



Manasquan High School

The Blue & Gray

Positive Vibes Prevail on *Life is Good Day*

Karaoke unites students and teachers with singing, dancing and laughter



Spring 2019 *in this issue*



MHS Artists Shine at Art Show
Improv for Ron Inspires the Jack

Drama Club Performs *Big Fish*
National Honors Society Holds Induction
Academy of Health Hosts Blood Drive

FEATURES: Mistaken Uber Leads to Loss of Life;
Excitement at Women's NCAA Basketball Tourney;
Spring Break Destinations; Mother's Day Ideas;
Game of Thrones -Mania Grips Nation



MHS Inducts 42 New Members of National Honors Society

by: Kevin Katayama

On Tuesday, April 9, candles flickered across the stage of the Jack Nicholson Theater as Manasquan High School hosted its annual National Honors Society (NHS) induction ceremony. This year an impressively large group of 42 juniors and seniors were congratulated and welcomed into NHS.

"Induction to the prestigious National Honors Society is a testimony to each student's dedication to the community and to academics," said English teacher Mr. Mawn.

Not only does each student's individual drive for success power their path to NHS, but also the hard work of Ms. Fenlon and Ms. Jaeger, English teachers and co-advisors of the NHS chapter here at MHS. Ms. Fenlon has been an advisor to NHS hopeful students for almost 10 years and is very complimentary of the students she works with.

"They all work very hard and their induction to the National Honors Society will give them many opportunities both academically and professionally," she said.

The National Honors Society is an international student organization that encourages students to maintain their academic strides as well as participate their communities. Members of the national honors society demonstrate scholarship, service, leadership, and character. These are the pillars upon which the organization selects students. In order to be considered for induction, a student must be in their junior or senior in high school, maintain an unweighted GPA of 93 (4.0 on the 4 point scale), and must fulfill a monthly quote for community service hours. Anyone who has attended high school can appreciate how difficult it is to balance the work load



with such a time commitment.

The requirements students work through to get in don't go unrewarded. The organization builds student's leadership and time management skills as well offering insight into the college admission planning process. In addition to these benefits, there are also more tangible awards for these students. The top NHS members are candidates for exclusively NHS members.

In addition to this, all NHS students are privy to the NHS Scholar Dollars tool which allows students to search for scholarships and understand their options for paying for college. This is definitely beneficial to students as college is becoming increasingly more expensive. This tool has helped many pursue higher education instead of being deterred because of the price tag.

So freshmen and sophomores, work hard in your classes and find out how to apply for NHS membership next year. It's a fine accomplishment and helps you out when applying to colleges, paying for college, and developing your professional career!

Below: New NHS members stand at the induction ceremony



The Blue & Gray Manasquan H.S.

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Mr. James Mawn

Staff:

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Christian Rogich
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Annie Mako Ian Flood
Kevin Katayama
Will Walters Dan Hippe
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Kennedy Miller Diane Putelo
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Andrew Leather Haley Pair

Donate Your Blood and Make a Difference

Be a Part of Manasquan's 10th Annual Blood Drive

By: Kennedy Miller

The Academy of Health Careers proudly hosted their 10th annual blood drive on May 1st in the MHS gym. The event, spearheaded by Mrs. Kozic, is led by the Dynamics of Health Care class and through the American Red Cross, who uses the blood for any accidents that happen in the state of New Jersey.

A total of eighty-one people signed up to donate, and overall, 53 units were collected (for various reasons, some people are not allowed to donate). To put that into perspective, each pint of blood collected can save three lives, so potentially, Mrs. Kozic pointed out, 159 lives could be saved from the Academy of Health Career's effort.

Mrs. Kozic also praised her students who led the blood drive. "I am always amazed at how they run the entire day by themselves. They run the sign in and sign out, help the donors from the donating tables to the resting area and tend to their wellbeing until the donors leave."

Kozic explained that this is an essential time to be hosting a blood drive since "right now we are at an all time low for blood banks and heading into the summer, which is their busiest season."

Not only was Mrs. Kozic impressed with the Academy members, but the American Red Cross workers who collected the blood, were as well.

"This was our 11th blood drive, and our first with the American Red Cross; they were very complimentary on how our students conducted themselves throughout the blood drive. They were

amazed at their maturity and respectfulness," Mrs. Kozic said.

The Red Cross awarded a \$250 scholarship to an Academy of Health Careers graduating senior, for their effort.

Manasquan has had great success over the past 10 years hosting the event with the Central Jersey Blood Bank. In 2017, the blood drive collected 76 pints of blood, and while this year was less, it was still a successful year.

To donate blood you must be 17 years old and more than 110 pounds. Mrs. Kozic advises those donating blood, stating, "come in hydrated, eat breakfast, and be ready to save

Your Donation Matters!

- A single car accident victim can require as many as 100 pints of blood
- 1 donation can save up to 3 lives
- Every 2 seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood
- About 1 in 7 people entering a hospital needs blood

lives!"

For those that feel queasy at the sight of blood, there's still plenty of ways to help! They will be accepting donations during the event to turn into a scholarship for an Academy of Health Career senior. Food contributions to be served at the blood drive would also be greatly appreci-



MHS Art Show Extravaganza Highlights Extraordinary Talent

By Andrew Leather

Manasquan High School has been known for many years for the arts, with the likes of Jack Nicolson being one of the alumni to walk through the halls.

The MHS Art show took place on the May 2nd and featured many of MHS's bright artists, some who quite possibly will pursue future careers in the field. This year's show proved to be something special, with many outstanding works being put on display.

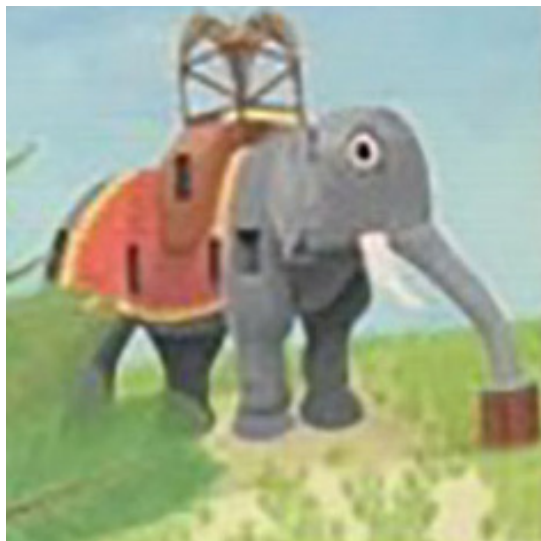
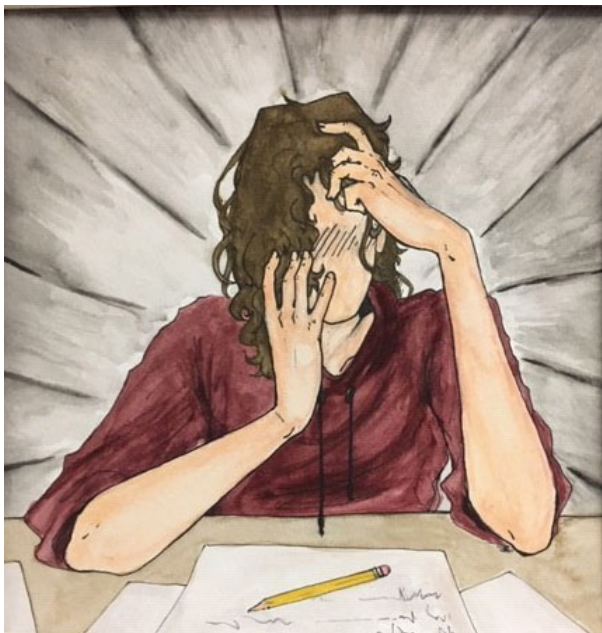
Junior Cassandra Woolley stood out amongst the many, winning the overall Best in Show. Sophomore Lydia Schengrund took home Most Promising Young Artist as well.

