

# The Blue & Gray

## Manasquan High School

December 2016



# Warriors Win State Championship!

## in this issue



- National Honors Society Induction

- Blood Drive

- Fall Play is Quirky Fun

- College Options: Four Year? Two Year? Military?

Features: MHS Fishing Club, Cubs Break the Curse & More

- Holiday Shopping, Eating, Conversing

- Editorials: Student Athlete Struggles, Diversity & More



**Spirit Week: Seniors Rule!**



*Junior Connor Morgan sprints for a touchdown in Manasquan's dominating 42-6 victory over Bernards*



# Museum: A Quirky Drama for MHS

By: Amanda Karp

The Drama Club's production of Tina Howe's *Museum* was performed at the Jack Nicholson Theater from November 3<sup>rd</sup> through November 5<sup>th</sup>. It was roughly an hour and a half of watching various characters cycle through the set and talk amongst themselves, while the audience observed the interactions that occur.

In the program's Director's Notes, Mr. Weisert wrote, "I'll bet you have thought once or twice about 'Someone should write a play or story about all these kooky people' - which Tina Howe did, with relative success.

The play has no real plot, an odd premise, but what's important to remember is that many plays have strange premises. The many characters that make their way through the stage are as memorable as they are forgettable - in how they are presented to the audience.



Above: Tina Howe in 2014

When they are in view of the audience, the characters are displayed in an honest way; as realistic people with odd characteristics who will cycle in and out for the entirety of



Above: (left to right) Adam Dayton, Matt Dellegrippo, and Luke Morgan in MHS's fall production of *Museum*.

the play, as though actually visiting a museum. The one constant was the observation of the Guard, played by Adam Dayton.

The way in which characters entered the scene and began - or continued - their dialogue brought a fresh take to the show. Normally, when a scene begins, whether it be a play or a chapter in a book, the audience gets the full conversation, from beginning to end. But in *Museum*, the audience is often greeted in the middle of a conversation, which was interesting to see.

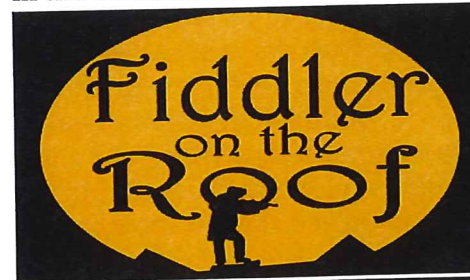
There were many memorable moments in the show. A major commotion was caused by round-headed clothes-pins, and the encounters between Will Willard (Connor Hughes) and Bob Lamb (Ryan Swanson), two snooty friends critiquing the art, each aiming to make themselves more in-

tellectual, and therefore more pretentious than the other.

There is also Tink, played by Delaney Heffernan who has an unhealthy obsession with artist Agnes Vaag after a walk in the woods with her, collecting animal bones. Tink becomes increasingly obsessed with the sculpture that Agnes has put forth, going so far as to tear apart the work, much to the chagrin of the Guard, who is constantly pulled in different directions due to trouble-making museum goers.

There was one shortcoming in the show, the lack of plot, which sometimes caused some confusion. This took away some of the enjoyment from Howe's work. Besides that, the play was well done, and it had a great cast that was able to carry the dialogue and humor, and make it enjoyable.

Be sure to look out for the Drama Club's upcoming spring musical, *Fiddler on the Roof*, which will premiere March 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, and April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Auditions will be held Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, the 6<sup>th</sup> in the auditorium.



## Key Club Food Drive

continued from previous page

the community, leaving fewer families in need for the high school to help.

The amount of food given to those families that Key Club does support is remarkable. Each large family gets a stuffed bin of food, in addition to a packed cardboard box. The donations are generous, to say the least. All leftover food is donated in one huge donation by Mrs.

Basaman to the Monmouth Food Bank, the largest food bank in our area. There's always so much food that she has trouble carrying the donation by herself, so it's safe to say that they're satisfied by the Key Club's work.

So, congratulations Mrs. Basaman, Mrs. Hoeler and all of the members of the Manasquan High School Key Club for having all of their hard work pay off in such a visible success. It makes me proud to be both a Manasquan student and a 4-year member of the Key Club. Good work!





# Manasquan Running Strong as the #1 Blood Drive Donor



By: Lauren Fielder

November 4th was this year's Manasquan High School fall blood drive, hosted by Mrs. Kozic's Health Career Academy and the Central Jersey Blood Center. Contrary to past blood drives, this year the school allowed people from the Manasquan area who weren't students to come in and donate blood too!

Participants reported to the gym throughout the day for their chance to give blood and for many of the donors, this was their first time doing so. To make the experience more relaxing, music was played and those donating were encouraged to chat with the people around them. Additionally, water bottles and a wide array of snacks were provided to keep everyone hydrated and feeling good.

"I was light-headed but I feel great knowing it's going to a good cause," said junior Jennifer Arias, shortly after giving blood. Throughout the day, the lines were longer than ever and the gym was filled with students waiting to make their donation. "THIS BLOOD DRIVE IS LIT!" yelled senior Rachel Irizarry while filling out some of the required paperwork and happily missing some classtime.

Students belonging to Mrs. Kozic's Health Career Academy helped run the blood drive. They stayed in the gym for the duration, giving out food and water and making donors feel more comfortable.

"My class is running the blood drive," said senior Annie Condoluci, "I'm interested in the health careers and I enjoyed asking the phlebotomist questions." Fortunately, the Health Career Academy students were there not only to make students comfortable, but also to keep anyone from passing out. "I enjoyed holding my friend's hand while she was donating and helping her afterwards," added Annie.

If you're interested in participating in the spring blood drive later this year, you must be 17 years or older and weigh at least 120 lbs. at the time of the donation. Students will be given the opportunity to sign up one week prior to the event.

Even with the long waiting times, many students and residents of the community came to support the cause, so it's safe to say Health Careers Academy fall blood drive was a successful one.



**Above (left): Seniors Salma Guzman and Dalia Gonzalez, students from the Health Career Academy advertising the blood drive. (Right): Senior Annie Condoluci and junior Gracie Harman collapsed on the floor later that night at work.**



# National Honors Society Induction

continued from page 6



Mr. McCarthy speaks to the students to end the night.

a charity that helps raise money for kids with pediatric cancer.

Overall, the night was a reflection of the type of teens who roam the halls of Manasquan every day: bright, motivated students dedicated to themselves and their community. The candles that the members held shone brightly into the night, just as the futures of Manasquan's best and brightest students.

