



Manasquan High School

# The Blue & Gray

## Hello Bella!

### Senior Wins Warriors' First Wrestling State Championship



### Committee Celebrates as Squan-a-thon



### Turns Ten, Reaches New Heights!

## Winter 2019 *in this issue*

### New Science Wing Opens!

- Drama Club Prepares for Spring Musical
- InvenTeam Makes Progress on "Tic Mask"
- Band Amps Up for Parade Season
- MHS Seniors Shine!

**IN THE NEWS:** Operation Varsity Blues, Selfie Stupidity, Democrats Prepare to Challenge Trump, The Jonas Brothers, Giants Trade OBJ, & More!

### Swimming, Basketball, Hockey Add to list of Squan Sports Championships

# High School Construction is Complete!



## The Blue & Gray Manasquan H.S.

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Issue Three

Winter 2019

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For months, little signs of Manasquan High School's construction project coming to a close were everywhere. From the fresh sod that replaced the staging zone on the front lawn of the school to the removal of the fenced work area of the building, we knew soon the work would be done. And now it is.

For nearly two years, since the summer of 2017, the project disabled the north hallway of MHS, closing science labs, limiting access to the gym, and rerouting students to alternate paths to get to the IA building and the band room. For many, it was inconvenient, but definitely necessary for facility improvement.

Now we finally see the fruit of the labor. There are six new science labs, where students have plenty of space to spread out and work collaboratively on labs and projects in updated, modernized classrooms. Biology students in particular will benefit from the attractive greenhouse built into the front corner of the school. Teachers have much more storage space for materials, as well as offices attached to classrooms.

Chemistry teacher Mr. Glenn commented on the benefits of the new lab. "I blew something up on day one," he said. "I couldn't do that in room 570."

All joking aside, Mr. Glenn praised the convenience of the new labs, and the many opportunities to enhance learning. "I love it," he said.

It is not only the Science classes that benefit either. The Tech Department has been relocated to a beautiful new second floor space. Engineering and Robotics students have a STEM lab to call their own. All MHS students, both present and future, will benefit from the construction project.

# Squan-a-Thon Turns Ten

## Night of Compassion, Charity Lights Up MHS

By: Ryan McNamara, Diana Putelo, & Kennedy Miller

While Manasquan High School may best be known for its football and basketball championships, serving the community and helping others in need defines the true Warrior spirit. Squan-a-thon, the popular 12-hour dance marathon that raises money for pediatric cancer research, highlights this side of MHS.

Friday, March 15th saw the return of Squan-a-Thon to MHS. The incredible energy, commitment and effort of scores of students, not to mention faculty advisers Mrs. Basaman and Mrs. Holer, ensured the 10th anniversary event would be one to remember.

Sure enough, the night proved special. The gym was packed with members of the community and students all night long. Squan-a-thon founder and former teacher Mr. Battaglia returned from Tennessee to the delight of students. And the efforts of the Squan-a-thon committee along with the many participants, raised over \$150,000.

For 12 hours the students celebrated a “Decade of Dancing” on Squan-a-Thon’s 10th birthday. Inflatable obstacle courses, notable speakers, and professional dancers ignited energy in the early hours of the night.

Former University of Tennessee football player, Inky Johnson, kicked-off the event with a

powerful speech about his career ending injury that left him paralyzed in his right arm. Professional football player, Mark Herzlich, followed later in the night (actually early Saturday morning) with

a retelling of his victory against cancer.

In addition to Mr. Battaglia, another familiar face returned to MHS. Liv Easton, who graduated last June, returned to speak of her own battle with thyroid cancer. As a past committee member and dancer herself, it was a surreal moment for her friends, family, and community to hear her speak from a different perspective.

Manasquan’s own student formed band wowed the crowd while Zumba and hip hop instructors had dancers up on their feet and moving.

Ashley Newsome, an IntenSati instructor, led participants in a high intensity dance workout. Newsome, who preformed last year as well, is known for her motivational and self affirming quotes.

Last year, the event raised a record total amount of \$142,570.02, with every penny going to providing local families affected by pediatric cancer or other serious illnesses with financial and



Above: Liv Easton, class of 2019, speaks to the Squan-a-thon crowd about her own battle with cancer. Below (left): Committee members Matt Liggett, Lexie Minton, Madison Lyons, Ava Jansen and Nick Rice enjoy the fruit of their labor; (right): Squan students including (left to right) Natalia Tapia, Fran OBrien and Sean Rogers formed a band and jammed the night away.



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# Manasquan Unveils New Science Wing



By: Kennedy Miller

On Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, students were welcomed back to school after winter break with the unveiling of the new science wing. After a year and a half of construction, the addition was complete with six science labs, a greenhouse, and a new health and technology room.

The estimated 8 million dollar upgrade to the high school repaired the labs that had not been updated since 1962 and were in desperate need for renovation.

The upgrades were part of the 2017 referendum that included construction to both the high school and elementary school. Superintendent, Dr. Kasyan, spearheaded the project and pushed for the referendum to pass.

According to Kasyan the

*Below: The greenhouse is a great asset to biology classes and future electives.*



plan came from a desire to build and support Manasquan's academics and academy's and give students skills for the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Kasyan stated, "the new wing will give students more elective options and opportunities in the future."

As the 5<sup>th</sup> building project in his career, Kasyan insists, "this is the best project I've been a part of. The project went smoothly and was done on time and under budget."

The addition, constructed by KAPPA and New Roads Construction, matches the beauty of the main building. To achieve this, Kasyan said "we had a brick committee to chose both the brick and grout."

During the design process Kasyan said he was "open to ideas and to listen to what people wanted." He added, "teachers had an input; projects like these are only done once so we knew we had to get it right."

Explaining the design of the wing, Kasyan said they aimed to mimic a college atmosphere. The prep room (which is shared between teachers) and the large square footage were ideas taken from the layout of science rooms

at Wall High School.

Additionally, the windows facing out into the hallway were a design element from High Technology High School, intending to bring light into the classrooms.

The science teachers are both thrilled and relieved to finally have their own rooms. Chemistry teacher, Mr. Glenn, who has been teaching in multiple rooms during the construction said, "having science supplies all over the school made setting up a simple lab into an afternoon of walking around the school."

He insists, "the prep room helps helps; it's easy now that I don't have to rush and beat the clock." Glenn is excited for the second half of the year stating,



*Above: The classrooms are considerably large and have abundant cabinets for storage.*

"my AP class can do more labs now and we can go back to the labs we used to do with chemicals now that there's safety equipment."

Biology teacher Mrs. Crowning, who pushed for Manasquan to have a greenhouse, is thrilled with the result. She commented, "the greenhouse was a must have that I've been wanting for a very long time."

So far, the feedback from the students has been positive as well. Students have found their classes have gotten more intriguing

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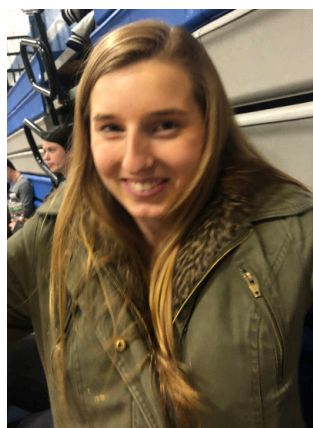
# Students React to Updated Science Labs



At left, juniors Shealyn Murphy and agree that they, “love the new wing. The desks are really cool, but the stools are uncomfortable because they are too high.” Junior Jane Antonucci (right): “I love that the new classrooms in the science wing are spacious because there is more room for activities.”



Manasquan Senior James Harmstead really, “likes the new active boards and classrooms.”



At left: Seniors Nicole Fancera and Pia Donadeo are excited about the new wing except for one thing: “It is really clean, but [they] would change the seats because they are uncomfortable.” Above (from left to right): Junior Hayden Kunz is, “a big fan of the new section, they did a great job.” Senior Sarah Steenland states, “I now have Anatomy and Emergency Clinical Care in the new wing so I am excited. But I don’t like that they locked the bathrooms.” Senior Ben Kotar exclaimed, “I love it! It is a lot nicer and clean.”

## New Wing

Continued from previous page

ing with new labs, more models, and exciting features on the new SMART boards. Junior Chloe Bird voiced her opinion stating, “my physics class has gotten a lot more organized.”

However, students are struggling with the considerable distance from the science classrooms to the main hallway. Bird

recalled, “if I stop at my locker after physics I know I’m definitely not going to make it to my class on time.”

Although it may seem far or inconvenient, the extra walk is definitely worth it. Even if you don’t have a class in the science wing, take a trip to the addition and check out the spacious rooms, try out the new chairs, and see what Mrs. Crowning has been growing in the greenhouse!

“I just did my first lab in our new Physic’s classroom and we had so much more room to use than in our other classroom.”

- Ava Jahnsen



“My new chemistry classroom is awesome.”

- Jason Brenner



# Get Ready for Drama Club's Spring Musical: *Big Fish*

Pack the Jack on April 4, 5 & 6!

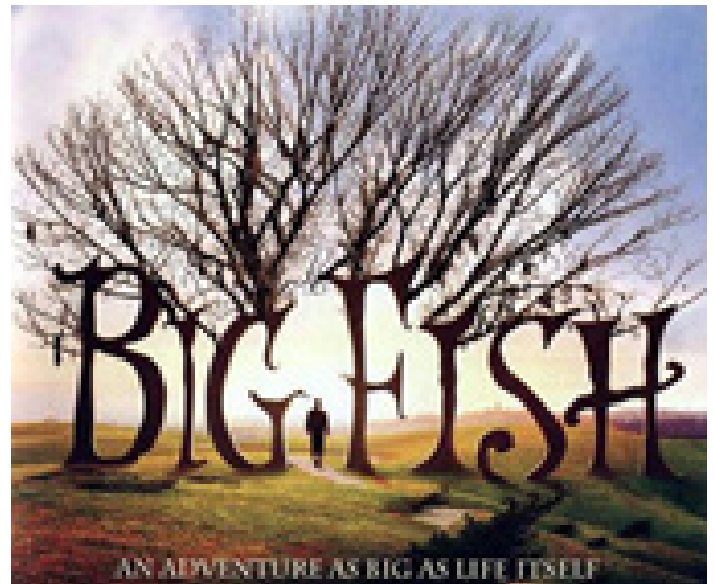
By: Haley Pair

Manasquan High School's Drama Club has begun the preparation and practice for their upcoming show, *Big Fish*. A lot more goes into producing a high school show than people may think; many hours of time and dedication are given by everyone involved.

The Drama Club does two shows a year, each of which demands a lengthy process to make the show the best it can be. Once the students find out what show they will be performing, they receive a packet which tells them about the show and the roles that are being offered. Usually two weeks later auditions are held, and the dates of the show are announced.

This year, Drama Club adviser Mr. Weisert selected *Big Fish* for the Spring musical. Auditions were held in February, and now they are hard at work rehearsing for the big day.

*Big Fish* illustrates the life of the main character, Edward Bloom, whose son is getting married. They talk about how when Will was a child Edward made up silly and unbelievable stories which he still tells today. Will asks him not to talk about these stories at the wedding. This triggers a flash back throughout the show of Edward's life and the stories he tells. From mermaids to a witch to a giant, the musical develops throughout Edward's life and how he uses these stories to



inspire his son to always "be the hero" of each story he tells.

"I think it is going to be a really great show. We've been working really hard on it," says Matt Dellegrippo, a member and actor in the drama club.

In order to prepare for the show, practice is held multiple days throughout the week. A typical practice lasts 3 to 4 hours, and this rigorous schedule continues for about a month and a half before the shows air date. As the show approaches, practices increase to every single day.

Senior Dylan Scott, an actor in the drama club, stated, "The show is going good, a lot of hard work and time is going into it at home and in school."

