

# BLUE AND GRAY

## MANASQUAN HIGH SCHOOL



Hispanic  
Heritage  
Night  
Highlights  
Cultural  
Diversity

### HEALTH CAREERS CLUB ORGANIZES SUCCESSFUL BLOOD DRIVE

McKenna Karlson and several other Manasquan High School students donated blood for a good cause!



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## The Blue & Gray Manasquan H.S. 2023-2024

### Issue One

#### Editors:

Reagan Scime  
Jacquelyn Stewart

#### Staff:

Rose Behler  
Yami Urbano  
Ellie O'Shea  
Gavin Duque  
Angelina George  
Sophia Evans  
Peyton D'Andrea  
Fernanda Morales  
Gabby Boquel  
Kelly Meza  
Payton Siano

Cover Design:  
Reagan Scime

Advisor:  
Mr. James Mawn

# Health Careers Academy Blood Drive Helps Save Lives

By: Ellison O'Shea and Peyton D'Andrea

Most days students are sitting in class and learning all day, but on Friday October 6<sup>th</sup> things were different. Throughout the day, students were going in and out of school to donate blood at the Academy of Health Careers blood drive.

There were sixty-three pints of blood collected from the blood drive. Every pint of blood saves three lives, so one hundred eighty-nine lives were saved from one day of hard work by Manasquan High School's Academy of Health Careers.

Mrs. Kozic, the Academy of Health Careers director, was the person in charge of everything. She started the blood drive fifteen years

ago, and will not be stopping soon.

"There are so many lives being saved and we have so many new people come to donate every year," said Mrs. Kozic.

Her Dynamics of Health Careers classes helped all throughout the day, from setting everything up in the morning to taking everything down in the afternoon.

Senior McKenna Karlson is a 17-year-old student who was fortunate to donate at the blood drive. This was McKenna's first-time donating blood. She was nervous, but she knew it was going to a good cause so she chose to face her fears and do it.

"If you are able to give

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# Honoring Hispanic Heritage

By: Rose Behler

On Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup> Manasquan High School celebrated Hispanic Heritage Night for the fifth year. October is National Hispanic Heritage Month, and this month represents an annual celebration of the people from Latin America in the United States. MHS has a very special way of honoring its Hispanic students, staff, and the whole community.

Mrs. Mulroy, a counselor at the high school, organized a night dedicated to commemorating Hispanic culture. She designed the whole layout of the gym and thought out carefully how everyone would be able to have a good experience, hearing cultural music and reaching the food. Held in the gymnasium, dozens of tables were filled with various foods, drinks, and desserts. The walls were draped with every flag of Hispanic culture, beautiful floral pieces, lights, and bright colors.

"It was a community effort, and all of the foods brought were made with love," said Mrs. Mulroy.

**Below: Junior Elin Olenyik playing with Mr. Minutolli's children.**



She was very happy to see all the families come together and dedicate their time to making authentic, homemade delicacies to share with the community. Mrs. Mulroy has overseen hosting this event for three years, after English Second Language teacher Christine Rice first started it five years ago.

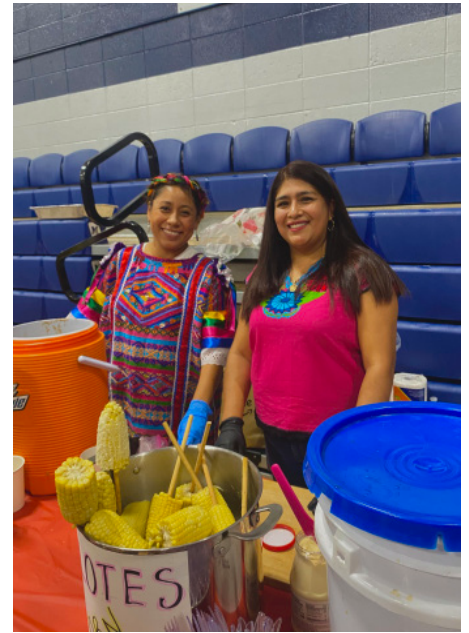
Mrs. Mulroy moved to the United States at 15 years old from Nicaragua and had to learn English here. Now, she dedicates herself to helping ESL students, like she once was, here at Manasquan.

The gym was unrecognizable. Students, teachers, custodians, and others transformed it into a stunning scene. Flags and tapestries covered the walls and truly converted it into a homey setting. Nine tables lined the entrance, each packed with a different meal. There were so many different things to choose from, and everyone's pallet was surely satisfied. Families brought in homemade tamales, corn sticks, fajitas, churros, and a fan favorite—Tres leches cake.

Dana Lopez, a freshman at Manasquan, said that she was "so excited to be there," and that it made her feel "happy that people care about [her] culture." Students were very appreciative of this party dedicated to them, and they all let their excitement out on the dance floor.

Teachers, adults, and children performed a handful of moves, stretching from traditional dances all the way to the Macarena. The only time people were sitting down was to enjoy the delicious food in front of them.

"I'm a sub for the ESL (English Second Language) classes, and I've gotten to know the kids quite well over the last couple of



**Above: Parents serving authentic, home-made food.**

years," said Mrs. Bertinelli, a substitute teacher at Manasquan School District. "I just wanted to be a part of this to help them celebrate." Even people of non-Hispanic backgrounds came to show their love and support for all the incredible features of this culture.

Children were occupied with the games, crafts and snacks set up to ensure that they didn't get bored. Luca and Bruno Minutolli said that their favorite part of the night was the "bean bag toss, the games and the chicken empanadas!"

High school students hung out with the younger kids and did crafts, played games, and danced with them. "My mom is Puerto Rican, and she makes the best empanadas," Luca added. "I love them."

With all the activities, music and delicacies, a good time was promised to everyone. It was a beautiful celebration and perfectly depicted the fun and liveliness that the Hispanic culture is known for.

As Mrs. Mulroy says, "Mi casa, tu casa."

# HALLOWEEN HAUNTS THE HALLS OF MHS

By: Rose Behler, Ellie O'Connor, Payton Siano, and Sophia Evans

Halloween at MHS is always a fun day! On Tuesday, October 31 students and teachers tapped into their imaginations and creativity to bring the school alive.

Spanish teachers Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Eldridge serve as student council advisers, and organize the Halloween assembly. They always do a great job. This year, they planned a costume contest (with gift cards to winners!) and some fun games in between each costume category.

Students from every grade were allowed to participate. Many students dressed up this year in fun costumes such as Scooby Doo, Guy Fiere and Kiss Marry Kill. There were also fun teacher costumes like Barbie and Ken. Seeing all these different creations was hilarious!

There were a couple of different competitions that students and teachers could participate in. The first was the solo competition. Students who dressed up by themselves were allowed to stand up and show off their costume to the whole



**Above: TJ and DP as Mermaid Man and Barnacle Boy; Below left to right: Ms. Schille as Disco Barbie and Nick as Danny Zucco**



school. The winner for this was Nick Walsifer, who was Danny Zuko from *Grease*. Next was the duo competition. A lot of creative costumes were present in this category, with the winners two juniors, TJ Walther and DP McManus, who dressed as Mermaid Man and Barnacle Boy from *SpongeBob*.

The group costumes were all super unique as well. Winning this were juniors Coal DelSalto and Kaitlyn Gray along with sophomore Olivia Taylor. They were "Kiss, Marry, Kill", which is a fun game played by many teens. Coal dressed as a member of the rock band Kiss, while Kaitlyn wore a wedding dress for Marry and Olivia was murderous looking as Kill.

While the teachers were different versions of Barbie or Ken, Mr. Chaing was most impressive, dressed as a student, senior Liam Starkey. He wore Liam's signature sweatshirt and chain. When Mr. Buss asked for a round of applause from the audience, Mr. Chaing definite-



# Halloween

*continued from previous page*

ly won by a landslide.