MHS art teacher Mrs. Pagano expressed pride in all of the work on display: "It is not something you want to miss," she said.

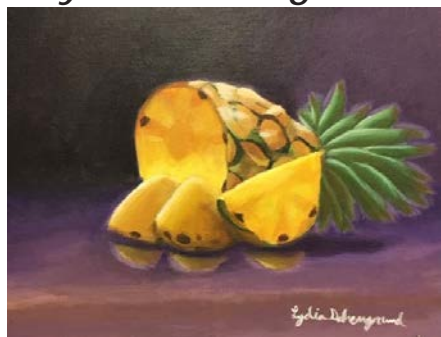
With the change in the MHS schedule this year, the Art Show moved from January to May. As a result, many more students were featured in this year's show. Mrs. Pagano explained that there's "art from throughout the full year, which means a lot more!"

Senior Hannah Mannion described the process: "The art teachers ask every stu-

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*Most Promising New Artist:
Lydia Schengrund*



Pictured above, the award-winning work of MHS artists (clockwise from top): junior Gabby Kim, senior Natalie Smith, junior Cassandra Woolley, senior Angelica Grillo, and senior Catherine Ware.

Improv For Ron: Fun and Laughs With an Important Purpose



By: Lewis Marks

Chances are if you're a student at MHS you have heard a lot of buzz about the annual show Improv For Ron. It is a night of hilarious improvisational acting, with some of Manasquan High School's very own student being a part of the show, along with some alumni or guests who are also featured throughout the night. The show falls on the weekend of Mother's Day, and all of the money raised is donated to a scholarship available to graduating seniors.

This year's show featured 12 MHS students, along with 8 alumni. Talia Tapia kicked it off with a beautiful and powerful singing of the National Anthem, followed by Casey Campbell and Aidan Tolnoy jump-starting the laughs by threatening the audience with violence if they were seen on their cell phones during the show. The audience laughed, put away their phones, and sat back in their seats ready to be entertained.

The actors played ten improv games, generating laughter from the crowd. One of the highlights was a special appearance by seniors Mike Muscato and Fran O'Brien, who played live music onstage in a game where students "auditioned" to be the singer in a band. Another highlight was the final game, Flockdance, in which students danced to unexpected songs. Casey led the flock to the Avengers theme song, Liv Morro took the lead for The Office theme song, and more.

For the second year in a row, there were guest appearances from others as well, including senior Claudia Haskins and sophomores Joe Brennan and Jack Hamilton. These students came from the audience and onto the stage for a game of Teachers Pet, asking their teacher (played by 2018 graduate DJ DeSomma) various questions. Adding to the fun: Mr. Fagen's son Cowen came up, not only for the game but to be cheered for his birthday! Adding to the fun was Mr. Shibla, playing the school principal who was clearly aggravated with his 4th grade teacher.

The show is dedicated to Ronald Kubrik, a for-



Above (top): Casey and Aidan issue their cell phone warning at the start of the show; below: the MHS players pose for a picture in Yearbook; (bottom): master of improv Mr. Harvey, introduces a game to the audience.



mer student and MHS alumni who graduated in 2010 and joined the US Army Rangers. He fought three tours of duty, two in Iraq and one in Afghanistan, where he unfortunately lost his life fighting terrorists. Throughout his time at MHS Ron was known for his good attitude and overall charisma by all his classmates and even his teachers whom shared a certain affection for him as well.

Mr. Mawn, an English and Journalism teacher at MHS, had Ron for his Journalism class and had a close relationship with Ron. "Ron was always a great kid, a bit rough around the edges, but still a great kid," Mr. Mawn stated, "He always had so much energy and creativity, he was the kind of kid you'd want to be around."

After Ron graduated, he did what he said he was going to do and joined the Rangers, serving faithfully until April, 2010 when he unfortunately gave the ultimate sacrifice. Ron gave up his life to save the lives of 5 Rangers, 5 Afghan soldiers, and 19 Afghani women and children, and was then awarded the Silver Star, the 3rd highest honor in the military, for his heroism in combat.

Improv For Ron was started when the Brick VFW came to MHS and offered to help pay for a scholarship in Ron's name. Our principal, Mr. Coppola, thought it best to let Mr. Mawn and Mr. Harvey decide how to handle the scholarship, being how they were so close to Ron even after he graduated. "We decided to go with the improv

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Below: sophomore Mikey Black gets his dance on in the final show Flockdance, earning huge laughs from the crowd.



Mr. Fagen Hosts Vietnam Veterans Day

History teacher Jim Fagen brought more than 20 Vietnam Veterans into the MHS media center on Thursday, May 23, to celebrate Vietnam Veterans Day.

Throughout the day, teachers were encouraged to bring their classes to the media center to meet the veterans. Taking a break from classroom lectures, textbooks and activities, students learned life lessons from the veterans, who told powerful stories to groups of kids all day long.

Some of the veterans brought props

well. Uniforms, helmets, guns, bullets and more were on display for students to look at, touch and even try on. Many enjoyed decking themselves out in army uniforms, but also expressed surprise at the weight of the gear.

An excellent food table was organized by the Daughters of the American Revolution as well. Thanks to them, to the veterans who attended, and to Mr. Fagen for organizing a special day at MHS!



Above: senior Andrew Lynch wears military gear and poses with veteran Phil Pesano.



Left: seniors Brendan Magrini and Jack Fabean, and junior Mary Meehan enjoy trying out the gear; Below: students listen intently to the veterans' stories.



Art Show

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dent in the art classes to put in one piece for the show... The best pieces of art from every student are displayed, which is over 300 students and 300 pieces of art!"

So the competition was fierce, but the winning artists rose to the top. Winners were named in three categories: drawing, 2D, and 3D. The best in the show and the most promising young artist were also named. The following are the top artists in each artistic style.



Left: senior Hannah Mannion's uncompleted oil painting for the art show. Below: Senior Angelica Grille's Statue of Liberty painting earned a prize from the judges.



Top 3 Artists in Each Category

Drawing

1st: Angelica Grillo

2nd: Mike McHugh

3rd: Grace Whalen

2D

1st: Gabby Kim

2nd: Natalie Smith

3rd: Mia Sisom

3D

1st: Catherine Ware

2nd: Sarah Devereux

3rd: Karen Li

Improv for Ron

continued from previous page

It's not just the teachers who are involved in the scholarship, but also Mrs. Kubrik, Ron's mom. "Every year we have it, and the most special thing year in and year out, is when Ron's mom comes in to

share in his memory with all of us," said Mr. Mawn, "Ron's mom (Eileen Daly) is a huge part and we love seeing her each time." After the show is wrapped up, the applications for the scholarship open and the recipient will be announced sometime within the following 2 weeks.

Ultimately, the evening raised

roughly \$4,000 for the Sgt. Ronald A. Kubik Memorial Scholarship. A chunk of that money was generously donated by the MHS class of 1998, which celebrated their 20th reunion this year. Mr. Mawn and Mr. Harvey expressed extreme thanks for the gift that helped to make the evening so successful.

Big Fish: Biggest and Best MHS Spring Musical

Laughter and tears fill the Jack as senior perform their final show

By: Diana Putelo

Manasquan High School Drama Club strives for perfection and dedication in every production. They never go small with their stage presence and performances. This year was just as the title states, big. *Big Fish* was held on April 4th - April 6th in the Jack Nicholson Theatre.

The cast and crew were excited more than anything to perform the musical that they have put so much time, effort, and heart into.