Many MHS students are looking forward to the show. Student Perri Jost, who is not in the Drama Club but enjoys seeing the shows, stated, "I plan on going to see the show. I am excited to see what it is about and excited to see my friends performing."

You can come out and see *Big Fish* April 4th, 5th, and 6th in the Jack Nicholson Theatre at MHS. The show is going to be great and surely it's one you won't want to miss.

## Squan-a-Thon

*Continued from page 3*

emotional support.

Ten years ago, Squan-a-thon was established by Penn-State alumni and Manasquan math teacher Paul Battaglia and Pat McKenzie. The event itself mirrors Penn State's Thon, a similar 46-hour dance marathon which has raised over 150 million dollars for those affected by pediatric cancer.

Over the course of the past 10 years, the total raised by Squan-a-thon amounts to over \$650,000. To accumulate this incredible total, students have been raising money all year to donate. Students bag food at Shop Rite, host bake sales, reach out to family and friends, babysit, and more in order to reach the minimum dona-

tion requirement to participate of 200 dollars.

With only a couple days left until the big night, Squan-a-thon committee members are scrambling to finish setting up the decorations. Senior Kat Mahon told the Blue & Gray that "it gets crazy during the last few weeks leading up to Squan-a-thon" with ordering and making decorations. However, she states that while it has been crazy, "it is all worthwhile for so many memories and a great cause."

The hard work by Squan-a-thon advisors Mrs. Hoeler, Mrs. Basaman and the entire committee is sure to make a successful 10th Squan-a-thon.

However, the fundraising is never over. Mrs. Basaman has announced that "we are still accepting donations up to the day of Squan-a-thon and throughout the night!" Remember,

# MIT Grant Provides Amazing Opportunity for Real-World Learning to Squan Students

By Kennedy Miller and Andrew Leather



Imagine the scene: you are covered in a black smog of smoke and debris. The heat and brightness of the fire all around surrounds and endangers you. The thought of your life comes into question. How would you know if it's time to leave the fire and get to safety outside?

For the Manasquan High School InvenTeam, that is one question that has been answered. Stephen Speicher, a senior, and a fire fighter with Manasquan Fire Department, says, "We are making a prototype to check the vitals of a fire fighter in a fire situation." This gives the firefighters enough time to get out of trouble in a life-threatening situation.

This invention, in fact, has gotten recognition from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, or MIT for short. Back on October 24<sup>th</sup> the Lemelson-MIT program announced to the public that Manasquan High School was 1 of 15 teams in the nation chosen for a 2019 Lemelson-MIT InvenTeam grant. Manasquan's team of 22 students, led by Mrs. Edwards, received \$10,000 to create their vital sign monitoring system for firefighters.

For the past 14 years, the Lemelson-MIT program has recognized teams of high school students, educators, and mentors for their technological solutions to real-world problems.

Manasquan's InvenTeam, composed of students ranging from freshman to seniors, applied for the grant and wrote their 16 page application this past summer. Edwards estimates that her team contributed over 30 hours of work this past summer and will contribute hundreds

more over this coming school year.

To tackle the extensive project, the InvenTeam divided into teams & sub-teams. Chris Palangio is managing the project and overseeing the entire team as the administrative lead. Stephen Speicher is leading the technical team which includes 4 subteams led by the following team members: Madison Hicks, biomedical; Timothy Zarelli, human factors; Harvey Zang, programming; and Jake Edwards, sustainability. Kyle Bauter is the financial lead, Vanessa Bautista leads the communications team, and Matt Palangio is the head of marketing.

The idea for their invention originated from the firefighter TIC mask—invented by Manasquan students—that won 1<sup>st</sup> place at the statewide STEAM TANK invention competition. After winning at STEAM TANK, Edwards recalled the students "wanted to actually build the invention"; she helped her team bring their idea to life by finding the Le-

melson-MIT Grant.

The students revamped their original invention for MIT. While writing their grant and speaking to firefighters, the team learned that "sudden cardiac arrest is the number 1 cause of death for firefighters".

"We invented a vital sign monitoring system to be placed inside firefighters' equipment against their forehead or wrist", stated RaLee Wall, a member of the biomedical team. "It will be strapped on to monitor a firefighter's pulse and percent oxygen to identify firefighters at risk of heart attacks due to overexertion and stress".

As a firefighter himself, technical lead Stephen Speicher remarks, "it's cool to be able to build something to protect everyone else".

Currently, the team is continuing their dedication and work to produce a prototype of their invention, called V-Sense, that will be presented at EurekaFest at MIT next June. The grant money is being used to buy parts needed to build the system.

According to another senior, Matt Palangio, who is the Design Lead, progress on the project has been a success. "It's going great." he says.

Edwards explained that there are 3 phases to the InvenTeam's firefighter project. This coming year, they plan to invent a device that will sense the firefighters' pulse and oxygen levels and alarm them on their equipment. In 2020, the goal is for the device to communicate to the commander outside. In the final phase of the project, they plan to invent a system that will allow the commander to manage all the firefighters' signals, and keep working firefighters safe by 2021.

Timmy Zarelli, another student with fire fighter connections thinks that this device could change the lives of fire fighters forever. "This idea could potentially change the way we think about fighting a fire." He says. "A heart attack is the #1 killer of firemen and if we can help prevent them, it just brings more men back home to their families. Saving the hard ship and heart break and allowing someone to live another day."



(FROM LEFT) CHRIS PALANGIO, HARVEY ZHANG, AND MATT PALANGIO WITH THEIR INVENTION

# Parade season rolls in for Warrior Band

## Many other events on tap in upcoming months

By: Dan Hippe

Most people know the Manasquan High School Band for their fall performances at Warrior football games, home and away. Even though football season ended a long time ago, the MHS band is fully in the swing of another season. Not a sports season, but parade season.

The band has many upcoming events in the next two months, and recently marched in the St. Patrick's Day parade in Belmar on 3/3. Many band members are participating in the All -Shore Jazz

Band in April. The Spring Concert comes in May, as well as the Memorial Day parades in Bradley Beach and Manasquan.

On top of all that, the band has a new circle on its calendar this year. "We are performing at the Electric Car Show in Manasquan in June," explained Mr. Wiemken, the Manasquan band director, who is in his second year at the school. "These are just some of the events we have on our long band schedule."

The biggest problem for the band is New Jersey's frigid winter temperatures, which average a less-than-balmy 50 degrees farenheight in the month of March. "Playing in the cold is very difficult, hand warmers, toe warmers, and lots of layers always fights the cold temperatures," Wiemken emphasized, when speaking about the temperatures. Sophomore bass drummer Zach Waldman also had something to say about the cold temperatures. "Dressing warm and using hand warmers helps me fight the cold temperatures outside," he mentioned. Fellow

sophomore drummer Kevin Swanson said that, "you have to dress as warm as you can and push through the cold temperatures."

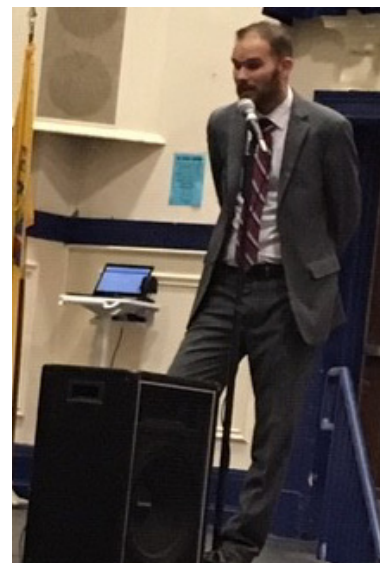
Other than the band members' hands and feet freezing, the band has to try and prevent instruments from freezing also. "Instruments are not really designed to play in freezing temperatures, so it is not uncommon for an instrument to stop working in the middle of a performance," Mr. Wiemken continued. Zach and Kevin don't have to worry about this issue. "Since we play the drums we don't have to worry about our instruments freezing as much as the other band members."



(Above) Most people know the band for their outstanding performances at the football games (Below) Parade season is in full swing for the MHS Warrior Band!



(Above and below): The MHS Jazz Band, pictured jamming in the Jack at the MHS District Band Day on January 31. (Far right): Band director Mr. Weimken leads his musicians.





# Three Extraordinary Seniors Share their College Acceptances and Advice

You may have taken the SAT TEN times to get your perfect score, you may have gone on endless college visits searching for that school that made you feel like you were right at home, and you may have had to write endless college essays and

By: Diana Putelo

a college where you feel comfortable and accepted is paramount."

The hardworking and diligent senior, Alex Mcwalters has a lot of great things to come in her near future as well. Mcwalters has always gone above and beyond in school so there is no doubt she is going to excel in college.

"I got accepted into Ohio State, Rutgers, University of South Carolina, and deferred from Harvard," Mcwalters states. "However, I know South Carolina is my top school because of the beautiful campus and strong pharmacy program."

Mcwalters had to put a lot of effort into meeting her conclusion because college is one of the biggest choices in a person's life. "Before committing to South Carolina, I considered money as well as the programs at the schools," she remarks. "I made sure the school had all of the things I wanted the most: a pharma-



Senior Lexie Minton

consider the money, social life, sports, location, and mostly academics," she responds. "And for underclassman it is important to get involved, do lots of extra-curriculars, and take the SAT as many times as you want until you get the score you are most proud of."

Another strong student is senior Lexie Minton, who has decided to spend her next four in the beautiful and always sunny University of Miami. "My number one school is Miami because it has everything I am looking for," she explains. "From a strong business program and great internships to amazing weather and even club tennis, I know I am going to be happy!"

Before Minton made this important decision she, "took into account all of the different factors and which school offers the most value." Minton knows this time of high school is incredibly stressful for seniors, so her advice is to, "take a deep breath. It is nerve-racking, but everyone will end up where they are supposed to be."

Daniel, Alex, and Lexie are just a glimpse at the incredible and persevering class of 2019. All of the seniors will end up somewhere special next year, and everyone is so proud of the hard work they have put into their past four school years. Hopefully the knowledge and advice these three incredible seniors have shared will help others on the path to their final decision.



Senior Daniel Bardsley

scholarships applications. But all the hard work paid off and it is now decision time for the senior class of 2019.

Senior Daniel Bardsley is a motivated and persistent student who is going to flourish in his next four years at college. "I applied early decision to Dartmouth and got deferred, early action to University of Vermont and got accepted, and I'm waiting to hear back from Bowdoin," he explains.

"My number one school is Dartmouth because it's where I felt the most comfortable and at home. All the students were super enthusiastic about their classes and what they were learning, but also had lives outside of the classroom and pursued their interests," Bardsley remarks.

Bardsley loves the outdoorsy reputation Dartmouth has because it is, "in an area where it is super easy to go for a hike or run without going very far from campus."

Bardsley's advice for fellow seniors is "make sure you are choosing a college for you, not for someone else. It's four years of your life that you'll be spending there, so finding



Senior Alex Mcwalters

cy, a big football school with lots to do, and a location in or near a city."

Mcwalters has a lot of knowledge and experience to share with seniors who are confused on deciding what school to commit to and underclassmen on how to get accepted into their top schools.

"For seniors I would say to



# Building Our Teams a Home

## New Astro turf field looks great; will be ready for spring sports

By: Kennedy Miller

Last June, construction began on the Manasquan field hockey and softball fields. After four months of continuous work, MHS Athletic Director Mr. Cahill reports that the field is projected to be finished soon.

As of October 10<sup>th</sup>, the field was 75% complete. Mr. Cahill explained the process, stating that the last steps in its completion will be to level the field once more before laying the turf.

The turf, complete with bleachers, a practice track, and possibly a new scoreboard will follow general maintenance protocols regarding food and beverages.

Cahill, like most athletes, coaches, and fans, views the reconstruction as a project Manasquan high school has needed for years. Considering Manasquan's home fields are

landlocked, teams have been forced to find alternate locations to play; many teams' games and practices have been hosted at the National Guard Training Camp in Sea Girt.