## *Congratulations 2016 Inductees, and Sponsors!*

### **Inductee.....Sponsor**

Cassidy Turnbach, Kendall Grogan, Sara Lynch, and Bridget Walsh ... Mrs. Ward  
 Sarah Galvin, Dayna Van Pelt, Emily Magrini.....Srta. Radzinsky  
 Maggie Kelly, Lindsey White, Jessica Waldeyer.....Mrs. McHugh  
 Carlie Butz, Jessica Collinson, Phoebe Mervine.....Mr. Murin  
 Alyssa Juhasz, Lyndsey Starkey.....Maestra Griffith  
 Julianna DeGenova, Gracie Herman.....Mr. Minutoli  
 Erin Weber, Ally Vernaglia.....Mrs. Dougherty  
 Jessica Grable, Mikayla Keating.....Mr. Murin  
 Erin Nolan, Abby Kinneally..Mrs. Cardamone  
 Annie Butler, Hoa Huynh.....Mrs. Emerson  
 Madison Dettlinger.....Mrs. Eastmound

### **Inductee.....Sponsor**

Daley McCallum.....Sra. Anderson  
 Sara Rupertus.....Mr. Roach  
 Cole Hallman.....Mr. Glenn  
 Madison Rydholm....Mr. Bryant  
 Sean Dickenson.....Mr. Freda  
 Bella Feldmann.....Sra. Eldridge  
 Colby Mallet.....Mrs. Kozic  
 Gabrielle Farneti.....Ms. Marco

### **Inductee.....Sponsor**

Maximilliam Strapp.....Mr. Fagen  
 Marilyn Shaugnessy.... Mrs. Trischitta  
 Thomas Antonucci..... Mr. Lee  
 Kevin Lin.....Mrs. Edwards  
 Jenna Stanley..... Mr. Markovitch  
 Savannah Hobbie.....Ms. Caravella  
 Grace Brzozowski.....Mr. Abraham  
 Joseph Ostberg.....Mr. Voskian

## Medical World

continued from page 6

system where you can call another neurosurgeon in another state via facetime and have them do a consultation. This is a pretty neat thing to have on hand. During the tour the doctor explained to us that the ER rooms are in ABC order which makes it easier to find patients. She then explained that everything on one side of the ER is identical on the other, so that the staff doesn't have to run back and forth to find certain things they

need. Finally, the next thing we saw was where the CT and X-Ray machine were located.

Once we finished the tour, we said thank you and headed back to school to finish out the school day. This was a life changing experience for all of us who are taking this class. We got to see a different view of all the craziness that happens in an Emergency Room/Trauma Center. If you want to do anything in the medical field, or if you love Mr. Hyland as a teacher, I would sign up for this class. You get to see some amazing things and have some great opportunities that not everyone gets in high school.





# MHS Powderpuff

By: Nicole Zito and Leah Tilton



Seniors and Juniors went head to head on Sunday, November 20, battling each other on the Vic Kubu Warrior Field in the annual Powderpuff game. Though it was a hard-fought game, the seniors prevailed by a score of 16-14.

The game started with junior Harley Pilling taking a handoff from quarterback Camryn McTighe, running through the defense, and scoring the first touchdown of the game. But the seniors responded, as quarterback Jackie Kurtz tossed the ball to running back Nicole Zito, who ran the ball all the way to the one-yard line. The seniors set up for another play, and Kurtz ran the ball through to tie the score.



*Seniors Squad poses for a picture after their win.*



*Seniors celebrate their win by lifting Annie Heenan into the air.*

The juniors battled back though, with a handoff to Meg Cobb, and scored their final touchdown. Going into halftime, the seniors came together and decided to they couldn't let the juniors have the satisfaction of a victory. Out of the locker room they stormed onto the field, blasting "The Purge", and came back ready to win. In the fourth quarter, Kurtz handed the ball off to Zito, who ran it in, and the seniors were once again even. However, being tied was not enough. Senior Annie Heenan intercepted the ball to stop a junior drive, and then scored a safety by pulling Harley Pill-

ing's flag in the end zone to give the seniors their first lead.

With the score at 16-14, controversy came. The seniors fumbled the ball, and while that causes the ball to become dead in Flag football, junior Gabriella Farneti picked up the fumble and attempted to run the ball in for a touchdown. The referee declared that the play did not count, and that was the game.

So the seniors came out on top in Powderpuff 2016. They played like true warriors one last time. Don't worry juniors, there's always next year!



*Senior Kelly Negra and juniors Cammy Car-ton and MaryLou Becker dive for the ball.*

## TRASH



## TALK

"We're going out Sunday, clear eyes, full hearts, can't lose"- Senior, Jackie Kurtz

"Juniors are gonna win, obviously"-Junior, Arielle Falkinburg

"I'm nervous, but I've been excited about it since freshman year"-Junior, Annie Ragan

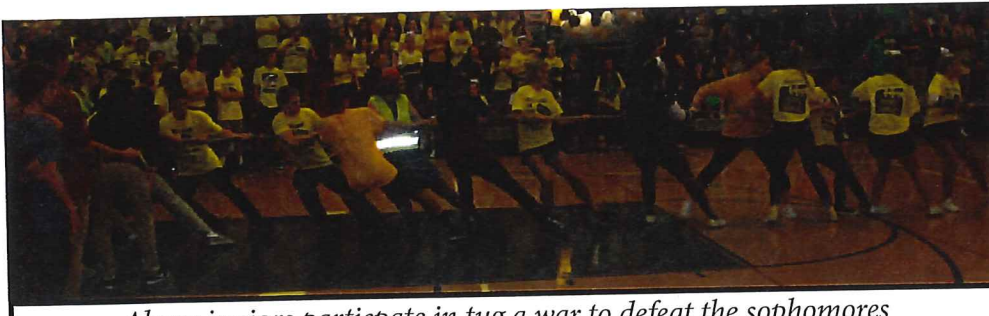
"Keep your eye on the ball"- Senior, Kelly Negra

"Watch your back, the seniors are coming"- Senior, Annie Heenan

"Juniors are all talk, no action"-Anon

"Juniors shouldn't be so quick to talk, Seniors are taking the Dub"-Maddie Dettlinger





*Above juniors participate in tug a war to defeat the sophomores*

the hallway it was red and black and was all about *The Cat in the Hat* with Thing 1 and Thing 2 posted on the lockers. The next section of the locker was then dedicated to *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* with one giant paper Christmas tree and wrapping paper covering some lockers. Then there were fish with students' name on them and trees that looked like they came from the pages of a Dr. Seuss book.

Some might have called it chaos in what was taking place that night, but to many it was tradition, as students plastered up their decorations and watched their hard work come together. Students were told to finish up decorating as last minute touches were made and the clock struck eight. The school was completely transformed in just a few short hours.

Entering MHS on Wednesday morning, November 24, it was not any ordinary day. For some teachers and students, it is their favorite day here at MHS. Students came to school with many being dressed in their class shirts that they decided to buy. The hallways and gym still decorated from the night before. Classes were short since it was a half day with a pep rally. Students by fifth block were ready to be called

down to the gym for the pep rally to cheer on their classmates as each grade and teachers went head to head.

Each grade level was called down to the gym separately. Bleachers filled up quickly as the entire student body and faculty migrated into the gym for the annual pep rally. Students and teachers alike were ready for the pep rally to begin.

After Mr. Coppola welcomed the students and urged Squan to beat Wall, Mr. Buss took over the microphone and called upon each grade level to make their presence

*Below Seniors compete in tug a war advancing to the next round against the juniors*



and dance line.

This year student council wanted to try something new - a school wide mannequin challenge. After giving grief to teachers for not being more creative in their poses, Mr. Buss told students and teachers were told to stop moving. The camera went around capturing students and teachers in their poses as MHS had successfully performed its first a school wide mannequin challenge.

The bubblegum pie contest and the balloon popping contest followed, as students got louder and louder in the bleachers. Juniors and seniors went back and forth with their chants. When the relay race began, it was clear that it would be a race between juniors and seniors. The final leg of the race came down to leap frog as seniors Riley Martin and Daley McCallum hopped their way to senior victory.

Then came what many will call the highlight of the pep rally; nerf

football. Up first was freshman versus seniors which the seniors won without trouble. Then the sophomores and juniors went head to head and played hard, with the sophomores eventually winning. then the seniors and sophomores battled back and forth. The seniors scored a touchdown then followed by a touchdown by the sophomores. The game went to overtime and then double-overtime, until the seniors finally scored a touchdown to take the victory.