"*Big Fish* is a father's story, a son's journey, life's epic tale," explains senior Colin Waldman. "The show is told by combining a few stories about Edward Bloom's life to help his son, Will Bloom, understand who his father is. As the father begins to pass away from cancer, Will starts to grasp the fact that his father did everything so he could see the world."

Big Fish is described as a happy sad ending, with Will turning into a father, and telling his own son his stories. Senior Natalia Tapia remarks that, "the musical includes all types of characters like mermaids, witches, giants, and the love of Will's life, Sandra."

Seniors graduating MHS this year that are casted in the musical include Natalia, Colin, and Ashley Alvarez. Tapia plays Sandra, the loving wife of Edward Bloom and mother of Will; Waldman plays the part of Will Bloom; and Alvarez plays the Witch.

"To be a part of the drama club takes a lot of time and dedication," explains Waldman. "This means an average of 4 hours of rehearsal every weekday and even on the weekends for dance and construction of the amazing set."

Waldman was excited for the show to begin, but also nervous: "I'm nervous to have this be my last show," he responds.

"I don't know how I will react in the end. I might cry the ugly cry."

Tapia is, "ready to move on, but will miss the amazing cast and crew next year."

Both seniors have been dedicated members of Drama Club and will have great success post high school with acting and theatre.

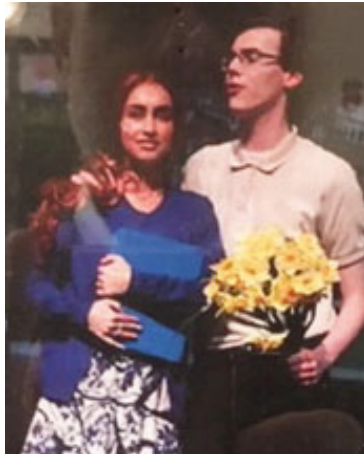
The play was a complete success as a lot of people came out to support the actors and see the show. Crowds responded with laughter, enthusiasm and emotion to the power of the

play. Tapia said her favorite part was when, "the cast got together at the end and realized how amazing we did and that every rehearsal was worth it." She states, "I am happy to say this is how my last show ended."

Tapia will be carrying on her passion for acting and singing at Pace University in New York City, the number 4 per-



Above: senior Colin Waldman and a young actor.



Above: senior Natalia Tapia and junior Ryan Swanson.

forming arts program in the country. Waldman is, "choosing to stop performing and move to the technical sides of live productions focusing on audio engineering."

Overall, it was another year of hard work and success for the drama club. Both seniors, Colin Waldman and Natalia Tapia got the Jack Nicholson Award, which shows how passionate they are to be acting and singing. This may be the end of the seniors' part in the drama club, but it truly is the start to their new journeys in the real world of acting and theatre.



Above: cast of *Big Fish*, including Mr. Fagens son.

Class of 2019

By: Annie Mako

It is about that time where the senior class starts catching senioritis. Everyone has decided where they are going to school next year, class gets easier and easier, and the weather gets warmer as it teases us for summer. As the school year winds down, I caught up with a few of the seniors in the 2019 class, to reminisce about what they will miss the most about Manasquan high school. Here is what some of them had to say:



“I will miss the big cookies from the lunch room.” - Cate Bauer



“Being in class and study halls with my fellow classmates” - Gavin O'Day



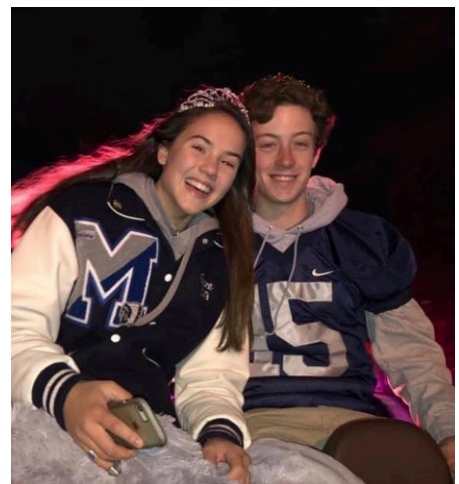
“I am going to miss my big blue locker” - Quinn Galvin



“I am going to miss wearing the Warriors uniform. Sports at Squan is unbeatable, I will miss the target we had on our backs because of that” - James Harmstead



“I am really going to miss Mr. Buss, the best teacher ever.” - Keaton Fortney



“I am going to miss all the events we have like homecoming and Squan-A-Thon.” - Jack Heenan

Seniors' Countdown to Graduation and Summer



By: Diana Putelo

The end of high school is near for the senior class of 2019. It is a bittersweet feeling for most of the seniors to leave the comfort of Manasquan High School, but everyone is overall ready for their next four in new places, experiencing new things. Here is what the seniors have to say about graduating and what their plans are for the upcoming summer.



Above: (left) senior Sarah Steenland cheering for summer! (right) Sara Devereux and Devin Norton celebrating the warm weather!

Senior Nicole Fancera says, "I am excited and ready to go to the University of Alabama, but I will miss the amazing friends and teachers I have met over these past years." Fancera has big plans over the summer. Besides working at OMG Yogurt and enjoying the beach, she is traveling with her dad to Bali.

There are many seniors' planning to travel over their summer break as well as Fancera.

Devin Norton and Sara Devereux are both traveling across Europe. "I am going on a cruise to Greece and Italy with my grandma," explains Devereux. "I am backpacking across Europe," remarks Norton.

Norton is also excited for what is to come after high school. "It will be a bittersweet feeling to leave the close friends I have met, but I am ready to experience new things." Norton said an im-

portant value she learned in high school is, "to be my own person and be open to new things, even if they are scary."

Devereux said she learned the, "importance of being a leader and doing things for myself." Both seniors have been remarkable leaders in and outside of school and will continue to do so in college.

Senior Sarah Steenland says that high school has taught her to be, "more independent and confident." Going to different concerts is at the top of her bucket list for the summer.

"I am looking forward to going to the Stone Pony Summer Stage this summer and seeing bands like Dirty Heads and Sublime," explains Steenland.

As the finals day of high school approach, seniors' will take this time to reflect on the memories they have made with their friends and teachers. Seniors, enjoy these last few weeks because before you know it, you will be off into the real world.



Squan Basement Boutique

By: Madison Pringle

Prom season is here. That calls for expensive dresses, shoes, tuxedos, and much more. The pressure is on for finding the best look to rock this year. But, not everyone is lucky enough to be able to drop lots of money for one night. So, the solution? Teachers at Manasquan High School have joined together to collect gently used prom attire for students in need - the Squan Basement Boutique.

Mrs. Puryear, Mrs. Busco, Mrs. Rudder, and Mrs. Marco have set up shop in the basement for students to look at different gowns, shoes, jewelry, etc. In addition, they know someone who can make small alteration on the gowns if needed. This service is available for both junior and senior proms.

"All students deserve the same opportunity to shine on this special night," explained Mrs. Busco. "Why leave those dresses that are worth hundreds of dollars to collect dust in a closet, when they could be put to use?"

Take this opportunity to help your fellow peers look their best, or take this opportunity for yourself and save some money this prom season.

PROMSANITY: THE NATIONWIDE TREND OF PROMPOSALS

By: Kennedy Miller

With prom season approaching, promsanity among high schoolers has begun. As if finding a dress, praying that it won't rain, and getting a prom table together wasn't stressful enough, juniors and seniors find themselves under immense pressure to secure a date. The trend of promposals has added to this pressure and high schoolers across the country have begun going above and beyond to pop the question.

The national trend began over a decade ago and has since become increasingly elaborate. The first mention of promposals was recorded in the Dallas Morn-

ing News in 2001. The newspaper reported high school students asking one another to prom over the loudspeaker during school hours overall.

