. You can use anything from a tailored button-down to the beat-up to a worn out concert tee. When wearing a more tailored shirt dress, I would recommend keeping it simple and chic. Try a nice up-do and a cute pair of heels for a simple yet classic look. If you decide to go for the classic t-shirt dress, keep it easy with a pair of sneakers, loose hair, and a few cool accessories to get an edgy look with minimal hassle.

Next up on our list of trends to look out for this spring is the modern look, featuring the colors black and white. I know that this is not the latest look, but it certainly can be the greatest. With the contrasting look of black against

Spring fashion is blooming

white you can create great color-blocked designs, shapes, and lines with an ultra modern twist.

The best thing for spring is definitely to keep it simple. A simple monotone look will be one of the key features in spring fashion this year. White monochromatic looks have been sweeping the Internet, as white aesthetic Instagram accounts



Keep your outfit simple but trendy by layering white on white for a modern look. You can style your outfit with dark glasses in order to show the contrast.

and blogs have taken monochromatic to whole other level. You don't need to take the theme as far as making all of your furniture white and everything you buy white, but wearing all white is a polished look and a good way to make a statement.

Thankfully, comfortable yet fashionable shoes are here to stay. Keep on the sneakers and slides from last year. But this time, don't forget to add in some sandals into the mix to give almost any outfit a lively spring look.

Even though comfortable and modern seem to be the "it" words of the season, this next trend takes time back a few decades. Baggy denim is in. Keep it real in boyfriend jeans for a 90's look, but give these timely jeans a modern flare by adding current trends and staying away from other 90's looks. You don't want to look like you're going to a costume party! But it's not just boyfriend jeans; try on a pair of overalls. Though they aren't for everyone, they are always a trendy look that is great for spring weather. Overalls are no longer just for the farm, they are now a great part of your spring wardrobe. You can wear crop tops, button downs, long sleeves, any other shirt you can think of under your overalls.

With all of these new trends and with the old trends coming back this year, your spring wardrobe should be stocked. Even though these are what the designers have declared as in, make your own style. Maybe you can start the newest trend!

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BY **Adi Levin**
Staff Writer

Over the years, GMOs, or genetically modified organisms, have caused much controversy. There has been an ongoing debate over whether these should, or should not be used. Countless people believe that they can have a negative effect on our health, while others think that modifying food is an ingenious way of helping both consumers and farmers.

As new products hit the market, even more concerns have arisen. Recently, Okanagan Specialty Fruits have gotten a new type of apple approved. This innovative apple, know as the Arctic Apple, will be available in Golden Delicious and Granny Smith varieties. There are over 7,500 types of apples out there, but what is it that distinguishes this particular apple from all the others on the market?

The Arctic Apple has an unusual quality: when it is cut open, it does not turn brown for eight hours. According to researchers at Okanagan Specialty Fruits, this feature will minimize apple bruising and create less waste. Bushels of apples are constantly being rejected by supermarkets for even the smallest bruises. Furthermore, the Arctic Apple is different from most GMOs or processed foods because instead of containing recombinant DNA from other organisms, it contains copies of its own DNA. Scientists have found a way to stop a naturally occurring enzyme, polyphenol oxidase, from activating, which keeps the apples fresh for hours.

Although this apple's benefits are clear, a prime worry is that the Arctic Apple has not been approved by the Food Drug Administration (FDA). In fact, genetically engineered foods do not need the approval of the FDA at all. When the apple is publicly released to supermarkets across the country, there will be no indicator or label that it has been genetically modified. Consequently, a great number of consumers are hesitant to accept the Arctic Apples because no one truly knows what other chemicals it may have been treated with. Many companies that sell apple slices coat them in Vitamin C or calcium, unbeknownst to the people who buy them. These methods alter the apple's taste for the sake of keeping it fresh. The concept of freshness was the company's key goal when developing the Arctic Apple. Although the Arctic Apple provides a better way to preserve freshness, putting a bit of lemon juice on your apple slices is still a surefire way to prevent browning and cause the crisp taste to last longer.

In a recent survey conducted by Okanagan Specialty Fruits, sixty percent of people said they would buy Arctic Apples, despite the lack of information about the fruit. If Arctic Apples become as successful as the survey indicated, they could take over the apple industry and potentially hurt farmers who grow their apples naturally. The United States produces about 250 million bushels a year. In the future, how many do you think will be genetically engineered?

arts & entertainment

Sponge Out Of Water is full of laughs, surprises, and many Krabby Patties

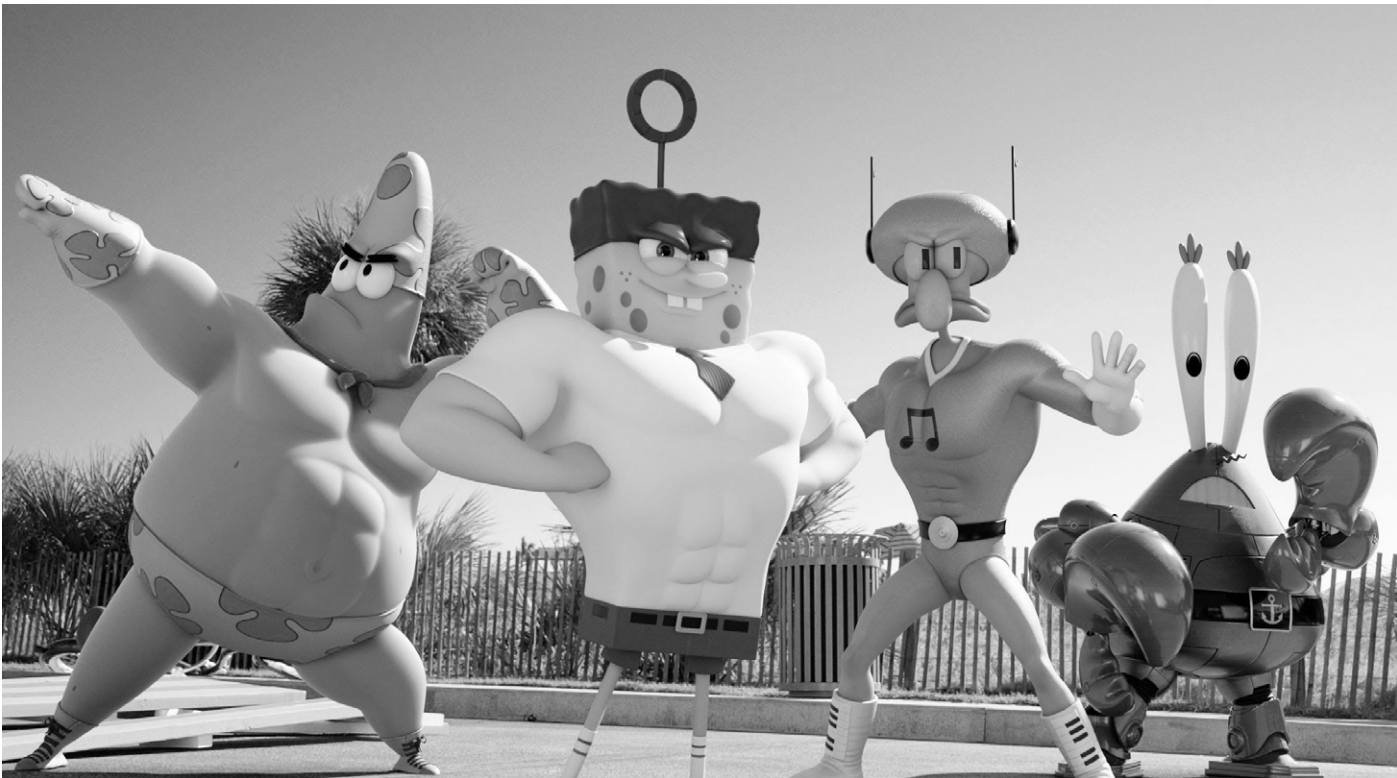
by Elizabeth Muratore

Staff Writer

Since 1999, *SpongeBob SquarePants* has entertained a generation of kids and their parents with nearly two hundred episodes, and now two feature films. *The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water* is not a direct sequel to the first movie, but rather a companion piece that shows the familiar gang in a plot unrelated to that of the 2004 film. It begins by introducing Burger Beard (Antonio Banderas), a pirate determined to find a book that describes the story of the inhabitants of Bikini Bottom as they deal with the horror of a Krabby Patty shortage. The film spirals into delightful pandemonium from there, as porous yellow hero SpongeBob (Tom Kenny) confronts long-time enemy Plankton (Doug Lawrence) in an attempt to reclaim the Krabby Patty formula, and both learn a thing or two about teamwork.