Still, the teachers dressed up together as Barbies and Kens from the new movie grabbed a lot of attention. Everyone picked their own version of the two to go as for the assembly, and each teacher was unique. Mr. Buss sported an eye-catching sparkly version of Ken and Mrs. Hodnett brought weird barbie to life with colored hair and painted boots. For the competition, Mr. Chang won with his one-of-a-kind costume of Liam Starkey, a senior here at MHS. His competitors were Mrs. Hodnett, Mr. Hoffman as the chef from ratatouille and his daughter Tess as Remi the rat, Mr. Freda as Albert Einstein, Mr. Harvey as cowboy Ken, and Ms. Schille as disco Barbie. The crowd cheered loudly for all the contestants, but Mr. Chang won by a long shot.

Walking through the halls throughout the school day there were many different group costumes. Standing out were a group of seniors dressed as the cast of Scooby doo. Even though they did not participate in the group costume contest many people came up to them and said how much they liked it. IThe



group of seniors included David Seeley, Colin Tracy, Liam Starkey, Brody Muly, and Anthony Chermack.

"My friends and I wanted to be something funny from a kids cartoon show and when we went to spirit Halloween, we knew that we were going to be members of the Scooby-Doo gang," said Anthony.

Another group of seniors in Mrs. Certo's period six gym class dressed as Minions. In their bright yellow they looked so cute!

It was a very fun day because it was the last day the seniors got to dress up in high school, so they took full advantage of it.

All in all, the Halloween celebration was a success!

**See more Halloween page 20-21!**





# AUDITORIUM RENOVATION IS COMPLETE

## Jack Nicholason Theatre reopens with new seats, new sound and lighting systems, and more

By: Gavin Duque

Over the course of the last couple years, Manasquan High School has been working on renovating their auditorium. New lights, a sound system, and brand-new seats are being installed to improve the overall quality of the auditorium. This project took two years from planning to completion.

Prior to starting the work, the Board of Ed, the Manasquan Alumni Foundation and the Liv Morro Memorial Foundation have been raising money to start the planning and renovating of the new auditorium.

These funds were also used for the new lighting and sound systems, and the new seats. The seats were picked by Mr. Goodall and Dr. Kasyan and are ensured to provide comfortable seating for future audience.

On October 18<sup>th</sup>, the ribbon was cut making the opening of the auditorium official which is now open for use.

Mr. Goodall, Principal of Manasquan High School, said, "The process went very smooth. No issues or problems at all going through with the process."

In addition, accord-



*Above: New lighting, fresh paint, new carpet and new seats highlight the renovation; Below: upgraded seating, pictured from back of auditorium*



ing to Mr. Goodall, there are a few less seats than before but that is made up for by the comfort of the chairs. A whole new rug was also installed, and new paintings/decorations were also included with the renovation.

Mrs. Galano, the head of Manasquan High schools Dance program, shares some of her thoughts regarding its effects on the entertainment programs, "It's a huge improvement," she said. "The new seats are a great upgrade, and make the audience more comfortable and feel more at home during shows."

She adds, "The new lighting and sound system are going to elevate all the performances to look very professional, and the students will shine."

In addition, a very helpful Mr. McBride, who has had five children come through MHS, helped create additional openings in curtains, allowing performers to enter and exit in more places on stage for even better performances.

Mrs. Schille, the Drama Director, loves the new auditorium and its new sound and lighting systems. She said, "The new and im-

*continued on next page*

# Manasquan and Pt. Pleasant Renew Rivalry

By: Rose Behler

It was an incredible sight. Food, festivities, and fun in everywhere. The Manasquan Vs. Point Pleasant Tug of War competition happened on Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. Supporters from both sides flooded the Manasquan inlet to represent their teams, and they definitely came ready to show their spirit.

This was the fifth occurrence of the Intercoastal Tug, however this year was quite important since participants were competing to break the 2-2 tie. There were nine events, each with a different group of locals. Sponsored by Jersey Mikes, the teams took part in a competition of strength and passion over the 450-foot-wide Manasquan inlet. The event was surrounded

with celebration on both sides.

"It's always a great time. Hopefully we get to take that trophy home!" said an excited Barabra Frank. Patrons from both towns showed up with their best attitudes. Chants, clothes, and colors elevated the spirits of everyone there.

Manasquan's side was filled with vendors, children, students, adults, and volunteers. There were countless craft vendors, such as Balanced Youth Wellness, Manasquan High School Squan-a-Thon, Make-A-Wish foundation, and Surf and Sun. Endless food choices were supplied by plenty of stores, like Carlson's Corner, Riverside Café, Peaches and Cream Ice Cream Truck and Manasquan Coffee Co. No one could go hungry here!

Members of the MHS football team compete every year, and they were thrilled to keep their title of undefeated. Patrick Loxley, the team's center, said, "It's pretty cool that we get to call ourselves undefeated." He added, "The tug is a great tradition."

Around halfway through the competition, the rope was accidentally dropped into the river, which caused some alarm. Nevertheless, both sides kept cheering and the show went on after the rope was



**Above: Manasquan Fire Rescue boat surveys the Manasquan Inlet during the tug to ensure everyone's safety.**

**Below: Attendants of the Tug of War (Squan Side).**



retrieved by the fire rescue. Supporters passed the test of faith in their teams and never stopped encouraging their representatives.

Despite an incredible effort from both towns, Point Pleasant Beach took the win. The tie might be broken for now, but who's to say it won't make a return at next year's event. The people of Manasquan sure hope so!

## Auditorium Renovation

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proved auditorium allows us to be on a more professional level when performing."

"This allows us to be more competitive," she added.

Superintendent Dr. Kasya says this project took about \$200,000 to complete. All in all, the completion of the

auditorium has brought many positive outcomes to Manasquan High School. All the performing arts programs are happy and excited for the new chapter of performing arts. The programs are eager to see what the future holds for their programs, the new equipment will greatly affect future shows and entertainment. Giving Manasquan High Schools auditorium a more professional look.



# MHS Welcomes New Teachers

## New Band Teacher Mrs. Szakal

By: Kelly Meza



**Above: New MHS band teacher Mrs. Szakal**

Last year at this time, she was at Toms River Elementary School. Now she is here at Manasquan High School. Ms. Szakal, the new band teacher, is incredibly passionate about music.

She likes the welcoming environment at Manasquan, and says the students and teachers are very pleasant and friendly. She enjoys working here at MHS so far. Ms. Szakal likes her new students and said they are amazing and talented.

When she arrived on the first day, Mrs. Szakal says she was, "a little bit nervous" but as the day progressed, she felt more relaxed. This is Ms. Szakal's first time working at a high school. She said, "It's hard making changes when you have been working at one school for so long and suddenly, you are at a new area."

Ms. Szakal has been teaching for over twenty-four years! She obtained a Master's degree in music from Colorado State University. She has also just started a doctoral musical art online through Boston University.

Ms. Szakal motivates her students by encouraging them and offering help when they need it. She wants them to pay attention during

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## New Chemistry Teacher Miss McQuillen

By: Yami Urbano and Fernanda Morales

The Science Department here at MHS has gained a new addition. Help us welcome Mrs. McQuillen, the new Chemistry teacher!

From growing up in Central Jersey to teaching in East Brunswick to coming to her latest destination here at Manasquan High School, Mrs.

McQuillen has always had a passion for education. Most specifically, a passion for chemistry. She even describes herself as a "Science Nerd".

Back in her sophomore year of high school, Mrs. McQuillen took an AP Chemistry course and recalls a memory when she failed a test. Since she did very poorly on the test, she thought she wouldn't be able to do science anymore. But she had a great teacher that worked with her after school everyday until she figured it out. She ended up loving that class because of her teacher.

After high school, Mrs. McQuillen attended The College of New Jersey, and got her Masters there. She wanted to pursue education as a career and with her Masters also got a teaching certificate and a job at East Brunswick.

