

Winter 2016

Manasquan High School

The Blue & Gray

Art Show Highlights Student Talent, Creativity



Seniors
Jack Wheat
and
Peter Degnan
sit on their
giant
skateboard,
featured in
the 2016
MHS
Art Show

in this Issue



MHS Named to AP Honor Roll
Girls Swimming Wins Shore Conference Championship!
"Future Lawyers" Excel at Mock Trial Competition
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MHS ART SHOW DISPLAYS STUDENT TALENT

By: Brittney Buechele



On Thursday, January 14th, the Manasquan High School library transformed from a dreary study hall into an impressive art gallery for the annual MHS Art Show, showcasing spectacular pieces from students throughout all of the fall art classes. At 7pm, MHS faculty, students, family, and friends started pouring in to get a glimpse of some of the creativity and hard work of the artists, and to grab a treat from the expansive snack table.

The entire room was packed with impressive artwork: clay tea cups, book sculptures, pillows, ceramic pieces, stained glass, and leather masks lined the tables and makeshift walls were covered in paintings, ink drawings, pencil sketches, macramé, ink prints, batiks, and dreamcatchers.

The Art Show has been an MHS tradition for over thirty years, and for some it is what they work towards all year long. Each year brings a new group of artists, each with their own unique style and sources of inspiration. Mrs. Caci, one of the teachers in charge of the show, said she was delighted by the great turn out this year. "We haven't had this many people come to the art show in years! I'm glad too, because everyone worked so hard. This is a great opportunity to show off their skills, and it's a great confidence boost too!"

Each artist's distinctive style really shined,

and students who didn't originally consider themselves talented artists began to feel pride in their work. Sophomore Mary Grace Iorio, a student in

Mrs. Caci's fourth block crafts class, said she was glad that there were so many different art classes offered at MHS so everyone could express themselves in their own way. She said, "I like being creative and doing artsy things but I'm not very good at art and drawing. But now everyone is giving me compliments and it makes me feel really happy." Junior Aimee Jaeger agreed, saying "it's so nice to see all our hard work pay off and be appreciated by other people finally."

Every student taking an art class first semester had at least one piece displayed in the show, and many displayed more than one that they were proud of. Everyone was ecstatic to see the many winning ribbons scattered throughout the show on worthy pieces. And it wasn't just students from the AP Art class with winning artwork, students from every class and skill level were recognized for their creativity, talent, and, most of all, passion in their artwork.

The 2015 Manasquan High School Art Show was a success, and artists and spectators alike left the school smiling. It was a great experience and Mrs. Caci says that she already can't wait for the art show next year.



*Ink drawing by Caila Theilen (11)
Overall Best Artist 2016*



*Computer art
by Milan Hernandez (11)*

(Far left) Computer art by Mary McGuiness (12), (left) Batik pillow by Mary Grace Iorio (11), (right) Aimee Jaeger (11) standing with her two watercolor pieces, linoleum print by Aimee Jaeger



Academy of Finance Trip 2015

By: Morgan Sisem

On December 18th of 2015, the Academy of Finance went on their annual trip. This year they had the chance to go to the U.S. Mint and the Federal Reserve in Pennsylvania. At the U.S. Mint, students learned about how money is made. They also learned how the United States currency has changed throughout the years. As our currency changes, so does our economy and students got to discover the changes that have happened to our country from past decades and many so on years.

Seniors, Nick Aromando and Alex Kurtz enjoyed visiting the U.S. Mint. Nick Aromando says "It was really cool to see how the coins were made and learn more about money."

Alex Kurtz said "I learned a lot of facts about how they make money which I found really cool!"

Visiting the U.S. Mint help us to appreciate all the work that goes into making even just a single penny. You can't just simply cut out a rectangle from a piece of paper, color it green, and expect it to become a dollar bill. There are a lot of specific things that make a dollar into what a dollar is. At the U.S. Mint, the Academy of Finance had the opportunity to learn what those things were.

The Federal Reserve is another incredible place that the Academy of Finance were able to visit. At the Federal Reserve, students enjoyed exploring the interactive learning center that opened their eyes to facts about what the Federal Reserve does and their involvement with the economy.

