



December 2011

Manasquan High School



The Blue & Gray Squan Students Know

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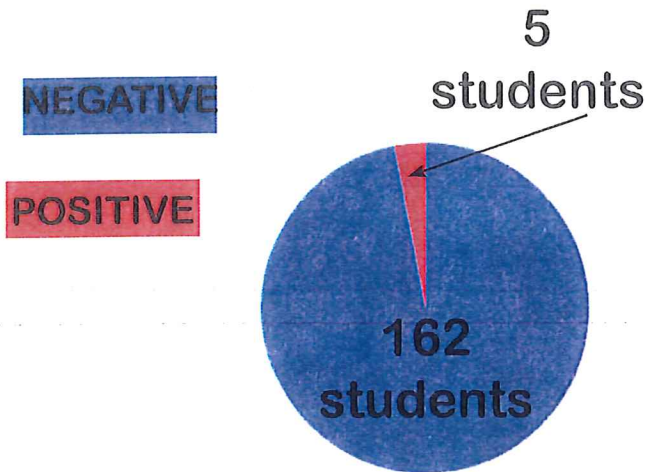
Life is Good



LIFE IS GOOD

Manasquan High School

MHS Drug Testing Results Updated



As of December 19, 167 students have been tested since the beginning of the school year, with 162 negative results and 5 positive results.

December Students of the Month Announced Just in Time for the Holidays



From left to right; senior William Quinlan, junior Morgan Harkness, freshman Isabella Rodriguez, and sophomore Tara Dugan

Herren told the students about mistakes he made: "when I was 18 I had a chance to listen. I sat in a gym like you and heard a football player talk about substance abuse and I laughed at it." Herren continued his account of his past talking about how he eventually fell into the trap of substance abuse using drugs such as the expensive Oxycontin and eventually heroin.

During the entire presentation, all the students were hanging onto every word Herren said resulting in a completely silent gym. Steph Leather, MHS senior, commented how, "... it was cool to see the entire gymnasium be silent." You could have heard a pin drop it was that quiet.

The moment Herren finished his presentation, the crowd instantly started applauding and gave a standing ovation. So many students felt impacted by Herren's inspiring words to, "Be just who you are. You're perfect the way you are. Don't put substances in your body."

Senior Hannah Roesler remarked how Herren was, "...absolutely amazing!"

Other students, such as senior Gabby Galizio, had a more emotional reaction to Herren's power speech: "I literally had tears running down my face."

Miss Apostolou, Miss Congilose, and David Schenke were extremely happy with the results of Chris Herren's speech. Schenke explained how, "We wanted to change up the day [Life is Good Day]. We thought the speaker got the point across to the students very well showing no matter how low you are in life you can always come back up and life is good again."

Life is indeed very good at Manasquan High School. With so much pride and support seen throughout the school it's no wonder we need a day to celebrate how great life can truly be.



"Jersey Frosh" Freshman Pull off Surprising Victory in Hall Decorating Contest

By: Patty Ramirez

The traditional Manasquan Spirit Week started off with a blast when MHS students attended the Homecoming dance on Friday, November 18, as football players were getting pumped up before their game the next day against Matawan. On Monday, November 21, it was hat day, with some students wearing ridiculous hats and having fun. Tuesday was t-shirt day, where almost everyone was wearing their favorite team shirt.

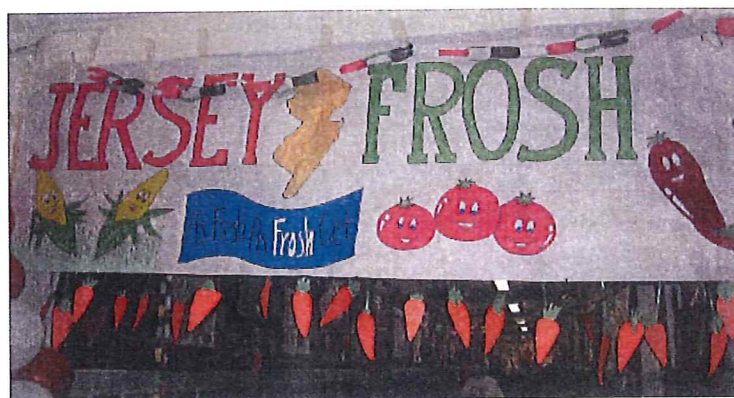
On Tuesday night, students were allowed to come back to school to decorate their own hallway. From 5:00-8:00pm the school was humming with activity as everyone worked hard; freshman creating their "Jersey Frosh" hallway, sophomores revisiting their childhoods with "Sesame Street Sophomores", juniors becoming "Juke Box Juniors" and, finally, seniors going patriotic with "Oh Say Can You Seniors".