Sponge Out Of Water has received most of its attention due to its live-action sequences, which, although heavily featured in the trailers, only compose the last twenty minutes of the film. Though the live-action segments are entertaining and feature SpongeBob, Patrick (Bill Fagerbakke), Squidward (Rodger Bumpass), Mr. Krabs (Clancy Brown) and Sandy (Carolyn Lawrence) as magical, three-dimensional superheroes, the movie's strengths are the familiar two-dimensional antics present in the first hour and ten minutes.

One thing this movie lacks, and what made the first film so enjoyable, is a truly heartfelt storyline that threads throughout the narrative. There are more



screenrant.com

Nickelodeon's second cinematic trip to Bikini Bottom brings Spongebob and his friends to the surface in order to restore order underwater. *Sponge Out of Water* is an action packed joyride filled with battles, time travel, and superheroes.

than enough jokes to keep the audience laughing, but the essence of triumph and victory for SpongeBob that provided an ending to the first movie that was both uplifting and hilarious is not as present here. This movie is fun to watch, but it is less about having a great storyline and more about cranking up the jokes-per-minute meter to as high as it can go.

However, isn't mindless mayhem and creative chaos what *SpongeBob* is all about? The first movie may have packed

an emotional punch with its near-death experiences for SpongeBob and Patrick, but the show itself relies much more on absurd comedy than heartfelt plots. If anything, this movie adheres closer to the "formula" for which the TV show has become so successful: endearing characters in ridiculous situations. It also features a number of vaguely psychedelic digressions, including a trip into the far-too-sweet world of *SpongeBob's* brain. For devoted fans who appreciate this

nonsensical aspect of *SpongeBob*, this movie will surely be a treat.

What this movie also does particularly well is give a nod to the many long-time *SpongeBob* fans. This is likely due to the return of the show's creator, Stephen Hillenberg, who left the show after the first movie but was one of the primary writers for this second film. *Sponge Out of Water* contains direct references to memorable lines and portions of old *SpongeBob* episodes that will make the show's fans either smile nostalgically or laugh excitedly. The movie also features a number of memorable characters that have not been mentioned on the show in years, in some cases since the release of the first movie.

Though fans may have fond memories of the first movie and the vintage *SpongeBob* episodes, if they truly appreciate *SpongeBob* and the crew's undersea antics, they will enjoy this movie. The animation here is sharp and done with care, the characters are all true to form, and the movie itself is filled with lovable hijinks, and some amusing talking seagulls. *Sponge Out Of Water* gives an added boost to the already beloved *SpongeBob* franchise and will make anyone who lives in a pineapple under the sea very happy.



imdb.com

After the secret Krabby Patty formula goes missing, Bikini Bottom becomes an apocalyptic wasteland full of burning coral and leather outfits. SpongeBob teams up with a past foe in order to bring it back. Thankfully, their hilarious adventure mainly takes place underwater in the franchise's charming 2D animation.

A brief history of why Tom Petty can get 12.5% of “Stay with Me”

by **Lucas Friedman**
Contributing Writer

Has anyone ever cheated off you on a test, or stole your idea for a creative school project? If so, you might have felt frustrated, or betrayed, and the normal human reaction would be to seek the credit one deserves.

Plagiarism can be just as common in the professional world of entertainment, most prominently in the music industry. However, unlike cheating on a test, copying an artist’s music is crime known as copyright infringement.

Copyright infringement can not only lose a musician large sums of money, but it also tarnishes their reputation in the public’s eye.

Sam Smith, winner of four Grammys at this year’s show, has fallen under harsh speculation for copyright infringement for his award-winning song, “Stay With Me.” The song shares a very similar melody to Tom Petty’s 1989 hit single “Won’t Back Down.”

The Rock n’ Roll Hall of Fame inductee noticed the similarities, and sought out writing credits for the popular pop song. As the case enters the mainstream, perhaps the public should be informed on the logistics of copyright cases, while also taking a look at other famous copyright cases and how they might have impacted Sam Smith’s conundrum.

Ever since the world has adopted rock n’ roll into the mainstream, and music became a significant part of pop culture, there has been controversy on whether or not an artist’s work is 100% original. To make things clear, there is a fine line between imitating another artists’ styles, and actually stealing specific melodies or



Recently, Tom Petty filed a lawsuit against pop star Sam Smith for his song, “I Won’t Back Down’s” similarity to “Stay with Me.” However, there is a long history of such debates that have resulted in court precedents for artistic battles.

lyrics of a song. It is a common practice among musicians to share certain aspects of their style of play from one another. Bands such as Led Zeppelin and the Rolling Stones are famous for taking riffs and chords from old blues tunes, and giving them their own rock n’ roll undertones. It is also legal to make a parody of a song for comedic purposes, such as Weird Al Yankovic does. These artists, however, know when to draw the

line.

Three famous cases to be noted are Bright Tune Music Corp vs. George Harrison, The Isley Brothers vs. Michael Bolton, and perhaps the most recognizable, David Bowie/Queen vs. Vanilla Ice. While all of these cases dealt with different aspects of copyright infringement, looking into them will give someone a great reference to determine if Sam Smith is liable.

George Harrison, lead guitarist of the Beatles, enjoyed reasonable success after the band broke up in 1970. Harrison took no time in releasing his first solo single, “My Sweet Lord,” in 1971, and it instantly sat at the top of the charts for 5 weeks. However, critics and music connoisseurs soon realized it shared resounding similarities to The Chiffon’s “He’s So Fine.” After five long years of litigation, he was finally found liable of “subconscious plagiarism,” and was subject to pay \$587,000 of royalties. Harrison failed to make a profit from the song.

Michael Bolton fell under much harsher punishment for his song “Love is a Wonderful Thing,” which shared the same name and some lyrics as the less popular Isley Brothers version. Bolton was founded liable, and paid a total of \$5.6 million to the Isley Brothers, granting them 66% of all royalties, and 28% of Bolton’s album which contained the song. This was the largest award granted in music history.

Anyone who has heard both Vanilla Ice’s hit “Ice Ice Baby,” and the collaboration song of Queen and David Bowie “Under Pressure,” has realized the practically identical bass line and drum beat. While the case was settled out of court, likely for a large sum of money, and Vanilla Ice’s numerous attempts to alter the beat, the two songs are the most popular songs to fall under copyright speculations.

Petty and Smith peacefully agreed on terms outside of a courthouse, and the two were very understanding of the situation, with Petty calling the ordeal, “a musical accident.” With all this said, Petty is enjoying 12.5% royalties and writing credits for the song, while Smith is enjoying immense fame as a new artist.