The Federal Reserve is the central banking system

of the United States. The Federal Reserve was created on December 23, 1913 due to the enactment of the Federal Reserve Act. Some jobs of the "Fed" are to supervise and regulate banks, maintaining the stability of the financial system, and to provide financial services to depository institutions.

The Academy of Finance learned all about their jobs and participation in the economy during their trip.

The trip was an excitement journey for the Academy of Finance to learn about the United States economy and what effects it. The U.S. Mint and Federal Reserve

were all located near the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall which students also got to enjoy seeing on their trip.

Senior, Brian Comer said "I thought the trip was really cool. I enjoyed seeing the shredded money. I also love getting dressed up and seeing everyone else dressed up. Because I want to be the next "Wolf of Wall Street" going on this trip taught me a lot of interesting facts."

This was Mr. Driscoll's second time at

the U.S. Mint and Federal Reserve on the Academy of Finance trip. The last time Mr. Driscoll visited was five or six years ago. He thinks it was a really good day and that the students had a lot of fun and learned a lot. Mr. Hoffman, Mr. Read, and Mr. Waldeyer all took on this trip along with the other eighty students who are in the Academy of Finance. The trip was a great experience for all the Academy of Finance. Mr. Driscoll, along with the juniors and sophomores who will be participating next year are looking forward to the next trip.



Members of Academy of Finance gather in front of the high school before their trip; junior Peter Mills (foreground) takes the huge, group-selfie!

Picking next year's classes? Come join the staff of *The Blue and Gray*



Photography Club Gets the Film Rolling

This year's photography club had a slow start but as soon as Mr. Wasnesky, club moderator, was back and well, it picked up immediately. The first meeting of January presented the club with three different photo challenges for the week: negative space, shadows, and pet's eye view. For those wondering, negative space is the technique of taking pictures with a very limited amount of subject to it, it is the emptiness that is striking.

Each meeting starts with the plan for the following week's assignment. After the inspiring topics are presented and explained, the "fun part" comes, as Mr. Wasnesky would say. A few of the club members present their pictures from the previous assignment. They take their position in the front of the classroom and click through their pictures, explaining how they pertain to the topic and any other information. Mr. Wasnesky watches, appraises, and critiques the work for the presenter as well as for the other students.



Left:
Photographer:
MaryLou Becker
Grade 10
Technique:
Shadows

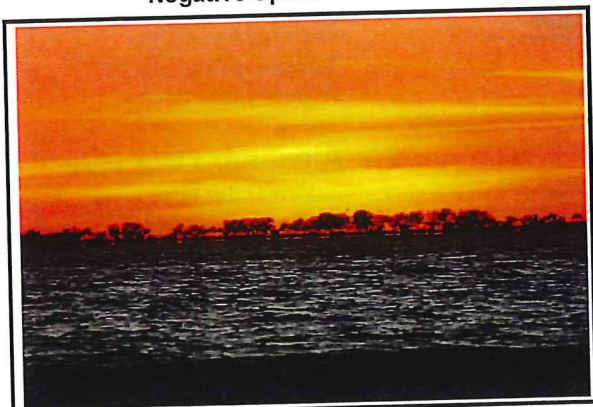


Right:
Photographer:
Gillian Roberts
Grade 10
Technique:
Pet's Eye View



ABOVE: Photographer: Megan Bauter
Grade 10
Technique: Pet's Eye View

BELOW
Photographer:
Tide Trogu
Grade 9
Technique:
Negative Space



BELOW
Photographer:
Stephanie Miles
Grade 10
Technique:
Negative Space



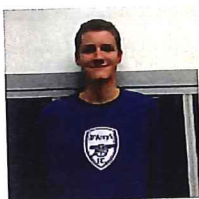


College Acceptances

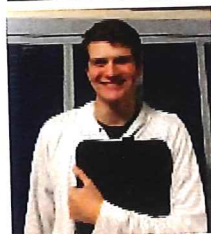


Class of 2016

By: Gillian Black



Kevin Dempsey: "I fell in love with the University of Maryland when I visited last year. I also got in to 6 out of my 11 schools. I applied as an undecided major because I enjoy multiple subjects and haven't figured out what I want to do with my life yet."