Finally the seniors went against the teachers in the last game of nerf football. The teachers tried their best, but were eventually handed the defeat by the seniors. The teachers however did find

*Below the cheerleaders finish their pep rally performance*



As each sport was called, team captains came down to talk about their season and mention senior players. The fall sports were recognizable followed by a performance by the cheerleaders

*continued on page 19*



# Congratulations, You Graduated from High School. Now What?

By: Lauren Fielder

During this time of year, high school students are normally finalizing applications or looking at colleges. Even after exploring different options, most are wary about the decision of what to do with the next four years of their life. Believe it or not, there is a place you can go for four years, get paid a full-time salary, gain invaluable career experience, and be offered endless opportunities to further your education – and it's not a university. It's the military.

Out of everything pressuring students today to go to college, whether it be parents, teachers, siblings, social expectations, or personal uncertainty, many forget that they don't have to follow the conventional college route. Not to mention, most people have no idea of what the Armed Forces has to offer.

There are many misconceptions about our military. You may have seen movies with soldiers doing crazy stunts, dodging bullets, or avoiding explosions at the last second, but the truth is most of what you see on TV or at the movie theater is inaccurate and unrealistic. Not everyone in the military is even involved in combat - in fact, about 80% of the jobs in the military are non-combat occupations. Ever wanted to be a photographer, chef, or veterinarian? What about a doctor, lawyer, or scientist? The military offers all of these jobs and more. Additionally, it is common for companies to seek out veterans for their leadership skills, training, and good work ethic.

So why might you do those jobs in the military

*Staff Sergeant Stacy Pearsall, aerial photographer, at the Charleston Airforce Base.*



*ROTC cadets participating in a training exercise at Buffalo State University.*

instead of in the civilian world? The benefits offered are different from normal civilian occupations. First off, you can't really get "fired." As long as you abide by your contract and don't do anything dishonorable or illegal, you're guaranteed to have a stable job with consistent pay. Secondly, the benefits are generous. You and your family are entitled to life insurance, along with medical and dental care for little to no cost. All active duty troops receive 30 days of paid vacation per year and are typically offered the option of living on-base or off-base with allowances for housing. While off-duty, service members can even travel to different countries around the world and stay on-base, absolutely free.

But what if you still want to go to college? Most universities offer ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps), a course you sign up for, just like any other class, where you learn about a certain branch of the military and participate in field exercises. If you plan on staying in the military for a few years after college, you can apply for an ROTC scholarship which offers payment for books, housing, and 100% of tuition. For someone who'd rather have the option of going to college after being in the military, you can use the G.I. Bill, a law passed for service members to pay full tuition and college fees, along with money for buying houses and other expenses.

Regardless of how you'd like to spend your time after high school, it is a good idea to consider a wide variety of options that may appeal to you. Unfortunately, the military is often overlooked or misrepresented to high school students, however, the more information you have, the better the chances are of making a decision that is right for you. Good luck!







# Food Baby Season Is Upon Us

By: Jenn Forcillo



Thanksgiving is the best holiday for all foodies. This is a national holiday purely celebrated for the exchanging of food between the Pilgrims and Native Americans in 1621.

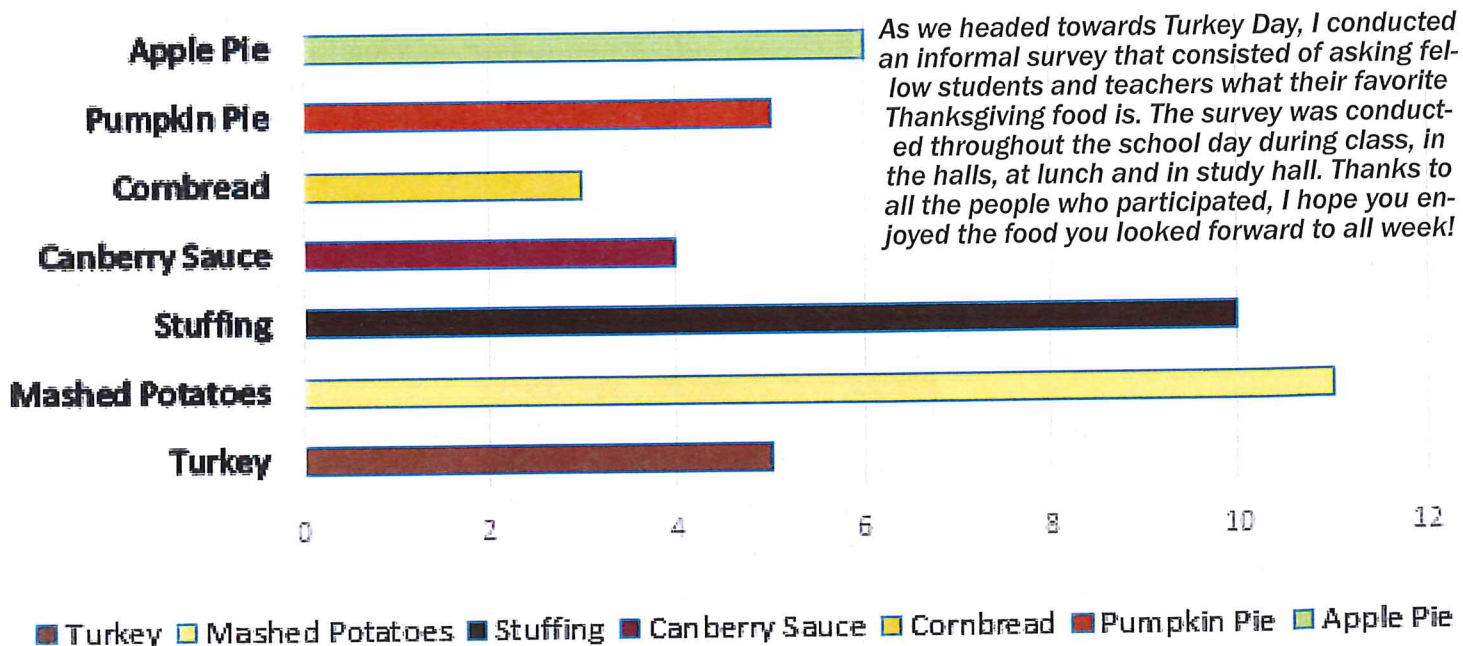
You can fast for a few days beforehand to make sure your belly is empty for all the food you're about to consume, or you can stretch it out by eating in excess for days before. Take your choice.

Whatever your preparation is, we all know there is one food, one dish, you cannot wait to gobble down. There's the classics of course, like Aunt Sally's mashed potatoes with gravy or Grandma Bertha's homemade pumpkin pie with a dollop of whip cream. So, we're ready to report on MHS's favorite Thanksgiving food that was eaten in gallons as leftovers the last couple days.

Mashed potatoes came away with the win with a total of 11 votes, while stuffing came in a close second of 10 votes. Despite Pumpkin pie being the poster desert for Thanksgiving, Apple pie beat it out with 6 votes compared to 5. Pumpkin pie tied the main dish of turkey with a total of 5 votes. Canberry sauce gathered 4 votes while cornbread tallied 3 lowly votes.



## Favorite Thanksgiving Food





# The Blue & Gray

## FEATURES



### Gone Fishing...

By: Nicole Zito

The Fishing Club at Manasquan High School dives into its second year with the fishing guru himself, James Freda. Along with Mr. DeMuro and Mr. Wasnesky, Mr. Freda hosts all of the club's meetings and is in charge of what comes next within the club. The club was originally created by sophomore Alec Monteverdi when he was a freshman last year at MHS, and Alec now continues his second year as president of the club.

When I got the opportunity to get the inside scoop about what the club discusses I had very eager responders. Senior Jack Nolan said, "Usually we have meetings every week or so. During the meetings we usually discuss what type of fish has the best bite during that time of year and Mr. Freda informs us about upcoming tournaments occurring in our area."