The field will "give teams a home field and bring Varsity games back," according to Cahill. Lined for every sport, the field will include a practice track for gym classes and teams to use for conditioning.

The field hockey team, expelled to Green Acres park in Brielle for their season, have faced many complications and obstacles due to the current construction.

Head Coach Antonette Bruno stated that the biggest obstacle this year has been "keeping the school community while being more than a mile away."

Although the construction has prompted complications for this year's season, Coach Bruno is op-

timistic and excited about the future of Manasquan field hockey as a turf team.

As the only grass team in their division, a turf field for the 2019 season will enhance Manasquan's level of play. Field hockey is a completely different game on turf than grass; Coach Bruno will prepare her players by adjusting their style of play for a fast, turf game.

With the Spring season upon us, softball captain Grace Beyer, expressed her thoughts about the turf as well. Beyer is expecting the new field to change the game of softball and the team's strategy for the season, stating, "the ball moves different on the turf, so we'll have to work on our positioning and get used to the new field."

Since most softball teams in the Shore Conference don't play on turf, Beyer believes that "if we get better on turf it will be an advantage."

In the fall, field hockey and soccer teams will be able to take advantage of the turf while in the spring, softball, lacrosse, and gym classes will benefit from the construction.

Even if you don't play a sport, the new turf field is something worth getting excited for. Be sure to cheer Squan athletes on once the field is complete!



Left: *The colorful new Astro turf field has come a long way since the beginning of the school year (see picture, top of page).*

# MHS Construction: A Timeline in Pictures



*Above: Preparing the grounds by removing trees and shrubs back in October 2017.*



*Above: Demolition of first floor science labs and construction of new outer walls in February 2018.*



*Above: Demolition of Room 202 and interior stairwell in February 2018.*



*Above: Overhead view of the construction in full swing, taken in March 2018.*



*Above (right): Old science lab stripped to its steel beams during the demolition process in October 2017; (at right): a new science lab, shortly before completion.*



*Left: the shiny new hallway outside of the gym, unveiled in February 2019; below (left to right): The building nears completion in December 2018.*



# THE BLUE & FEATURES

*This month, The Blue & Gray profiles an array of students who you might know, or might not know, but all are outstanding young leaders with big hearts, open minds and bold approaches to their time here at Manasquan High School.*

## Sophomore makes waves for Squan Cross Country

### “I never thought I’d like running so much!”

In Bernardsville, Bryan Hickman was ready to attend Bernards High School with all his good friends. That was when his life was turned upside down. His parents told him they were moving an hour away to a small beach town called Manasquan.

Bryan was ready for the new opportunities ahead of him but most of the time he feared how he would fit in to the new school. Bryan played basketball his whole life and when arriving at Manasquan freshman year, he instantly made the team. He also made a slew of new friends and was now comfortable at his new school.

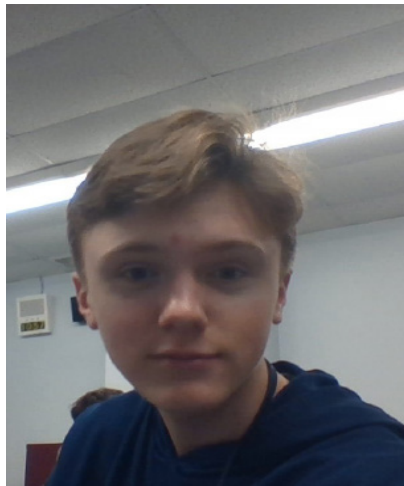
Now a sophomore, Bryan has found himself as a high-ranking member on Manasquan’s cross-country team, something he never thought of doing when he moved here. “Some of my friends run cross country and told me to try it. I took their word and went out for the team,” Bryan explained.

When he started his first practice, he was instantly

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By: Dan Hippe

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*(Above) Bryan enjoys eating lunch with his new group of friends*

hooked by the sport. “I didn’t expect to do good and I was surprised by my results.”

And surprised he was. In his first race Bryan ran a 5k time of 19:22 and placing 5th for the team. For the rest of the season, he started to consistently place 3rd or 4th and made the

varsity squad in his first year of ever doing cross country

“Never give up,” Bryan explains is his motto. “I always remind myself to never give up when I’m struggling out on the course.”

When asked to pick a favorite out of basketball, a sport he has trained for his whole life, or cross country, a sport he started this year, he instantly chose Cross Country. “It is more of a relaxing sport, I have more friends on the team and I can talk to them more during practice,” Bryan said.

Hickman has big plans for 2019 saying, “I’m going out for spring track as I liked cross country so much,” he explained, “My main goal for next cross-country season though, is working to get Manasquan back to sectionals.” Hickman will be the number one runner on the team with the departure of Colin Flood and Brian Sugrue. We’ll just have to wait till next fall to see Hickman back racing at Holmdel Park.

# Donating Life With Devin

By: Madison Pringle

Twenty people a day die from lack of available organs for transplant, but it only takes one organ donor to save up to eight lives and help more than 75 people. But, many people are weary about the idea of giving their organs away after they pass.

Senior Devin Norton is spreading the importance of organ donation to her fellow students at Manasquan High School with her club Donate Life that she started just last year. You may spot her in the cafeteria, a classroom, or in the library explaining the simple choice you have in saving dozens of lives once you turn 18.

**“It’s beautiful that he was able to give someone the gift of life, even in his death.”**

~ Devin Norton

Not all sad endings have to be completely tragic, they can often be the beginning of something great. When Devin’s friend passed away, he helped to save lives by being an organ donor. Devin was inspired.

“I wanted to learn more about the process and educate others by creating a club,” she said. She has always been aware of the significance of organ donation,

but this experience brought a whole different perspective for her.

Devin had to receive a certain number of signatures from the student body to show that there was interest in the club for the Board of Education.

The club also needed an advisor to overlook all activities. Devin chose Mrs. Kozic because of her major role in the Academy of Health Careers. Devin had Mrs. Kozic as a teacher ever since sophomore year, and knew she understood the process of organ donation.

The club takes part in many community events, such as 5ks. They also had a booth at the tug aware across the Manasquan and Point Pleasant inlet, and they hold many bake sales at the school. They work together with New Jersey Sharing Network, a non-profit organization. As they continue to grow, they are finding more ways to



reach out to the community about organ donation.

Devin plans on studying nursing next year at college. She hopes to join a club that raises awareness for organ donation, and if no such club exists, she aspires to start one.

As for the Donate Life club at Manasquan, she is turning it over to a junior, Emily Scranton. “I am ecstatic to carry on spreading this important message to our peers,” Emily said.

Make sure to look out for Donate Life at the next community event, and hear what they have to say about saving lives.



Members Marilyn Bolderman, Kate Bourke, Ryan Anderson join President Devin Norton at their booth at Tug of War at the Inlet

# Creative and Fashionable, Senior Johnny Bongiovanni Sports Many Talents

By: Diana Putelo

He is outgoing, driven, and friendly to everyone he encounters. He is in Yearbook and loves expressing himself through fashion. He has worked in theatre, by acting and stage managing since third grade. He is Johnny Bongiovanni, and he is an honor to be friends with.

“Since I was little, I knew theatre was going to be apart of my life,” says the senior. “The majority of my family has worked at Spring Lake Theatre. It is a tradition now for me to do the same.”

Johnny began acting when he was younger at the Spring Lake Theatre, but later progressed into stage managing. “I stage manage the 6 main shows a year,” he says. “I make sure sets and props are on stage when they are supposed to be, and everyone knows what they are doing.”

“Johnny is a really professional stage manager and highly patient with the actor’s backstage,” remarks senior Hannah Mannion, who has been Johnny’s best friend since 6<sup>th</sup> grade. “He is dedicated and puts in so many hours at the theatre doing whatever he can to help.”

Hannah works with Johnny in theatre and they both agree that they love it for many reasons, but mainly because they are, “able to meet new, creative people every day and see all of their friends while doing so.” They have worked on many shows together like Shrek, Adams Family, and Scrooge.



*Left: Johnny and his childhood best friend, senior Hannah Mannion; right: Johnny with his friends and coworkers from Spring Lake Theatre posing after a show.*

Although Johnny has dedicated so much time into theatre, he does not see himself continuing to do so in the future. “From helping piece



costumes together, I found that my main passion is fashion,” he states. “You are able to express yourself freely and creatively.”

Hannah says that Johnny has a, “natural eye for style by pointing out unique accessories or outfit pieces on people. He also is very knowledgeable on current trends and luxury brands.”

Johnny looks up to Ralph Lauren because the clothing is, “classy, never goes out of style, and everyone knows about it.” In 10 years, he sees himself living in the Big Apple, New York City, and working for the department store, Saks as a buyer.

For now, Johnny continues to work in theatre, have an interest in fashion, and make everyone smile with his outgoing and lively self. He is always cracking jokes with people and is the definition of a “people person.” He will be doing a lot of remarkable things in his future.



# FROM RAGS TO RICHES WITH DANIEL BARDSLEY

By: Ryan McNamara

Friendly with everyone, he enters the classroom ready to learn and engage in one of the most difficult classes in high school: AP Calculus BC. While most of his fellow students sit near the back, he resides in the front of the classroom to avoid any distractions. Sitting beside him is Aiden Price, his closest friend since middle school, a fellow classmate, and teammate. This student, of course, is Daniel Bardsley.

Most know Daniel due to his outstanding academic performance and his easygoing personality. He is consistently recognized for his exceptional work inside the classroom, all while maintaining an approachable and humble character.

This reputation, however, is not something that Daniel has held his entire life. Throughout middle school and during freshman year of high school, Daniel claims that he was not an exceptional student.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

“Middle school me was a strange kid,” Daniel chuckled. Now in his senior year of high school, Daniel describes how he is almost the opposite of what he was in 8<sup>th</sup> grade; then, he hated school and had hair down to his shoulders.

But there is more to his story than that. In middle school, Daniel put nearly no effort in his academics, relating that he often hung out with friends or played sports instead of completing homework or studying. With no organization or concentration in his school life, Daniel made a mental decision regarding his attitude and maturity during his freshman year of high school.

## HIGH SCHOOL

Entering his first year at high school, Daniel exclaimed that “I realized that I was only going to get one shot at this, and I made sure to stay on top of my work.” This realization was a turning point for Daniel.

Through hard work and determination, his academic career completed a full 180. This motivation is what made

*Continued on next page*



# Life's Ruff When You Don't Work With Dogs

## How MHS Student Balances a Busy Life

By: Kennedy Miller

Senior Grace Beyer is known to many in the halls of Manasquan High School.

She's the girl leading the field hockey team in goals. She's the shortstop wearing the 'captain' band on the softball field. She's the spirited fan cheering for the Warriors at almost every sporting event.

As a leader, Grace bears the responsibility to carry her teams confidently into each game, and lead the student section in chants and cheers.

Yet, to Grace, this responsibility comes naturally as she takes on even bigger roles at home.

Grace is an essential aspect of the two businesses her father and step-mother own. According to Grace, her step-mother, Diane, started Adventures in Dog Walking, "to get away from her job and finally start doing something she loved."

What started as a shared passion for dogs in 2015 has blossomed into a successful dog walking and sitting business.

Four years later, she has at least 4 dogs in her house at all times (including 2 of her own) and coordinates pick up and drop off for their customers.

Being responsible for up to 12 dogs can be overwhelming. Yet, Grace finds it rewarding, insisting "it's fun to have 12 smiling faces depending on you for food, walks, and of course snuggles."

As a family of entrepreneurs, the Beyer's didn't stop there. Dandy Canine, a high end dog boutique located in Spring Lake town, celebrated its grand opening in the

Spring of 2018.