Jackson Dunson: "My #1 school is California Institute of Arts and my #2 is SCAD University in Georgia. I decided to not visit either until I got accepted. My major is character animation, which means I'll be creating cartoons and TV shows."



Shawn Nolan: "I really like mid-sized schools, so my top choices are Rutgers University and University of Delaware. I applied to seven schools as a business major, and heard back from three so far."



Kyle Stewart: "I only applied to 3 schools: St. Peter's University, St. John's University, and John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I visited all three and can really see myself at each one. My major is criminal justice/sociology and I might minor in spanish."



Matt McGrady: "I have already decided that I'll be going to Brookdale Community College for two years, but I do plan on transferring for my junior year. Luckily, I already know that I want to either major in business or criminal justice."



Mike Moran : "I only applied to three schools: Rutgers University, University of Delaware, and Penn State University. My decision will depend on where I get in and the money situation, but I really loved Delaware's campus. I applied to all three as a business undeclared major."



Theo Sheehan: "My #1 is McDaniel College in Maryland because I could see myself going there and I have several friends who are already enrolled there. If I don't end up there, my next choice would be University of Colorado at Boulder. Computer engineering is my major."

Sabrina Muscato (Left): "As of right now, my #1 is Flagler College in St. Augustine, Florida and my #2 is probably Manhattan College in New York. I applied to all fifteen of my schools as a psychology major, and I really look forward to minoring in ASL, which is American sign language!"



Torey Grennan (Right): "I don't really have an order for my schools because I like each of them in their own way. Some schools I applied to are: University of Vermont, North Carolina State University, Georgia Southern University, and Brookdale Community College. But I can't wait to major in nursing and minor in nutrition no matter where I end up!"

Kailee Harmstead: "My major is criminal justice because I find the subject to be very interesting and I want to be a detective. I really liked Rider University and Kutztown University when I visited."



Julia Lambert: "I visited both of my top two schools, which are University of Delaware and James Madison University. I'm still waiting to hear back from both, but I did get in to two of my safety schools. I'm super excited to major in nursing!"



Erin Howard: "I am in love with the University of North Carolina at Wilmington ever since I visited last fall, and of course because One Tree Hill was filmed there. The surrounding area is amazing and I can't wait to hear back, but my next choice would have to be the College of Charleston. Psychology is my major, too."



Kiera Mulroy: "I applied to 11 schools but my favorites were Boston College and Fordham University. I visited both and I can't wait to major in English/Creative Writing with a minor in psychology. Writing for the Blue and Gray greatly influenced my decision!"



Bailey Stark: "I had a cliché "moment" when I visited Ramapo College so that is my #1. I only applied to small New Jersey/Pennsylvania schools and my major is nursing."



Mia Pelly: "Out of the seven schools I applied to, the University of New Hampshire and University of Massachusetts Amherst are definitely my top two. I haven't visited either yet because I'm still waiting to hear back, but if I do get in, I'll be taking a trip to see both. Also, my major is nursing!"



What to Look Forward to in

2016

By: Alissa Cielecki

A new year is always exciting. Every year has something for people to look forward to, whether it be a rare event or fun new year's resolutions. Some people have goals they are determined to accomplish, and others just can't wait for the Olympics or the movie they've been awaiting ever since they saw the trailer. This year will be no exception. However, it will be exceptional. Here's why 2016 is special.

2016 is a year for movies, especially if you're into superheroes and Disney. *Batman vs Superman: Dawn of Justice*, *Captain America: Civil War*, *X-Men: Apocalypse*, and *Deadpool* are just a few of the exciting new superhero films hitting the big screen this year. Conversely, no one should be disappointed with the raw variety of good movies the year has to offer. Of the long list, you have to be looking forward to at least one, whether it be *Finding Dory*, *Star Trek Beyond*, *The Jungle Book*, *Rogue One*, *Ghostbusters*, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, *The Witch*, *Moana*, *Suicide Squad*, *Hail Caesar*, or *The BFG*—and that's just the beginning!