Recently a few of the club members had taken part in the Striped Bass Tournament over the weekend and a few had placed, both on boat and up on the surf. Sophomore Alec Monteverdi, had taken first and second place aboard a boat this weekend, Senior Andy Beer

took first place in the surf, catching a gnarly 35-inch Bass weighing in around 15 pounds. Sophomore Keaton Fortney placed third out on the water.

With the upcoming year many of the members of the club are excited to get out

on the water and fish. Many of the students who are in the club also informed me that they work on fishing boats out of their towns and fish throughout the year. Seniors Andy Beer and Frankie Faasen work out of Belmar aboard the, Miss Belmar Princess, Junior Jared Nolan works out of Point Pleasant aboard the Queen Mary and Senior Jack Nolan works out of Brielle on the Jamaica II.

The Fishing Club is always welcoming new members to join. Whether you've had prior knowledge of fishing or want to begin learning how to do so, the Fishing Club will be active throughout the school year.



Jared Nolan with his Bass

Senior Jack Nolan shows off his Striped Bass



Andy Beer catches fluke on the Jamaica 2



Anna Maraziti catches a pair of flatties



# MHS Spirit Week

continued from page 11



success in defeating the juniors in tug a war.

As the pep rally came to a close, students eagerly waited for the results of homecoming as student council advisor Mrs. Eldridge tallied up the remaining points. Mr. Buss was given the results and was ready to share.

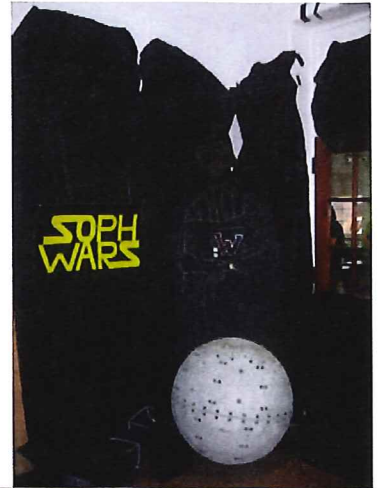
First he announced the results for spirit week. Last place was freshmen, while the juniors got third, the sophomores second, and the seniors first. Results of the hallway were revealed next with seniors

coming out on top. The hallway results were followed by the results for the gym. The seniors yet again came out on top. However, that wasn't the case for the t-shirt results. Sophomores won for the best t-shirts with juniors getting second for their shirts.

And finally, the overall standing were revealed.



For the winners, the seniors, it was their last homecoming and a week they will never forget. The juniors got to experience what it is like for upper classmen. Sophomores made their presence known, and freshman got a taste of what it is like to be a part of the school. With another pep rally ending it marks the end of what some call the best time to be a Warrior.



*Pictured above: Darth Vader made an appearance in the "Soph Wars" hallway; right: contestants in the balloon popping competition; Left: DJ DeSomma wheelbarrows fellow junior Chris Black; top left: the band brought the energy and rocked the pep rally.*



## School, Sports, and Study Hall

continued from previous page

education." Mr. Voskian agrees, stating that he believes "Every student should have access to a physical education."

While their opinions are valid, the gym teachers and other detractors of the plan fail to see from the perspective of a modern student-athlete. Mrs. Kozic stated that "My laziest PE students are the athletes." Colby Mallett agrees: "Yeah, of course athletes are the laziest students- we're sore and tired from practice and homework yesterday- why should we try to make ourselves more sore for the practice in the afternoon that really matters?"

When posing this same question to Voskian, he demurs again, repeating that "every student should have access to physical education."

The GPA required to play sports in high school is a 2.0. Over the years, Manasquan has lost some of their best athletes to because of their GPA, because the students simply have not had enough time to complete their assignments. The proposal is simple: give upper-

classmen student athletes, whose high school or club sport practices more than 2.5 hours per week, the opportunity to sign themselves up for study hall. They would be mandated to go to health class when it is in session with their gym class, and once their season ends and they no longer fulfill the requirement, their opportunity to sign out is taken away.

This is the best option because it gives students who want the study hall extra time to do homework or study, while giving other students who want the break from the classroom time to exercise and relieve stress. This would also benefit upperclassmen taking advanced-level courses and seniors applying for college. The students would also still get their state-mandated health class completed.

Manasquan had 10 students sign on Early signing day in November, the most in years. This high of a number was due to the student's hard work, in the pool, court, field and the classroom. If Manasquan wants to continue its reputation as one of the best public high schools on the Jersey Shore, while also maintaining its reputation as an athletic powerhouse, it should consider the idea that its student-athletes have more responsibilities than simply winning games.



# Students Tackle Issues in the World

## The Blue & Gray Editorials

## Broadway Debate at Hit Show *Hamilton*

By: Amanda Karp

*Hamilton* has made a great many waves in and outside of the theatrical community this year. From being nominated for 16, and winning 11, Tony Awards, to breaking box office records for earning \$3.3 million in a week for eight shows, *Hamilton* has been the talk of the town. But most recently, the talk centered on some controversy.

Vice President-elect Mike Pence attended a performance of *Hamilton* on Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, and was met with mixed responses. Many booed as he entered, along with his family, but then the show commenced.

The performance went smoothly, but there was a deviation at the end.

Brandon Victor Dixon, who plays Aaron Burr, acknowledged Pence's presence in the crowd, and asked for him to remain to hear what the cast had to say. He also encouraged the audience to pull out their phones to tweet or record the speech.

He began by welcoming and thanking Pence for attending the show, but quickly moved on to a different, more serious matter.

"We, sir, we, are the diverse America who are alarmed and anxious that your new administration will not protect us, our planet, our children, our parents, or defend us and uphold our inalienable rights," Dixon read, continuing, "But we truly hope that this show has inspired you to uphold our American values and to work on behalf of all of us."

Dixon gestured to the surrounding crowd, then looked to his fellow cast members. "All of us," he emphasized.

He concluded with the statement that *Hamilton* is a "wonderful American story told by a diverse group of men and women – of different colors, creeds, and orientations."

President-elect Donald Trump took to Twitter soon after, tweeting, "Our wonderful future V.P. Mike Pence was harassed

last night at the theater by the cast of *Hamilton*, cameras blazing. This should not happen!" and "The Theater must always be a safe and special place. The cast of *Hamilton* was very rude last night to a very good man, Mike Pence. Apologize!"

The following morning, Pence appeared on CBS's *Face the Nation*, and made a statement regarding the incident.

"I wasn't offended by what was said," Pence told interviewer John Dickerson.

The following day, Trump tweeted another complaint, "The cast and producers of *Hamilton*, which I hear is highly overrated, should immediately apologize to Mike Pence for their terrible behavior."

This was met with both widespread criticism and encouragement from both sides. Lin-Manuel Miranda, the show's creator, stated, "I really believe that theatre is one of the last places where everyone should feel welcome. That includes Trump, that includes Pence"

He continued "I think very respectfully we should say 'We hope you work on behalf of all of us, on behalf of all Americans.'" That's the goal: get in the room and find your common set of beliefs and start from there."

The event caused a stir, but most importantly, it caused a discussion between sides that often find conflict and animosity within each other. The key thing to take away from the speech and its following consequences is that people can be divided, but must learn to work with one another for the sake of the future and all that it holds.

Read our *Hamilton* Review  
page 28

## Curse is Broken

continued from previous page

lead and continued to build on it to keep the Indians from having any chance at coming back. However, the Indians rallied and tied the game at six to force extra innings.