Following the report, promposals around the country began to go mainstream and public. By 2011, the social media agency, Sq1, reported, "20,000 prom videos were uploaded in a one-month period of the 2011 prom season."

In addition, there are currently more than 40,000 videos online tagged "promposal" and an additional 900,000 tagged "promposal" or "ask cute".

Our generation loves doing it bigger and better, and the evolution of promposals prove it. In 2015, a Visa study found that the average prom-goer spends \$324 on a promposal and \$900 on the event.

During April—the month dubbed 'peak prom season'—social media is flooded with billboards, signs, balloons, and gifts used in extravagant promposals.

Getting a celebrity to attend Manasquan's prom may seem unmanageable but it may not be as impossible as you think considering

the few success stories of students who resorted to celebrity promposals and got lucky.

Most promposals on social media directed at singers, actors, and models go unnoticed; however, in 2017 Albert Ochoa caught the attention of Kylie Jenner.

Friends of Ochoa's at Rio Americano High School contacted Jenner through social media about



Friends Lily Hunt and Jalen Tyler will be attending senior prom together on June 7th.



Junior Matt Driscoll secured his date, RaLee Wall, for junior prom on May 10th with a sweet pun and a teddy bear.

Ochoa, who was rejected and dateless. Jenner followed up and attended Ochoa's prom as it was her first prom as well. According to the *Huffington Post*, Ochoa stated, "I was speechless. I was shocked. It was unbelievable."

Although not required, many view the public displays of affections as an expectation to complete the perfect prom experience. Promposals can range from mundane to over-the-top, but regardless, it's a fun experience to show someone you care and secure a date for an unforgettable night.

Need Ideas?

Junior prom is just around the corner and senior prom is approaching quickly. If your stuck and looking for ideas to propose to your date, we can help!

- 2 Give a gift like flowers, food, jewelry, or something they love
- 2 Try spelling a promposal with your date's favorite food
- 2 Come up with a funny pun using your date's interests
- 2 Make a puzzle for your date or write a song
- 2 Surprise them at home, work, practice, or a game to pop the question
- 2 Make a sign

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

Alabama's New Law Causes Controversy Pro-Choice under threat as more states follow Alabama's lead

By: Katie B

On Tuesday, May 13th Alabama's Senate passed a controversial bill that calls for an almost complete ban on abortion, making it almost impossible for women to obtain access to an abortion in the state of Alabama, even if their pregnancy was a result of rape or incest.

The new law is said to be enacted in six months. Upon being enforced the law will carry stiff penalties for those caught violating it. For example, doctors could face up to 99 years in prison for performing an abortion in the state.

The public reaction to Alabama's new law has been explosive, with many claiming they are disgusted and angered by the new law and feel it violates Roe v. Wade, a landmark decision made by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1973, in which the Court ruled that the U.S. Constitution provides (under the 14th amendment) a fundamental right to privacy that protects a pregnant woman's liberty to choose whether or not to have an abortion.

Moreover, many are convinced that Alabama's Senate passed the law to cause a stir that could potentially result in Roe V. Wade being reviewed and possibly overturned. While some don't believe the case is in danger of being revoked, others are not convinced. Those who fear the case being overturned think Roe V. Wade is in serious danger since the current Supreme Court is more conservative, with the recent additions of Supreme

Justices Neil Gorsuch and Brent Kavanaugh, which may potentially result in an overturn.

But, the likelihood of Roe V. Wade being repealed may not be as easy as some people believe, even with more conservative justices. In order for Roe V. Wade to be rescinded, a majority of justices would have to rule that the interpretation of the law set forth in Roe was incorrect and they'd have to offer a new interpretation of the Constitution and issue a new opinion. This is difficult since Roe is such a controversial case (with many citizens divided on how they feel about it), the court is well aware of the stigma that surrounds the case and may not want to take it. Even if the court did hear Roe again the chances of a complete repeal would be improbable; it's more likely the court would make changes to the case, rather than revoke it entirely.

However, even the thought of hypothetical changes to Roe. V Wade causes panic amongst many Americans. But why? Why are so many people concerned about Alabama and changes that may or may not happen? The answer to that is rather simple and here's why: a complete repeal or even a revision to Roe is oppressive and threatens a woman's right to personal freedom. It goes beyond more than just the right to an abortion: it's about ensuring that women are able to maintain their personal liberties without the fear of having those freedoms taken away or limited; and the threat of



Protests ensue over restrictive new abortion bans.

having personal rights revoked is not something the public wants to submit to. Since the Alabama ban was made public, a number of groups and individuals have spoken out against it. Even government officials such as Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, New York's 14th congressional district representative, have publicly criticized the new ban saying: "Abortion bans aren't just about controlling women's bodies. They're about controlling women's sexuality [and] owning women."

The overwhelming opposition from the public, powerful individuals, and organizations have made it clear that not many support Alabama's ban and those who are anti-ban are willing to fight the ban not only to guarantee that abortion is more accessible but to ensure that women's rights are protected.



University of South Carolina Student Killed After Mistaking Random Car for Uber

By: Erin Comnesso

The body of a college student from New Jersey who attended the University of South Carolina was found in a field hours after she got into a vehicle she mistakenly thought was her Uber ride. She died from multiple sharp force injuries, the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division said.

Samantha Josephson, 21, called an Uber around 2 a.m. Friday in Columbia, and was last seen getting into a black Chevy Impala, said Columbia Police Chief W.H. Holbrook. Turkey hunters found her body 14 hours later in the field in Clarendon County, about 90 miles away.

Josephson's body had numerous wounds, including on her head, neck, face, upper body, leg and



Samantha Josephson last seen waiting for her Uber outside of a nightclub in Columbia, South Carolina

foot, according to arrest warrants for suspect Nathaniel David Rowland.

Surveillance video of Josephson outside a bar shows her standing by herself on a curb on the

morning she disappeared. She takes several steps toward a black vehicle that pulls up to a parking spot. She reaches for the door handle of the vehicle as it slows down and gets inside, the video shows.

Early Saturday, police arrested Rowland, 24, in Columbia after an officer saw him driving an Impala that

matched the description of the vehicle seen in surveillance video. Police found Josephson's blood in the car's passenger side and trunk, authorities said. Her cell phone was found in the passenger compartment, police said.

Investigators found a container of liquid bleach, germicidal wipes and window cleaner in the car, Holbrook said.

Rowland was listed as being held in jail in Columbia. Arrest warrants listed his home as New Zion, an unincorporated community in Clarendon County.

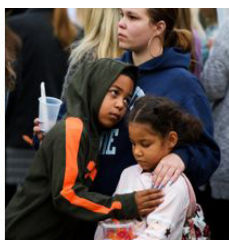
Our world has come to such drastic measures. There is so much evil in this world. A girl who was innocently trying to get home, just makes a mistake and is killed. It's terrible that this, out of all the things happening today in society, is something people must worry about.

This story hits very close to home since my absolute best friend attends the University of South Carolina and, just little over a month ago, I was visiting her at the University and I stood right on the same street where Samantha was when she was taken.

Going off to college next year is already hard enough. Now with something like this happening, that could happen to anyone, the loads of anxiety come fourth and we always must be on alert.

Of course, our thoughts are with Samantha, her family and friends as well.

Hundreds honor the life of Samantha during candle vigil



THE BLUE & FEATURES

Wild Women's NCAA Tournament Thrills Basketball Fans

By: Annie Mako

March Madness this year was one to remember. A lot of people talk about the wild events that happened on the men's side, but not many people have said much about the women's side of the tournament. This year we saw many familiar faces and newbies. The final four consisted of Notre Dame, UConn, Baylor, and Oregon. UConn and Notre Dame have always been top dog.