Just like her own struggle with Chemistry in high school, she hopes to encourage and help students who find the class as hard as she did. Mrs. McQuillen wants to help improve her



**Above: Our newest Chemistry Teacher**

*continued on next page*





## Academy of Finance Toy Drive

Attention MHS! Show your kindness by donating a new, unwrapped toy for pre-K-5th grade students of Thurgood Marshall Elementary School in Asbury Park.

Drop your toy off in Room 561 by Friday, December 8th.

Any questions, email Mr. Driscoll. Happy Holidays all!

## Welcome Miss McQuillen

*continued from previous page*

students by understanding them, just how her teacher helped her.

That attitude has helped Mrs. McQuillen so far. Her students appreciate her, and her desire to help is creating a feeling in the classroom that her students appreciate.

"I think she's very sweet and nice. I like her teaching style and how she says jokes," said sophomore Sofia Arbeit.

On a typical day in Mrs. McQuillen's class, she starts with a warmup activity to introduce a new lesson plan. This helps students have a better understanding of what is going on. Often she hopes to spread the understanding of

chemistry and its fundamentals through group work, like labs.

"I like the aspect of the labs," said sophomore Desmond Nuzzolo.

Earlier in the year, Desmond was struggling in

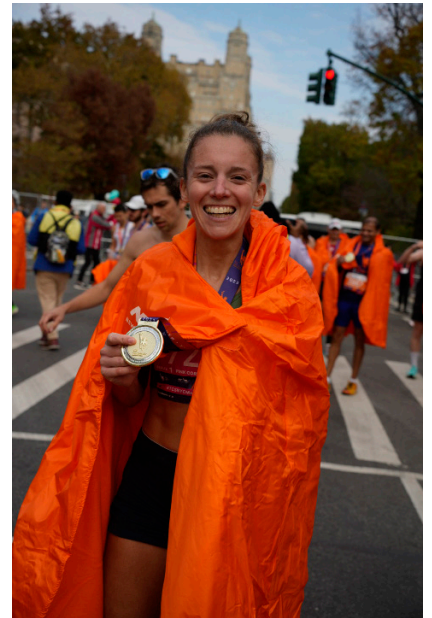
class. But Mrs. McQuillen makes herself available all the time for one on one extra help. For students like Desmond, this has really helped.

"I like the structure of the class and I go three times a week on extra help days," he said. "She's really nice, and I like the one on one perspective," he added.

Mrs. McQuillen might be best known as a chemistry teacher, but outside of school she has another passion. She is a runner.

"I am training for the New York City marathon," she said, and added, "I do all the community runs that you see here like the Belmar 5 and Spring Lake 5."

She loves the community in Mansquan and Spring Lake, and finds the boardwalks calming for a run. "I really like the community here, I feel like there's a lot of school spirit, I feel like everyone goes to the football games, and there's just a lot of fun events."



*Pictured (left): Mrs. McQuillen finishes strong at the New York Marathon*

# TRUNK OR TREAT? New NHS Project Gives Back for Halloween

By: Angelina George

Any other night one might be alarmed if they saw gremlins, ghosts and ghouls wandering around the streets, but on this night feel free to play dress up! So, grab your pillowcase and your scariest costume, while you get ready to eat some candy!

On October 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7pm in the High School back parking lot the National Honor society hosted an activity called "trunk or treat". The NHS administered this as one of their many service projects for the year.

This is the first year NHS ran this event. The NHS students split into groups and decorated about 30 cars. They

were responsible for setting the car up and getting the candy.

"We hope to get a good turnout with lots of little kids and lots of the NHS members volunteering!" explained Mrs. McHugh the advisor of NHS.

The NHS students were excited to run this event and see all the kids dressed up in costumes. They hoped to make an impactful difference and put a smile on these kids' faces.

The night of the event was just as exciting as anticipated. Both the volunteers and the kids had a blast! Over

200 kids representing each of the sending districts attended throughout the night. It started getting busy around 6 and rapidly picked up until 7:30.

The Trunk or Treat took place in the back lot of Manasquan High School with



*NHS Seniors Talia Blum, KiKi Noe, and Maggie Grable give their trunk a spooky ghost theme!*





# TRUNK OR TREAT?

*continued from previous page*

all of the cars parked in front of the field house decorated with spooky decorations. There was fun music that created a positive environment. It was very organized as they had a line beginning at the library, and the kids would go from car to car grabbing candy from each one.

The volunteers enjoyed giving back to the community. "It felt good to see all of the kids smile and see them all dressed up! I would have loved this as a kid," senior explained Ellie O'Shea.

The National Honors society is thrilled to be able to make this a new tradition and can't wait to be back next year with even more cars, and even more candy!

## Blood Drive

*continued from page 2*

blood, you one hundred percent should. It could save many lives," said Mckenna.

Another MHS student, Jack Mead, was unable to donate since he had a football game that day. Jack has previously given blood three times. When he learned he couldn't participate in the donation this year, he was disappointed. Instead of donating blood he still wanted to help in the field house. He helped his classmates and improved the donors' experiences.

Charlotte Michiko was another one of the many people who helped on this day. Charlotte is part of the MHS Academy of Health Careers. Charlotte was unfortunately too young to donate blood, but instead she made a difference by checking people in at the front desk.

"I will be donating next year when I am allowed. It was a great experience seeing everyone come in and being able to greet everyone," said Charlotte.

Mrs. Kozic was happy that people from all over the town came to donate blood all throughout the day. It wasn't just a Manasquan High School event, but a Manasquan community event too.

Every two seconds someone in the US needs blood. Blood drives all over the world have proven to be an essential need for humanity. Think about how many lives would be saved if there was a blood drive every week. This is why having events like this is so important.

Academy of Health Careers will have another blood drive in the spring (on April 19<sup>th</sup>) so if you were not able to donate this time, you can donate then.



# Promoting Kindness Throughout the Halls of MHS

By: Sophia Evans and Gabby Boquel

Did you hear what October is? It is challenge month! October is a month consisting of three theme weeks: Week of Respect, School Violence Awareness Week, and Red Ribbon Week. This month, each district student, staff member, and parents will be challenged to complete a specific challenge each day. Staff will have reflective dialogue with students about these challenges. They each reflect a different theme week, and highlight the importance of respecting others and yourself, making connections and identifying social supports, making positive lifestyle choices, and having coping strategies.

One of the most popular events in this month is the 100 grand challenge. Ms. Busco, the student assistance counselor at Manasquan High School, has been organizing these events for ten years. Respect week started when the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) laws were put into place. The purpose of this law is to strengthen the standards by which school districts prevent, report, investigate and respond to incidents of bullying. This week promotes certain niceness and activities.

"My favorite activity is the 100 grand challenge," Ms. Busco says, "It makes kids know that they are praised for their

good deeds." The 100 grand challenge is a challenge that encourages random acts of kindness from students. Teachers and staff members were instructed to keep their eyes open for students who were being respectful towards others. Once nominated by a teacher anonymously, Ms. Busco would personally deliver a bag of 100 grand candy bars.

Mr. Mawn, MHS English teacher, nominated a student on Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. When monitoring students during the PSATs, Tommy Martucci voluntarily gave his tablet charger to another student in the room. This student was described as very shy. Tommy did not think twice though, and when asked if anybody had a charger, he immediately stood up and offered his without hesitation.

Other winners of the 100 grand challenge include Sierra Winters, Coal Del Salto and Kaitlyn Gray. These students were all given the prize to recognize their kindness towards others here at MHS.

"I was shocked when Mrs. Busco delivered the candy to



**Above: Ava Sims receiving 100 Grand bars from Ms. Busco, a reward for her kindness**

me," Sierra Winters says.

There are some special days where students are asked to wear a certain color to bring awareness to a cause. On October 2, it was asked that students wear blue to stomp out bullying. On October 12, students were asked to wear purples as a symbol of peace and anti-violence. On October 24, students were asked to wear red to pledge making good choices and being drug free.