A seventeen-minute rain delay held up the continuation of the game, but the action returned as the rain drifted away. The Cubs were up at bat at the top of the inning, and both Albert Almora, Jr. and Anthony Rizzo scored to extend the lead to two runs. The Indians needed to score, now losing in the bottom of the tenth. Cleveland's Rajai Davis, who previously hit the game-tying home run, singled to send

home a run, cutting Chicago's lead to just one. The Cubs maintained their composure, and with two outs in the inning, Cleveland's Michael Martinez stepped to the plate. The Cubs' pitcher Mike Montgomery stood ahead of him. On his second pitch, Martinez connected, hitting a soft grounder to Kris Bryant who quickly tossed it to first baseman Anthony Rizzo to get the game winning out.

The celebration was on in Chicago from that moment on. "The Curse of the Billy Goat" was broken. The fans finally had a true moment of pride as they watched their team end a 108-year-old drought. The moment and the memory for the fans, the people of Chicago, and sports fans worldwide is something that will never be forgotten. The Cubs are officially the world champions!



# Students Tackle Issues in the World

## The Blue & Gray Editorials



## Double Trouble?

By: Rachel Irizarry

Being a twin certainly has its perks- from always having a built in buddy to always having sleepovers, but it can also be very challenging at times. I am a twin myself, Rebecca being my other half. We share a lot together, yet we have our own ways of doing things.

Sometimes being a twin can be very challenging. People get your name wrong. People ask you obvious questions. People always compare you to each other. These challenges are inevitable for any pair of twins. But it frustrates me tremendously.

The one most common every day challenge would be on a random day in school, teachers that Rebecca and I have had for a while still mix us up. We don't even look alike! Yes, it's understandable but it happens way too much. Even our friends that have known us since we were like five years old, still mix us up. It's annoying. Can you imagine how amazing it would be to never again hear "Good morning Rebecca" when, clearly, I AM NOT REBECCA!

Beyond mixing us up, this is probably right at the top of the list. It's the worst when people compare us to each other. This doesn't often happen to Rebecca but mostly me. Ever since fifth grade she has always gotten better grades than me or she has always gotten on honor roll. I wouldn't have the best of the grades and I've never been on honor roll since fifth grade because of my learning disability. Many people would say "Rachel, how come you aren't more like Rebecca?" and my response is "I am not her, just because we are twins doesn't mean anything." We are our own person and we have different ways of learning things in school. I am more hands on and

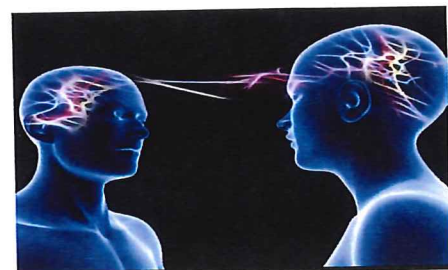


*Above Left to Right: Rachel and Rebecca Irizarry pose for Junior Prom 2016*

I can't really grasp things as quickly as she can. For me this is a daily struggle.

One more thing. When you're a twin, you get asked a billion obvious questions. These could include "Have you ever switched classes before?", "Are you twins?", "Do you share the same thing?", or "Do you have twin telepathy and your own language?" It's weird to think about switching classes. Every one of our friends want us to switch classes. Even to this day they ask us but we just don't want to get into trouble. Maybe one day we will switch, so look out teachers!

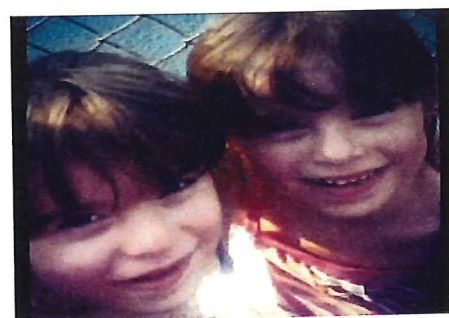
If we look alike or wear the same thing, this means we are most likely twins. We also share about everything from clothes, friends, and even have the same classes in school. If one of us doesn't like certain clothes and the other one does, we swap. Many people think twins have their own language, and in our case we did. As our mom puts it, we use to talk to each other and make up words that no one would understand. Many people had no clue what we were talking about. On the other hand, we do sometimes have twin



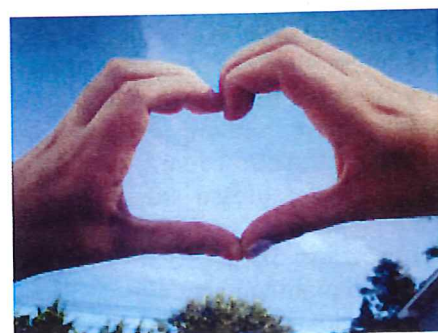
telepathy. For instance, we have the same math class this year, and on test days we usually don't sit next to each other but we end up getting the same grade and even the same questions wrong. Sometimes we even finish each other's sentences, or we would think of the same thing and get scared.

With all of these challenges about being a twin, none of this compares to the feeling that we will always have each other no matter what happens in life. We will always have a best friend to go to with our problems, secrets between the two of us that no one knows, and unconditional love. We really don't know any other way besides being a twin. We always thought we would go crazy if we didn't have the other in our lives. Even though we argue, in the end we truly love each other.

The one quote we live by no matter where we are in life is that we are "Sisters by chance, and friends by choice."



*Above Left to Right: Rebecca and Rachel*





# Students Tackle Issues in the World

## The Blue & Gray Editorials

### The Donald "Trumps" Hillary Clinton in 2016 Election

By: Jeff Petrulla

As I'm sure everyone is aware of by now, Donald Trump is the new President-elect of the United States of America. He'll become the president on January 20th, Inauguration Day, followed by a speech and a glamorous inauguration ceremony. He is projected to have clinched 290 electoral votes in comparison to Clinton's 232. As for the popular vote, Clinton appears to have won by approximately two million votes. But of course, the electoral vote determines the result of the election, not the popular vote.

Discrepancies in the electoral vote and popular vote are not unheard of. This has happened in four past elections in American history: that of 1824, (where Adams won neither the electoral vote or popular vote) 1876, 1888, and most recently, 2000. This year may be the fifth, with Hillary having a sizable lead in ballots, but they're still being counted.

A few states, led by Wisconsin, have already begun a recount.

The lead in the popular vote may be the answer to why Clinton was expected to win. Media outlets didn't take into account the odd nature of how the electoral college works, and the concept of winning enough states. Many

were broadcasting national polls, which genuinely don't prove anything if the numbers are remotely close to each other. However, even the organizations that polled specific states had incorrect broad-

casts. The only answer to that shortcoming is the unseen bias in polls; under coverage appears in polls taken in certain areas, and sometimes the poll sample size just isn't enough.

Trump frequently echoed the claim that he led the "Silent Majority," which certainly shines true when it comes to polling. They really didn't show up in

the polls, but blew onlookers out of the water when it came to voter turnout. Not only that, many outlets took the polls to be political foresight, when in reality they're just a slightly more educated guess.

Even more shocking to the news and its followers was Trump's performance amongst demographics where most thought he would get virtually no votes. He said many offensive things on the campaign trail, and made enemies of multiple demographics. Yet Hispanics appear to have voted around 30% Trump, and 65% Clinton. Many expected him to get next to no votes from the Hispanic demographic. Though the Hispanic voter turnout was not anything that could completely change the election, it was a shock. An even bigger surprise was that 53% of white women voted for Donald Trump, the largest demographic in America. Most people assumed that women would not vote for Trump, judging by his history of alleged sexual assaults and conservative stance on women's issues like abortion.