UConn is known for winning, but this year they were looked at as underdogs. Notre Dame, the national powerhouse of last year's tournament was looked at as top dog. The two familiar faces fought hard in the final four. A highly anticipated game did not disappoint the fans. In Tampa, Notre Dame knocked off UConn for the second year in a row. UConn led by as many as 9 points in the fourth quarter, but let it slip away. With only three minutes remaining, the Huskies led by 1 point. The teams were trading off leads until the Irish snuck away with a 9-0 run that ultimately decided the game. This loss ended the careers of Napheesa Collier and Katie Lou Samuelson, who finished as the highest scoring classmates in women's college basketball history.

On the other side, some fresh faces came in to play. Baylor and Oregon would face off, this would be Oregon's first final four. Baylor was

a powerhouse in the post with the 6-foot-7 Kalani Brown and the 6-4 Lauren Cox, versus Oregon's triple-double machine in the backcourt, Sabrina Ionescu. It was Baylor with old school play and Oregon with new school play. By the end of the half, Ionescu had a dozen points and Oregon had a 34-33 lead. But Brown and the Lady Bears would not be denied. This was the moment they had dreamed about. Chloe Jackson delivered a tiebreaking layup with just 39 seconds left. Brown and Cox, deservedly, finished out the victory with free throws. In a thrilling game and a hard-fought battle, the old school Bears prevailed, the end score was 72-67. The Bears were set to face the champions of last year in the final game.

Notre Dame and Baylor were something new and special this year. Notre Dame was looked at to be the top contenders, but Baylor, (37-1), was not going to let this phase them. The start of the game, Baylor came out firing. Leading by double digits from the start, the Bears seemed to

be in good shape, until, stellar forward Lauren Cox went down with a devastating injury. Notre Dame finally pushed on the gas and with Mabrey's three 3-pointers, she tied the game multiple times.

With 3.9 seconds left, point guard Chloe Jackson drove past Notre Dame's defense to put Baylor ahead at 82-80. Then Notre Dame called a timeout and inbounded to tournament standout Arike Ogunbowale. The Irish had a chance to turn the game around when Ogunbowale was fouled going for a layup. But, lucky for the Lady Bears, Ogunbowale missed her first free throw in the remaining 1.9 seconds, leaving Baylor to hold on to the 1-point lead. Baylor did the impossible, and defeated the defending champs.



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

Anti-Vaccinators Have Unfortunate Impact on Others

By: Madison Pringle

People around the country have stopped vaccinating their children. They fear it will cause autism among other things. But what are the consequences? It is not just the health of the anti-vaccinator's own child, but the health of everyone else as well.

The number of measles outbreaks in the United States has been on the rise, continuing to increase every day. It was eradicated in 2000, but since then there has been 764 cases across 23 states – 60 of them being within the past week of May 8th.

But why do parents put their child at risk? Their answers vary. Some think their child would benefit from contracting the illness while others do not trust the government agencies and their close relationship with the big pharmaceutical companies.

In an ultra-Orthodox Jewish community residing in Monsey, New York, the Singer family is facing the repercussions from a group of people they've never met. There have been 41 measles outbreaks in just New York, 11 of them being in their county of Rockland. At the age of 2 months, their daughter, Malky, is unable to get vaccinated for another four months. The Singers are doing whatever they can to keep Malky from public places out of fear.

So, if they want to have a family outing to a park or to go to the mall, someone is forced to stay home and care for Malky. Malky's father, Shimon Singer, explain to CNN, "We've had to change the way we live because of a small minority of people. It's very inconvenient." But, it



2 month old Malky Singer

is just not a minor inconvenience, it is an emotional burden as well. A parent always worries about the safety and health of their child and now that worry is at an all time high, especially with how horrible measles is.

Typically, children receive their first dosage between 12 to 15 months old and the second dose between four and six. Now, it is recommended that children in areas with outbreaks should receive the first dosage at six months.

Parents and community members are on high alert with these recent outbreaks. They are reaping the consequences of the minority. One woman told CNN, "It's one thing when someone makes a decision that only affects them. But when someone doesn't vaccinate their children, it's extremely selfish."

Although I understand where some of the anti-vaccinators are coming from, I could personally never not vaccinate my own future children. Mainly out of the fear of them contracting a horrible illness. And in all honesty, I would much rather them have autism than suffer through something else. It is important to not only keep the safety of not only your own children, but everyone else around you.

THE BLUE & FEATURES

Aluminum a Day Keeps the Plastic Away

By: Diana Putelo

The Hawaiian-born *Aquaman* star, Jason Momoa, shaved off his infamous beard for one reason in mind: to bring awareness to a major issue, that plastic is killing our planet. "I'm shaving this beast off, it's time to make a change," wrote Momoa on his Instagram page. "A change for the better ... for my kids, your kids, the world. Let's make a positive change for the health of our planet."



Above: Before and After Jason Momoa shaved hair promoting aluminum.

According to *greenmatters.com*, "humans buy about one million plastic bottles per minute, and of those bottles, more than 90 percent are never recycled." These plastic bottles end up in the landfill and ocean, which negatively affects the ecosystem and marine life.

"Every square mile of ocean contains roughly 46,000

pieces of floating plastic," remarks the *United Nations Environmental Programme*. "By 2050, it's predicted that there will be more plastic in the ocean than fish." Momoa is one of the first celebrities to fight this dilemma and promote water in aluminum cans, rather than plastic bottles.

"There's only one thing that can really help our planet and save our planet, as long as we recycle, and that's aluminum," Momoa explains in a YouTube video. "75 percent of all aluminum is still in circulation, and an aluminum can that gets recycled can be back in circulation in 60 days." Aluminum can be reused and is easier to recycle, while plastic lives longer than humans and rarely gets recycled and reused.

"Please, please, there's a change coming. It's aluminum. We gotta get rid of these plastic water bottles. Aquaman is trying to do the best he can — for my kids, for your kids, for the world. Clean up the oceans, clean up the land. Love you guys," Momoa insists at the end of the YouTube video. Momoa developed his own line of aluminum cans for water with Ball Corp,



Above: Jason Momoas aluminum water cans.

the largest supplier of metal cans.

I think that what Jason Momoa is doing is a step in the right direction for the safety of our planet. Plastic use is getting out of control and is affecting the world that we are lucky to call home. Water in aluminum will decrease the amount of plastic and will be beneficial for our generation and those to come. We need everyone to come together and solve this issue.

Below: plastic filling our oceans.



How to be Productive this Summer

by: Kevin Katayama

Summer Vacation is a time to unwind and catch your breath after a strenuous academic year. Its a great opportunity for students to take a break and live with less stress for a couple months. However, who said that summer doesn't have to be productive as well? Here are a few suggestions as to how one can spend a leisurely summer while also being productive.

1. Set your alarm for a reasonable hour.

While sleeping in until noon is fun the first few times you do it, it is unhealthy and a waste to do so constantly. With the exception of a busy work schedule, there is relatively few reasons to go to bed early in the morning necessitating one to sleep in well into the afternoon. This is something many of us are guilty of however it does not change the fact. Setting a healthy sleep schedule will help prepare you for later life where sleeping until noon would be frowned upon.

2. Get a summer job.

A summer job is a great way to add structure to your summer. School offers such a rigid schedule that you nearly always have something to be doing and somewhere to be that when break comes, many people simply don't know how to maintain a healthy schedule. Working over the summer can help that. By adding in some form of structure, you have to consciously plan out your days rather than procrastinate and waste them. In addition to structure, it also provides a source of income which can be very useful to someone on vacation.

Working a summer job can also provide connections that can be used later. Many employers can and will write letters of recommendation or act as references should you need.