Tarantino meets Bond in *Kingsman: The Secret Service*

by **Aaron Gindi**
Contributing Editor

Kingsman: The Secret Service is clearly distinguishable from other spy films. While most people are familiar with the names James Bond and Jason Bourne, *Kingsman* is relatively unknown. However, it is a movie that stands out from the spy genre in both depth and breadth. *Kingsman* has been receiving outstanding reviews from movie websites such as Rotten Tomatoes and IMDB and might even reach the same level of fame as spy spoofs like Austin Powers.

Director Matthew Vaughn (*Kick-Ass*, *X-Men: First Class*) takes you on a thrilling adventure through the point of view of British teenager named Eggsy (Taron Egerton) who struggles with the death of his father and the new tenant who is abusive towards him and his mom. Eggsy is eventually arrested for a misdemeanor committed by him and his friends, whom he refuses to rat out. However, his life is turned around when a mysterious man who goes by Harry Hart (Colin Firth) gets him out of jail and introduces him to the secret spy world. This eventually leads to many thrilling adventures and a new life for Eggsy who goes through many tests in order to become a “Kingsman” and eventually has to confront the evil mastermind Valentine (Samuel L. Jackson).

Unlike the Bourne and Bond series, *Kingsman* takes on a slightly humorous tone as the hero, Eggsy, fights his way to

save the world from Valentine. It does not necessarily make fun of the spy genre as frequently as Austin Powers does, but it does contain elements critiquing the aging film genre, while also having a lot of fun. The comedic parts of the film are mixed in perfectly with the action scenes, making this movie a real gift for adrenaline junkies and comedy fans. The comedic element mixed with the action scenes makes almost every scene of the movie enjoyable. This is all thanks to Vaughn’s stylistic direction. For once, the action scenes are easy on the eyes, and viewers can tell who is throwing the punches.

However, some critics believe that the comedic parts of the film slightly dulled the plot’s suspense. While the scenes are pretty suspenseful throughout the film, audiences may become less focused on the action scenes. With comedy mixed into the beginning of the scene, audiences find themselves feeling emotionally unprepared when a person unexpectedly gets cut in half during it. Another scene in which violence is tempered with comedy includes heads exploding into colorful powder as celebratory music plays in the background. Clearly, *Kingsman* is not trying to be a Bond flick.

The action scenes in *Kingsman* are clearly distinguishable from scenes in other spy and action movies. Unlike most action films where the fight scenes often have quick cuts, the fight scenes in *Kingman* had top notch visual effects and the choreography of the action scenes were outstanding and highly detailed.



Harry Hart (Colin Firth) is currently murdering people under the influence of the antagonist. *Kingsman* revives the spy genre for a new generation of viewers.

Many others also say that *Kingsman* has revived action movies because while action movies these days are of low quality with shaky cameras and quick cutting of scenes, *Kingsman*’s action scenes show the small details in the fights and uses silky smooth camera work throughout the film. The movie’s technically keeps the audience from questioning what is happening in the scenes, something that makes the film stand out more from the Hollywood action bunch.

One of the main highlights of the film was Samuel L. Jackson as villain Valentine, whose main goal is to try to end global warming but through sadistic means such as fights to the death and population control. With his thick lisp added to his comical personality, Jackson makes the

perfect villain for this action-comedy film which contradicts his goals for reducing the human population. His character also conducts unexpected acts of villainy, that take the audience by surprise throughout the film. Because of this, *Kingsman* is very unpredictable with many twists and turns that keep the audience thoroughly entertained.

Kingsman will hopefully leave behind a legacy. Not a legacy as wide reaching and well-known as the Bond and Bourne series, but one with more smooth action sequences. Unlike many of the action films Hollywood churns out, -99999999 is deserving of a franchise. Hopefully Matthew Vaughn continues to direct these spy films for years to come.

From cringes to cries: We present the Oscars and Grammys

BY Emilia Charno, Samantha D’Alongo, and Ilana Hill

Staff Writers

For 46 years, the Grammys have been bringing the music community together for one night a year. Some may think that the Grammys are a lost cause, but we think it is “Where It’s At,” and we could not “Turn Away” from the show this year. If you didn’t see what we did there, you are part of the majority of the population who has no idea who underdog Grammy winner Beck is and has probably heard none of his songs. Beck winning Album of the Year, robbing Beyoncé’s cleverly titled album *Beyoncé*, among others, came as one of the biggest shocks of the night. However, we cannot think of Beyoncé as a Loser, as she did take home three Grammys, just one shy of the big winner of the night: Sam Smith.

A year ago, nobody knew who British singer/songwriter Sam Smith was, but that did not stop him from winning big at this year’s Grammys. He won Grammys for Best New Artist, Song of the Year, Record of the Year, and Best Pop Vocal Album, thanks to a little motivation from his ex-boyfriend. He was able to “Latch” on to the American public, and will hopefully stay with us for awhile. His soulful songs were some of the favorite radio hits of the year, even though he is commonly confused for a Gospel choir, or Tom Petty.

Other viewers were surprised when Taylor Swift ended the night empty handed. However, this is because her new album, *1989*, was released after the Grammy nomination deadline, leaving only the single “Shake it Off.” Taylor did achieve victory in her quest to reconcile with Kanye West after his outburst at the Video Music Award in 2009. However, Kanye pulled another Kanye about “FourFiveSeconds” after Beck won Album of the Year.

While Kanye West has no problem showing his face in public, Sia prefers to keep her face hidden under large wigs due to her professed “hatred of



Top: Attendees await the Academy Awards at the Dolby Theater in Los Angeles, California. Actor Neil Patrick Harris hosted the event. Bottom: Beyoncé sings “Take My Hand, Precious Lord” at the 2015 Grammy Awards. Critics commended the performance’s demonstrated support for the Ferguson protests.

fame.” Sia, Maddie Ziegler, and Kristen Wiig performed a theatrical rendition of “Chandelier.” However, we were shocked that Sia did not win anything for her smash hit “Chandelier,” despite it being nominated in four categories. Our hollaback girl, Gwen Stefani, did not meet our expectations during her performance alongside Adam Levine. Our other challah (in reference to her braided updo) back girl, Iggy Azalea, did not take home any Grammys or perform, nor did fellow female rapper Nicki Minaj.

The Grammys are not the only major awards show this time of year. The Academy Awards, better known as the Oscars, also aired this February. The Oscars focus on big screen hits of the past year, and celebrate the cast and crew of these films. Much like the Grammys, the night was filled with victories, disappointments, and surprises. Over the years, the Oscars have been hosted by many beloved celebrities. This year, Neil Patrick Harris showed us his love for movies and musical numbers, as well

Network late night shows compete for comedy viewership

BY Alex Devas

Staff Writer

When it comes to television, comedians flourish during the nighttime. Broadcast from 11 p.m. to an hour past midnight, these entertainers’ shows bring humor and satirical news to live television. Comedians, such as Jimmy Fallon and Conan O’Brien, and all have their own shows. Although there are many late night talk shows that air on television, a few of them are famous for the type of entertainment that they provide.

The Tonight Show has been airing since 1954 and has had famous hosts such as Johnny Carson and Jay Leno. In 2014, Jimmy Fallon made his transition from *Late Night* to *The Tonight Show*. Fallon’s show not only has celebrity guests, but also an abundance of music, games, and cameo appearances. With The Roots as the house band and Fallon as the host, every episode of the *Tonight Show* is filled to the brim with entertainment. Popular skits include lip sync battles, song remixes with classroom instruments, and playing Pictionary with celebrities. Because of the range of skits, *The Tonight Show* with Jimmy Fallon is the most watched late night talk show on television.