Each day a different challenge is posted on the TVs in the main hallway. It can be anything from smiling at 10 people to respecting yourself for being drug free and making healthy choices.

All of these events throughout October emphasize respect, and create a positive and safe school climate.



# MHS Drama Club Hosts Unique Fall Play

By: Rose Behler

The weekend of October 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, Manasquan High School was filled with students. Unusual for a weekend, right? However, it was the MHS Drama Club's Fall production of "Death by Dessert" that brought in the crowds. The newly remodeled auditorium was packed with supporters that came to watch their friends and family perform.

MHS members of the Drama Club worked extremely hard to prepare for this year's fall play. The show was "Death by Dessert" picked by Ms. Schille. Ms. Schille has been at Manasquan for four years now and has been the drama teacher since her start here. Her favorite play so far was last year's production of "Mama Mia," but was very eager to see how this year's play goes.

"The play surpassed all my expectations," Ms. Schille said, "We sold out both shows, and I didn't expect that people would laugh every other moment, and the food was so good." Overall, the play was an absolute hit!

"The Drama Club brings people together—we're like a giant family," Cormac Lawrence, a cast member, said. Cormac adds that his favorite part of being in the Drama Club is "the people; [he's] made so many good friends doing the shows." He is very excited to be performing in this year's show.

Ms. Schille picked "Death by Dessert" for this year's play because she "wanted a show [her] students could connect to," and because "the Italian culture is super fun!" The food, the music, the people, and the ethnicity overall are a very celebratory and exciting culture. The play is a murder mystery, and the cast says its "filled with suspense." Students are thrilled to be a part of it!

Many factors go into putting a play together: stage crew, lighting crew, actors, writers, directors. This year, there are about 40 students participating in the cast and crew. Along with the rest of the cast, Cormac is looking forward to seeing how it comes together, and "how the audience reacts."

Included with each ticket was a free dinner! A course consisting of salad, pasta, dessert, and coffee was served to each attendee--What a deal! Both Friday and Saturday's shows were sold out days prior to the play,



*Above: The cast & crew of Death By Dessert; Below: Members of the Drama Club gather after the show*



which was an awesome sign of support of the community. Congratulations to the Drama Club on the success of this year's play!



*Mrs. Szakal, pictured above with Mrs. Eilenn Daly at The Run for the Fallen, and below, leading the band at that event.*



# Welcome Mrs. Szakal

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her lessons and to understand.

According to Ms. Szakal, when she was younger, she took band lessons in her school. She recalls how most of the band teachers she had were quite harsh and stricter towards the students.

Ms. Szakal has many incredible, and talented musicians in the band. She cares about each one of her students and their performances.

Many students who are a part of the band enjoy being a part of Ms. Szakal's class.

One student, sophomore student, Gabriela Ezmerelda Caballero Quiroz, talks about Ms. Szakal. She said, "I personally think that Ms. Szakal is amazing and fun! She's energetic and helps us when we are struggling with a piece we are playing."

Gabriela plays the clarinet in the Warrior Band; this is her second year being in the band. She says that it is easy at times but difficult as well. "I struggle more with playing the higher register, just because of the finger placements and such," Gabriela says.

She says that Ms. Szakal tends to be a "bit more enthusiastic than last year's director." Gabriela said that Ms. Szakal changed a lot of things that they used to do. Gabriela thinks "they are great changes, and makes us look great as a band together!"

Sophomore student Edson Zaragoza is a part of the Warrior band as well. He plays the bass clarinet. He said, "I would say that it's not difficult, I feel like it would be easy to learn compared to all the other instruments."

About Ms. Szakal, Edson said, "I think she is chill. Overall Ms. Szakal is a very nice teacher."

Edson said that the band director from last year was more direct with what he would say. He said, "Ms. Szakal is not as strict as last year's band director."

Let's hope that Ms. Szakal enjoys her time teaching here at MHS!

## Key Club Holiday Wish Tree is back!

Attention Staff, Coaches, and Club Advisers...Help provide presents to children in our community. Sign up through the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4AA4A92CA6FA7-46307350-2023>

Please bring gifts to the Media Center by Friday, December 15th.

Involve your students!





# Zip-Tied lockers?

By: Rose Behler

**Manasquan High School--** Recently, Manasquan High school students have found their lockers zip-tied when they go to collect their belongings. To some, this measure is a bit extreme, while to others, it is a perfectly fitting reaction.

Effective since Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, lockers found without locks on them have been zip tied shut. Over three quarters of the lockers at Manasquan High-school are left unlocked daily, with some of those lockers missing their locks completely.

School administrators reported that three hundred lockers on the first floor alone were left unlocked, which fueled the current zip-tie movement.

Seeing their lockers tied shut, students were confused as to why this reaction was necessary. Administration, however, feels that it is an appropriate consequence for not following school policy.

"You get a locker and lock for free," said Mr. White, a school security officer at Manasquan High School, implying that the students should make use of their privileges.

For their first offence, students will receive an official warning in Genesis, but after that detentions will be issued. Shep Cooper, one of the students who has had their locker zip-tied, stated that he "got [his] locker zip tied because [he] didn't keep [his] lock on it." He was "annoyed because there was no reason for [administration] to do that." Shep, along with many other students, feels that him not locking his locker "doesn't affect anyone but [him.]" To get it off, he had to find Mr. Murin to cut it off.

Patrick Woodrow, a senior at Manasquan High School agrees with Shep, and claims that locking the lockers isn't that helpful. "I'm not good at unlocking lockers, and someone always locks it anyways," Pat said. "I'd be late to class if I locked it every day." Students that struggle to open their lockers find themselves rushing and claim that their lockers can cause them to be late for class. To students, making it to class on time is more important than locking their lockers.

Overall, students feel that the school could use other methods in response to their lockers being left unlocked. Assistant Principal Mr. Read said that he "hopes students will just keep their locks on their lockers," since it is much easier than giving a detention. It has been a week since the beginning of this new response, and lockers are still decorated with zip ties.

Moving forward, will students be able to finally follow the rules and lock their lockers, or will the extreme measures have to stay?



*Above: Supervisor Mr. Hudson zip ties an unlocked locker*

# AMERICAN HOLIDAYS

## WORD SEARCH

Solve the following puzzle by finding all the hidden words!



HALLOWEEN

VALENTINES DAY

CHRISTMAS

COLUMBUS DAY

GROUNDHOG

NEW YEARS DAY

FATHERS DAY

MEMORIAL DAY

EARTH DAY

MOTHERS DAY

APRIL FOOLS

FOURTH OF JULY

VETERANS DAY

THANKSGIVING

PRESIDENTS DAY

SAINT PATRICKS



# Freshmen Favorites

**AMELIA STEGER (LEFT):**  
"FRESHMAN YEAR IS REALLY DIFFERENT BUT SUPER FUN! DANCE IS MY FAVORITE CLASS AND I'VE LOVED MEETING NEW PEOPLE. I'M REALLY EXCITED FOR ALL OF THE NEW EXPERIENCES!"



**ABBY ZIROLI (RIGHT):** "I'VE REALLY LIKED FRESHMAN YEAR SO FAR, IT'S A LOT MORE THAN I EXPECTED. I LOVE MEETING NEW PEOPLE AND I'VE MADE LOTS OF NEW FRIENDS."

**ZOE LEDUC (MIDDLE):** "FRESHMEN YEAR HAS BEEN GOOD! MY CLASSES ARE GOING GREAT AND MY FAVORITE CLASS IS FRENCH. I'M MOST EXCITED FOR DRAMA CLUB THIS YEAR AND STARTING REHERSALS FOR INTO THE WOODS!"