3. Play a Sport

Playing a sport is a great way to spend the summer. The many benefits include staying in shape, meeting new people, and offering you a healthy way to vent frustrations. Additionally, most sports require a certain amount of regular practice which means regular practices that will help structure your day.

Sports can also teach you lessons that are applicable to life in general. For example, learning to accept failure in a game is much more palatable and consequential than in school or work. While your response to failure regardless of where it occurs should not matter, learning the correct way to do so in a safe environment is very beneficial to athletes as they learn how to deal with it before they truly face it in the real world.

Time to Step Up From Juniors to Seniors

By: Haley Pair

As we say goodbye to our 2019 senior graduates, a new group of students is awaiting their turn as the upcoming upperclassmen at Manasquan High School. Although the thought of senior year may seem like all fun and games, it is a very crucial year that sets them up for life after high school. College applications, keeping up with your grades, deciding where you want to attend college, and a few more things ride right alongside the fun seniors activities and privileges.

Many of the upcoming seniors are looking most forward to the open lunch, which allows them to leave school during the lunch block and return before 6th period.

"Getting to leave for lunch is something I really look forward to" said junior, Josie Borghoff, when asked what she was most looking forward to about senior year.

An exciting yet stressful part of senior year is deciding what colleges interest you. For most of the seniors the start of their year will be filled with college visits, applications, and fingers crossed. "I'm most excited to find out what colleges I get into" stated Michaela Pollock, an upcoming senior at Manasquan.

"Don't worry so much because it will all work out" Said 2019 senior, Sarah Warren, giving advise to the incoming senior class.

"I think the students should start to learn how to multitask better and be more independent. Students should learn to balance every responsibility they have including work, school, and outside activities because all of that will prepare them for college" Said teacher Mrs. Morris.

Another 2019 senior, Samantha Caccavale, wants to let the new seniors know, "Don't start the year off with senioritis because everyone does, also save your lates and absences for the end of the year."

Senior year also includes many fun activities such as the senior trip, senior assassin, the privilege to leave for lunch, senior day, and much more. There is something for all the incoming seniors to look forward to.

"Less of a work load, more freedom, and getting to leave for lunch is something I really look forward to" Said Josie Borghoff.

"I am excited for all the electives I am going to take" Luke Butkus stated.

Perri Jost said, "I am really looking forward to senior assassin and having one last year with all my friends together before we go off to school"

"I am looking forward to senior activities like the picnic and trips" said Greyson Paul.

"I'm expecting it to be an easier year that is going to be more memorable and exciting" Lauren Detlinger said when asked what she expects out of senior year.

The 2020 senior class is planned to have a great last year at Manasquan and what the students make of it will make it even better!

20 *Mother's Day* Gift Ideas

She spends her day worrying about her children, working to support her family, slaving over a stove to present a hot meal, and putting her loved ones always before herself. With Mother's Day approaching on May 12th, take the opportunity to do something nice for your mom and show her you care and appreciate all she does.

For the mom that always says she doesn't want anything: **plan an activity and spend quality time with her.**

- 1) Take her out for breakfast
- 2) Go for a walk together on the beach
- 3) Go out shopping
- 4) Take a family bike ride
- 5) See a movie
- 6) Book mani/pedis



Local places like Meemom's, Turning Point, and Marigold's are great options for a family breakfast



Moms treasure the thoughtfulness and effort put into **crafts and homemade gifts.**

- 7) Make her breakfast in bed
- 8) Give her a night off and cook dinner
- 9) Put a picture of you and her in a picture frame
- 10) Make her a card
- 11) Write a poem
- 12) Decorate a coffee mug

Try making a DIY Sharpie Mug. Buy a white mug and decorate it with oil based Sharpie paint markers. Dry it out and bake it in the oven for 30 minutes at 350 °C. Hand wash it and it's ready to use!



Whether it's something she needs, has been wanting, or you'd think she'd like: **a gift is always appreciated.**

- 13) Flowers
- 14) A book she's been wanting
- 15) Beach bag or accessories
- 16) Jewelry
- 17) Slippers
- 18) Coffee mug
- 19) Gift card to a store or restaurant
- 20) A nice candle



The B&B carries a large variety of products perfect for every beach-lover.

What did you do for Spring Break?

By Amelika Mahoney and Hailey Pair



Haley Daughton

For spring break I'm going to Rincon, Puerto Rico with my family. We plan on surfing, hanging by the beach and all around relaxing the whole week for break.

Faith Masonius

For spring break I'm going to Atlantis in the Bahamas for my graduation gift. My family friends surprised me with this trip and I'm so excited to go with my sisters.

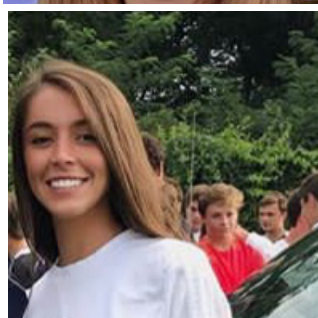


Marina Zuk

I'm going to Key West with my mom and dad, for my birthday present.

Madison Pringle

I will be staying in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina with my sister Culli. We're taking this trip because we've never done a trip with just the both of us and now it can finally happen



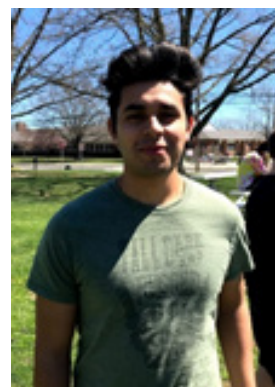
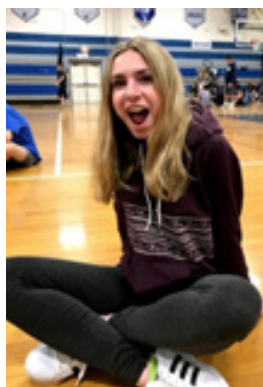
Erin Comnesso

This is my first trip leaving the country, it was a last-minute idea but I'm super excited to see a different place.

Jude Clark

My plans for spring break is to head to California to visit my older brother and spend time with him. Our trip will be consisting of surfing and hanging out by the beach.

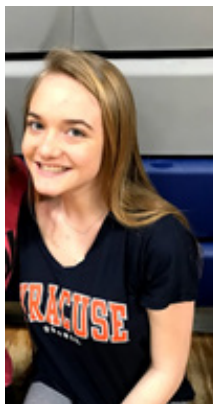
"Over break I will be working on my coming son's nursery. His mom and I are working on it together, I am excited, it should be fun." - Mr. Voskian



"I will be staying home and am looking forward to catching up on sleep and hanging out with friends" - Jose Torres

"I am staying home over break, but I am excited to go to six flags with my friends." - Josie Borghoff

"Over break I am going to Hawaii, I am excited to be there and do fun stuff while there" - Anthony Barbara



"I am going to North Carolina to see and spend time with my Dad, I am excited to see my dogs that live there with him and play with them." - Chandler Nixon

"I am excited to eat lots of food over break" - Mary Meehan



Having the Last Laugh!

Sometimes, all it takes is one bad day for society to change a simple man into a violent crime boss

By Andrew Leather

Ha, ha, ha! Is not the sound you would want to hear from a psychotic clown? But that is exactly what audiences are going to experience when the new Joker movie comes out in October of this year.

The Clown Prince of Crime is set to take the big screen with Joaquin Phoenix set to play this classic comic book character, along side actors Robert de Niro, Zazie Beetz, and Frances Conroy are a few of those accompanying him on the streets of Gotham City.

The story follows Arthur Fleck, a failed comedian who dresses up as a clown to make ends meet in a city full of crime and murder. Slowly throughout the film, this movie goes in a different direction than other origin stories, with his fall to his Joker persona being from societal impacts on him.

Many homages are placed in this film including Thomas and a young Bruce Wayne, who will meet before the two ever start becoming mortal enemies.