Since then, Grace has spent many weekends tending to the store, most impressively, all by herself. "Before we had hired any employees, my parents went away for a day and needed someone to watch the store," Grace recalled, adding, "from then on they trusted me with the business."

Taking on such a big role isn't always easy while balancing school and a busy social life.

Friend and customer, Alex Herrmann, commented, "Grace is great at bouncing around from walking a dog, going to the store, walking another dog, and then back to the store." Fans can attest, she manages to make it to almost every home basketball game to cheer on the Warriors.

At times, Grace feels the pressure of the responsibility, stating, "people put their dog's health and happiness into your hands once they step into our store or drop them off at our house."

"It's a lot to manage, but I love to see the reward; when dogs are happy their owners are too."

Excited to attend the University of Delaware next year, Grace states, "I think I always want to help people and dogs, and I don't think it will be any different in the future."

Grace, who will pursue a major in athletic training next year, is more confident than most seniors leaving home.

"I feel independent and my confidence has gone up knowing I can run a business at only 18," Grace says. "I've learned to not be dependent on my parents and how to manage my time well."

Passionate and caring, it's no wonder Grace found a love in her family's line of work and it's clear she will excel in the medical field. Whether it's helping an athlete or a furry patron, Grace has an exciting future ahead.



*Pictured above and right: Grace has grown up always loving dogs and has two furry best friends of her own*



## DANIEL BARDSLEY

*Continued from previous page*

Daniel into the outstanding student he is today.

In addition, he credits success to his newfound studying techniques. "I am a big Quizlet guy when I have to memorize a bunch of stuff ... and for math, nothing beats sitting down and doing a bunch of problems one after the other."

*Daniel enjoying lunch sitting with friends*

## AND BEYOND

As senior year crawls to an end, Daniel has begun the college search. And as a student of his caliber, he has set his sights high. He applied early decision to Dartmouth, a prestigious Ivy league institution. Unfortunately, he was deferred to the regular decision pool, but he says that he keeps his hopes high. Regardless of wherever he end up attending, Daniel Bardsley is bound to be successful and have a positive impact on the world.

# Behind the Life of a Basketball Star: Fatih Masonius

By: Annie Mako

Athletes are not born, they are made. Faith Masonius, a stellar basketball player here at Manasquan High School, has won state championships, division championships, and conference championships. She has scored over 2,000 points and collected over 1,000 rebounds. She will be remembered as one of MHS's great athletes.

Faith is lucky. She was born into an incredible family with an impressive athletic background, who pushed her every day, to be where she is at right now. Faith's family isn't your average modern family; she has nine siblings and loads of cousins, aunts, and uncles. More than half of her family members are amazing athletes- you could even call them hometown legends. Growing up, Faith was fortunate enough to live with people by her side to push her to the greatness she has chieived in high school.



Pictured: Faith going up for a layup in the TOC.

The queen of the Masonius family, Ellen, is Faith's biggest influence for the love of the game. "My mom played basketball, so I've always been around it. She has been a coach for as long as I could remember, so I always sat in gyms, shooting around and learning the game," said Faith. Ellen played basketball at St. Rose and went on to play at St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia.

Faith adores her mom. "My mom is my role model because she played basketball her whole life, she was one of 13 kids and moved on to play Division I basketball," she said. "She was a

college coach and then had 10 children and continues to coach 3 different basketball teams, runs a program (New Jersey Belles) and manages to work a full-time job and drive her children, all my siblings and I, all over the state to get to games, practices, and different events."

Her two oldest sisters, Ellie and Grace, played at Manasquan as well. Next, her sister Addie followed in their foot steps and played at MHS. She is continuing her journey at Wagner University. Faith's close cousin, Stella Clark, played alongside Addie and Faith at Manasquan also; then she moved on to play at Northeastern University.

"Ever since I was a little girl, I was given the opportunity to play with family, which helped me a lot. My family motivates me to go to the gym, work out, and be the best I can be. Not only with basketball but they inspire me to be the best person I can possibly be," said Faith.

Faith has committed to play Big Ten basketball at the University of Maryland next year. "I didn't know what was going to come in the future, but I knew I wanted to play basketball in college and I've worked for this my whole life," said Faith.

A five-star recruit, Faith had



Pictured: Faith at her Maryland visit.

many college choices to continue her academic and athletic career, but her biggest stand out was Maryland. "I wanted to stay close to home and Maryland is the perfect location," said Faith. "I want to win a championship and I

believe we will win a National Championship in my four years there. I fell in love with the campus, the coaching staff, and everything about the school. I'm going to have an amazing college experience in my time there. I'm excited to be a part of the basketball team



Pictured: Faith's 1000th point game.

and live the life I had dreamed for."

A high school student who is always busy with basketball may seem like they have no life outside of the gym right? Well, Faith always takes time out of her day to relax, study, and be with the ones she loves. "My family is very close, we have so many different personalities, but it works out. We always hang out and watch movies together," said Faith. "When I'm not with my family, I'm either relaxing in my bed watching Netflix, or I'm hanging out with my close friends."

She's not just a good basketball player, she's a good teammate as well. "It's really fun playing with a teammate like Faith. She's a hard worker who wants to win and who also likes to have fun. She brings the team together," said Faith's teammate, junior Maddie Fagan.

On the court Faith always has a smile on her face and is cheering her teammates on. Off the court, she is a wonderful friend. "She's fun to be around and always makes me feel confident when I'm with her; she's an amazing basketball player, but she is also an amazing friend," said Faith's friend Lily Hunt. Faith means so much to the basketball community, but so much to all of her friends and family as well.



# Students Tack- THE BLUE & GRAY Issues in theWorld EDITORIALS

## Selfie Gone Wrong



By: Haley Pair



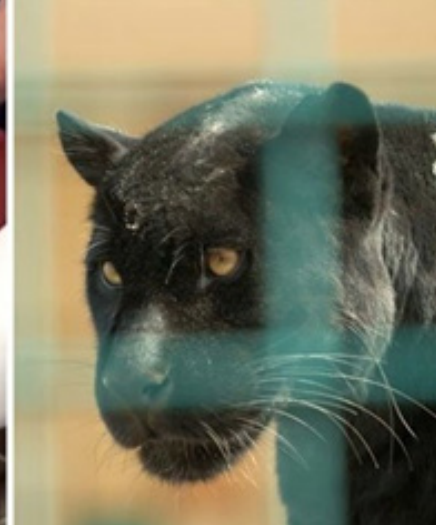
On Saturday (March 9), an Arizona woman was mauled by a caged jaguar at the World Wildlife Zoo near Phoenix Arizona. Leanne, who asked for her last name not to be mentioned, was visiting the zoo when she saw the jaguar and wanted to capture the moment in one of our world's most common phenomenons, a selfie.

The woman leaned over a barrier that separated visitors of the zoo from the jaguar cage. At this moment the jaguar reached her claws through the cage and clamped down on her arm, delivering a deep gash.

Bystanders at the scene rushed to aid the woman, and Smithsonian.com reported that one bystander even pushed a water bottle in the cage in hope of distracting the jaguar. This worked, and the jaguar went after the bottle.

Once the jaguar released the woman she fell to the ground crying in pain. Thankfully, she sustained no life threatening injuries but was sent to the hospital where she received stitches until sent home late that night.

The jaguar playing with a water bottle thrown in by a civilian at the scene to distract it from the woman attacked



The woman on the ground after the attack, faced by a side photo of the jaguar involved

According to Livescience.com, a zoo spokesperson stated to BBC News, "We do not hold the jaguar responsible for what happened, and it has been concluded that the injuries were caused due to human error." The zoo wants people to know that although in captivity, these are still wild animals and they have barriers set in place for a reason. If a human chooses to not abide by these rules it holds them at fault; not the animal.

The World Wildlife zoo told CNN, "We can promise you nothing will happen to our jaguar, she's a wild animal and there were proper barriers in place to keep our guests safe -- not a wild animal's fault when barriers are crossed. Still sending prayers to her and her family."

This is not the first time that this particular jaguar has been reported to cause harm to a human or show aggressiveness. Still, the animal is safe under the zoo's protection as an attack is usually caused due to human error.

The woman attacked has apologized for the incident, claiming that she regrets doing what she did and that the jaguar is not at fault. She does claim though, that the zoo should really consider looking into moving their fencing back. Smithsonian.com claims that the zoo will be looking into what measures they could take to make the zoo safer.

# Students Tack- THE BLUE & GRAY Issues in the World EDITORIALS

## Operation Varsity Blues: Scandal Rocks the College Admission Process

By: Lewis Marks

On March 12, the FBI released unsealed court documents out of Boston to the public, and what was in the files came as a shock to many. The court papers showed that the FBI had been investigating claims that wealthy Americans were using illegal means to make sure their kids got into the dream schools of their choice. As of now, there are around 50 people involved in a \$25 million college entrance exam scandal.

Some of the elites caught in this ring are *Full House's* Aunt Becky, Lori Loughlin and her husband Massimo Giannuli; *Desperate Housewives'* Felicity Huffman and her husband William H. Macy (*Shameless*); and even college coaches such as Jorge Salcedo, UCLA's men's soccer team coach, and William Ferguson, the women's volleyball coach at Wake Forrest. Some of these 50 people paid hundreds of thousands of dollars just to ensure that their kids would get to where they wanted.

According to *The New York Times*, one man in particular masterminded the scheme. William (Rick) Sing-



Above: William (Rick) Singer the alleged ringleader and confidant

er, who has been working with the FBI since September 2018, has admitted his role in the scandal. Singer, the owner of a college counseling service, ran this ring and came out of it a very wealthy man.

Singer would link clients with colleges, and discuss their "game plans" to figure out the best possible way to get into dream schools. These schemes usually involved large sums of money being paid as "charitable contributions" that were essentially bribes for Singer, and for the various other people involved.

According to *NBC News*, Singer would ask the parents to sign the child up for an SAT or ACT, then after the student handed in the test, they would have the proctor, or some other person come in and change the answers, or even have someone take the test in the student's spot just to make sure they earned a high score. After their test scores were satisfactory, students might still need a reason to make the col-

leges look more closely at their admissions. Singer then arranged with sports teams, bribing coaches to "recruit" the student and prioritize their admission.

They would send a fake picture or some other counterfeit product, as well as a bribe, to show the coach that they could play, but in most cases these students had never played the sport or even attempted to go to a practice. Therefore, there have been some indictments handed out to the coaches of a few select groups that accepted the money.

For the elites involved, this has been a humiliating revelation. Some other celebrities have taken this as an opening to riff at the people who got caught. Comedian Billy Eichner said, "proud to say I got into Northwestern without the help of my mother, Laura Linney," though Linney is only his mother in *Ozark*. Many fans have taken this opportunity to share their thoughts, like Doc Harper who tweeted, "This all started when Aunt Becky and Uncle Jesse tried to lie to get their twins into that fancy preschool," about the episode in *Full House* where they lie to get their kids into preschool.

All jokes aside, as a high school

senior who is about to make that next step towards college,  
*Continued on next page*



Celebrities caught in the web of lies include (left) Lori Loughlin and daughter Olivia Jade (right) Felicity Huffman and husband William H. Macy



# Students Tack- THE BLUE & GRAY Issues in the World EDITORIALS

## Saudi Women Right's Activist Faces Trial Her crime? Driving in public

By: Madison Pringle

In the United States, no one looks twice when they see a woman driving. No one questions a woman's right to drive, to speak their thoughts, or to marry when and who they want. But in Saudi Arabia, women activists are fighting every day for the most basic of freedoms.

One of these activists, Loujain al-Hathloul, was arrested last March for driving. Then in May, she was imprisoned when the Saudi government did a sweep of arrests. She had her first appearance in a Riyadh court almost a year later, on Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.

She was released days after her initial arrest for driving since that law was to be overturned in the upcoming months.