**JAKE LOONEY (LEFT):**  
"FRESHMAN YEAR IS GOING PRETTY GOOD, I REALLY LIKE IT. MY FAVORITE CLASS IS SPANISH AND I'M REALLY EXCITED FOR SQUAN-A-THON!"



**LUCAS TITNER (RIGHT):** "YEAH, IT HAS BEEN PRETTY FUN SO FAR. I LOVE HISTORY AND DVP. I'M ALSO REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO HOCKEY SEASON TO START."



# Former MHS Student Honored during New Jersey Run for the Fallen

Most weekday mornings, Broad St. is filled with traffic, as parents drop their children at school. Most Sunday mornings, Broad St. is much quieter, as an occasional car passes but not much else happens. On Sunday, September 24, the scene was much different.

A crowd of roughly thirty people gathered in front of Manasquan High School, near the flagpole, to remember former student Ron Kubik as he was honored by the New Jersey Run for the Fallen.

Amongst those who attended were Ron's mother, Mrs. Eileen Daly, and Ron's former teachers Mr. Harvey and Mr. Mawn. Also in attendance were volunteers from the MHS Marching Band, some seniors from Mr. Harvey's AP Literature class and various members of the Manasquan community.

The Run for the Fallen remembers the sacrifice of Americans who lost their lives while fighting in the Armed Forces. A graduate of MHS in 2006, Ron was an Army Ranger who was killed in 2010 while fighting in Afghanistan.

Over four days, the runners run from the northwest corner of New Jersey to Cape May, the farthest southern point in the state. Then they run up the coast, ending at the Vietnam

memorial in the PNC Arts in Holmdel. Along the way, they stop to honor New Jersey residents killed in Battle.

MHS was added to route in 2015, when Mrs. Daly requested her son's former school be the mile marker in his honor.

"Ronnie loved his time at Manasquan," she said. "I wanted that positive memory to be the place where he is honored," she added.

MHS English teacher Mr. Harvey took the lead in bringing the band to the event. "I like the idea of some energy at the event," he said. "The first few years it was quiet and somber, but with the band, it's much more energetic."

Despite the rainy morning, the band members came to play. "We played a patriotic song and an upbeat song," band director Mrs. Szakal said. "Our goal was to add a positive vibe to the ceremony."

Several students from Mr. Harvey's AP Lit class attended the event also, after Mr. Harvey had discussed it in class. Olivia Wanner, Kiera Berlin, TJ Boucher, Ryan Mullaney, Billy Cosgrove and Lukas Nordell showed up in the early morning to pay respect. Their presence warmed Mrs. Daly, who thanked them for showing up.

***Below (left to right): Mrs. Daly with soldier Dave Taylor; seniors Olivia Wanner, Kiera Berlin, TJ Boucher, Ryan Mullaney, Billy Cosgrove and Lukas Nordell holding the Run for the Fallen flag; runners coming up Broad Street***







# Sofia Sheeks Russel



Sofia Russel was chosen as October's Student of the month! Sophia, a very hard-working student, and overall great person was recognized at the October Board of Ed meeting. Sophia has amazing grades, which is one of the reasons she has been chosen this month. "She is very hard working and always gets her work in on time," said her best friend, Reagan.

Sofia participates in many clubs such as international club, Environmental club, National Hon-

or Society, and National Honor Society for Spanish. Sophia also takes part in sports, such as field hockey and track. She is also on a travel team for field hockey called "Surf and Sand".

To be so good at sports and school, Sophia has had many people helping her get to where she is today. "My aunt is my motivation; she is very supportive. She is not too crazy about grades, and she lets me do my own thing," Sophia said. Sophia has also had many great influences, such as coaches. "My coaches are very nice people and they have helped me get better at my sport", she says.

One of Sophia's friends, Reagan who also is her teammate for field hockey, had a lot of amazing things to say about Sophia. "She is a leader during games. She helps direct people where they need to be." She added that "She is very positive during prac-

By: Payton Siano

tices and is always giving words of encouragement."

Sophia is such an inspiration in school and on the field, but she is also fun to be around outside of school. "She is very entertaining to be with," Reagan said. "She is very funny she is always making everyone smile and laugh, never a dull moment with her," she added.

Sophia said that "[She] was very surprised because [she] thought there was someone with better grades or more clubs, but [she's] happy [she] was chosen."





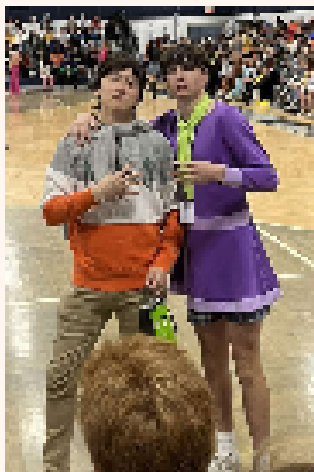
# Halloween at MHS



Seniors Liam Starkey, David Seeley, Colin Tracy, Anthony Chermak, and Brody Muly dressed as Mystery Incorporated.



Seniors Rylie Eldridge and Kiki Noe are dressed as Hallie and Annie from *The Parent Trap*.



Mr. Chiang dressed up as senior student Liam Starkey.







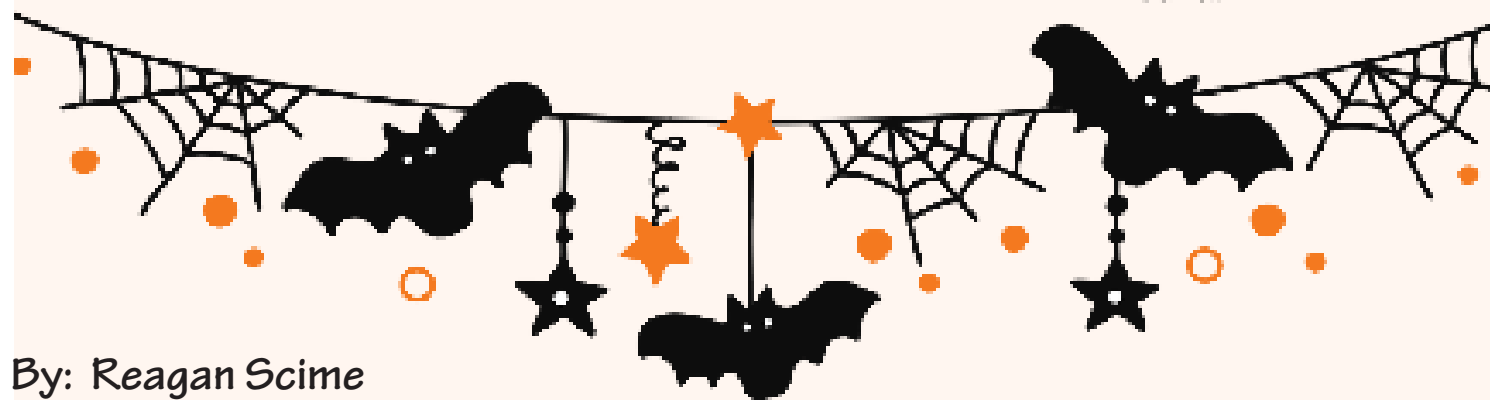
Mr. Frieda dressed as Einstein.



Seniors Kane and Quinn Chapman dressed as each other!



Seniors Shaun Etienne and Henry Hendricks dressed as Maui and Moana.



# WARRIOR SPORTS

## Girls Soccer Plays An Amazing Season

By: Peyton D'Andrea

Manasquan Girls Soccer team had an amazing season this year. In fact, it was their best season in recent memory. The girls won the B Central co-division championship, and reached the Shore Conference finals.

In October, the girls played Toms River East, St. Rose and Point Boro, won all three, and advanced to the Shore Conference Tournament Semifinals. At that point, the girls had a record of 8-3-1.

"We are having an amazing season and our team is working so hard," said Rylie Rampone.

On October 14<sup>th</sup> the girls had a great victory over Point Boro. In the first half, the girls had some good chances to score but couldn't capitalize. But the defense remained tough and didn't allow any goals either.