Surprisingly, the freshman took the prize, as they decorated their hallway filled with many paper roll corns, carrots hanging from the ceilings and paper shaped roasters with the names of many freshmen. It was the first time in memory the freshmen hallway was awarded.

Sophomores decorated their hallway to make it feel like you actually walked into Sesame Street. "Oscar the Grouch" was their main attraction. The Juniors' hallway was a world of red. Musical notes containing their names and black pa-

per in the shape of a couple dancing around a red background were everywhere. In the center hallway, there was a red car with two dolls, one boy and one girl, driving around.

Seniors also created one amazing hallway. A world of blue, at one of the end of the hallway, there was a cut out of the Statue of Liberty surrounded by white and blue balloons, while a poster of the Twin Towers stood at the other end. Famous Americans, ranging from presidents to celebrities, were painted as part of the decorations. The seniors' best feature was the outline of the U.S. made up of pictures of seniors. Unfortunately many of their pieces fell (the humidity ruined the tape?) so the seniors were forced to furiously fix their decorations throughout the morning. And so, the freshman won the prize.



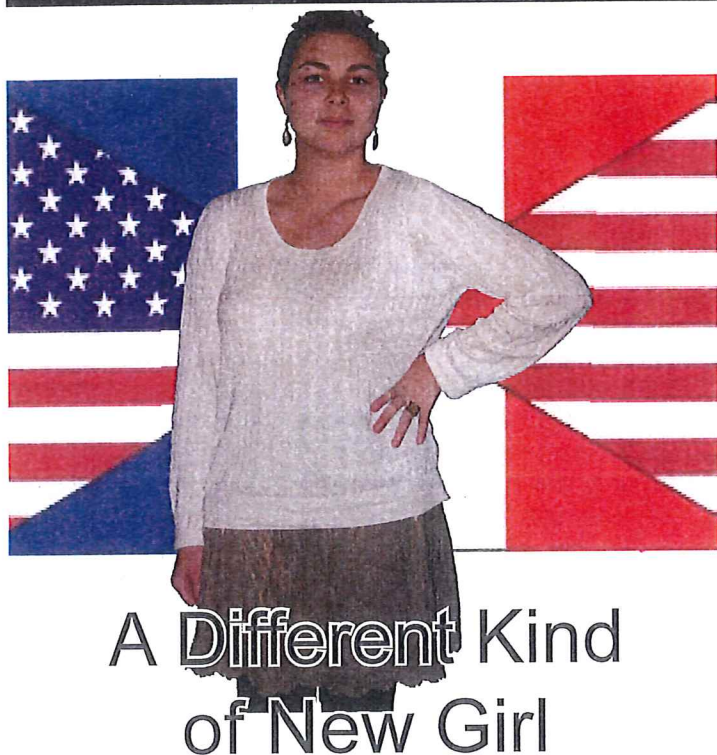
Above: The junior class weighed in with "Jukebox Juniors," a tribute to the music and styles of the 1950s. Below: the seniors did not win, but displayed remarkable creativity in their depiction of iconic American images, ranging from the Statue of Liberty to President John F. Kennedy and gangster Al Capone.





Student Spotlight

Juliette Blondeau



A Different Kind of New Girl

By: Patty Ramirez

Have you ever wondered what it would be like moving to a new country, a new school, a new house and living a new life? Leaving her family back home, Juliette Blondeau knows what it's like to live somewhere completely new and different from her home life.

Juliette lived in Rouen, France, an old town near Paris that holds a very traditional neighborhood. "It's beautiful and it's very well known for its Old Catholic churches," Juliette said. She used to attend boarding school but instead of four years of high school, she only attended three years. After her time in boarding school, she had a chance to do something she had always wanted to do - learn about American culture. But she did not want to learn like a tourist, she wanted to experience the culture and live like an American. She took a chance and decided to be an exchange student. So why did she choose Manasquan? "I really wanted to act; this high school seemed really good for that," Juliette said.