The government has still not given a specific reason for her or the other 9 activists that were arrested in May. Although the Saudi controlled news has labeled them all as traitors.

Al-Hathloul's brother, Walid al-Hathloul, told CNN that his sister has no access to a lawyer, and was not aware of any of the charges against her. Walid also told NPR's Mary Louise Kelly that his sister has been subject to torture, such as "electrocutions, waterboarding. Also, she was subject to sexual harassment."

Last month, Saudi Minister of State of Foreign Affairs, Adel Al-Jubier expressed that the women were a threat to national security. There has been no evidence of these threats from the government, however, and they have not disclosed full information for their arrest.



**Above: Women's Rights Activist Loujain al-Hathloul; below: Screenshot from video of Loujain al-Hathloul driving**

Al-Jubier explained that there were "attempts to recruit individuals in sensitive positions and to take sensitive information and pass it on to hostile entities outside Saudi Arabia. So there's more to it than meets the eye."

Other nations across the world are trying to help the woman imprisoned. According to MSNBC, over three dozen countries have expressed their concern about "arbitrary detention of human rights defenders." They have requested for Riyadh to release the activists.

As a girl raised in America where women are encouraged to be significant members of society, it is hard to imagine being denied such basic rights.

Situations like this shed light on how important it is to be grateful for every opportunity you are given. Everyone should be given the right to peacefully fight for what they believe in without consequence.

## College Admission Scandal

*Continued from previous page*

this story is even more sad to me as it seems that money and power will get you further in life than actually putting your head down and working hard. It is rightfully unjust that these people can just take shortcuts when there are mil-

lions of people in the same position, minus all the money and fame, that have worked so much harder and never had anything handed to them. I'm more disappointed at the fact that someone willingly helped these celebrities try to cheat the system, but in the end it is all out in the open, and no amount of money and fame can help them now that the FBI has come down on them.

# Students Tack- THE BLUE & GRAY Issues in the World EDITORIALS

## The Race for 2020: Democratic Edition

By: William Walters



### The Candidates

It seems new candidates are announcing their intention to run for president nearly everyday, setting the stage for an action packed primary season. With big name senators such as Bernie Sanders (D-VT), Kamala Harris (D-CA), Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Cory Booker (D-NJ) competing for the Democratic nomination with the likes of Texas congressman Beto O'Rourke and former Vice President Joe Biden (who is considering a run, but has not yet announced), the stage is set for a tumultuous political season.

Their platforms and debate, I hope, will be based on clear policies as well as opposition to the current administration. According to RollingStone.com, Senator Bernie Sanders from Vermont is the current favorite for the Democrats.

### The Issues

Some of the topics sure to be discussed include how to oppose President Trump, health care, income inequality, marijuana legalization, climate change and immigration security.

Criticism of Trump differs between the centrist Democrats and the far left. With many previous Trump voters looking to the left for a change in leadership, Democrats find themselves in a difficult situation, as the most popular candidates, such as Bernie Sanders, are far left on the political spectrum, which is hard to mediate for those transferring from the Republican base.

Medicare has been a system in disrepair since it was created. Conflicting views has created a very difficult and convoluted system that too often puts the intentions of helping people behind political stubbornness. Most democrats, however, support

some form of universal healthcare, whether it be fully subsidized or not. While a fully working healthcare system is going to take many years of work and debate before a stable policy is created, today's candidates are vital to getting that work started.

Every Democratic candidate currently has endorsed the idea of ending the federal prohibition on marijuana. The Democrats are definitely more liberal on this issue rather than Republicans, as we see blue states following the views of the party. Perhaps a Democrat president in 2020 could be the end of federal prosecution on Marijuana, and dawn a new age of drug and vice reform.

With awareness of human-caused climate change higher than ever, it will definitely be a contentious topic during the debates. With plans for America to lead the world in the movement towards green energy on the Democrats' agenda, will we see any candidates propose clear and valid solutions to the problem?

### Conclusion

Right now is the perfect time to familiarize yourself with candidates you will see much more of in the future, and do your own research to learn their specific policies. Most seniors and juniors will be old enough to vote when November 2020 rolls around, which means it's our chance to chime in on the future of the country. And if you're not old enough to vote, you can still speak up and stump for the candidate and policies you believe in.

# Students Tack- THE BLUE & GRAY Issues in the World EDITORIALS

## World Reacts to Second Deadly Plane Crash in 6 months

On March 10th, 2019, a brand-new Boeing aircraft crashed just six minutes into its flight in Ethiopia, killing all 157 people on board.

This is the second airplane tragedy to occur in the past six months, both involving a Boeing 737 Max 8. In October of 2018, another Max 8 crashed, killing 189.

A widespread investigation into the reliability of the model aircraft has been launched. However, there has yet to be a definitive cause for both of these crashes, and according to USA Today, researchers “are a long way from determining the cause, which could take months.” In response, many countries have grounded all of their Boeing Max 8s due to safety concerns, including the United States.

On March 13, due to pressure from many other countries doing the same, President Trump ordered that all Boeing 737 Max 8 planes are to be grounded. The President stated, “The safety of the American people and all people is our paramount concern.”

He later added via Twitter, “Airplanes are becoming too complex to fly,” and “pilots are

By: Ryan McNamara

analysis.



no longer needed, but rather computer scientists from MIT.”

As the world continues to mourn those 346 who lost their lives in the two plane crashes over the past six months, investigators are working hard to uncover the cause of failure. The black box, which holds flight data and cockpit recordings, has been recovered from the latest crash site and is being shipped to France for

Widely suspected is the plane’s new flight-control software. In both crashes, the pilots reported unusual acceleration and speed fluctuations minutes after take off. Investigators state that this could be due to the new flight control software. One aspect of the software is to prevent the planes from stalling and Boeing announced that they are working on improvements and modifications to the software.

However, Boeing is currently in hot water as pilots have been reporting problems for some time now. According to another USA Today article, “Records show that federal aviation authorities received at least *eleven* reports concerning perceived safety problems with the 737 Max aircrafts prior to the crashes.”

This is a crazy development. The fact that a major aircraft manufacturer received eleven complaints before the first crash in October is unacceptable. Hopefully, the families of those killed are given the full reason for the crashes, as they deserve it.

# Students Tack- THE BLUE & GRAY Issues in the World EDITORIALS

## Instagram and Facebook Go Down (Temporarily)

Many teens flustered by their favorite apps glitching out

Oh, no, what will I do? This is where many minds raced after school on March 13, when many high school students were shocked to see their favorite social media apps were not working. The whole Facebook company of apps went down, including Facebook, Instagram, Messenger, and WhatsApp.

This outage affected billions of social media users from every corner of the globe, with many users in Asia reporting they were still having problems into Thursday morning. The outage started around 12:00 pm eastern standard time on Wednesday, according to BBC. Most users couldn't post, send messages or even access their feed.

The executives of Facebook told users of all four apps

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BY: Dan Hippe

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that they tried to make server configuration changes, which triggered many problems in all of their apps.

The most aggravated group of users were the small businesses who rely on Instagram and Facebook for advertising. It is estimated that over a million companies advertise using Instagram and Facebook, according to The Verge.

One of those is Jason Wong, who was ready to advertise his new line of fake eyelashes on Instagram. The server went down and Wong couldn't get the word out for a whole twenty-four hours. He estimates that he lost somewhere from \$8,000 to \$10,000 in the hours the app was down.

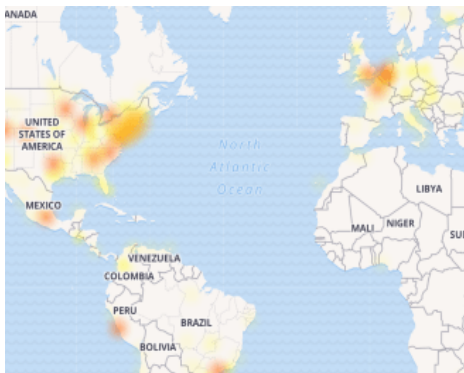
The problem hit home as well. I use Instagram to keep in touch with my friends from around the world and when the app went down, I had very mixed feelings. On the one side, I couldn't message my friends who live in Sweden and since we don't have each other's phone numbers, Instagram is the

only way I can communicate with them.

With all the negatives flying around, I found one glaring positive to the situation. I finally put my phone down and focused on myself. We are so attached to other people's worlds on social media that we forget sometimes we have our own lives too.

While the app was down, I managed to finish my homework in half the time it usually takes.

And I realized without these apps, I could really focus on the world around me. So strangely enough the outage provided a light for me and since then, I have cut down on phone usage, and I've noticed my overall mood has improved a lot since then as a result.



The map of problems reported on Instagram on the 13th to DownDectector



Instagram

Many teens reported problems on apps like instagram, facebook, and whatsapp on Wednesday March 13th.



## BROCKHAMPTON - IRIDESCENCE

By: William Walters

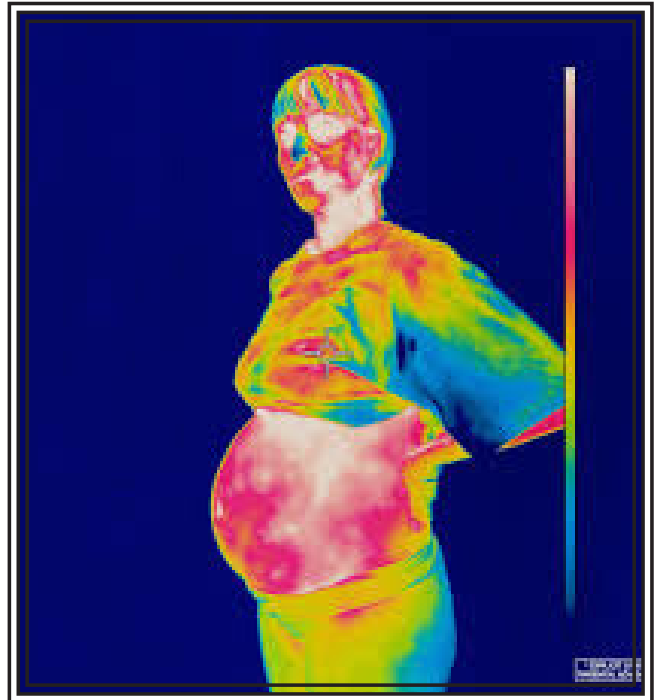
BROCKHAMPTON's *Iridescence* is what I believe to be proper evolution for their fourth studio album following their *Saturation* series. Improving upon their instrumentals, poetry and even experimenting with new sounds, the self-proclaimed American Boy Band are in their prime with no signs of stopping.

The album begins with very active verses from all band members on "New Orleans," showcasing their unique vocal talents and strongly beginning the album and setting the theme. Seamlessly transferring into the second track "Thug Life" almost makes the beginning feel like one long song. Packaged together it highlights both tracks as part one of the track list.

It then enters "Berlin" where quick changes in vocals modified with electronic instruments cements this as token experimental track, where total freedom in musical expression is given. Dom McLennon and Joba both take lead on this track, showcasing quippy rhymes tied together with solid producing. "Something about Him" and "Where the Cash At" both run short in length but help the album move along between the second part and into the third.

"Weight" shines as Kevin Abstract takes lead, delivering his first poetic monologue. This song is another hit of the album and helps in delivering the theme of a dissatisfaction with fame. Continuing with Kevin takes us to "District" a complimentary and raw continuation from "Weight". Then "Loop-hole" is a skit track directly commenting on the growth of fame and issues associated. The eighth track "Tape" keeps the lyrical verses in surplus while mounting a composition of classical instrumentation throughout the track.

Without regard for keeping the remaining



album a de-escalation from earlier climaxes, Joba on "J'Ouvert" delivers an aggressive verse that is equal in its passion to its emotion. They continue with emotional musical transitions between each member as they speak their piece on "Honey" and "Vivid".