In the second half, Point Boro was the first team to score off a free kick outside the 18 yard line. But a few minutes later, Point Boro had a hand ball called inside their 18, which resulted in a penalty kick.

Renee Herbert took the PK and buried it in the back of the net. She said, "It was stressful walking up to take the kick, but I had confidence."

The second goal was a free kick by Renee, and Rylie headed it into the goal for the game winner.

Manasquan Girls coach Bailey Price has done a great job pushing the girls to do their best this season.

Mrs. Price describes this group of girls very positively. She said, "These girls are a full team of leaders, and they make a complete team on and off the field."

Another great win followed Pt. Boro, this was against Manalapan. Rylie Rampone scored a nice goal from about 35 yards out putting the girls in the lead. But Manalapan was able to finish a



***Wall's Kiersten Brown and Bianca Chiarella of Manasquan battle during the second half of the state playoffs***

goal a few minutes into the second half, and the action went back and forth from there.

This resulted in a very exciting yet stressful overtime. About 4 minutes into overtime, Jordyn Hollawell pressured a ball back to Manalapan's defense, and was able to take on the goalie and finish it to eliminate the #1 seed from the Shore Conference Tournament.

In their first ever Shore Conference championship game, the girls started strong, but couldn't take control. On Thursday October 19<sup>th</sup> they lost against Howell by a score of 4-1. In the first 5 minutes Rylie Rampone scored, putting the girls in the lead. MHS outplayed Howell in the first half, but Howell dominated the second half and scored three goals in the last 20 minutes.

After that disappointment, the girls bounced back. They won against Robbinsville, the number 15<sup>th</sup> seed in the state tournament, in round 1. The score of the was 6-2 with Rylie Rampone and Violet Nolan leading the team to a win. The girls were down 2-0 at the start and came back, scoring 6 goals from 6 individual players.

The girls won against Ocean Township in the state quarterfinals on the 30<sup>th</sup> with a score of



# Field Hockey Wins B North Division

By: Gabby Boquel

The Manasquan High School field hockey team went above and beyond this season. Their dedication and hard work paid off, with the team winning the B South division title and earning the opportunity to play in Shore Conference Tournament.

A highlight of the season was the girls had a 6 game winning streak that advanced them into the Shore Conference playoffs. Coach Toni Bruno praised the girls for their job well done.

Ciara Dunne, a sophomore on the team, commented, "We have an amazing coach, seniors, players and goalie. I think the girls have done really well this year both on and off the field."

According to Madelyn Schlatter, another sophomore on the team, "We have definitely improved by beating teams we lost to last year and overall getting through every game with a good mindset." Madelyn also stated that having a good mindset can help the players focus and push themselves to accomplish more.

The girls put their focus and mindset to the test in the first round of the Shore Con-

ference against Donovan Catholic. They dominated and won 7-0. That same week, the girls moved on to the second round, where sadly, they lost to Middletown South with a score of 0-2.

The girls were upset that they weren't able to continue further into the playoffs but were pleased with how far they got and what their record was.

After being knocked out of Shore Conference, the girls looked forward to getting back to winning in the state tournament. On Friday, October 27 the girls hosted Wall in a state playoff game. Seeded #5, the girls were looking for revenge after losing early this year. They won 2-0, a definite highlight of the season.

"I've never beaten Wall," said senior Reagan Scime, to perfectly express the excitement of the victory.

Overall, the girls finished their season with a record of 12-3. They kept playing and showed the teams that they had lost to in the past that



*Above: The girls ending the game with a win*

they could do better. They kept pushing and pushing and all their hard work paid off.

With 8 seniors who will walk away from the team within the next few months, the girls took advantage of lots of experience. Many of them want to proceed playing field hockey in college and in the future. The seniors were thrilled to be a part of so much success, play in the playoffs, and be part of such an amazing team. The seniors who will be graduating are... Phoebe Armstrong, Grace Buckley, Sydney Caccamise, Tess Calzaretta, Noel Jeskalski, Ava Pilatos, Sofia Russell, and Reagan Scime.

Great job, girls, on having a great season!

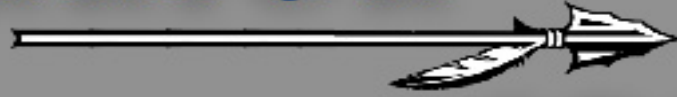
## Girls Soccer

*continued from  
previous page*

5-1. The first half ended with a score of 4-0 Manasquan. Kali Saito, Jordyn Hollawell, Renee Herbert and Gabby Restivo scored, leading the girls to another win. The season came to an end, however, in the next round, a loss to Rumson-Fair Haven.

Although they were sad to lose against Rumson and Howell, the girls had an outstanding season overall. Not only did they earn a share of the division title, but it was the farthest the Manasquan Girls Soccer team has ever gotten in the Shore Conference Tournament.

# WARRIOR



# SPORTS

## GOING FOR THE GOAL..

### BOYS VARSITY SOCCER NEARLY TAKES THE TITLE

By:Yamilet Urbano

Soccer is a worldwide game that brings people together with goals, teamwork and fun. It's loved everywhere and happens to be a popular and loved sport here at Manasquan High School!

The Varsity boys soccer team won it's first game defeating Freehold Township with a score of 4-1 on Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. After that they won their next 4 games to start their season 5-0.

Things got tough after that. The Warriors lost four of their next six games, making their record 7-4. But Coach McGill kept a positive attitude. When they lost 5-3

against a strong Colts Neck team on October 5<sup>th</sup>, he said, "I am proud of the guys. They did really well."

C o a c h McGill's confidence paid off. The boys got back to their winning ways in their first-round game in the Shore Conference Tournament against Point Boro. The offense got hot, scoring 5 goals to win 5-1. Lukas Farkas and Christian Gonzalez each had a goal and an assist, while Luke Roy, Cruz Farkas and Brandon Kunz also scored.

But in the second round things weren't as good. On Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> they lost to Howell. Junior Brandon Kunz scored a first half goal for the Warriors and Cristian



**Above: Junior Shane Byrne putting in the work**

Gonzalez scored in the second half. Howell had the lead 3-1 at the half but Cristian Gonzalez scored a goal and brought Manasquan closer. But they couldn't tie it and Manasquan lost the game.

Two weeks later the boys were ready for states. On Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> they played Spotswood HS in the opening round of the state tournament. Rated #6 in their section. Manasquan brought home the win with a score of 5-2. Cristian Gonzalez, Lukas Farkas and Brandon Kunz teamed up to make one goal, and Jorge Cruz and Luke Roy both scored their own goal. Keiran Barlow

**Below: A perfect touch by Cruz Farkas leads to a goal against Holmdel**





# Football Update: Warriors Make Playoffs, Win First Round Clash Against Somerville

By: Fernanda Morales

The Manasquan High School Warriors have had a good season so far. The Warriors improved their overall record to 3-3 when they beat Asbury Park 31-0 on October 6<sup>th</sup>, handing the Bishops their fifth loss of the season.

Before winning against Asbury Park, Manasquan's football team had a rocky start winning 2 games but losing three. The Warriors had a 2 game losing streak, until the win at Asbury.

The stars of the game against Asbury Park were seniors Caden Eastmond and Frank Furfaro. Frank threw three touchdowns to Caden in the game. The first one was the most memorable.

"I know that Caden and I have done this play a thousand times," Furfaro told the Asbury Park Press. "I trust him one on one with anybody and I'm going to throw it up to my guy, and he came down with it. It was a beautiful catch".



*Above: MHS Quarterback Frank Furfaro gets ready for a play*

After Manasquan made an interception in the first half, the Warriors drove 34 yards and scored, making the score 19-0 with

*continued on page 31*

## Boys Soccer

*continued from previous page*

scored the last two goals to get their score up to 5-2.