A teaser trailer has been released online, and it has been trending, with many people wondering one question. Will this The Joker or Bust?

The many skeptics are weary because of the failed Suicide Squad Joker played by Jared Leto, and the disappointment from the fans. Another factor can also be attributed to the performance by Heath Ledger in the *Dark Knight Trilogy*.

We may never know for right now, but the internet is going nuts for the October 4th premiere of this year to see the effects of one of the most, if not the most, recognizable comic book villains of all time.

Only time will tell to see how this movie's main character will stand against the giants who have played this character. This will be the first ever stand alone, live action Joker movie, even with the plethora of actors who have either voiced or played in live action adaptations as villains.

This will hopefully be another movie made by Warner Brothers Studios that doesn't disappoint as they have really started to pick up the quality of movies after disasters such as *Justice League* and *Batman v. Superman* have been tossed away by critics.

Recent movies such as *Aquaman* and *Shazam!* which have received positive reviews, are hopefully a glimpse into the *Joker* movie as it increasingly becomes highly anticipated.



Above: Joaquin Phoenix's Joker in the first trailer for the new movie; below: Heath Ledger's Joker, the one Phoenix's Joker will, inevitably, be compared to.





GAME OF THRONES

The final battle for the throne begins now.

By: Madison Pringle



Millions of people around the world anxiously waited Sunday, April 14th – the beginning of the end. HBO's academy winning series, Game of Thrones, began airing it's eighth and final season that night.

Game of Thrones started back in 2011. Each season is filled with complex story lines and characters. All of which is hard for even the most extreme fan to keep track of.

The popularity continues to grow with each season. Each season premiere gains millions of more views.

In the most recent season, Daenerys and Jon Snow join

forces to defeat their two biggest enemies: the Lannisters and the Whitewalkers. Daenerys and her dragons have their first encounter with the Lannisters, where Jaimie Lannister is exposed to her true power.

But, Jon and Daenerys soon realize that in order to defeat the Whitewalkers, their biggest threat, they must team up with the Lannisters. So, they call for a truce.

Jon succumbs to the Night King's trap, and Daenerys must save him, but she loses her dragon Viserys in the process.

The Stark sisters, Arya and Sansa, are finally reunited

with their brother Bran, who are being played by Little Finger. Bran reveals Little Finger's true nature, which leads to his execution.

Bran also reveals Jon Snow's real heritage - he is the son of Lyanna Stark and Rhaeger Targaryen. Season 7 ends with the White Walkers knocking down the great wall.

Game of Thrones fanatics are preparing mentally and physically for this season finale. And the final question will be answered: Who will sit on the throne?

WHO WILL SIT ON THE THRONE?

I asked my fellow peers and Game of Thrones enthusiasts on their predictions of how this series will conclude this May.



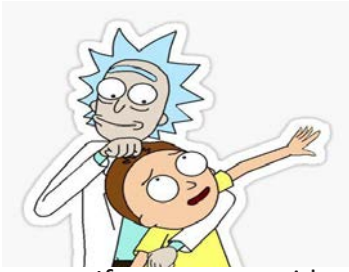
"Definitely Jon Snow."
- Senior, Jason Brenner



"Daenerys Targaryen, easily."
-Senior, Jalen Tyler

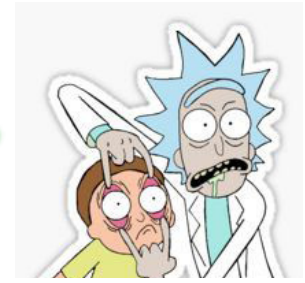


"My girl Sansa Stark."
- Senior, Rainie Montes



Rick and Morty

By:
Lewis Marks



If you are an avid television enthusiast, chances are you have heard of Dan Harmon and Justin Roiland's baby, *The Adventures of Rick and Morty*. This television show is highly regarded, by the fans, as a top tier level comedy with dark twists and an overarching plot that only the creators truly know what direction they plan to go in.

The show takes place in Earth Dimension C-137, and follows Rick, the absent grandfather who decided to come back after 20 years to reconnect with his family, and Morty, a 14-year-old boy with some lingering social and confidence issues. Rick takes Morty from his room constantly and brings him on crazy missions that Rick just thinks up on the spot, but little does Morty know, his grandfather is the most wanted man in the multiverse.

Rick's wanton disregard for other people, let alone his own family, causes him to not show mercy when it comes to his research or his Morty. Having



Roiland also voices many of the characters like Rick and Morty, so he uses method-acting to depict the drunk as best he can

been to hundreds of dimensions and seeing hundreds of versions of the same people can take away from your perception of love and caring for said people. Therefore, Rick has basically chalked up any emotion to a

chemical reaction and nothing more, making Rick to be the cold calculated man he is in the series.

Rick does have a soft spot though, and it happens to be his grandson Morty. Throughout their adventures, Rick acts as if he doesn't care about Morty, but, he has grown as irrational attachment to this Morty in particular. Which is unheard of from a Rick, and he hates to admit it as well.

Though this duo may not seem like your typical hero



Creators Justin Roiland (Left) and Dan Harmon (Right)

and sidekick, if you can even call them that, they still manage to get through their everyday adventures across the multiverse. The show does a great job of adding humor to some more dry topics, like divisions, family issues, and even substance abuse. With all these themes being central to the main concept, the show can get a little dark at times, but you are lifted out of these parts with moments that are equally funny or even more so.

The concept of dimensional travel is that there are infinite possibilities, so there is never something so far out of the ordinary that the creators wouldn't be able to tackle. For example, Rick and Morty travel to a dimension where chairs are people, people are chairs, and phones are food. This may seem

like there is no way to turn this and make it into a gag, but they end up doing just that and the laughs that follow are welcome.

The show has also picked up a good amount of steam since it's first episode on December 2, 2013. It has been chock full of celebrities from Logic and Ice-T to John Oliver and Stephen Colbert, and even Christian Slater and David Cross. It's also been rumored, that the creators are looking to do something along the lines of a co-written episoded with Kanye West, the famed rapper and Hip-Hop artist married to Kim Kardashian.

So far, there have been a total of 3 seasons each with about 10 episodes each with their very own universe or planet that somehow, someway ties into the life of the protagonists. Last week, the show even announced that it was renewed with a 70-episode order from Cartoon Network that should span out over the next few years hopefully. It makes sense that Cartoon Network would want more episodes as the show has taken over the comedy game with a strong 3 seasons so far. I personally can't wait and I urge you to see the first 3 seasons before it's too late.



This happens to be a Plumbus, no one knows what it does



WARRIOR SPORTS

Fordham Bound: Colin Flood Sets Records, Earns Scholarship

By: Jack Heenan

If you're looking for Colin Flood you probably won't find him, because most likely he's running somewhere. MHS senior Colin Flood has been a standout runner here at Manasquan and has shattered record after record. He now holds the Manasquan High School 3200 and 1600 records, after winning the Shore Conference titles in each category.

But there's a lot to know about Colin besides all the running.

Colin grew up in a large family. Colin is one of 5 and a twin brother. His brother, Ian, is also a senior at Manasquan committed to Catawba for baseball. Athletics have always been apart of his family growing up with two brothers. "I've always been really competitive. I grew up playing every sport in my backyard with my brothers Ian and Quinn", says Colin. "I hated losing, so I developed that competitive mind set at a young age."

Colin's main sports growing up were baseball and soccer. "I definitely focused on baseball and soccer growing up," explained Flood. "I never really got into running until cross country in the 6th grade."