Conan O’Brien, a former host of *The Tonight Show*, now has his own show simply titled *Conan*. While his show lacks the games and music of Fallon’s show, *Conan* is full of amusing interviews with celebrities and the occasional adventures into the streets. As Fallon does, O’Brien starts his show with a monologue about current events, then interviews two guests. *Conan* is then concluded with a musical guest or comedic performance. Because of the limited variety of the show, *Conan* has poor viewership and is not as popular as other late night shows list. *Jimmy Kimmel Live*, another popular late night talk show, is hosted by comedian Jimmy Kimmel. His show not only relies on celebrity interviews, but also on celebrity cameo appearances and films created by fans at home. Kimmel’s most notable skits are “Celebrities Read Mean Tweets” and variations of “I Told My Kids That,” which are compilations of home videos of parents telling their children things to draw funny reactions. Like *Conan*, *Jimmy Kimmel Live* starts with a monologue, has celebrity interviews, and ends with live music. However, Kimmel’s show has much better ratings than *Conan*, due to its ability to create and distribute viral content. While some late night talk shows focus

on celebrity interviews, the strong point of others is satirical news. Jon Stewart, host of *The Daily Show*, discusses headlines, politics, and world news while, of course adding his signature happy-pessimistic humor. The show also has correspondents, people who are satirically interviewed not only by Jon but also by others who go out to conduct their own field research. Such field work is often surprisingly thorough for a comedy show and allows the viewer to feel as if he or she is getting the best of both the comedic and the real world. *The Daily Show* is very popular and has a large viewership because of the team’s comical abilities and accurate reporting. Stewart recently announced that this current season of *The Daily Show* would be his seventeenth and last season. John Oliver, a former correspondent of *The Daily Show*, became the first host of the show *Last Week Tonight* in 2014. This show, similar to *The Daily Show*, takes a satirical look at news, politics, and current events, but on a weekly basis. In each of the thirty-minute episodes of *Last Week Tonight*, Oliver splits the time to talk about two different topics. Both Stewart and Oliver’s shows provide entertainment while covering real stories and current events. Now that the competition has been

as as a lot of skin when he came out in his underwear (a comedic nod to a memorable scene from Best Picture winner *Birdman*). Despite Neil’s entertaining acts and plethora of jokes, the number of viewers came in at a meager 36.6 million. This is the lowest number of Oscars viewers since 2009 and may be because the Oscars have begun to face harsh criticism from fans, saying that the Academy, much like Hollywood, is dominated by white males. This lack of diversity is clear in the lack of recognition at the show for the powerful film *Selma*, as well as the complete lack of nominees of color in the acting categories. *The LEGO Movie* was also snubbed for a best animated feature nomination. Luckily, a hilarious and frenetic performance of “Everything is Awesome” treated fans of the deserving movie. That being said, some of the major winners of the night included *Birdman* or (*The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance*) for Best Picture, Eddie Redmayne for Best Actor (for his role in *The Theory of Everything*), Alejandro G. Iñárritu for Best Director (for his work on *Birdman*), and Julianne Moore for Best Actress (for her work in *Still Alice*). Many were shocked when *Birdman* gained such high altitude and expected one of the two awards it won to be awarded to the highly regarded film *Boyhood*; however, despite its six nominations, *Boyhood* only managed to take home a single award. Though many considered Best Actress winner Julianne Moore a shoo-in, some were shocked when Eddie Redmayne took home the Best Actor award—not to say he did not deserve it. Both of the aforementioned awards were given for portraying a character dealing with grave illness. Redmayne portrayed famed physicist Stephen Hawking, who suffered from ALS, while Moore acted as a Columbia University professor diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease. All in all, the 87th Academy Awards proved an entertaining and surprising night for all involved. introduced, it is clear that the market for late night talk shows is highly competitive, especially because there seem to be many similarities between each of them. The real arena in which these different shows compete is not television, but the Internet. Social media is a constant battleground for viewership that *The Tonight Show* has gracefully navigated. The show’s YouTube page has just about 6.5 million subscribers, many more than the other shows’ (including *Conan*’s 2.5 million). Additionally, Jimmy Fallon has utilized Facebook’s new news feature perfectly, commonly creating viral entertainment that ends up on the right side of America’s screen. Such dominant social media usage has been able to distinguish Fallon from his peers. All these shows have the same guidelines, provide late night entertainment to viewers across the nation. Though such a landscape’s similarities make it impossible to rank such shows, however, because if you are looking for variety the winner is *The Tonight Show*. If you are looking for news, the victors are *The Daily Show* or *Last Week Tonight*. If you are looking for pure comedy, either *Conan* or *Jimmy Kimmel Live* should be your top choice.

To Kill a Mockingbird author announces sequel to her American classic

by Aaron Gindi
Contributing Writer

To Kill a Mockingbird is undoubtedly a highlight of the American literary canon. Headlining the Library of Congress’ list of “The Books That Shaped America,” To Kill a Mockingbird was published in 1954. It holds the distinction of being Harper Lee’s only published work; however, fifty-five years after the publication of To Kill a Mockingbird, she has announced the publication of a sequel titled Go Set a Watchman. This has unleashed a mixed tempest of criticism and excitement across the nation.

Upon initially hearing such a thing, one might be baffled by how such a story can be surrounded in controversy. A reason for criticism is skepticism as to whether or not Lee actually wanted to publish this sequel. Lee has been isolated from the world and protected from the media by her

sister, a woman who purportedly dislikes getting media attention. However, her sister passed away two months before the announcement and recently rumors have surfaced that Lee’s health is declining as well. Many find the correlation uncanny and believe Lee was pressured into publication.

HarperCollins, the publisher of To Kill a Mockingbird, claimed that they found the manuscript attached to an original manuscript of To Kill a Mockingbird before they attained the rights, and many have found this story very fishy. HarperCollins is set to earn huge profits with the book, so it is not too hard to believe that foul play is involved. Even so, Lee is claiming her decision to publish, and denouncing critics and skeptics of the new novel.

Others are thrilled. To Kill a Mockingbird is one of America’s most beloved books, and the resurfacing of a long-lost sequel makes fans bubble with

joy. The novel takes place twenty years after the original, during the racial turmoil of the 1950s. Scout Finch, the protagonist of both books, is coming home to her isolated southern town to visit her father, Atticus.

Lee says that Go Set a Watchman will continue in the same themes of To Kill a Mockingbird, namely social inequality and small town southern culture. Lee says that although the plot of Go Set a Watchman takes place chronologically afterwards, it was the father of To Kill a Mockingbird, written before and initially rejected by the editor.

All of this gives Go Set a Watchman the potential for a place amongst the greatest American novels of all time. It will combine the legacy of To Kill a Mockingbird, the enticing obscurity of its author, and the scandal surrounding it to form a publishing saga to be closely followed over the next few months.

Imagine Dragons’ latest album is a mixed bag



en.wikipedia.org

by Rami Chaudhry
A&E Editor

Imagine Dragons has, to the dismay of many, revitalized arena rock. Despite hardcore rock fans’ disapproval of this, the band’s success has solidified them as the face of the genre: a misleading statement since the genre really isn’t rock, but rather pop music disguised as modern rock.

The Las Vegas band combined alternative rock with elements of electronic, dance, and hip-hop in their debut album Night Visions (2012) with critical and commercial success. Since then, Imagine Dragons set themselves on a path few bands have journeyed through as of late.

Touring from 2012 to 2014, having three hit songs, not to mention their entire album, hold high spots on the Billboard 200, receiving a Grammy, and being helmed as the most downloaded rock band in history thanks to their sleeper hit “Radioactive,” Imagine Dragons has been on top of the world.