Following that victory, Squan moved on to play at third-Seeded South River in the quarter-finals. A long bus ride didn't stop them from running away with a 4-1 victory, moving them on to the semifinals.

Next, they faced Governor Livingston, in an intense battle played in a hard rain storm. Christian and Lukas scored again, but this one was tied and went to overtime. That's when junior Shayne Byrne scored on a head ball to win the game. And the boys would now play for the state sectional championship!

They traveled to Holmdel for the

championship game. As expected, this was another intense battle, but for the first time in weeks, the boys couldn't score. Holmdel's tight defense was matched by the Warriors, until Holmdel scored a late second half goal which was the difference in the game. A 1-0 loss for Squan in the championship game.

Still it was a strong end to the season, an exciting run to the championship game.

Jorge Cruz a player on the team states that he absolutely loves his coach.

"Coach McGill is an amazing coach who pushed many players to their limits and continues to, he knows when students are upset about something on the field and always does the best he can do to make the team as good as we could possibly get." With all of Coach McGill's motivation he has gotten the team up to a very high level that players appreciate.

# WARRIOR



# SPORTS

## MHS' Fliptastic Gymnastics Team!

By: Sophia Evans

With already having a 1-3 record, the girls are advancing from last year, finishing their season 1-5. Manasquan High School's gymnastics team is on a roll and having the most fun they have had yet! The girls are putting forth their whole effort and working super hard in the gym.

This year there are ten girls on the team, consisting of five seniors, three juniors and two sophomores. Only four of the ten girls attend Manasquan High School, with the other six coming from Point Pleasant Beach High School. The girls practice and compete at Epic Gymnastics as their home gym. The season started at the end of August and will continue until the first week of November. In this time period, the girls compete a total of six times.

The girls all have a special bond with each other. Head Coach Micheala Read states, "The team environment is amazing. Everyone is super close, and we all have so much fun. It is such a positive environment to be a part of."

Kaylin Forrester, a sophomore at Manasquan, is the only all-around gymnast this season. This means she competes in all four events every meet. The other specialists



*Above: Isabella Bird and Coach Read high five to celebrate after a performance on the beam*

on the team include Aly Breckenridge, a sophomore from Point, who is the floor specialist, Isabella Bird, a junior at Manasquan, who is the beam specialist, Melody Pershall, a junior from Point, who is the bar specialist, and senior Kierstien Trebour from Point, who is the vault specialist.

The girls had their first win against Lacey on October 12. Their overall score was a 95.5 and this was also their highest score this season. The highest scor-

ers were Melody on the vault with an 8.6, Izzy on the beam with an 8.5, following with Rylan Dwyer and Kaylin both scoring an 8.5 also on the vault. Izzy says, "We started off good and then on bars we had a fall, but then we did good on beam. We made all our routines and then did the same thing on floor."

On October 19, the team had a double meet against Freehold Township and Howell. Unfortunately, the girls lost to both teams with a score of 85.05-103.8 against Freehold Township, and 85.05-98.65 to Howell. The girls were supposed to have another meet on October 23, but it ended up being a forfeit. Their regular season will continue to the first week of November and then they will go into Shore Conference and states.



# Girls Tennis Team Wins Division

By: Ellison O'Shea

The girls' tennis team has made it to the semi-finals of the state tennis tournament for the past fifteen years, an amazing run of success, and this year was not the year to stop. They didn't, reaching the finals of states, and the Shore Conference finals, while also winning their division.

Their overall record in the B North division was 14-3. They had a great year!

The girls won against Colts Neck on October 18th with a 4-1 win and on October 19th they won 5-0 against Saint John Vianney. They ended their year positively after they dominated many opponents season, only losing three times all season.

Ryan Richey, the coach of the girls' tennis team, has stayed confident all year and knew the season outcome would be positive. "We have been fortunate to make the semifinals every year, so a quarterfinal 5-0 win is always something you push for. I am excited to make the semi-finals."

With Summer Even-Esh as first singles it is very easy for the team to come up with wins and lead the B North division. At the individual state tournament on October 14th and 15th. Even-Esh was the 14th seed in the state and ended up advancing two rounds until she fell short in the round of 16.

Before that, Even-Esh has accomplished big things this season, winning the Monmouth County individual title. "It's not scary having pressure on me as first singles. I think the pressure makes me a better player and it makes my game better," said Even-Esh.



*Above: Junior Summer Even-Esh sends a powerful serve*



*Above: The girls smile in a team photo*

Even-Esh has always wanted to play in college since she was a little girl, and she says that a big dream of hers is playing in the south. She hopes to achieve that goal and come out with an amazing season next year.

Senior Ava Hartnett is first doubles with her partner Logan McCarthy and has been playing for the past four years. "This team is just so welcoming, when I was a freshman, everyone was so nice to me and now that I am a senior, I try to be as welcoming as them," said Ava. She and Logan both had a great year a very few losses throughout the season.

Overall, their record is 14-3 and were 8-0 in the Shore. They have really outdone themselves this year and are looking for this to be the future of Manasquan girls' tennis.

# WARRIOR



# SPORTS

## MHS Girls Volleyball Team on the Rise

Victory over Holmdel in State Tournament highlights team's improvement

By: Gavin Duque

The Manasquan girls' volleyball team have had some struggles in the few past years, losing games and being seen by opposing teams as "an easy win." Struggles with consistency and overall playing have significantly impacted the program... But not this season!

To start off the 2023-2024 volleyball season, Manasquan has been climbing up the ranks and improving their performance and team chemistry. They have scored more points than in previous years and have a record just below .500, which includes some close losses to particularly good teams. Manasquan hopes to continue to prove to be a worthy opponent as the season progresses.

As the Squan volleyball program begins to rise, so does the players' morale. Their positive energy has helped this rise in the ranks. However, the team is still looking for consistency in their performance on the court. Each game they are getting better and better, showing they are determined to prove themselves worthy opponents.

Following a 2-1 loss against St. Rose, Alexis Meslar, Manasquan's coach, said, "It all

comes back to the same words, consistency." She added, "When we make a mistake, we cannot let it get to our heads and let them go on a four- or five-point run. Our team has been fighting hard. Throwing their bodies to save balls, I was proud."

The match was a close one, and many times during the game the deficit was cut closer. Although the Warriors fought their hardest until the very end, The Purple Roses came out victorious over the Warriors.

Against Brick, Squan came out on top with a three-set, 2-1 win over the dragons. The win upped their record to 6-9 on the season and redeemed themselves from the somewhat recent 2-0 loss to the Rumson-Fairhaven Bull Dogs.

During this game, noted players Nicole Jacobs, Danni Forrester, Giuliana Ferraro, Mia Law, and Keira Berlin all played crucial role. Ferraro had twelve kills, and sixteen digs while sophomore Nicole Jacobs added three blocks, three kills and three digs to rally Manasquan to a comeback victory in a non-divisional matchup against Brick.

In another match, the Warriors defeated Asbury Park in a 2-1. The following players played a crucial role in the victory over the Blue Bishops. Nicole Jacobs had 10 kills and four

aces. Mia Law had six kills and Elle Vitanzo had 3. McAfferty and O'Connor both had 2 kills to add on.

After the win, Ferraro said, "I think we are a very underrated team," she added, "we are making our own identity in girls' sports at Manasquan."

The Manasquan girl volleyball team continued their rise in ranks, flying by Holmdel in a 2-1 victory. The leaders throughout the game, Giuliana Ferraro, Nicole Jacobs, and Elle Vitanzo, all contributed significantly towards the win over Holmdel. Ferraro had 25 kills while Jacobs had 2 blocks, and Vitanzo rounded up 15 assists to secure the victory for the Warriors. The win raised their record to 8-12 on the season.

Saving the best for last, the girls qualified for the state tournament, and won their first match! Defeating Holmdel 2-1 was the program's first tournament win.