Unlike us, Juliette couldn't choose her own classes during high school. Everything was strictly academic; she took sci-

ence, literature and economical classes. Her school days were very different from ours also. What we call a typical school day is 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. but to Juliette, that day is very short. A typical school day in Juliette's old school was from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. almost four hours longer! With the extra time on her hands, Juliette has taken advantage of joining many school activities. She played in the Powder-Puff football game during Spirit Week, and has joined Drama Club, GSA, TV Production, Photography Club, Film Club and Art Club. She also plans to try out for the softball team in the spring, and is a member of the Yearbook class. "Juliette is very eager to learn about things and she is very involved. She's a great photographer and the yearbook staff is really glad to have her in the room," Miss Congilose, English teacher and advisor of the yearbook said. Becoming a part of all these clubs and activities has helped her to experience American culture as she always wanted to do.

But these are not the biggest differences between Juliette's school in France and MHS. Juliette tells us, "I think the biggest and main difference that I've noticed here is that you people eat really fast! Back at home, we had an hour and thirty minutes just for lunch. It's a really big deal to eat well and here it's like just eat a sandwich and you'll be fine. We could also leave during lunch, go to a nice restaurant with friends during school and come back to study some more. Here it's so strict, you can't even leave!"

In France, you're free to do whatever it is you want as long as you kept up with your studies. We hate when we have a substitute teacher, because we're just left work to do without the actual teacher there. For Juliet and her classmates back home, when a teacher was absent, it's much different. "If a teacher was missing, we didn't have to go to class or we would just leave. It wasn't a big deal; if the teacher wasn't there then we wouldn't be either."

Much like we are forced to speak Spanish in Spanish class, when Juliette's English classes met, it was mandatory to speak English. At first, it was very hard for Juliette to speak English but over time she got the hang of it. "It is more difficult to speak it (English) because people talk really fast and so I get a bit confused as to what you're saying."

Even before she moved here, it was important for Juliette to learn to speak English. Her family loves to travel and wherever they travel to, people generally speak English. Eventually she hopes to be bilingual.

continued on next page

SUPPORT MHS STUDENTS
as we raise funds for families in our
community who have children with cancer



Don't miss out on this memorable night!
Friday, March 2, 2012 at 8:00 pm.

POSTER DESIGNED BY 2012 SQUAN-A-THON POSTER CONTEST WINNERS
LOUIS SCHIAVONE AND DAN LAMBERT

Students Tackle THE BLUE & GRAY **Issues in the World** EDITORIALS

What is Occupy Wall Street, Really?

A Movement for Equal Wealth or A Movement for Equal Face Time on T.V.?

By: Steph Leather

Occupy Wall Street has taken over the headlines, not just in America, but all over the world. The protesters have vowed that they are the 99% and celebrities have rallied behind the demonstrators and showed their support. There are many flaws, however, in this idealist idea. The biggest one is quite plain. No one is really sure of what they are the 99% of.

Before researching the Occupy Wall Street movement, I thought that it was all about jobs. So my question was, "Why are they sitting around in the freezing cold being completely anti-productive when they can do exactly that in the comfort of their own home?" However, as I looked more deeply into the nuisance, it seemed that they were fighting for something completely different. No one really knows what they want. In fact, a protester even told a news man that he didn't know why he was there.

Still, on their website, they say that they are "no longer going to tolerate the greed and corruption of the 1%"; except, no one knew what the 1% that they were fighting for was. I later learned that they were trying to bring down the 1% of the wealthiest America. Correction: they wanted to stop the greed and corruption of the wealthiest 1% of America. But how do they know that all of the wealthiest people are corrupt? Actors and actresses working in Hollywood and raking in huge amounts of money, how are they corrupt? And how is Bill Gates, self-made billionaire, corrupt? Did he pay someone to create Microsoft?

No. Even then, he is one of that 1% and he isn't even on Wall Street.

I'm not saying that no one is corrupt. I know that there is corruption everywhere; politics, business, everything. But how are there people singling out the million wealthiest people in the country? Do they have the intentions to stop all of the corruption, or are they jealous

that someone else's American Dream came true? Most people on Wall Street worked extremely hard to get to where they are. Now they're being accused of doing it all unfairly. It's the same as accusing an athlete of doing steroids. It's possible, but do people sit outside of their house in protest?