The conclusion showcases a choir performance on "San Marcos" then continues with the slow moving verse on "Tonya" and "Febric".

These transitions between rapping and singing create a mysterious feel for the album in terms of overarching mood. For the message it is obvious that all members have their views on the growing fame of the group, and their views are directed into the songs. I honestly enjoy listening to the album

# The Most Dramatic Bachelor Finale Ever!

## Who Did Colton Underwood Pick?

By: Diana Putelo

As Chris Harrison says every season, this truly was the most dramatic two-night finale of *The Bachelor* to date. Fans finally saw what they have been waiting for the whole entire season: ex-NFL player and recent bachelor Colton Underwood jumping over the 6-foot fence after Cassie Randolph was about to send herself home.

Cassie Randolph dumped Colton Underwood after she said she was not ready for an engagement and marriage, leaving Tayshia and Hannah G. as the final contestants. According to CNN, “in a shocking turn of events, Underwood turned around and said goodbye to both remaining women in order to ask Randolph for another chance.” He went from thirty women pursuing him to zero in the blink of an eye!

Colton could not give up on Cassie because he believed they were meant to be together, so he stopped her from leaving Portugal. According to *Entertainment Tonight*, Colton said to Cassie, “Two women who could’ve given me... everything that I want, but it wasn’t who I wanted it to be with,” Colton continued. “I’m not sitting here asking for marriage at the end of this. I’m sitting here asking for a second chance, to take it day by day and figure it out.”

NBC News states, “in Bachelor terms, he told her they didn’t have to get en-



*The happy couple, Cassie Randolph and Colton Underwood, smiling at the After the Rose Recap.*

gaged and could just date, and he would basically wait around until she could be as in love with him as he was with her.”

And that is exactly what Underwood did. When they were able to be together outside the stress of the show, Randolph fell in love, and knew for certain she loved Underwood back.

Underwood and Randolph got back together in Portugal and are happily together still. On Tuesday, March 11, at the After the Final Rose Recap the couple shared that they are not engaged yet, not living together, but are happily dating and taking things slow and steady. However, CNN points out that, “Underwood did reveal that he recently moved to Los Angeles to be closer to Randolph.”

Colton and Cassie made their happily ever after come true in their own special way.

There may not be an engagement yet, but the couple is excited to start their relationship together in the real world doing normal daily activities, traveling, and spending time with friends and family in the upcoming months.

This may be an end to Colton’s journey to find love, but Hannah Brown’s is just beginning. In May of 2019, Bachelor Nation found out Hannah has been selected the next Bachelorette. Get ready! Hopeful-



*Hannah Brown: The Bachelorette*

ly, it will be a rollercoaster of tears, emotions, and drama just as Colton’s journey was. Let’s all wish Colton, Cassie, and Hannah the best!



# THE BAND OF BROTHERS RETURN

## The Jonas Brothers Reunite After Six Year Hiatus

By: Kennedy Miller

On February 28 the teenage fan girl in all of us reawakened as the Jonas Brothers announced their reunion and released their debut hit single, "Sucker". After a six year hiatus the brothers decided to bring the band back together and their loyal fans are overjoyed with the reuniting of their childhood idols.

Formed in 2005, the band, consisting of brothers Kevin, Joe, and Nick, gained popularity from their appearances on Disney Channel. The New Jersey natives found massive success through Disney.

While working for the network and being signed to Walt Disney Records, they released 4 albums, appeared in Disney Channel original movies *Camp Rock* and *Camp Rock 2: The Final Jam*, and starred in their own television series called *Jonas*.

The brothers decided to disband in 2013 while prepping the release of their 5<sup>th</sup> LP. As a result, their 19 city tour was cancelled just days before its start. A Jonas Brother rep told E! News, "there was a deep rift within the band." "There was a big disagreement over their music direction."

Following their breakup, each brother went their separate ways professionally; yet, they've each managed to find their own success.

Nick Jonas has had the most success in music and acting and has released three successful solo albums. He also recently married actress, singer, and model, Priyanka Chopra in multiple lavish



*The brothers (left to right) Joe, Nick, and Kevin, announced their reunion with the release of a new song and music video*

ceremonies.

Joe Jonas, who had released a solo album in 2011, created his own band DNCE. Their hit "Cake by the Ocean" off their self-titled 2016 LP climbed the charts.



*The band has reappeared 6 years later with a more mature look and sound.*

Kevin Jonas drew away from the music industry after the breakup. He successfully got into real estate development, has had 2 kids with wife Danielle, and had a brief show called *Married to Jonas* on E! Network.

The decision came to get back together 6 years later came up as the former band members were filming their upcoming Amazon Studios documentary in which the brothers reminisce on growing up in the spotlight, their time on Disney,

and their overwhelming success in their teenage glory days.

Youngest brother, Nick Jonas, revealed he was the reason the band broke up; yet, he was also a driving force in the movement to get them back together.

After mandatory family therapy, Nick Jonas revealed to comedian James Cordon during a segment of *Carpool Karaoke* featuring the Jonas Brothers that, "there was a magic when we were together that we would all like to feel again."

The reunited band released their first single "Sucker" and its accompanying music video on March 1<sup>st</sup>, which quickly scored them their 1<sup>st</sup> number 1 hit of their career. The comeback single quickly broke records and made history in the music industry.

The video became the number 1 trending video on YouTube and the song debuted as #1 on the Billboard Hot 100. According to *Good Morning America*, "In the entire history of the Billboard Hot 100, only two songs by a duo or group have ever debuted at #1: "Sucker" and Aerosmith's 1998 smash. 'I Don't Want to Miss a Thing'."

Reacting to the monumental triumph of the single, Joe Jonas tweeted, "we are so grateful and love you guys so much...Can you believe this is only the beginning?"

With immediate success and unwavering love from their dedicated fans, the future of the Jonas Brothers looks incredibly bright.

# A-Listers, Awards, and All the Glamour

By: Christian Rogich

*The 2019 Oscars were full of excitement, from the red carpet, to the awards, the beautiful Vanity Fair After Party, and not to mention the secret after parties for A-listers held by celebrities like Jay-Z and Beyoncé. There is a common saying “give credit where credit is due.” Here is our list of the best dressed celebrities at the Oscars.*

**The Men, top row, left to right:**

Chadwick Boseman wore wide-legged black pants with a sequined train, which he paired with a sequined blazer. For footwear, Boseman chose black dress shoes with a slightly pointed toe. Nicholas Hoult wearing a Jaeger-LeCoultre watch with Joe Alwyn in Tom Ford. Billy Porter in Christian Siriano. A bold choice with a beautiful reason behind it. Mr. Porter rewrote the rules of the red carpet and will be remembered for this look for a long time.



**The Men, bottom row, left to right:**

Viggo Mortensen in Dior Men. Samuel L. Jackson in neat black suit with velvet lapels. Henry Golding in custom Ralph Lauren Purple Label.



**The Women, top row, left to right:**

Angela Bassett looked fabulous in custom Reem Acra. She looked absolutely stunning throughout the night. Lady Gaga in Alexander McQueen and Tiffany & Co. jewelry. Her necklace included the Tiffany Yellow Diamond, this 128.54-carat stone is worth 30 million dollars. Charlize Theron in Dior Haute Couture and Bulgari jewelry. The color and fit of this gown perfectly highlighted the beauty of Theron.



**The Women, bottom, left to right:**

Shangela made history as the first veer drag queen to attend the Oscars. She performed along fellow drag queen Willam Belli (not pictured) in the award winning film A Star is Born. Lucy Boynton in Rodarte with Cartier jewelry. The dark purple contrast with Boynton’s skin tone creates an early yet irrasistable feeling Glenn Close in Carolina Herrera and Cartier jewelry with a Tyler Ellis handbag. This dress was covered in 4 million beads and wieghed 42 pounds. Who says you cant workout in designer clothing.



# Looking for a Binge-Watch? Try *Friday Night Lights*

By: Jack Heenan



(Left to right) Tim Riggins, "Smash Williams", Jason Street, and Matt Saracen walk off the field; below: Coach Taylor stands on sidelines during game



*Friday Night Lights* is a show that anyone who likes football or sports in general should watch. It was created by Peter Berg and premiered on NBC in 2006.

The show portrays how important high school football is to people in small towns all across the huge state of Texas. The show follows a fictional Dillion, Texas team throughout the season, and shows the players' lives and how football affects them and changes them. The Dillion Panthers are coached by main character Eric Taylor. Other main characters include: Matt Saracen, Tim Riggins, Jason Street, Landry Clark, Tami Taylor, "Smash" Williams, Lyla Garrity, and Buddy Garrity.

The first season revolves on how the team recovers from the loss of star quarterback Jason Street after he is paralyzed in the first game. Throughout the season, the team deals with the tragedy and faces adversity on their quest for a state title. The show dives into the characters' relationships and personal lives, and you see how they grow and develop. Throughout the show there are many controversies and adversities that keep things interesting.

Some of the fan favorite characters are: Matt Saracen, Tim Riggins, Coach Taylor, and Buddy Gar-

rrity. Matt Saracen is the back-up quarterback behind Jason Street and he is forced to step into the spot light after Jason is hurt. At home, Saracen also has to be the man of the house because his dad is in the military and away at war, while his Grandma has dementia. With all this going on he develops into a very good quarterback and interesting character.

Tim Riggins is the fullback/running back on the team and known for his hard hits. Off the field he is constantly getting into some kind of trouble. At first he is easy to hate, but Riggins matures into a good character as the show continues.

Meanwhile, it is Coach Taylor's first season leading the Panthers, and he has to deal with so many difficult issues. As the years go by, he leaves the school, returns, and leaves again, all the while dealing

with problems, loving his players and pursuing the elusive state championship.

I highly recommend this show for anyone who likes football, but also to anyone who likes drama, real-life portraits of teenagers and getting lost in the world of television binge-watching.

## FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

# BROCKHAMPTON

*Continued from previous page*

but, there is room for improvement. Even though the group's style of rapping is unique in itself it constrains what experimenting they could have tried. And at times their preaching-poetry is nothing new from other albums and can be repetitive. That being said the band has tried diversifying their sound with injection of heavy vocal editing and catchy choruses. My favorite track had to be "San Marcos" for starting the three-song ending that effectively concludes a memorable album.

If you want to listen to BROCKHAMPTON, give it a try! This is a consumer friendly listen, and while it may sound odd if you not are accus-



tomed to the genre but, you may find some songs enjoyable as the range is truly great.

# Madison Square Garden Turns Into Astroworld

By: Lewis Marks



Who would you put in your top five favorite rappers right now? Chances are one of those spots will be filled by none other than Jacques Berman Webster II, aka Travis Scott. La Flame has released a total of 3 Studio LPs or albums: *Rodeo*, *Birds in the Trap Sing McKnight*, and most recently *Astroworld*. Scott's inspiration behind *Astroworld* was an old amusement park he used to go to back in his day, it eventually shut down and he was sad to see it go, so he honored it in the best way he can, by making a double platinum album.

Usually when artists release a new album, they go touring to promote themselves and their work. A few months back, a few friends and I were lucky enough to get tickets on the floor to see Travis live at Madison Square Garden.

The concert was set for Tuesday November 27, 2018 but we had had the tickets for a while, so we were getting anxious as we approached the date and when it finally came we were up at 7:30am on the train into the city. We went and got some *Astroworld* merchandise around 1:00; then we just had to find a way to kill six hours. Eventually the time passed, and we were standing on the floor at MSG with a huge lit up sign that read, "Astroworld."

The opening acts were Shek Wes, Trippie Redd, Gunna, Young Thug, Virgil Abloh, and Lil Baby made a quick appearance too.