Overall, the MHS Girls Volleyball team had an on/off season, but they have most definitely been improving and their hard work has been showing. The team's competitiveness and determination has shown throughout the season causing opposing teams to take games against Squan seriously. The future looks bright!



# Running Into Cross Country Season!

By: Angelina George

Your heart is pounding through your chest, you're sprinting for your life, your body is in full on fight or flight mode. No, you're not running from a bear or an intruder, you're in a cross-country race!

The girls' cross-country team began the season ranked 11<sup>th</sup> in the state! Sadly, many members on the team have been forced to overcome lots of adversity with injuries. Due to this they have not been able to reach their full potential.

Despite being off to a rocky start the girls' and boys' cross country teams plan on making a full come back in this year of building. Both teams have lots of underclassmen full of potential.

"It's exciting to see all the young people, they have so much potential. If they work hard and stay consistent



*Senior Holden Becker races in the Battle At Ocean County Park*

a lot of these underclassmen could be really good in a few years," explained Manasquan Cross Country and Track coach Brian Prendergast.

Thus far the meets that have taken place this year is the Trials of Miles, Battle at Ocean County Park, B-North Divisional, and Monmouth County Championships. Highlight performances at these meets were Angelina George and Dylan Clancy placing 11<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> in the Varsity race and Freshman Rose Healy placing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the freshman race, the girls finishing 5<sup>th</sup> place as a team at the Trials of Miles meet. At the battle at Ocean County Park freshman Rose Healy placed 11<sup>th</sup>. The girls had a very strong showing at the B-North divisional meet

where Dylan Clancy placed 9<sup>th</sup>, Rose Healy 13<sup>th</sup>, Claire Falkowski 23<sup>rd</sup>, and Lily Nordell 34<sup>th</sup>, the girls finished 4<sup>th</sup> as a team. The boys also showed up and had a great meet at the B-North Divisional by placing 5<sup>th</sup> with highlight performances being Holden Becker placing 17<sup>th</sup>, Chris Reyes placing 28<sup>th</sup>, and Jermey Villagra placing 34<sup>th</sup>.

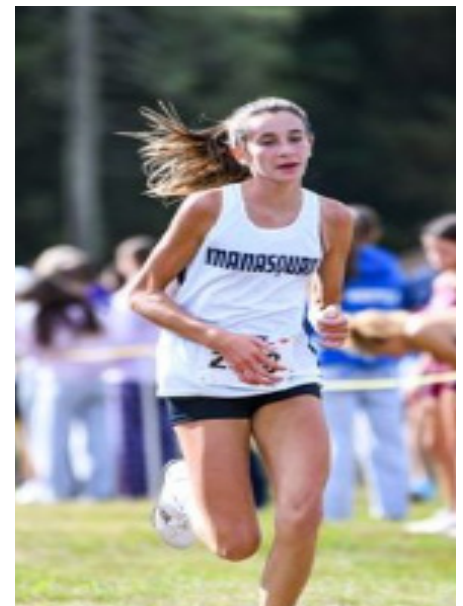
The underclassmen on the team are super excited to see the quick success that they have picked up with the sport. "It's super fun having so much success and being so new to the sport!" said freshman Rose Healy

The girls' team has been having a tough season due to injuries, but the girls plan on making a full bounce back for the indoor track season and

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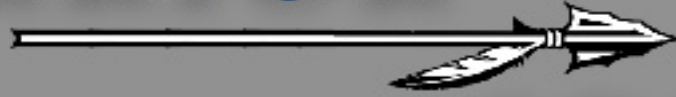


*Sophomore Claire Falkoski runs at Shore Conference Championships.*



*Freshman Rose Healy running into 11<sup>th</sup> place at the Battle at Ocean County Park*

# WARRIOR



# SPORTS

## Surfing Suffers Setback

By: Angelina George

After a 9-year winning streak of state championships for the Manasquan High School Surf team, sadly like all great things, it came to an end this past weekend.

After having yet another sensational season for the Surf team, they suffered a devastating loss at the National Scholastic Surfing Association (New Jersey Surf states) in Atlantic City. The team ended the 2023 season 5-2 with their only losses to rivals Wall High School in an individual meet, and Ocean City at the State tournament.

Earlier in the season, Manasquan lost to Wall by just a few points. They took this loss, and let it fuel the fire going forward.

"Losing to Wall motivated us. We didn't have our best surfer, but either way losing to Wall made us work that much harder and realize how much was at stake," said star sophomore Seton Iglay.

Although disappointed by the loss at states to Ocean City the team is confident that they will come back next year and take the winning streak back.

"We have a lot of young surfers who rose up to the challenge this year. We hope to continue growing the team and community. Everyone did their best and sadly we just fell short. Next year we will put in even more work and be sure to take that trophy back," explained head coach JD Lacarrubba.

Despite an upsetting loss at states there was many amazing performances. The Junior Varsity team took home the win for the first time ever. Standout performances on JV consisted of freshman Remi Staloff placing 1<sup>st</sup> in the short board division, along with junior Reese Miller placing 2<sup>nd</sup>. On the varsity side Seton Iglay placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the women's short board division, and freshman Jake Miller placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the long board division.

Although the season might not have ended how the team would have liked, the overall success that they have had throughout the season should not be overlooked. The surf team hopes to come back next year better than ever and continue to build on a legendary dynasty.



*Above: Surfers takes a photo after a chilly practice!*



*Left: The surf team takes a photo in the MHS surf shed at sunset!*



# Football

*continued from previous page*

27 seconds left on a 15 yard pass to Caden Eastmond in the end zone.

"We rely heavily on our defense. Coach Price emphasizes before every game, get the ball back, get turnovers, and its up to us to turn that to defense," Caden said. "We definitely started out show this season but me and Frank have always had a connection. We've been talking about having a big game like this between the both of us, and we needed it."

Earlier in the season, the Warriors earned a tough win against St. John Vianney. They were losing at halftime, but battled back in the second half for a victory. they were losing 12-7, but got the ball to start the third quarter. The kickoff went to sophomore Dylan Lu, and he ran it back all the way to the 40 yard line. This excited the team and they never looked back.

"It gets the sideline fired up," senior Jack Mead said of Dylan's run. With their intensity sky-high, the Warriors soon scored to take the lead. Quarterback Austin Griffith threw a 14 yard touchdown pass to Caden Eastmond, and suddenly Manasquan had the lead 14-12.

After the touchdown, the Warriors quickly stopped the Lancers on defense, and got the ball back. Senior Julian Walthall returned the punt all the way to the 3 yard line, almost scoring his first touchdown of the



*Above: Running back Julian Walthall sprints around the edge*

season. Instead, senior Frank Furfaro followed up with a 3 yard touchdown pass to Will Burns and Squan had the lead for good.

The Warriors had a bye week before their Constitution Division clash on October 21<sup>st</sup> against Ocean.

After defeating Ocean, the Warriors played against Somerville in the South Jersey Group 3 quarterfinal. It was a close game with Somerville taking the lead in the fourth quarter. But the Warriors were fighting and with only a couple of minutes left on the clock, Walthall embarked on a 31-yard touchdown run, which lifted Manasquan to a 14-13 victory.

The Warriors great win raised their overall record to 5-3. They advanced to play Delsea in the next round, and although they lost, the excitement of a strong season lives on.

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## Cross Country

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come back stronger than ever.

Junior Dylan Clancy who has been struggling with a stress fracture in her foot said, "It's hard being hurt, but I know that everything happens for a reason; injuries

are just a part of the sport. I trust my coaches and know that I will come back from this stronger than ever."

The girls team hopes to take this season that's not exactly going as planned as a learning curve and come back next year smarter, faster, and stronger. Meanwhile the boys team is using this year as a building year by increasing the team size, and simultaneously getting faster!

# FALL SPORTS

*WARRIORS*

# FALL SPORTS