In early 2015, their patient fans were rewarded with another album, Smoke+Mirrors. It has undoubtedly pleased converted Dragons fans since its release in late February. However, from an unconverted listener’s point of view, all signs point to a sophomore slump.

The album tackles similar themes present in Night Visions, which means the songs do not have anything controversial or profound to say. Their topics hover around depressing and angst-driven emotions, all while staying ironically upbeat and catchy. The opening track “Shots” is the best example of this.

The pop-infused tune is about the relationships lead singer Dan Reynolds has ruined over the years. Because of the memorable beat and chorus, you can’t help but enjoy his pain.

“Gold,” the second track of the album, starts out with frenetic sounds one would expect of a Kanye album, but finds itself with a welcoming Latin influence and infectious sound. If only it didn’t contain computerized clapping noises, which are shamelessly spread throughout Smoke+Mirrors’ thirteen tracks.

Other than the two opening songs, the 2014 released single “I Bet My Life,” and the hidden gem “Trouble,” Smoke+Mirrors is a forgettable album. The guitar heavy “I’m So Sorry” has elements of alternative rock, but seems like a cheap rip off of a Black Keys song. “Friction” delivers some diversity through the use of middle-eastern strings, but ultimately has an irritating effect.

Imagine Dragons have a successful album on their hands, in that it is one that will provide radio stations digestible songs to shove down listeners’ ears. Sadly, middling originality does not result in better quality. Hopefully, their third outing delivers an entire album worth listening to outside of a car.

SNL 40: is there such a thing as too many celebrities?



popinsomniacs.com

The Celebrity Jeopardy sketch epitomized the night, as both the sketch and the show featured a ton of celebrities and a little bit of logic. SNL 40 proved to be an odd mix of entertainment, awkwardness, and nostalgia.

by Max Miranda
A&E Editor

On Feb. 15, America was reminded that shows that feel timeless actually did have beginnings. Saturday Night Live’s 40th Anniversary Special managed to dazzle more than one generation during the three-hour-long special, jam-packed with enough celebrities to fill Yankee Stadium and an unhealthy amount of nostalgia. Despite the night generally appeasing viewers, the special could not honestly be considered representative of what the show has been for the last 40 years.

Instead, “the celebration of SNL” could be considered just that, and nothing more. The night felt more like a wacky star-packed victory lap (albeit an entertaining one) than it did a coherent show.

For example, the show’s first sketch was the monologue instead of a cold open, and although Jimmy Fallon and Justin Timberlake’s musical tribute was reminiscent of the show’s long history of musical monologues, people were a little surprised when Steve Martin came out for a second monologue. With a total lack of transition from one generation’s jokes to another, this attempted blend of old and new felt choppy and unnatural for a show that is usually timely.

The show featured a mix of supercuts and live skits; though it is definitive that people familiar with old sketches

appreciated such tributes, they were ineffective for younger viewers. The clip reels featured one liners instead of longer sketches, and despite the time constraint it seemed clear that the greatest minds in the creative industry could have come up with a better way. For example, Will Ferrell’s company Funny or Die did a “Presidential Reunion” of all the comedians who had played a POTUS on SNL. Such combination sketches would have been better suited to honor the show’s esteemed history. Then again, regardless of the medium, everyone can respect what the show has accomplished, even with near mediocre understanding of the show’s history.

By far the best representative sketch of the special was the Celebrity Jeopardy which, while thoroughly entertaining and nostalgic, was tainted with a sense of excess and missing refinement. There was clear evidence that this sketch was rushed, but it still received rave reviews overall and was frankly enjoyable. The sketch featured the traditional plot line of Sean Connery (Darrell Hammond) making fun of Alex Trebek (Will Ferrell) and his mother. The show was also packed with a Justin Bieber impression by Kate McKinnon, Alec Baldwin as Tony Bennett, Jim Carrey as Matthew McConaughey, Taran Killam as Christoph Waltz, and Norm MacDonald as Burt Reynolds as Turd Ferguson, because why not? The point is, this sketch got pretty freaky pretty fast, and to quote

Lorne Michaels, “Sure, it got a laugh, but did it get the right laugh?”


Kanye West’s musical performance took place under a white sheet and he just lay down the entire time. It should be noted that if literally any other artist except Lady Gaga were to do this, it would have gone viral.


The show had plenty of high points, including a surprisingly new-feeling Wayne’s World tribute, a Martin Short-Beyoncé (Maya Rudolph) ode to musical sketches, and a critically-acclaimed rendition of the Jaws theme by Bill Murray. There is no doubt that reviews were ultimately positive both on traditional media and social media.

The New York Times called it “a high-spirited, generous tribute, self-mocking, as well as self-congratulatory.”

Overall, the night might have had some awkward moments, like Jerry Seinfeld’s audience Q&A, which just felt like an excuse to include all the other cameos that the writers had not had time for. And you know your tribute is not perfect when Chris Rock can give a more heartwarming speech about Eddie Murphy than Eddie Murphy can give about his career’s springboard (a.k.a. SNL).

But as a whole, the night accomplished its goal of entertaining audiences young and old and putting a fun spin on 40 laugh-filled years.

Athletes

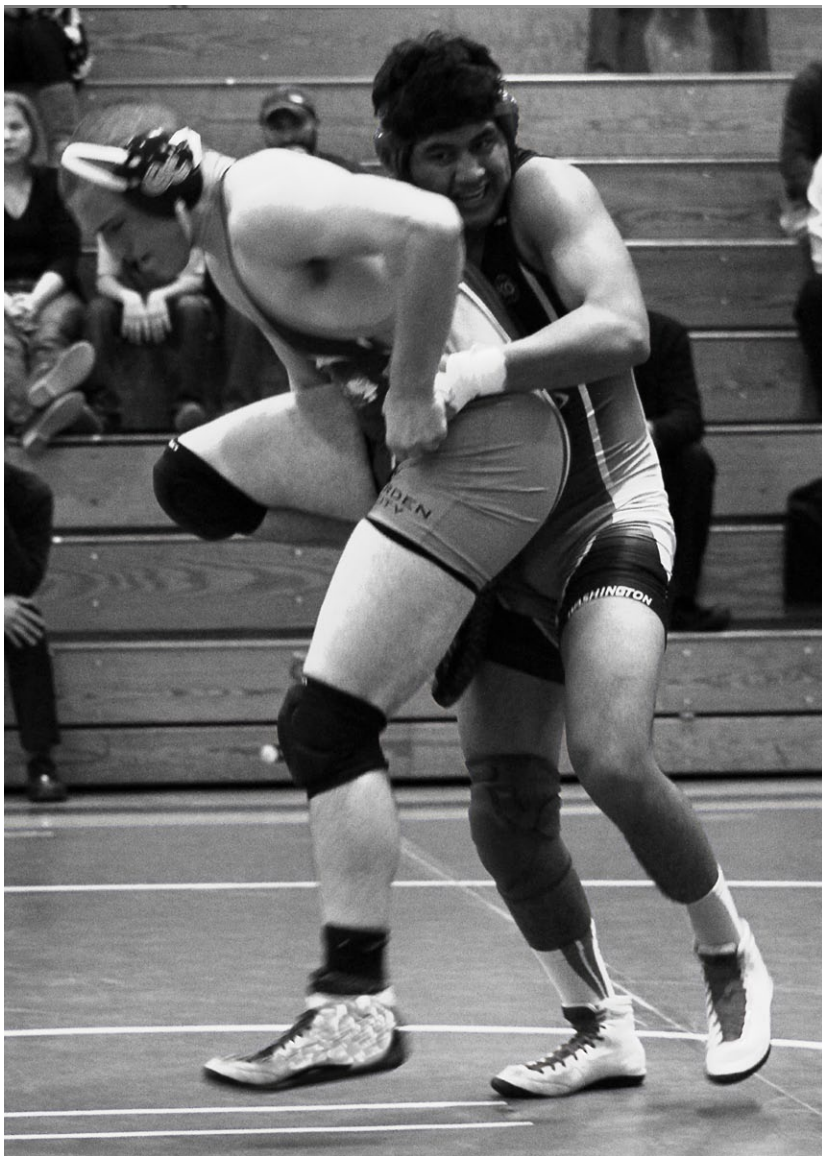
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Olivia Ressa

Elmer Mendez



Senior captain Olivia Ressa goes through her bar routine on Dec. 19 against Long Beach. The Vikings lost 139.8-128.1. Ressa solidified her spot as one of the team's highest scorers



Senior Elmer Mendez wrestles against the Garden City Trojans on Dec. 11. Mendez went on to place first in the county tournament. Mendez and senior Sam Goldman are Port's first county winners in 39 years.