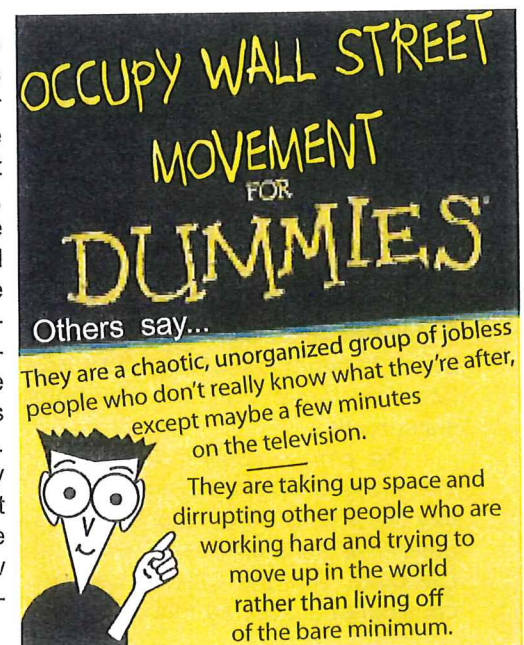
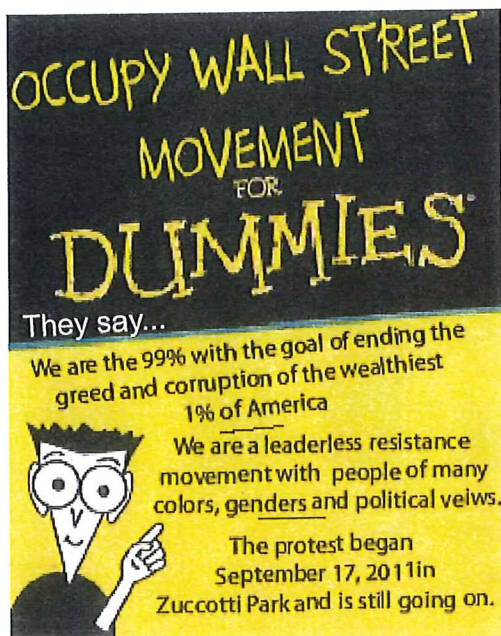
Although the protesters may not be going about it the best way, their intentions are actually understandable. The facts of how quick the wealthy are becoming wealthier are really staggering.

According to the CBO, between 1979 and 2007 the incomes of the top 1% of Americans grew by an average of 275%. During the same time period, the 60% of Americans in the middle of the income scale saw their income rise by 40%. Imagine the average household income being \$36,000 per year. Being in the top 1% of wealthiest Americans would make an income \$108,000 a year. The middle class would be \$50,400 yearly. Pretty big difference, right?

Since 1979 the average income for the least wealthy 90% of American households has decreased by \$900. However, the top 1% increased by over \$700,000. This is because the government allowed the wealthier people to pay closer to what the average people had to pay in taxes.

In 2007 the richest 1% of the American population owned 34.6% of the country's total wealth, and the next 19% owned 50.5%. Thus, the top 20% of Americans owned 85% of the country's wealth and the bottom 80% of the population owned 15%.

Maybe if the protesters found a calmer way to raise awareness about these numbers, more people would listen and more people would be supportive. However, more people are suspicious than supportive. It is extremely important that people become aware of how real these numbers are.





Presents for your boyfriend/ girlfriend :

Girlfriend : Boys, this isn't as hard as it seems. All you need to know is one word : jewelry. Girls LOVE jewelry. It is always the easiest go-to present. I suggest maybe a pretty necklace or a nice bracelet. Charm bracelets are a great way to go. Look at it this way, buy her the bracelet and maybe a charm this Christmas. Then for her birthday, get her another charm! Anniversary? Charm. Valentines Day? Charm. Get it?

If jewelry isn't what you had in mind, think about what she likes. Did you ever hear her say she loved a certain movie? Maybe a certain book? Perfume? Pick her up something you know she will like. If she ever mentioned it to you, she will remember the minute she sees your amazing present and love you that much more!

Boyfriend : This one is a toughy. Guys don't wear jewelry, they typically don't obsess over clothes, and cute little things aren't exactly something they will pick up on. On the other hand, they do like video games right?! Pick up the new Call Of Duty. They may not wear jewelry, but they do wear watches! Snag one of those! Sports, come on. What do guys love more than sports?! Look online for some tickets! That way, he can cheer on his favorite team and it can be a nice, romantic date for the both of you .