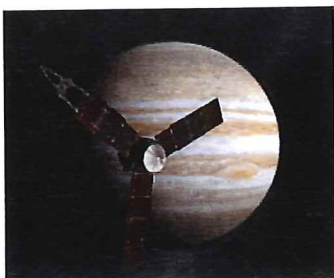


On the subject of movies, The Oscars are coming up on February 28th! The 88th Academy Awards has nominations in several different categories of 2015 movies such as *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, *Mad Max: Fury Road*, *The Martian*, and *The Revenant*. As this marks his fifth Oscar nomination, Leonardo DiCaprio is a likely winner in the category of Best Actor!



This year is a leap year, a year containing 366 days as compared to the usual 365. While it's not all too extraordinary, it only happens once every four years. This means that babies born on February 29th will finally be able to celebrate their birthday on the actual day! This year's leap day will be made unique with the commencement of Adele's world tour. Adele will be singing her new album, 25, all over the world starting on February 29th and going into early June. After the success of her hit song "Hello", this tour is sure to amaze.

While it isn't a major event, it's one that only happens only about thirteen times a century. What is it? The transit of



Mercury! On May 9th, many parts of the world will be able to see Mercury moving across the sun. Compared to the sun, Mercury will only appear as a tiny dot, but it's still an experience you have to have at least once. In other space news, Jupiter will be having a visitor two months later in July. After a five year journey, NASA's *Juno* is scheduled to finally arrive in Jupiter's orbit. *Juno* is a spacecraft that will orbit Jupiter for one year while collecting data on the planet's composition and gravity field among other things. The spacecraft is named after the Roman goddess Juno, wife of the god Jupiter, and has already set a record for solar power distance.

August After four long years, the Summer Olympic Games are back! Hosted in Brazil's Rio de Janeiro, the 300-event sports competition will be having its very first stay in South America this August. The Olympics are always a time to show pride for your country and to root for the most incredible athletes in the world as you watch participants from over 200 nations make history. As an event that



comes only once every four years, this occasion is one to get excited about.



With the Olympics comes the Paralympics as well, a sporting event similar to the Olympics for athletes with physical disabilities. This event follows right after the Olympics and will

also be held in Rio. While there are currently only 22 sports in the summer and a small amount of competitors, the Paralympics is growing dramatically in size and popularity.

As everyone knows, the 58th United States presidential election will be in full swing this year, Election Day falling in early November. This event always marks a tremendous change in the country and will undoubtedly have worldwide effects as well. While politics isn't everyone's favorite subject, this election is likely to have a significant impact on everyone's lives. Whether you consider yourself a Democrat, Republican, or something in between, you're going to be seeing a lot of political campaigns in 2016, and probably a few arguments at the family get-togethers.



Regardless of what your interests are, 2016 will

is the logo for this eco-friendly company. Burt's Bees, the company he founded literally out of his backyard, turned into multimillion-dollar franchise with minimal effort, deprivation to the environment, or even intent. For Shavitz, he did not get into the personal care industry for the money; Burt simply loves bees and the honey they produce.

"I realized I had it made," he once said, "because you don't have to destroy anything to get honey. You can just use the same things over and over again, put it in a quart canning jar, and you've got \$12."

Shavitz wasn't always a rural man; he grew up positively urban. Ingram Berg Shavitz was born in Manhattan on May 15, 1935 to Edward and Nathalie. His father was an actor while his mother was an artist. He grew up in Flushing, Queens, and on Long Island, in Great Neck. After he graduated high



Burt Shavitz tending to his bees.

school, he officially changed his name to Burt, though everyone had called him by that name long before. He attended college in Delaware but was drafted before he finished and served in the Army in Germany WAR. It wasn't until later that Burt found income in his quaint beekeeping.

In 1984, Shavitz met Roxanne Quimby, a simple hitchhiker. Little did he know that he would later marry this former 1960s radical and single mother of twins. Before Burt's Bees was even a thought, these cofounders made a life together selling candles at local craft fairs. After a bit of tweaking, adding almond oil to some left over wax, the Burt's Bees lip balm was born, changing their lives forever.

In 2009, Shavitz sold the company to Clorox for \$925 million dollars. After the sale, he returned to his hermit's existence in a 400-square-foot converted turkey coop in Parkman, Maine, where he spent the rest of his days.