First up on stage happened to be Shek Wes himself as he came out to one of his more popular tunes "Chippippi Chippi". When you heard that beat start up, you could see the crowd start jumping up and down with excitement. Following this he played several other of his songs ranging from "G-mail" to "Live ShekWes Die ShekWes." His last song happened to be his biggest radio hit, currently at number six on the Billboard Top 100, "Mo Bamba." This song was absolutely insane as the crowd

split into two mosh pits and when the beat dropped the next time everyone stormed in and it seemed at that moment as if the arena was electrified.

Following Shek Wes, was none other than "Big 14" himself, Trippie Redd. Trippie came out in an absurd mask, but it fit his personality well so I didn't question at all. The first song Trippie played was his song with Tory Lanez called "FeRRis WheEL" which couldn't have been better. This is a newer song that has gained a lot of ground recently. When he played one of his earlier hits, "Poles 1469," with rapper Tekashi 6ix 9ine featured he cut out Tekashi's verse and the crowd began chanting "free 6-9" as he was recently incarcerated by the FBI.

The next musician out was Gunna, who has been one of the more popular artists recently with many features and even an album "Drip Harder" with Lil Baby. Gunna came out and played one of his own songs from "Drip Season 3" called "Car Sick." After that, he was met on stage by Lil Baby who performed their smash hit "Drip too Hard", followed by another guest star, Young Thug, who got the crowd going with his hit "Chanel (Go Get It)". With all them on stage we were going crazy in the crowd. After Gunna left with everyone else, Virgil Abloh came out and DJed for about 20 minutes, while Travis got himself ready for his entrance.

After Virgil there was a span of about 15 minutes where the stages

were empty. This felt like an eternity, but then the lights began to flash, and a beat came out of nowhere. Everyone was pushing and shoving trying to get as close to the stage as they could to see Travis up close. My friends and I were probably within ten feet of him the entire night, so we were constantly getting pushed around. Travis didn't appear though until his verse in "Stargazing" started; then there were flames and smoke as he was pushed up and jumped about five feet in the air and began his performance. The crowd went crazy in the mosh pits to the left and right, with a sea of people jumping up and down all night.

"Stargazing" was only the beginning, as Travis proceeded to play so many of his top songs, from "Mamacita" to "HOUSTONFORNICATION" and even back to "Hell of a Night." For "Carousel," his second song on *Astroworld*, he rode a rollercoaster in a circle while singing upside down. It was unbelievable!

For "R.I.P. SCREW" a mini movie played on a screen in the middle of the circular coaster, which was interesting to look at to say the least. It only seemed to get better though as we neared the end- one of the last songs was "CAN'T SAY" and for this song he went full "La Flame" as he was riding a rollercoaster above our heads singing as he went back and forth with a giant astronaut and a screen of visuals all at the same time.

By the time it was over, on the opposite stage Travis had put a huge blow up of his head out of gold, the same head that is on his cover for "Astroworld" so it was surreal to see it in person up close. No doubt this concert was easily the highlight of my November, maybe even the entire past year!

If you have the chance to go and see Travis Scott live, definitely take it. Travis puts on a great spectacle that has the crowd enchanted the whole time, and I only hope I can go see him again soon.

# Little Pieces of Happiness

We asked Manasquan High School Students a simple question: What makes you happy? As you can see, the responses varied from sincere to simple to silly. Some are my own, while others are random students. Enjoy!

**By: Annie Mako**



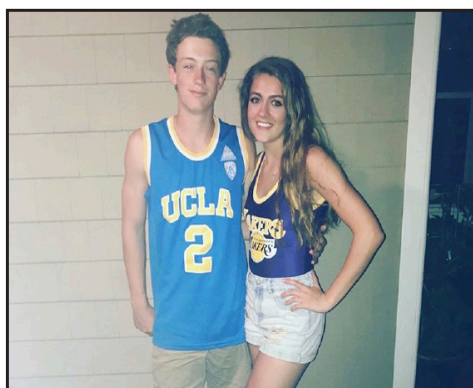
**Going to half apps and never paying for it – making my friends pay for it.**



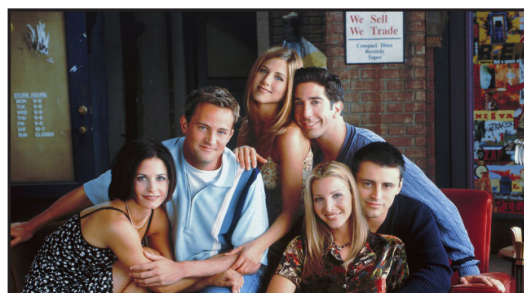
**Having no homework in any of my classes.**



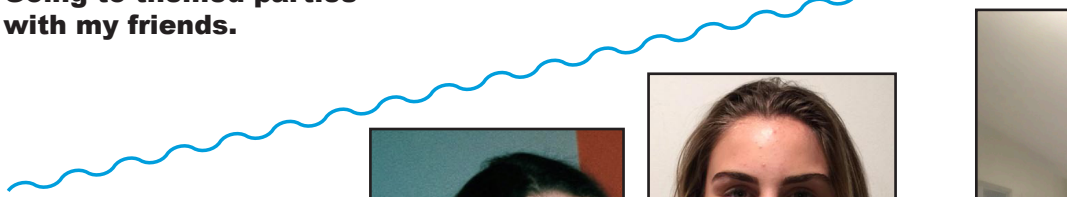
**Waking up in the morning with a fully charged phone, and Buying clothes and getting to the check out to find that there is a big sale on the clothes I picked out.**



**Going to themed parties with my friends.**



**Watching Friends because of their sarcastic answers to questions and making funny side comments.**



**Senior Faith Masonius binge watches her favorite Netflix shows.**



**Senior Lily Hunt finds happiness from deep cleaning her room.**



**Senior Lola Mullaney is happy when she has basketball games at home court.**



**Sophomore Shane Leddy (left) feels happy while eating cheesesteak. Senior Matt Lyons (right) prefers listening to when he listens to Meek Mill.**



# WARRIOR SPORTS

## GIRLS WRESTLING MAKES THEIR MARK

### BELLA SERRANO WINS FIRST MHS INDIVIDUAL WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP

*By: Madison Pringle*

When one thinks of wrestling, usually two muscular, sweaty guys fighting on a large mat pops into mind. One never imagines a girl on the sweaty mat. But, some girls in New Jersey are becoming the pioneers for girls wrestling; in fact, some right here in Manasquan High School.

On March 1st and 2nd, senior Bella Serrano and sophomore America Garay represented MHS at the first ever New Jersey Girls Wrestling state championship in Atlantic City. New Jersey is the 12th state to hold a state tournament for Girls Wrestling, and the first in the Northeast.

Bella proudly became the first ever state champion, boy or girl, for Manasquan on Saturday, March 2. Bella defeated West Orange's Daniela Tacuri in overtime with a final

***Bella dominates her opponent on the way to becoming a champion.***



***Bella Serrano rejoices in her victory over West Orange's Daniela Tacuri***

score of 6-4. At first, Daniela was in the lead, but with 16 seconds left, Bella grabbed a two-point takedown to just surpass Daniela. But Daniela snagged one-point escape, and the match overtime.

Bella, who has been wrestling for eight years, told NJ.com after her victory that she was "born to do this." She has dedicated her life since 5th grade to this sport, and says she loves every second of it.

This was the biggest win in her entire career. Before the match, Bella said, "I'm very nervous. It's my last match and I don't want to end it on a bad note." But that all changed in the excitement after the match. "I wasn't nervous at all," she said. "Even when I was down. I knew her wrestling style and I felt great."

Before states, Bella and America had to battle their way through regionals on February 17th at Red

Bank Regional to claim their spot.

This is America Garay's first year involved in high school wrestling, but she has a year worth of training in jiu-jitsu under her belt. She finished in 5th at state's, winning against Parsippany's Hailey Budney.

Her most impressive performance, though, was at regionals. She was shockingly able to pin Manalapan's skilled Jesse Johnson in the 136-pound semifinal. She continued her streak by pinning Delran's Emma Matera in 18 seconds in the second period. This helped her to sneak into state's.

America was nervous to face Johnson, but said that she followed her father's advice. "My dad told me to focus on what I can do instead of how good she could be." She shocked her team and her opponent in her strong performance.

Make sure to keep your eye out for more Girl's Wrestling in the coming years. These girls have spent their lives competing in a male dominated sport, and their hard-work has finally paid off with championships - in their own tournament.





# WARRIOR SPORTS

## Lady Warriors Storm Through Central Jersey Group 2

Winning, winning, and more winning is all that coach Lisa Kukoda and her Manasquan Lady Warriors have known for the past four years. The Manasquan girls' basketball team has won five consecutive state sectional titles and two Tournament of Champions titles since Mrs. K has become the head coach.

This year the Warriors brought in a young, new team with much less experience than recent teams. They relied on their seniors: Faith Masonius (Maryland), Lola Mullaney (Harvard), and Annie Mako (Montclair State). All three girls are headed to play college basketball at their respected schools. The girls also have some new faces that have con-



*The Lady Warriors walk out on the court*

tributed to their success: Georgia Heine (freshman), Maddie Fagan (transfer from RBC), Brooke Hollawell (freshman), and Kate Leturgez (transfer from Point Boro).

The girls had a successful regular season, going 12-2 in division play. Their success continued into the Shore Conference Tournament, until they fell to rival St. John Vianney 53-51 in a thriller. Faith had a monster game scoring 33 points and received high praise from SJV coach Dawn Karpell, who said, "Faith is the best player in the Shore. We knew that she's not going to go down with any kind of fight." Senior Annie Mako says the goals are different from past years, "We want to continue the winning tra-

**By: Jack Heenan**

dition of the past few years and play together to prepare for the big stages."

Despite the loss, Coach Kukoda focused on doing the little things right in preparation for the state tournament. "If we can keep that as our focus and not change the way that we play and the intensity that we play at – and we don't change that depending on who comes into the gym each night – then in the end, it's not so much about the opponent."

The girls earned the #1 seed in the Central Jersey Group 2 tourney, and faced off with #16 seed Metuchen in the first round. The Lady Warriors got off to a hot start and forced lots of turnovers, which lead to a 33 to 13 at the end of the first quarter.

Senior Faith Masonius was, "really happy how we moved the ball and attacked the basket." The girls didn't let up and destroyed Metuchen to win 90-35. Annie Mako felt this was, "definitely a statement win for us. We set the tone early and kept our foot on the gas." Lola Mullaney lead the way with 29 point and Faith had 26 points, as the girls dominated up and down the floor all game and moved on to play Johnson in the quarterfinals.

They were well prepared to face Johnson and it showed the whole game. The girls held Johnson to only 21 point en route to a 66-21 victory. "Defense is always a main priority for us," said Faith, "even if were struggling on offense we can

always focus on the defensive end to get the win." The girl's offense did struggle a little against Johnson, but they really gave Johnson trouble on defense which helped them get the job done. Key contributions came from: Faith with 24 points, Lola with 18 points, and Annie Mako with 9 points. The girls move on to play Voorhees in the semifinals.

The semifinal game vs Voorhees was never close. The girls came out firing early and grabbed a huge lead. The night was highlighted by Faith Masonius scoring her 2000<sup>th</sup> career point on a layup in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. Faith becomes the 4<sup>th</sup> player in Manasquan history to score 2000 points joining all three of the Mabrey sisters.

"I'm very proud to accomplish this. I couldn't have done this without my teammates," said Masonius. The Lady Warriors rolled on to a 64-26 win, and moved on to play Rumson in the CJ Group 2 championship. Faith Masonius scored 22 and Lola Mullaney 17 to lead the way.

The Lady Warriors got off to a slow start against rival Rumson-Fair Haven but picked it up to cruise to their 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive state title. "It's a great feeling, I've been lucky to be apart of this great program for 4 years and winning never gets old," said Faith about the win. The lady warriors impressed many with their performance in the state sectional tournament. Lola and Faith had big games to lead the way. "It's been lots of fun, I loved playing for this team and

I'm going to miss it when it's over," said Senior Annie Mako. The Lady Warriors had an amazing season and have a state championship to show for it.