Presents for your friends :

This can sometimes be kind of difficult. This is my suggestion: give them something you would get yourself! Maybe get them some clothes! Shirts are always good. Coats are nice. Scarves are in. You catch my drift...

If not, here's another path to take: inside jokes! What would friends be if you didn't have inside jokes between each other?! There's a lot of gifts out there. I'm sure that

Helping Haley

Christmas Edition!

while you are shopping, you will find something that will remind you of them. Get that! Pick up a movie that you two can quote all the time. Concert/ game tickets work here too! Don't stress, you got these gifts under control.

Presents for your family :

This is always the hardest part. So many family members, so many presents, so little time. No worries, guys! You will have this whole present situation under control in no time! Just check out these tips! Let's break it down...

Mom : Yes, your mom is a very important person to buy a present for. She buys you stuff all the time and gives you money for everything. This is the time where you shower her with the gift you know she deserves. Moms love jewelry, just like all other girls! Buy her a pretty necklace or some nice earrings. They like music, get her the CD she has been asking for! If you aren't doing so well in the money department, do what I'm doing: my mom has a pretty junky phone. So I pulled my dad aside and asked him if he knew what he was getting her for Christmas and he said, "Nope!" So I suggested that we both get her the iPhone. We would split the price. That covers the present and the money issues! This Christmas will, for sure, be the one your mom won't forget!

Dad : Dads may have varied interests. They may love books, movies, music, electronics, and blah blah blah. If you've gotten Mom's present out of the way, this one should be a breeze. Grab a movie! Snag a book! Pick up a CD! These gifts are easy. If Dad likes electronics, try the present that I just suggested for Mom. This idea can work however you want. Hey! Look! You just got another present out of the way!

Grandparents : Old people are always cold right? Get 'em a blanket! You can even get them matching sweatshirts! (#1 Grandma, #1 Grandpa?). You can't go wrong with those. Do they drink coffee or tea? Hello, can you say #1 Grandma and Grandpa mugs?! See, that was easier than you thought.

Siblings : It's kind of hard for me to suggest these presents because I don't have to buy them (only child). But! I *can* say that your brothers or sisters are kind of like your friends, right? Try looking at the suggestions I mentioned for gifts for friends. They could definitely be useful in this area as well.

Good luck with present searching everyone! Happy Holidays and warm wishes to you and your families! Love, Haley xoxo

9. Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer

Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer
had a very shiny nose.
And if you ever saw him,
_____.

10. Good King Wenceslas

Good King Wenceslas looked out
On the feast of Stephen,
When the snow lay round about,
_____.

11. Ding Dong! Merrily on High

Ding dong! Merrily on high,
In heav'n the bells are ringing:
Ding dong! Verily the sky
_____.

12. The Christmas Song

Chestnuts roasting on an open fire,
Jack Frost nipping on your nose,
Yuletide carols being sung by a choir,
_____.

13. I'll be Home for Christmas

I'll be home for Christmas;
You can count on me.
Please have snow and mistletoe
_____.

14. Jingle Bell Rock

Jingle bell, jingle bell, jingle bell rock
Jingle bells swing and jingle bells ring
Snowing and blowing up bushels of fun
_____.

15. Here Comes Santa Claus

Here comes Santa Claus!
Here comes Santa Claus!
Right down Santa Claus Lane!
Vixen and Blitzen and all his reindeer
_____.

16. White Christmas

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
Just like the ones I used to know
Where the treetops glisten,
and children listen
_____.

17. Jolly Old Saint Nicholas

Jolly old Saint Nicholas,
Lean your ear this way!
Don't you tell a single soul
What I'm going to say;
Christmas Eve is coming soon;
Now, you dear old man,
Whisper what you'll bring to me;
_____.

18. Rocking Around the Christmas Tree

Rocking around the Christmas tree
At the Christmas party hop
Mistletoe hung where you can see
_____.