An athlete's guide on how to succeed in sports; Kyle Cohen and Molly Alstodt

BY Kyle Cohen and Molly Alstodt
Staff Writer and Contributing Writer

Playing on the Varsity basketball team requires much dedication, sacrifice, and hard work. Every single day, everyone on the team must show up with a positive attitude and a desire to improve.

With winter being the longest sports season, basketball season is always a grind. There is a combination of late practices and multiple games each week, so it is not easy to bring the intensity every single day.

But it's important that everyone on the team is on the same page and brings it each and every day.

When practice starts, the team will run a few laps to warm up followed by a series of moving stretches.

After the warm up, we run a drill called "perfection" in which the team goes through a series of drills under a time constraint.

If the time limit is not reached, the team will do sets of "Vegas Closeouts," which are essentially a form of conditioning. After this, we perform a group of drills to improve our game and go over plays. Usually, practice culminates with a scrimmage.

During the season, the coaches and

leaders stress mental toughness. Basketball is a rough sport. We will miss shots, turn the ball over, and get bad fouls called against us each game.

However, it is important that this doesn't affect the team more than it should. It is critical to forget about it and move on to the next play.

In order to be successful, the team knows what needs to be done. Everybody needs to have the same goal, which is ultimately to win as many games as possible.

This year, we had a great group of guys who were able to do the right things and have a pretty successful year.

~ Kyle Cohen, Boys basketball

Row, row, row your boat gently down the stream.... well, not exactly. Rowing is actually an intense sport that takes place in sleek, fast boats.

Rowers sit in a boat and use an oar to propel the boat.

Rowing is the only sport where you face backwards from the direction you are heading.

The fact that you are facing forward and do not know the distance to the end of the race creates a feeling of uncertainty.

It takes a tremendous amount of

training and focus in order to prepare your body and your mind for a race.

Contrary to popular belief, rowers use much more than their arms to move the boat. The main muscles used to make a boat go forward are the legs, then the back, then the arms.

It is a full body exercise that involves both strength and cardiovascular components.

Rowing races are tests of endurance, strength and good technique in changing water and wind conditions. Races are held over a distance of 2000 meters.

It is similar to a track and field race, with a fixed starting line and a fixed finish line. Boats race side-by-side in their own lanes. The first to cross the finish line wins.

Rowing demands high degrees of endurance, strength, teamwork, mental toughness, and an ability to continue on when your body is telling you that you can't.

As Daniel James, the author of *The Boys in the Boat* put it, "It's not a question of whether you will hurt, or of how much you will hurt; it's a question of what you will do, and how well you will do it, while pain has her wanton way with you."

~ Molly Alstodt, Girls rowing



Senior Kyle Cohen pulls up for a mid-range jumper during warmups against the East Meadow Jets on Feb. 10. The Vikings won the game 54-33 but eventually fell in the playoffs to MacArthur 58-56 to end the season.

Boys varsity basketball team knocked out in first playoff round

After clinching postseason berth at senior game, Port falls in heartbreaker to MacArthur

BY **Matt Kramer and Dillon Nissan**
Staff Writers

After losing back to back games to Oceanside and Plainview-JFK, the Vikings came home to play the East Meadow Jets on Feb. 10 for senior night and a chance to clinch a playoff berth.

“The fact that this game was a must win game for us to get into the playoffs adds a lot of pressure, but once the game started it was just basketball. It felt like a regular game after that,” said senior captain Noah Linder.

To many team members, the game felt like a playoff game because of the urgency with which they played. The game also brought playoff intensity, as a win would help the Vikings clinch a playoff spot. The team fought hard, particularly senior Kyle Cohen, who was involved in a bench-clearing brawl.

“We had a lot of energy because it was senior night and we wanted to get a win because it was our last home game. The crowd was also a big factor in the game,” said Linder.

Many fans, along with players, brought a lot of energy to the game as Port rolled to a 54-33 win. The team knows it still has to work on things for next year in order to improve and once again try to earn a playoff berth.

“I’d say mental toughness was our point of focus. When we were playing well, we were positive. But when we weren’t play-

ing well, we really got down on ourselves. We were an up and down team,” said junior Kevin Hazan.

Four days later, boys varsity basketball team’s season ended with a two point loss to MacArthur on Feb 14. In the game, the team had strong performances from junior Zach Jimenez and Linder, who scored 20 and 22 points, respectively. Jimenez got the job done from the free throw line, hitting eight free throws over the course of the game, including two to send the game into overtime with seventeen seconds left. Because of this heartbreaker, the team’s playoff hopes have ended.

In the playoff game against MacArthur, the team came out dull, missing the energy brought in the home win against East Meadow and letting their playoff nerves get the best of them. However, the game ended up being close the entire way and came to an upsetting and rather unexpected finish.

“I thought we played solid transition offense and spaced the floor well, but rushed our shots on offense. We also poorly executed our defensive rotations,” said Jimenez

This game will give this young team some needed playoff experience, and the rough loss will leave the Vikings with a chip on their shoulder and hungry for a playoff win next season.

As the season came to an end, there were some very mixed emotions about how this year lived up to expectations. Many thought that the team had a shot at



Josh White

Head Coach Mr. Sean Dooley motivates his team during senior night against the East Meadow Jets on Feb. 10. The Vikings ended up winning the game 54-33.