Between the demographic surprise and poor polling practices, nobody was prepared for this result. Apparently, the stock market wasn't either. While the election results were coming through, the DOW fell almost a thousand points. It has since recovered and increased, but the shakeup showed just how much the world wasn't expecting a president Trump.

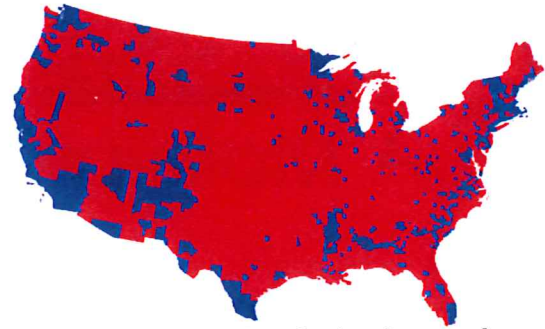
As unexpected as his win was, it's a reality, and he will shape American policy and society for the next four years. What he will actually do is unclear, but it is very clear that he will be a stark contrast to President Obama. Now that Republicans have a clear grasp on the Executive, Legislative, and soon the Judicial Branch, we'll probably see a lot of partisan action on the right, led by Trump himself. His cabinet will likely be composed of top donors and supporters, including former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, and possibly even former political enemy Ted Cruz.



The new President-Elect of the United States, Donald Trump



Surprise loser of the election, Hillary Clinton.



Final nation-wide electoral map by county for the 2016 election



# BACK TO THE FUTURE at MHS

From 1966...

By: Nicole Zito, Jenn Forcillo, and Leah Tilton

...To 2016



David Stone



Adam Dayton



Maria Pascale



McCay Mencer



Michael Maestrelli



Sean Dickenson



Adrienne Hoyt



Cammy Carton



Richard Rosemont



Charlie Thoma



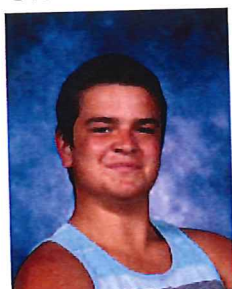
Ann Maulbeck



Alexis Floyd



David Rydinsky



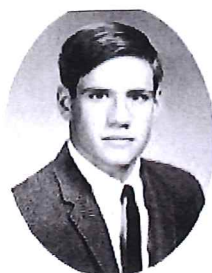
Tim Moloughney



Kathleen Brophy



MacKenzie Baeszler



George Hay



Matt Thermann



Jenn Carvuka



Amanda Karp



# Deals of the Month

By: Jenn Forcillo and Jeff Petrulla

## Store-Wide Deals

### Forever 21:

**Sale:** 50% off all jewelry ordered online and lowered apparel prices.

### Free People:

**Sale:** 70% off end of season sale items, free standard shipping on all orders over \$100 or more.

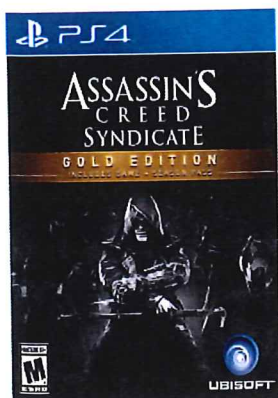
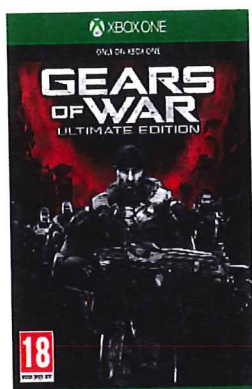
## Video Games

### Gears of War: Ultimate Edition (Walmart)

**List Price** \$39.99

**Save** \$26.00

**Cost** \$13.99



### Assassin's Creed Syndicate: Gold Edition (Walmart)

**List Price** \$89.99

**Save** \$42.90

**Cost** \$47.09

### Xbox One with white controller and Battlefield 1 (Sam's Club)

**List Price**

\$420.00

**Save** \$171.00

**Cost** \$249.00



## Electronics

### 40-inch LED Smart TV (Target)

**List Price** \$399.99

**Save** \$100.00

**Cost** \$299.99



### GoPro – Hero4 Action Camera

**List Price** \$449.99

**Save** \$100

**Cost** \$349.99

### Jam- Plus Portable Bluetooth Speaker

**List Price** \$39.99

**Save** \$20.00

**Cost** \$19.99



## Bath & Body Works

### Hand Soaps

**Sale:** 6 for \$24 / 4 for \$20

**Cost:** \$6.50 each

**Save:** \$15/ \$6

### Signature Body Care

**Sale:** Buy 3, Get 2

**Free**

**Cost:** average \$13 each

**Save:** \$26



### Medium Candle

**Sale:** 2 for \$20

**Cost:** \$12.50

**Save:** \$5





# Smile More

Roman Atwood Vlogs

## 10 MILLION SUBSCRIBERS!!

By; Rachel Irizarry

"You're beautiful, you're one of a kind, smile more." YouTube star Roman Atwood says this quote to his "Roman Soldiers" at the end of each of his vlogs. From working in his parent's rope factory for many years to recently hitting ten million subscribers on his "vlog" channel and over nine million on his prank channel, Roman can conquer almost anything if he puts his mind to it. Atwood is best known for his pranks, vlogs, and his self-owned company called "Smile More."

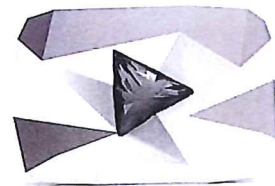
After quitting his job in his parent's rope factory, Roman wanted to do something different with his life. He started a prank channel on YouTube in 2010 and was determined to make his mark. He earned his greatest success for the viral prank called "Killing My Kid" which was uploaded on November 30, 2014. He pulled this prank on his girlfriend Brittney Smith with the help of their son, Kane. During this prank Roman and Kane decided to buy a RV. Brittney goes to go get the check book and during this time Roman takes a fake Kane "look alike" and puts him on the RV. When Brittney comes back, Roman starts the RV and then let's go by "accident" and it takes off. The RV ends up going into the trees and blows up. Brittney starts crying, not knowing that Roman is pranking her, and she runs towards the fire to try to save her son. While this is going on Roman tries to hold her back. Eventually, Atwood reveals that Kane is fine. Brittney goes on to tell Roman he will be sleeping on the couch. She should be used to his pranking since Roman pranks her often and she knows what he does for a living.

For Roman a prank channel wasn't enough, he wanted to connect more with his fans, so he started a vlog channel called "RomanAtwood-Vlogs." This is daily videos that take you into his crazy life as a father and all of the crazy adventures they tackle. With Kane (his son), Noah (his son), Brittney, and his family behind his plan, they hope to change the world of YouTube. Atwood wants to show the world that wherever you live, you can make a difference. On November 13, 2016 his channel hit ten million subscribers. With ten million subscribers comes a special gift, and Atwood will earn a "Diamond Play Button."

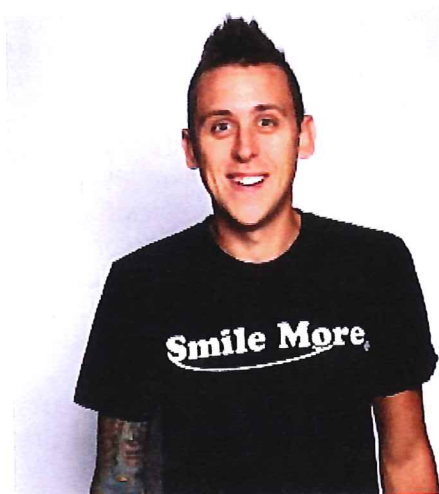
There are three levels for a "Play Button" on YouTube. The first is once you hit 100,000 subscribers, you earn a "Silver Play Button." The next one is for reaching 1,000,000 subscribers, and for that you receive a "Gold Play Button." The last one is for 10,000,000 subscribers, and the "Diamond Play Button." The "Diamond Play Button" was introduced in 2015. Only 35 youtuber's in 2015 qualified, and now Atwood is the 36th YouTuber to hold this valued distinction.