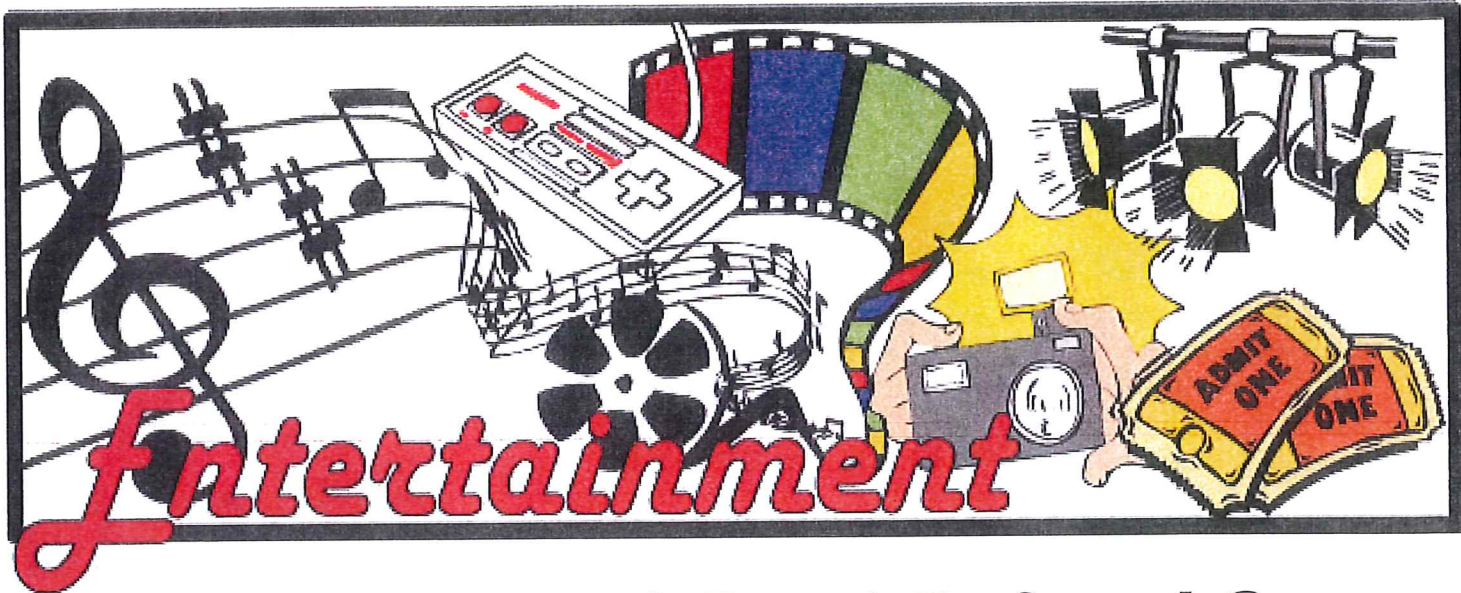
19. God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

God rest ye merry, gentlemen
Let nothing you dismay
Remember, Christ, our Savior
_____.

20. The Twelve Days of Christmas

On the twelfth day of Christmas,
my true love sent to me
_____.





Looking for Love? Read *Before I Go*

By: Devin Gannon



free moment.

In the novel, *Before I Go* by Riley Weston, the reader becomes familiar with the strain of the journey to the Olympics and what happens when tragedy strikes during this arduous climb to victory.

The path to the top is never easy, but with the help of her mother and coach, Annie, Madison may be a little closer to attaining her goal.

There is also another person that motivates Madison to be the best. The only friend she's ever had since she was six, Jackson. Even with almost all of Madison's time spent skating, Jack is with Madison through it all and has remained a good friend. Jack's feelings for Madison begin to become more than just platonic, unbeknownst to Madison.

As Madison begins to prepare for Nationals, a competition that could secure

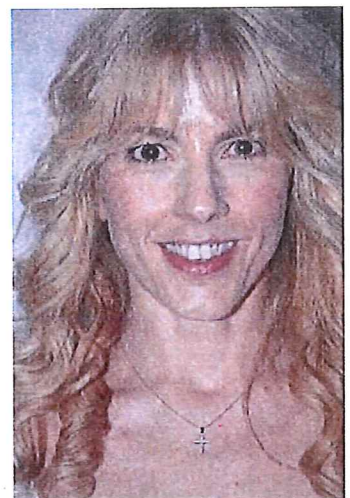
her place in the Olympics, she begins to feel extremely exhausted. After giving the performance of her life, she collapses on the ice in front of thousands. And she's not getting up right away.