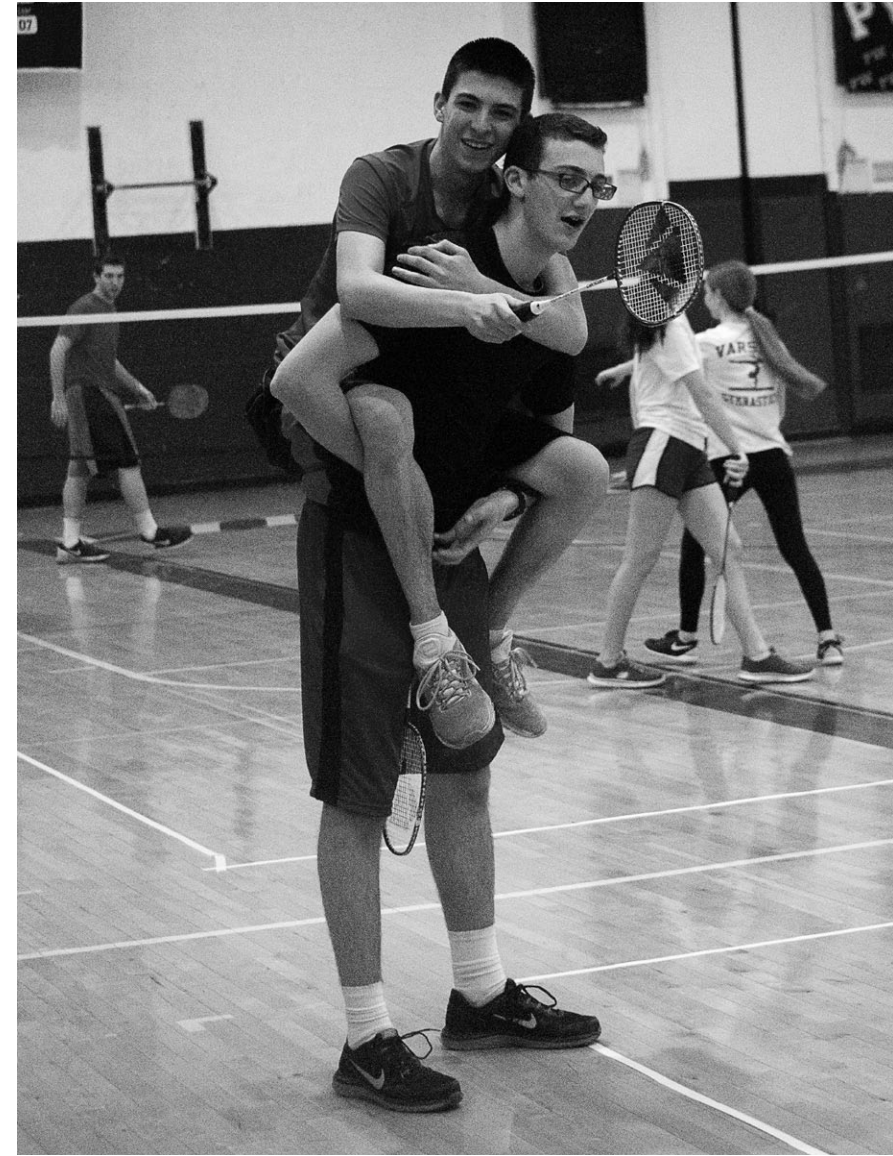
making a run deep into the playoffs this year.

“Personally, I thought we could’ve done better,” said Hazan. “We faced adversity throughout the season, dealing with sickness and injury. At the beginning of the season when we had a full roster, we were one of the top teams in the conference. Towards the middle of the season, we lost a couple games we had the opportunity to win, a couple players got sick and hurt, and a couple players stepped up but we overall had a successful season.”

This season exceeded expectations of

many team members, but the playoff loss to MacArthur was a disappointing end for the team to an otherwise successful season. The team brought in some new youth, adding sophomores Jake Block, Crew Weingard and Xavier Merriweather, and eighth grader Brian Kenyon to their roster. Jimenez and Merriweather were named all-conference, and Linder was given all-county honors. With one eighth grader, four sophomores, and four juniors, the Vikings are bringing back a youth core for next season that could help lead this team back and deeper into the playoffs next year.

Letter Club holds badminton tournament



Seth Barshay

Seniors Nicholas D’Alonzo and Michael DiPreta celebrate after a close win during the badminton competition hosted by the Letter Club on Feb. 27.

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Calling the Shots

BY Eric Fishbin
Sports Editor

Winning is a priority in professional sports. And apparently, high school athletics place as much of an emphasis on it as professional sports do. Recently in Tennessee, two high school basketball teams who had already clinched the playoffs were competing for seeding.

The team that won the game would play the best team in the region, and most likely lose. Instead of putting effort in and trying to win, both teams set out to lose the game.

The Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association executive director Bernard Childress said, “We started getting emails and calls saying that no one was trying to win the game, actually, that two teams were trying to lose the game.”

The news of this mockery reached the peaks of the sports world. As punishment, the Riverdale High School and Smryna High School faced probation for the remainder of the season and a \$1,500 fine.

It is likely that professional sports influenced these teams into tanking. In the world of professional sports, spectators commonly see NBA and NFL teams setting out to lose games in order to get a better draft pick.

When tanking happens in professional sports, nobody wins in the short term. Fans are upset because they wasted money on watching their favorite teams lose on purpose, and the balance of the leagues are thrown off. Although the strategic reasons are understandable, this sets a poor example for the global sporting community.

Pressure is certainly a reason for the winning drive amongst athletes. Con-

Pressure can get the best of athletes at all levels



Former Milwaukee Bucks center Larry Sanders drives to the hoop and puts up a right handed layup against Boston Celtics center Vitor Faverani on Nov. 1, 2013. After taking time away from the team, Sanders has officially been bought out.

stant expectations, along with self-driven motivation, contribute to the pressure the athletes face. 26-year-old former Milwaukee Bucks first round pick Larry Sanders recently decided to take time off from basketball.

He requested and received a buyout from the Bucks so that he could work on his mental stability and spend time with his family. Recently, Mr. Sanders was treated in Rogers Memorial Hospital for anxiety and depression. Despite a lucrative contract for four years at \$44 million, and a dream job as a professional athlete, the expectations and pressure of deeply affected Sanders.

Sanders said in his Players’ Tribune piece “Don’t Forget the And,” “I love basketball and I’ll always be playing basketball but for it to be consuming so much

of my life and time right now, it’s not there for me, it’s not that worth it. If I get to the point to where I feel I am capable of playing basketball again I will.”

He realizes that some things are not worth the consequences.

At the collegiate level, incoming freshmen have to adjust to their new lifestyle at a rapid pace. In high school, they had to be students first and athletes second, which prevented them from performing athletically at the collegiate level.

Now, ESPN will be saying their names, and how they are good or not good enough to make it. In an effort to ease the adjustment, the Big Ten conference is considering implementing a freshman ineligibility rule.

This would allow the incoming freshman basketball and football players time to focus on school, helping them balance edu-

cation with athletics. Although it is unlikely that all five power conferences will agree to this, the fact that the idea exists demonstrates the increasing importance of education to the programs and the importance of allowing freshmen the opportunity to lessen the pressure. The commissioner of the Big Ten is calling it a “year of readiness.”

Athletes at Schreiber are compelled by the competitiveness and success associated with sports, forcing them to draw away from academics.

“The pressure and expectations with playing a high school sport has a huge impact because I am not only playing for myself and my teammates, I am playing for an entire town when I put on the Port Washington jersey,” said junior Daniel Ernst. “The expectations of winning and the competitiveness is a lot more appealing then focusing on school work.”

It was not so long ago that Schreiber hosted former NBA player Chris Herren, who discussed this problem as related to addiction. He mentioned that it was the high pressure and expectations associated with sports that led him down the road to drug use. This can become an issue for many stressed-out high school sports teams.

Balancing a varsity sport with high level classes is a challenge that many high school students face. Students’ grades can suffer during a season when they are playing a sport. These low grades, as well as the pressure to excel at their sport, can contribute to high school athletes’ high stress levels. Different people decide to deal with pressure in varying ways. We have seen players at the professional level resort to drugs, and at the high school level, prioritizing athletics over academics.

Captains’ Corner: Andrew Adelhardt, Peter Kirgis, Mike Colonna, Steven Lopez

BY Kevin Hazan
Staff Writer

Kevin Hazan: Hi, I am here with the captains of the boys winter track team, Andrew Adelhardt, Peter Kirgis, Mike Colonna and Steven Lopez. Coming off of a conference runner-up season, I am glad to have the opportunity to talk with them. Thanks for joining me today!

Andrew Adelhardt: No problem, thank you for having us.

KH: Last season a lot of key senior runners graduated. That team had won the 2014 division title. Has the loss of those seniors impacted the team in any way this season?

Peter Kirgis: Yeah, kids like Shogo Yamamoto, Kwan Park , Yugi Choi, Mike Gennussa, Ben Moy and Leo Potters were excellent runners, and they contributed a huge amount of points to the team. Without them, the team had to build up a new core of runners from younger grades.