When Colin isn't running you'll probably find him playing some other sports with his friends. "I love playing basketball in my free time." Colin is a very laid-back guy who likes spending time with friends and family. "When I'm not running I usually just chill out or play sports with my friends,"

Colin winning the Bradley Beach 5K



Colin running at the track Nationals last year

said Flood. "He's the fastest person I know but also the slowest person when's not running," said friend Ethan Dzenis. "I guess I'm slow when I'm not running," laughed Colin.

Colin decided to join the cross-country team in 6th grade and discovered how talented he was at

the sport. "I never expected to find success in running, I just did it to have fun," said Colin. Colin won every race his 6th grade year, and everyone but 1 his 7th grade year. Going into high school now he was fully committed to running and ready to make a name for himself.

Freshman year, Colin established himself as not only one of the top Freshman in the

Shore Conference, but one of the top runners in the state. Colin broke school records for most wins for a Freshman runner and finished in the top 35 for runners in the state. "My first year really got me going," Colin explained. "I really wanted to take the next step from there and improve." Colin befriended Dan Kelly, who is now a Freshman at Penn State, and the two of them trained all Summer. "I owe Dan a lot of credit. Without him I wouldn't be the runner I am today." The two woke up early and ran every day in the Summer. "Dan also got me to change my diet and eat healthier."

The work really payed off. Colin dominated his Sophomore and Junior seasons. He won countless races and finished in the top 20 in the state both years. Colleges started to take interest in Colin, and by the end of his Junior year he was talking to UConn, Fordham, St. Joes, and Gonzaga. "I never knew I could run in college but after my Junior season it really became a possibility."

Colin's senior year was huge, and expectations were sky high. Colin didn't disappoint and won basically every division race. Colin cruised through states and finished 11th overall in the Meet of Champions. "This year was a special season for me and I couldn't be happier with how it went." Colin's next decision was crucial, where was he going to run. Colin decided to accept a scholarship to run at Fordham University next year. "Fordham is great school; the coaches are awesome and I'm really excited to get started."



Colin pulls ahead in a cross country race this season



WARRIOR SPORTS

Celebrating Senior Athletes

By: Kennedy Miller

As spring sports come to an end, Manasquan celebrates their senior athletes and thanks the coaches and parents that have supported them throughout the years by hosting senior day. Senior day, which is often the last guaranteed home game of the year, is a perfect way to close the chapter of a high school athletic career.

Speeches, flowers, and balloons make this highly anticipated game bitter-sweet for both the players and their families. For the softball and lacrosse teams, senior day stood as the perfect send-off for senior varsity athletes, a sentimental good-



Ryan Anderson, who will be playing at Stockton University next year, poses with his

bye to the sport, and a celebration of the seniors' significant contributions throughout their years.

On Saturday May 4th the rain stopped and the sky cleared after the girls lacrosse game, just in time for the boys lacrosse team to beat Toms River North 16-0 and celebrate senior day. The bleachers were decked with balloons and pictures of each senior.

At halftime, the team gathered by the fans and posed for pictures with their family. Senior Ryan Anderson recalled, "it was a lot of fun and I'm glad we got to celebrate with a good win." Anderson explained, "we took time during halftime to thank our parents and give our moms flowers and dads M&Ms."

The boys lacrosse team had a lot to celebrate and many seniors to be

thankful for. Of the 12 seniors graduating from the program, 8 of them will be continuing their career at elite collegiate programs. The seniors achieved a lot during their 4 years.

Canyon Birch, who will be playing at Penn State next year, set a new all-time state goal scoring record just days after senior day. In the 4 years the seniors have been a part of the program, they have taken home an impressive 3 Shore Conference Championships and 3 State Sectional Championships.

The girls lacrosse team held the next senior celebration on May 7th. The girls took home a 17-14 win against Shore Regional surrounded by friends and family. Underclassman took the initiative to decorate the seniors' houses the night before the game. Junior parents held the responsibility of decorating the field with posters, balloons, and pictures of the seniors.

The team joined the fans on the sideline as juniors presented the seniors with flowers and Coach Maria Eldridge gave a tribute to each of the player's contributions over the 4 years. Coach Eldridge commented, "the 3 seniors we have this year started varsity together their freshman year," adding, "it was special to see them end together too."

During her speech Coach Eldridge recognized the seniors' accomplishments stating, "Janie Cowley set the school record for goals with 231 and Jenna Harms got



Grace Beyer, whose played varsity softball since freshman year, enjoyed celebrating with her teammates.

her 300th career point this season." After multiple state championship appearances over their 4 years, the seniors won their sectional final—a perfect way to close a successful 4 years.

The softball team celebrated their senior day by beating Rumson Fair-Haven 4-0 on May 8th. A large crowd attended the game to recognize the 4 seniors starting varsity. Parents and underclassmen orchestrated the event and decorated both the field and the locker-room for the game.

Prior to the game, Coach Tony Vodola encouraged his team to win for the seniors since it was their last home game of the year. Seniors ran through a tunnel of bats onto the field as Coach Vodola spoke about each girl and made a point to insist that even though they'll be graduating the program, they'll always have a family in Manasquan softball.

Senior captain Grace Beyer said, "the day was somewhat emotional." Beyer added, "leaving something that has been such a big part in my life is hard, but senior day was a success and good way to finish out my senior year and softball career".

Needless to say, across the board senior day was a success and Manasquan is lucky to have such amazing senior athletes.



Pictured left to right: Jenna Harms, Kennedy Miller, and Janie Cowley of the girls lacrosse team pose for pictures with flowers



WARRIOR SPORTS

Flood Dethrones Hart as Several Manasquan Track and Field Athletes Push into Championship Season

By: Ryan McNamara



Senior Colin Flood competes at a Holmdel Twilight Meet



Senior Ryan McNamara during his 800m Sectional run

On May 24th and 25th, the Manasquan Track Team made the two-hour journey down south to Delsea High School to compete in the Group II South Sectional Championship. Not affected by travel fatigue or the blazing-hot weather, the warriors made an impressive showing, with several athletes qualifying for the Group II Championship the following weekend.

The standout from the weekend is senior Colin Flood, who took first place in the 1600m and second place in the 3200m.

Other athletes that qualified for states include senior Antonio Wesley took fourth in the Triple Jump, senior Ryan

McNamara who took fifth in the 800m, and sophomore Connor Walsh who took sixth in the High Jump. For the girl's side, junior Lindsey Field took sixth in the 1600m and 3200m. All five of these athletes will compete in the Group II Championship on May 31st and June 1st.

Going into the first day of the Group II South Sectional meet, everyone had Devin Hart as the favorite to win the 1600m race. For the past two years, Hart dominated the competition in Group II, winning the event by more than 4 seconds in 2017 and 2018. However, this year, Manasquan's Colin Flood dethroned the distance champion to win his first sectional title

with a time of 4:18.

The next morning, Flood returned to the track for the 3200m race where he once again faced off against Devin Hart. There, he took second place with a time of 9:22 to Hart's first place finish. Colin Flood holds the record for the boy's 1600m and 3200m at Manasquan High School and will run for Fordham University next year.

Manasquan junior Lindsey Field also qualified for both the 1600m and the 3200m, running 5:22 and 11:53 respectively.

Off the track, Manasquan had two athletes qualify for the Group II Championship. Senior Antonio Wesley had a season best triple jump of 43-3.5, which landed him in fourth place. Also, the youngest qualifier for the Manasquan team was sophomore Connor Walsh, who cleared the 5-10 high jump for sixth place.

On Friday May 31st and June 1st, Colin Flood ran the 1600m and 3200m race at the Group II Championship Meet. There, he ran a 4:17 mile to place third. In doing so, he once again broke his own school record. For the two mile the next morning, he tied his school record of 9:19 to place third.



WARRIOR SPORTS

Boys, Girls Lift Lax to New Levels
Both win CJ Group II sectional; boys add
Shore Conference Title