In this amazing debut novel, Weston writes with authoritative ease about the trials and tribulations of a teenage athlete on the way to becoming an Olympic gold medalist.

The author allows you to become a part of this family's story, as you enter into each of the characters' mind.

This is a page turner that you will have to force yourself to put down. Whether you are looking for an untraditional love story or just a good cry, this book is perfect for you and guaranteed to leave its mark on its' reader. Even after the last page, this heartwarming tale will be engraved in your heart and mind forever.

The author of *Before I Go*, Riley Weston has written many books. If you like *Before I Go*, try *Like Me Louie*.



WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK?

BY HANNAH ROESLER, HALEY LONG, AND JULIA CALLAHAN



"Make toys and help Santa at the workshop"

-Tommy Dettlinger
-Junior

"Carve the family fruit cake"

-Joncarlo Santos,
Sophomore

"Shred"

-Conor DeCastro,
Sophomore

"Eat"

-T.E. Westervelt,
Sophomore

"Eat the family fruit cake"

-Ian Roden,
Sophomore



"Going to Utah to snowboard"

-Steph Marshall,
Senior

"Spend time with the family and snowboard in Vermont"

-Spencer Arnold,
Senior

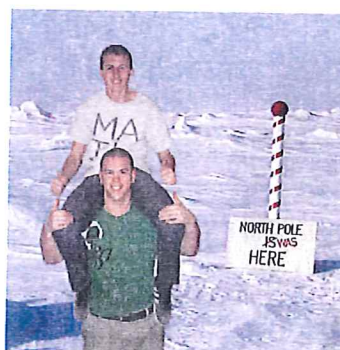


"Opening presents and spending time with my family"

-Abby Farr, Senior

"I'm going to the Caymen Islands with my mom"

-Logan Carroll,
Sophomore



"I'm riding the Vas to the North Pole"

-Joey Fittin,
Sophomore

"Just staying home"

-Molly Bryant,
Sophomore



By:
Devin
Gannon
& Amy
Pretz

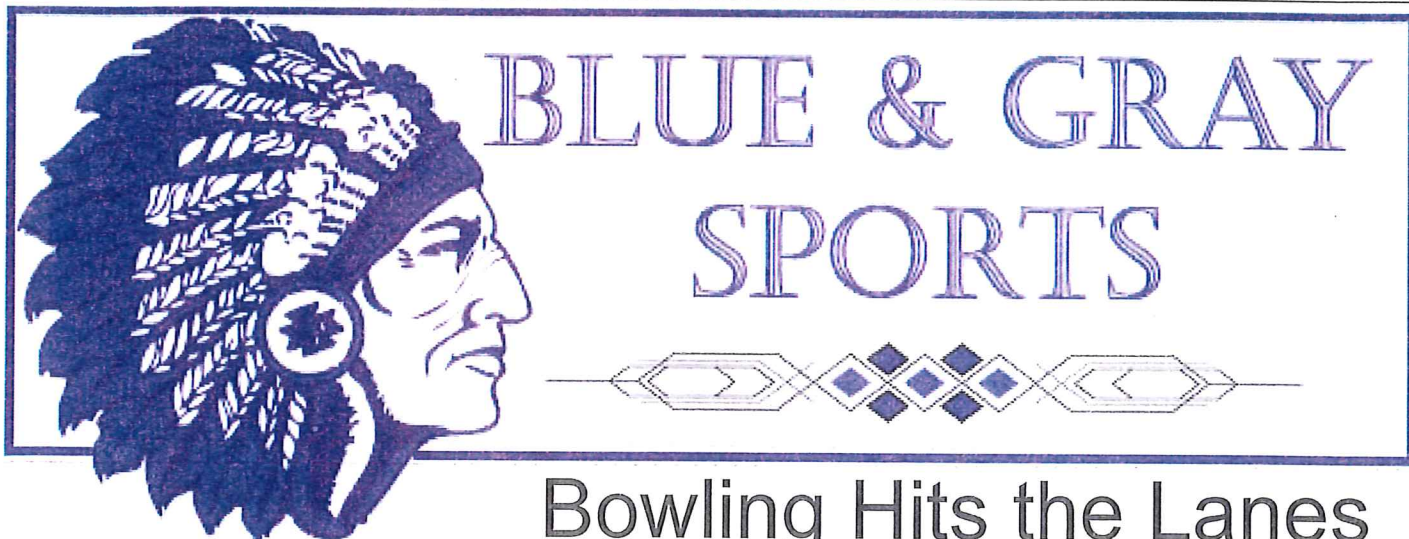
NATIONAL DAYS OF THE MONTH!