*Lola Mullaney drives to the basket against St. Rose*



# WARRIOR SPORTS



## Boys Swimming Laps the Competiton to Repeat Sectional Title

Manasquan Boys Swimming repeated their NJISAA Central Jersey, Public B sectional title, with a victory over the #2 seed, West Windsor-Plainsboro South. The win came in seemingly easy for the Warriors, as the final score was a whopping 113-57.

Though the Warriors came in with confidence, they did not believe that the margin of victory would be such a drastic one. Coach Murin expressed, "I had a feeling we were going to win, but not to this extent." The win came to fruition with the help of senior Finn Cuozzo, who won both his appearances in the 100 and

By: Lewis Marks

200m freestyle events. Not only did Finn contribute to the victory but so did Ethan Hinds, and junior Charlie Sawitsky, who swam the freestyle relays and won.

The road to the sectionals was a long and treacherous one, with a season that began nearly two months ago against a tough Wall team. Squan was able to top their rivals in the season opener and continued on for a strong season coming out as the #1 seed with a record of 11-1, including 9-0 in district play.

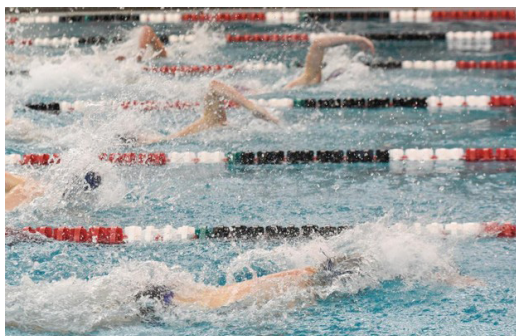
This season was a real test to the players and coaches after having lost a total of 20 seniors last year. This year's seniors were able to step up and really carry the torch for the Warriors. Senior Nick Rice was one of the leaders on this squad.

During the sectional, Nick swam the 100 butterfly free, the 50 free in the 200 free relay, and a 100 free in the 400 free relay. Nick was very confident in the team's chances to win and knew what he had to do.

"I was thinking I need a personal best to help defend our title and I gave everything I had in order to make sure that happened," he

*Below (from left to right): Manasquan Swimming in the Sectionals against West Windsor-Plainsboro; last year's team celebrating its sectional victory; this year's seniors: Daniel Bardsley, Aidan Price, Finn Cuozzo, Nick Rice, Jeff Mead, and Andrew Heinrichs.*

*Continued on next page*







# WARRIOR SPORTS

## *Boys Basketball: Shore Conference Cinderella Run; Central Jersey Group II Champs!*

By: Annie Mako

The Shore Conference has been known as Jersey's most competitive conference years on end. Manasquan's boys' basketball team has always fought hard in years past, but this year they fulfilled more than they expected.

In the first round, the boys breezed through a tough Toms River East team, ending in a 96-64 win. "This win gave our team a big boost of confidence for the next rounds, but we knew competition would continuously get harder down the road," said senior forward Xander Korolik.

In the next round, they faced a gritty Red Bank Catholic team. Manasquan's competitive side came out and they were hungry for another win. "We were hyped up and ready to get the job done," said senior swing Brad McCabe, good defense and great ball movement on offense resulted in a 79-59 win.

They weren't done yet. They would then face a talented Christian Brothers Academy team. Manasquan has not advanced to the Shore Conference final since 2005. CBA was the only team standing in their way. For 16 years, Manasquan was incapable of beating the Academy. This year was different. With their foot on the peddle, Manasquan ran up the score the minute the game started. The energy was high, and the fans were rowdy. Manasquan lost to CBA in the championship game 14 years ago and has lost to the Colts three times since in the Shore Conference Tournament, this gave the boys motivation to get the win. "It was an amazing feeling," said Korolik. "I knew that we could do it, our goal all season was to go and play Ranney and give them our all." Xander sparked his team with two long

range threes and got the win 70-64.

The boys were finally in the final, after years of fighting, they made it to Monmouth University. With a packed college gym, the boys were nervous, but ready. Ranney is a team with a roster of high division one recruits and possible NBA lottery picks in 2020. That didn't bother the boys. They put up a fight early in the game and continued to grind. People doubted the boys, but they came in with a bang. McCabe finished with 33 points and shooting 9-10 from the three-point line. "This game was a statement for us, we showed that we can hang with the best of the best and we aren't going anywhere," said Brad. A game that was predicted to be a blow out, ended in a 10-point loss from the physical Squan team,

*Continued from previous page*



*Above (top): Senior Brad McCabe shoots over defender.  
(above): Junior Kieran Flanagan looks to drive past defender.*





# WARRIOR SPORTS

## Squan Wins Dowd Cup!

By: Kevin Katayama

The feeling of winning is just so sweet! The Manasquan Warriors Ice Hockey won their second consecutive Dowd Cup, beating Middletown North 7-1. One of the greatest team's Manasquan Ice Hockey has ever put together.

Manasquan was firing on all cylinders in the Shore Conference Championship. Some of the Warriors top players like juniors Luke McNamara, Matt Franzoni, and Matt Faranacci. They had great things to say about the team and their win. McNamara said, "We were all so energized before the game, all day I was thinking about it and we had a team breakfast, so we just were locked in all day." He added that the team was just looking forward to states. "Honestly, I was excited but not as much as last year because it was our first time winning The Dowd Cup last season, but I mean it was still an amazing feeling. Our eyes were set on states, really want it."

Mike Faranacci another star player for the Warriors had a few words as well. He went through what they do to get ready and hyped before the game. "We play sewy before games, it's a soccer game, basically a keep away game, that's just the name we give it." Faranacci also said "Before the game, our coach told us to just do what we have been doing all year long, and that was dominating games." Mike said before the games the team warms up to the most hype music, get shots on goal, and test the goalie.

Matt Franzoni, twin brother of Mike Franzoni, who is also on the hockey team as well. Matt said winning meant everything to him. "It's awesome, to see a program that has struggled deeply over the course of the years and get to this, it's amazing. I wasn't here when they were bad but seeing those guys on our team celebrating and smiling was one of the best moments of my life." At halftime Matt said that his coach made him have a chip on his shoulder. "Our coach said take care of business and we will do something many teams can say."

They started off their season in November with an invigorating 7-5 win over Rumson. From that point on, no opponent could stop the Warrior's momentum, until Middletown North surprised them in the second round of states.

Squan dominated the game, firing 47 shots on goal, but fell by a score of 2-1. Even Middletown North coach Don Wood said his team was "under seige all night."

But that didn't change the end re-



*Above: Squan skating back to center after a goal;  
below: Senior Aidan Tolnai on a Fast Break*



sult. Squan lost, and the season was suddenly, disappointingly over.

On the season, Squan won the Shore A Central Division, going undefeated with a 7-0 record. They were also champions of Ocean and Monmouth County as winners of the Dowd Cup. They reached a high ranking of #15 in the state, according to NJ.Com, and according to myhockeyrankings.com, the team was ranked #1 public school hockey team in New Jersey.

The hockey team overall had a very good season. They finished 19-1 on the season and 7-0 in conference play. States did not go the way they had planned and were defeated in the first round of states by Middletown North 2-1. The Warriors will look to continue their success next year and in the future, players all ready can't wait for next season.

*Left: Fist pumps and fist bumps as Squan celebrates its scoring in style.*

# Stunning NFL News: OBJ's Next Chapter

By: Jack Heenan

Shock, betrayal, and sadness is what all Giants fans felt after the news broke Tuesday night, March 13, that they had traded star receiver Odell Beckham Jr. to the Cleveland Browns. Reporter Mike Garafolo broke the news through twitter: "The Browns have traded for WR Odell Beckham, source say. The deal is done. I am not joking." This tweet sent the football world into a frenzy as everyone was glued to their phones waiting for more information.

According to NFL reporter Adam Schefter, the two teams "reached an agreement" Tuesday to trade Odell Beckham Jr. to the Browns in exchange for the Browns first round pick, third round pick, and safety Jabrill Peppers. This shocked and upset many Giants fans and sent Browns fans into a frenzy. According to Giants General Manager, David Gettleman, "we didn't sign [Odell] to trade him." Gettleman said this on January 2<sup>nd</sup> so lots of Giants fans now feel betrayed by the team for going against their word.

On the other hand, the city of Cleveland went into celebration mode. After LeBron James left for LA, Cleveland was in need for a star and Odell Beckham is the perfect guy to step in and fill the void.

According to Fox, one fan's celebrating was so loud that his neighbor called the cops. "Boom.

We got OBJ. I was so excited. I couldn't help myself. I was jumping all around my house. My brother told me to stop but I couldn't because I was so excited. Couldn't nothing stop me. So, I had to rejoice outside," the 17-year-old, identified by FOX8 Cleveland as Robert Stewart, told the station.

A big part of the trade is OBJ being reunited with high school friend and college teammate Jarvis Landry. The two became friends in high school through competing against each other in Louisiana. The duo teamed up at LSU and had many successful seasons there. The duo will now be reunited as the top two wide receivers on the Browns. "It feel good!! Love you brudda," posted Landry on Instagram once the news was public. The Browns are now loaded with talented players including: Odell Beckham Jr., Jarvis Landry, Baker Mayfield, Nick Chubb, Kareem Hunt, and Myles Garrett.

Beckham said his goodbyes to NY and expressed his excitement to be on the Browns. Through Instagram he said, "I want to thank the NY Giants organization for giving me an opportunity to do what God put me on this Earth to do. You guys will always have a place in my heart, a beautiful city... a beautiful place." Beckham also put up a photo of him in a Browns uniform with the caption saying, "Dawgs gotta eat." This trade was a wild one and will be remembered forever.



**Above (left to right): Odell's most famous catch while on the Giants; Odell will be reunited with highschool friends Jarvis Landry; First look of Odell in a Browns uniform.**

## Boys Swimming

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said. This seemed to work as every other swimmer gave their best efforts as well, and the score clearly reflected their grit and heart.

Many people thought that this year's team would not live up to last year's championship squad, but not Nick. "Last year's class was very talented and a strong group," he said. "This year we were able to get where we were with the help of a really strong freshman class that made up for what we lost last year."

One freshman was Jack Nowak, who had a strong season and we expect will be able to improve and lead the team in future years.

Though the team had a great senior class, there appears to be nothing to worry about as they have so many young swimmers such as Nowak and Brenner Hinds, a freshman and junior respectively. The promise for a possible repeat is once again in the air, and optimistic Nick seems to think so to: "We could get a 3-peat now, the freshman class will step up and there is a lot of young talent that will be here next year as well."

It will be interesting to see how they fare next year and maybe they'll bring another one home for the Blue and Gray.

## Boys Basketball

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70-60 was the end score, but the boys were to keep their heads high. "This year we are definitely making a name for ourselves," said junior guard Kieran Flanagan "we feel very confident, after playing Ranney, we were very happy that we put up a great fight, we feel ready to come and kill it in the state tournament."

Coach Bilodeau has the tradition of working his players to the best of their ability. He's a hard coach but believes in all his players and expects them to play to the highest level of intensity. It has been a good year for Manasquan and Coach and his players are ready to shock the shore and show people that they aren't going anywhere any time soon.

The boys followed up the Shore Conference tournament by getting extraordinary wins against Johnson, Holmdel, and Gov. Livingston, and moved on to the sectional state championship against Lincoln. They blew out Lincoln in front of an excited home crowd by a score of 78-42, earning the Central Jersey Group II title. Their season came to an end after losing to Haddonfield in a tough game. The boys had an amazing season and are officially state champs!



# Manasquan High School

# The Blue & Gray