Many Youtuber's don't get a chance to hit this number, so this was an honor for him. This was all done thanks to his "Roman Soldiers." Atwood explains during his vlog that without them sharing videos and subscribing, he wouldn't have reached this massive number. He and his family knew they would reach this at one point but never this soon. In January his channel was just at 60,000,000 subscribers and its now November and he just hit ten million, that is 40,000,000 subscribers in a little less than a year. He says that if it wasn't for us "Roman Soldiers", he would have never made it this far as a YouTuber.

Between vlogging, pranking, and family, Roman also manages a self-owned company. Starting the company in 2013, "Smile More" has become popular all around the world because of the meaning. He tries to implement positivity, and preaches never giving up on yourself. In most of his vlogs is says to try to think of only positive thoughts for a least an hour a day or until the end of his vlog. As Roman puts it, "You're beautiful, you're one of a kind, and don't forget to smile more."



*Above: Roman pranking his girlfriend Brittney in the prank called "Killing my kid."*



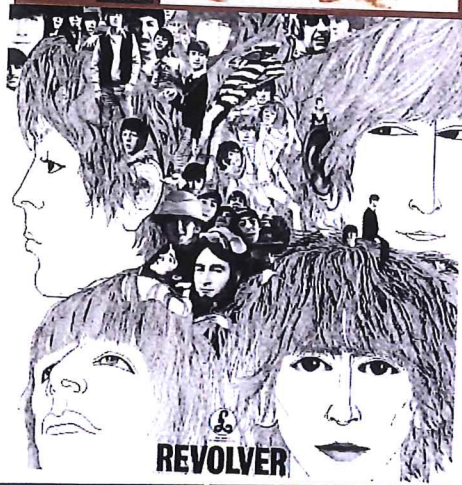
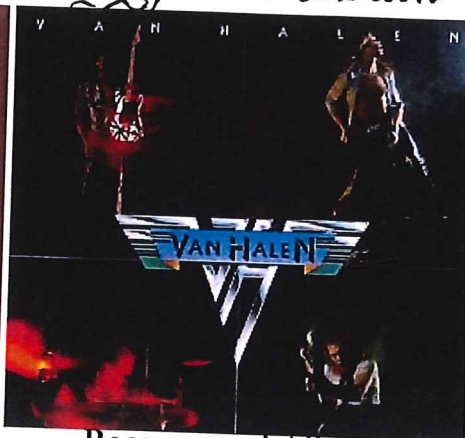
*Above: Roman Atwood posing for a picture for his company "Smile More."*



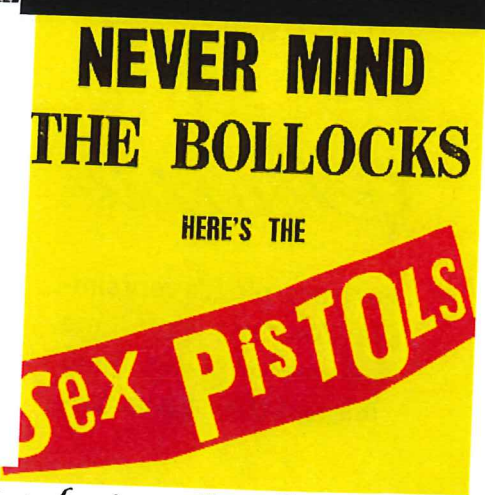
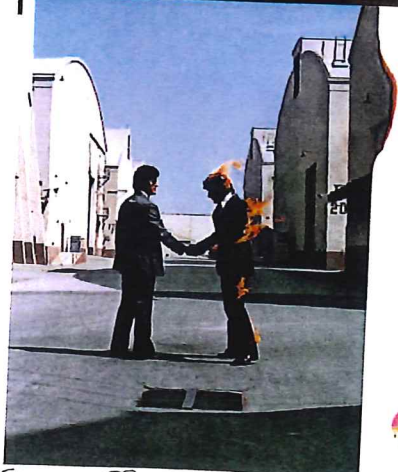
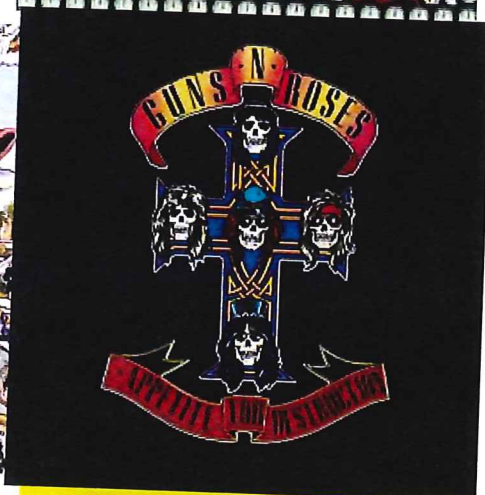
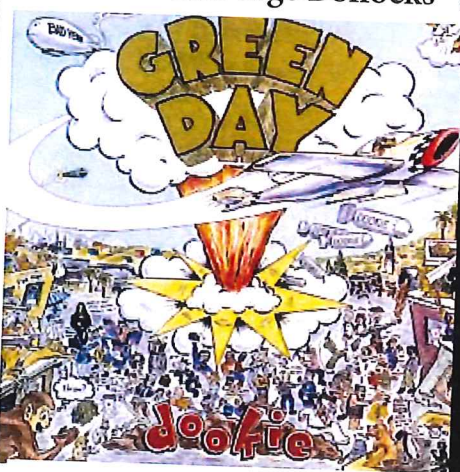
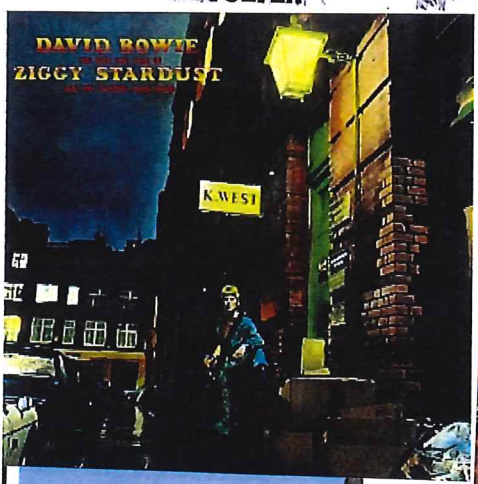
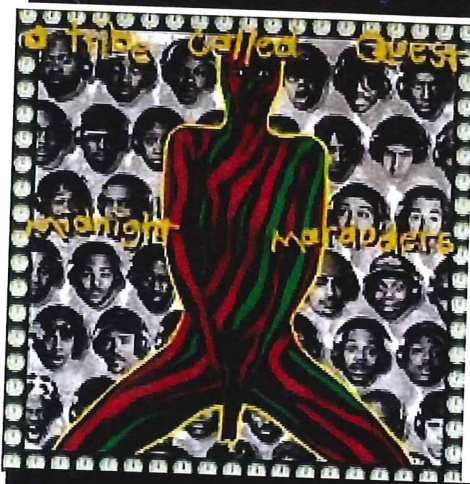
*Above: Roman, Noah, Brittney, and Kane pose for a pic for instagram.*



# The Mike Rafter Album Collection




Recommend Albums:  
 Led Zeppelin 2  
 Revolver  
 Ziggy Stardust  
 Wish You Were Here  
 Van Halen  
 Dookie  
 Adreneline  
 Paranoid  
 Midnight Marauders  
 Appetite for Destruction  
 Never Mind the Bollocks




From Bowie to Beatles and Green Day to Sex Pistols, it's a bit of everything





# BLUE & GRAY SPORTS



Page 35

## Seniors Sign with Colleges on Manasquan High School's Signing Day

By: Shane Connelly

Signing day is a crucial event for our student athletes as they choose where they will attend college and continue their academic and athletic careers. This year we had seven students sign with high profile programs thanks to their magnificence in the high school sports.