AA: It definitely has. We lost about seven of our leading scorers from last year. Our underclassmen really had to step up to fill the void.

Mike Colonna: I’ll be honest; we lost a lot of great talent last year. But the

loss of talent doesn’t mean we did badly this year—a lot of underclassmen really stepped up. We placed second in the conference, same as last year.

KH: Like you said, with the loss of the key seniors, underclassmen had to step up to ‘fill the void.’ Were there any surprises this year from anybody who really stepped up and might have had a quiet year last season?

PK: Aaron Siff-Scherr had a great season. He made states and was All-Conference and All-County in the 1000m. Alex Zsikla, a freshman runner, was also exceptional in the jumps. Senior Steven Lopez was the conference champ in the high jump, and was all conference in the long jump and triple jump, which was very impressive.

AA: Yes, sophomores like Aaron Siff-Scherr, Joey Levine, and Rory Owens have progressed to scoring athletes who had a dramatic impact on the success of our team this season.

MC: Will Barnes, a junior who has never run winter track before this season, definitely stepped up, running the 55 and 4x4.

KH: The team did not win the conference, but how do you feel the team performed this year overall? Did you ac-

complish everything you set out to from the start of the season?

Steven Lopez: The team’s performance this year was impressive considering we had such a huge loss from last year’s group. It required everyone to step up, which many did. We made major improvements this season, and hope to continue to grow stronger in the spring.

PK: Yeah. For this team, a runner up conference finish was pretty impressive. I qualified for the state meet, which was my goal for the season, so I definitely accomplished what I wanted to.

KH: The responsibilities of a captain can vary depending on the sport. How did you run practices as captains? Were you given that freedom, and expected to always work hard and be on top of guys to make sure they did what they needed to do in order to be successful?

SL: As a captain, my goal was to lead by example and demonstrate how much effort and work is needed in order to achieve success, as well as making sure everyone else was on the same page.

PK: For the distance team, Andrew and I tried to lead by example by working hard and showing the younger kids on the team what it takes to succeed. We were definitely given more freedom, but were also given a

lot of responsibility to help out everyone on the team as much we could.

AA: As a captain, you always have to keep the morale up. If the weather, the workout, or the race sucks, it’s always important to stay positive. That’s what I really tried to do this year.

KH: This question is for Steven and Mike. As this was your last season on winter track, who do you expect will lead the team next year after you graduate? Will there be anyone who could suprise the team next year?

SL: I believe juniors Andrew Adelhardt and Aidan Finnerty, along with sophomores Aaron Siff-Scherr, and Joey Levine will be major contributors next year due to their hard work ethic. They will be excellent leaders and also lead by example.

MC: For long distance runners, definitely Adelhardt and Siff-Scherr will lead the team. For the short distance runners, Barnes, Aidan Finnerty, Cameron, and Aiello will be significant next year for the team.

KH: Thank you for taking the time to talk to me. Congratulations on a great season.

VIKING SPORTS

Winter sport teams conclude 2014-2015 seasons *Varsity teams finish with mixed results; look forward to next year*

BY Andrew Kerr, Justin Suzzan and Josh White
Staff Writers and Photo Editor

Boys Bowling

Going into the last match of the season, the boys varsity bowling team was ranked second only to Garden City Trojans. The Vikings lost to the no. 1 seed, the Garden City Trojans, 2-1 by scores of 624-678, 679-627, 748-642.

Throughout the season, the Vikings were constantly wavering between first and second place, winning against teams including Manhasset, Roslyn, Great Neck North, and Great Neck South.

The Vikings will lose 4 seniors; however, the senior captain believes that some of the younger players will be able to pick up the slack next season.

"Sophomore Alec Marshak was one of our strongest bowlers this season and he is only a sophomore," said senior captain Nick D'Alonzo. "Between Alec and [junior] John Gallagher leading the charge next season, Port bowling should continue its success."

The Vikings will look to bounce back next year and compete for a Conference I Championship next season.

Boys Wrestling

The boys wrestling team had a very successful season this year with two county champions. Seniors Sam Goldman and Elmer Mendez both won county championships, the first county winners from Port in 39 years.

The wrestling team worked hard throughout the season at practices and

meets for a chance at making Schreiber history.

This hard work paid off in the long run. The wrestling team will be losing many talented seniors, including Diego Alvarez, Zach Avazis, Mike Petty, and Johnny Nahas, and of course the two county champions, Goldman and Mendez.

Even with this loss, the team looks forward to next season with high expectations from upcoming wrestlers. Junior Teddy Tannenbaum finished fifth in the county tournament and expects to improve next season.

The team finished this season with a record of 2-1 in its conference.

Boys Winter Track

The boys indoor track team, whose season ended in January, added to Port's already-impressive reputation. Although the team fell short of a conference cham-

"The team did well this season," said Coach Ms. Nicole Dumpson. "If we keep improving and growing as a team we will achieve much more."

pionship, junior captain Peter Kirgis still had good things to say about his team this season.

"I was impressed with the teams' per-

formance this year," said Kirgis. "I know we will keep improving and hopefully win a conference championship in the future."

Kirgis is one of the Schreiber runners who will be participating at states.

Coach Nicole Dumpson was proud of the team's performance this season. However, like every coach, she knows the team can always improve.

"The team did well this season," said Coach Dumpson. "If we keep improving and growing as a team we will achieve much more."

Girls Gymnastics

With two new coaches for the girls gymnastic team this season, the team struggled in its first season under new management. Heavily led by seniors this season, the team hopes that new gymnasts in the following season will help the team get into the win column. They finished the season with a record of 0-5.

Girls Winter Track

The girls winter track team ended its season by winning its conference this year. The team was led by senior captains Jenny Aguiar, Neve Devine, and Laura Russo, who, in their final indoor track season, were able to help lead the team to victory.

"Every individual runner stepped up this season," said Aguiar. "Next year, we have some great girls who will continue to make Port proud."

These seniors leave behind a team that is showing great potential not only for next season but also for many future seasons. Freshmen Lucy Hurt and Maddie Jester are among two of the girls who will be participating in the state championships.

Head Coach Jeremiah Pope continuously emphasizes how important it is to work as hard as you can all the time, something that has evidently helped the track team reach the top. Coach Pope will continue advocating this mentality with his runners next season, and hopes to inspire both current and future runners to do better.

Girls Basketball

Finishing the season off with a 65-53 win against the East Meadow Jets, the girls varsity basketball team played the no. 3 seed, the Syosset Braves, in the first round of the playoffs.



Josh White

Freshman Tyler Owens drives for a right handed layup against the Plainview Hawks on Feb. 6. The Vikings won the game 52-34 and Owens posted 8 points including two three pointers.

The Vikings went into the second half down by one with a score of 33-32. Behind senior captain Anna Catrone, the Vikings rallied back to win the game 64-53.

Catrone lead the way with 26 points and sophomore Rachel Rosen added nine points, 10 rebounds and 7 steals.

Coming off their first round playoff win, the girls varsity basketball team played the no. 1 seeded Baldwin Bruins in the quarterfinals.

The Bruins got out to an early lead and never looked back. Despite junior Phylcia Waskover and Catrone scoring 11 and 10 points respectively, the team did not win. The Vikings lost the game by a score of 80-41.

The girls varsity basketball team finished the season with an overall record of 10-9 and a conference record of 7-5. The Vikings look to continue their success next year with many of their current players returning.



Sean Lui

Senior Patience Ragione attempts to pin her opponent to the mat on Dec. 11. Ragione is the only female Viking wrestler. The squad had three wrestlers place in the top five at the county tournament, including two champions.