DECEMBER 2011



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
Today is National....				1 Pie 	2 Fritters 	3
4 Cookie 	5 Sacher Torte 	6 Gazpacho 	7 Pearl Harbor	8 Brownie 	9 Pastry	10
11 Noodle-Ring	12 Ambrosia	13 Cocoa	14 Bouillabaisse	15 Lemon Cupcake 	16 Chocolate Covered Anything	17
18 Roast Suckling Pig	19	20	21 French Fried Shrimp 	22	23 Pfeffernuesse 	24
25	26 Candy-cane 	27 Fruitcake 	28	29	30	31 ...Day of the Month!



Bowling Hits the Lanes

By: Gabby Galizio

The girl's and boy's bowling teams are off to a great season. With many returning seniors, the Warriors have stepped up their game and are have a bright season ahead. The girl's success is largely due to one key newcomer, Bryce Petraccoro. A sophomore from Point Pleasant Beach, Bryce continues to blow her teammates away. She certainly proved herself on Saturday, December 10, during the South Jersey Singles Classic Tournament at Ocean Lanes. Bryce bowled a three game series of 586 with a high score of 228 which allowed her to advance to the next round and took 3rd in the tournament overall. Senior Georgiana Honrath has put her running shoes in the closet for a season and broken out her bowling ball. She also had an outstanding performance on Saturday. Although she was eliminated in the second round, she placed 11th overall and Coach Mr. Glenn was extremely proud of both of his bowlers.

As for the rest of the girls' team, everyone seems very excited as they continue to bowl their way through the beginning of the season. Senior Captain Kylie Stark says, "I love going to

practice and hanging out with the girl's on the team. We have all bonded these past couple of years, and this is one of the sports I play where I can really relax and enjoy myself!"

The girls have jumped to a record of 16-2 to start this season, which includes a 15 game winning streak. The Warriors swept past Asbury Park and big-time rival Wall, where junior Kaitlyn Anderson and senior Brielle Gilly both had stand-out performances. As they continue to roll through the season, the girls hope to defend their division title, and the seniors, Kylie Stark, Brielle Gilly, Georgiana Honrath, Jamie Amadruto, and Devon Lander hope to make it a season to remember.

On the other hand, the boys are also having success as well as they moved up to 2nd place in the division lead by Coach Mr. Abraham. Senior Adam Kloo, who has been a key varsity bowler since freshman year, isn't holding anything back this year. As the boys defeated Wall 2-1 Kloo played a crucial role in the win as he had the high game for Squan of 171. Adam also led the boys in their opening match against Ocean with a high series of 443. All in all, both teams are off to a great start, and this season is sure to be a great one!

Girls Basketball Sweeps the Court

By: Julia Callahan

Experience. Talent. Determination. With these three factors in their back pockets the girls' basketball team looks to be prepared for an extremely successful season. In an interview with the Coast Star last week, Coach Felix Romero stated that this group of players is the "best team [he has] ever coached, boys or girls". Ranked at number one in both the state and Shore Conference, the Warriors have very high expectations to live up to this year.

The team, a group of very close-knit girls, is glad to have their core group of players returning as well as adding some new additions into the mix. The impressive roster, which includes the dynamic duo of sisters Michaela and Marina Ma-

brey, all-star point guard Katelynn Flaherty, super center Sam Sullivan, leading ladies Gretchen Fay and Melissa Pavia, transfer students Ellie Masonius and Amanda Hagaman, and rookie sophomore Ava Hart, has already proven that they can dominate any game by using their close-knit relationship to their advantage.

The season started with a bang on Friday, December 16, as the girls smashed Brick 58-14. Michaela Mabrey scored 26 to lead the team. Two days later against Barnegat, the girls won big again, this time 65-22. Mabrey scored 22 and sophomore teammates Eva Hart and Samantha Sullivan scored 10 points each.

Come support the girls and see this powerhouse team for yourself as they pursue the ultimate goal: Tournament of Champions champion.