It is the time of year where sports channels like ESPN and FOX Sports are airing the decisions of future collegiate athletes, and we here at Manasquan were lucky enough to have a great group of athletes from our small town school who will now advance into their college careers. Manasquan High School historically has had great athletics, and the exposure continues to grow as our school still is a great source of strong talent from a wide range of sports. The signees from Manasquan High School this year include basketball players, lacrosse players, a baseball player, and a swimmer.

*Victoria Galvan is heading to the University of South Carolina for softball.*



Our principal Mr. Coppola remarked on this year's crop of talent, stating, "Seven students going on to major universities," and continued, "It was a great day." The day was certainly fantastic for everyone who participated, and it was most im-

portantly exciting for our students who were able to participate. Stella Clark, who signed with Northeastern to play basketball, said that she is extremely excited to play "at a higher level." Abby McHugh is looking forward to "being part of the team" at Binghamton, where she signed on to join their swim team.



*Abby McHugh will continue her swimming career at Binghamton University.*

The day itself has become a spectacle, as colleges patiently await the decisions of young student athletes, and fans eagerly hope for a kid who can make an immediate impact on their favorite team. In particular, Notre Dame baseball fans should be very excited for the addition of Tommy Sheehan. Notre Dame showed interest in Sheehan early on in his career at Manasquan High School, and his brother Jack signed with the team last year, so Tommy will be heading to South Bend for baseball.

Our school is so proud of the athletes who have signed with these programs to continue their careers. It is a true testament to all that they have accomplished in high school, and it's exciting for these individuals to make a long awaited college decision, something that all of our seniors are looking forward to doing. Be sure to look out for these soon-to-be alumni of Manasquan High School on Sportscenter, as they'll be looking to make an impact for their respective teams in the offseason.

*Tommy Sheehan signed with Notre Dame, where he'll play Division I baseball.*





## Girls' Basketball Team Looks Forward to Another Slam-Dunk Season



As football season comes to an end and a championship trophy in hand, MHS has another dream team to look forward to. The girls' basketball team is by far the most successful sport team Manasquan has seen in a long time. For the last four years they have been consistently ranked as either the first or second team in the state, making it to the championship game in their division, Shore Conference and State tournaments, and the biggest accomplishment of all, making it the Tournament of Champions (TOC).

Last year alone, the young team comprised of mostly juniors and sophomores, won the division title, Shore Conference, the State Tournament and made an appearance at the TOC final game against longtime rival St. John Vianney. So this year is no exception to the expectations the school and coach Lisa Kukoda have for her team.

The Lady Warriors only graduated two seniors last year, Gill Black and Erin Howard, who were huge assets to the team. But being a younger team enabled the girls to gain valuable experience on and off the court that will benefit them this year as the season begins. A few of the returning players are Stella Clark,

By: Jenn Forcillo

Addie Masonius, Faith Masonius, Nikki Stevens, Dara Mabrey, Maggie Kelly, Emma McMenaman, Annie Heenan, Carly Giesler, and Jackie Kurtz.

Stella Clark has been part of the varsity team since her freshman year and usually plays point guard. Her four years on this team have taught her a lot, including that team chemistry is a huge part of what contributes to a successful season: "Last year I definitely learned a lot about my teammates and how important chemistry is among us. As a junior I also really got a chance to learn how to lead the team by example from my upper classmen," Clark

said. She adds that pasta parties are a great way to get the team hyped about a game and gives everyone a chance to learn more about each other that helps on the court too.

While Stella and Addie are seasoned veterans of MHS basketball, Addie's younger sister, Faith, was a starter and key player as a freshman last year. While coming into a new school is a lot to take on for anyone Faith says "the intensity of the sport, especially for the championship games, taught me how to focus. It was super weird as a freshman to be expected to get on the court with all those people watching, but I just had to get over it and get the job done for my team."

Coach Lisa Kukoda had a lot to say about the experience the team gained last year as well. "We were a younger team, and it's changed, we are now senior and junior heavy and we are definitely going to use that to our advantage," she said. Coach Kukoda explained the goals of this "all-star" team, goals that include four stages. "First, we want to win our division, it sets up ranks for Shore Conference and States so that is really important. Making it back to both Shore Confer-



*The 2015 team celebrates winning the Group Finals against SJV*



continued on page 39





# BLUE & GRAY SPORTS



Page 39

## **Next Issue winter sports previews: Hockey, Wrestling, Track, Bowling Boys Basketball**

### **Girls Swim**

*continued from previous page*

girl's ability to thrive in a different environment: "There will be a lot of meets at OCY [Ocean County YMCA]. We'll be facing teams like Monsignor Donovan, Brick, Lacey, and other teams." But Murin is confident, and adds that he thinks this will make the regular season easier: "The teams, except Monsignor Donovan, are not as tough- I know we'll repeat our undefeated regular season record."

With a roster strong and deep as theirs, the girls will definitely be the favorites heading into the season. Look forward to watching your Lady Warriors crush the competition coming this winter!

### **Girls' Basketball**

*continued from page 37*

ence and State finals would be the next steps in our plans. If we win then we move on to the TOC (Tournament of Champions), and hopefully win there."

If all goes well, the team will play around thirty games, including a trip to Orlando, Florida to play at a national tournament at Disney World. Besides the national tournament and their division, they will also face rivals like St. Rose, Rumson-Fair Haven, and St. John Vianney. Dara Mabrey, Nikki Stevens, Stella and Faith all agreed that their biggest competitors this season will be St. Rose or SJV.

We wish the Warriors all the luck as their season begins and hope they can continue to hold up Manasquan High School's legacy of being one of the top teams in the state for girls basketball!

### **Football**

*continued from page 36*

a 33-29 victory and move on to the next round.

Roselle, New Jersey was the location for the next playoff game as the Warriors faced off against the Rams. The high scoring Rams were hoping to shred the Warrior defense, and they managed to put up 27. This wasn't enough to defeat Manasquan, however. With 14 points in the fourth quarter, Manasquan secured a victory and their spot in the championship game.

The annual Manasquan Warriors versus Wall Knights Thanksgiving football game took place at Manasquan High School this year. The rivalry between the schools runs deep. Manasquan's

young athletes are taught early on that the Knights are public enemy number one. This year's game did not fall in the Warriors' favor. Manasquan got an early lead thanks to a field goal by senior Adam Schreck, but failed to score any more points. Wall managed to score three times and held on for the 21-3 victory. They may have earned the bragging rights for this year, but Manasquan will be looking to avenge this tough loss next season.

Manasquan's final game of the season was on December 3rd versus Bernards for the title. Manasquan, the favorite, took a 14-0 lead into the half. The second was all Manasquan, and the Warriors took home the championship trophy with a 42-6 dominant win. It's the first state title for Manasquan High School since 2008. I speak for everyone in this school when I say that we are so proud of this team and all that they have accomplished in such a fantastic season. Congratulations, champs!