Christina Calbi, a spokeswoman for Burt's Bees, confirmed that his cause of death was respiratory problems. He was surrounded by friends and family, and of course his bees. Burt Shavitz will always be in our hearts and our honey.



Burt's Bees logo.

Mary Doyle Keefe



Mary Doyle Keefe, model behind Norman Rockwell's iconic WWII-era painting "Rosie the Riveter," unfortunately passed away on Tuesday, April 21, 2015 in Simsbury, Connecticut after a brief bout with pneumonia. She was aged 92.

Keefe was a simple telephone operator, with no experience in riveting or leading feminist revolutions. But as luck has it, she was neighbors with Norman Rockwell. Two modelling sessions and ten dollars later, Keefe was the face of feminism in the forties.

"I didn't really see myself as some epitome of the modern woman," Keefe said, "There was a war on, and you did what you could. ... I was proud that it helped the effort and that the Rosie poster went around the country to help sell war bonds."

Rosie was a muscular giant snacking on a sandwich, holding a gun on her lap, and one foot solidly stomping on Adolf Hitler's manifesto, Mein Kampf, but Keefe herself was petite. Rockwell modeled Rosie off of the way Michelangelo painted Isaiah in the Sistine Chapel, and he later apologized for that in a letter, calling Keefe one of the most beautiful women he's ever seen.

The painting was seen by millions. It was Rockwell's most famous painting, capturing women's eagerness to help out the war effort any way they could, and inspiring others to do the same.

Life beyond "Rosie" wasn't as glamorous, but meaningful all the same. Mary Louise Doyle was born on July 3, 1922, in Bennington, Vermont. In her younger years, she helped her mother, who ran the local telephone office from their home. In 1949, she married Robert J. Keefe to become Mary Doyle Keefe. Together they had four children: Bill Keefe, Barbara K. Boska, Robert J. Keefe Jr., and Mary Ellen Keefe. They gave her 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Keefe graduated from Temple University with a degree for dental hygiene.

"Rosie" continues to inspire people today. Though she probably didn't think much of it at the time, Doyle impacted history. She will be dearly missed.



Norman Rockwell's painting "Rosie the Riveter"

ton State University and moved on to work as a freelance copy editor. He lived a plain life in an average-income home with his mother, a waitress, and his father, a lumber-mill worker. He was an Average Joe. That is, until his brilliant stroke of luck earned him millions practically overnight. His product, the pet rock, is just as it sounds: a simple, ordinary rock that you keep as a pet.

He said it all started one night in 1975 at a bar in Los Gatos, California. He was having a few drinks with his friends and listening to them complain about their responsibilities as pet owners. They were tired being in charge of walking, feeding, cleaning, and caring for their animals. With a sudden snap of sarcastic humor, Dahl explained to his buddies that his pet had no such responsibilities. Why?

"I have a pet rock," he said.

This simple joke soon led to the idea of selling rocks as pets. Dahl and two of his friends teamed up as investors and set to work. They knew that no one would just buy a rock and call it their pet – they had to get creative. One trip to the building-supply store, and probably a few more drinks, later and the pet rock had its own cardboard pet-carrier, complete with air-holes for your rock to breathe, and a book of instructions on how to care for your very own pet rock.

The pet rock, sold for \$3.95 each, hit the shelves just in time for Christmas in 1975, and they were an instant success.

Whether it was for the witty instruction manual, full of tips teaching you how to bathe your rock, feed your rock, or teach your rock tricks such as "sit," "stay," and "lie down," or for the pure novelty of the rocks, they were a must-have for the holiday season. Every home in

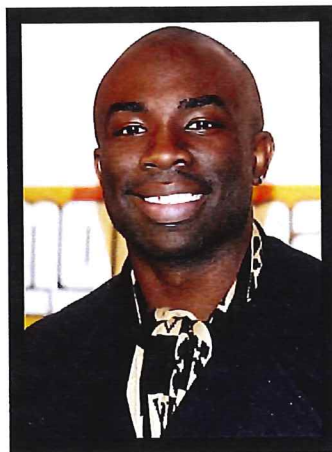
America had a pet rock, and Dahl had a new fortune. Unfortunately, as is the case with most holiday gift trends, the popularity of the pet rock died down after a few short months, but not before it had

made Dahl into a millionaire.

Dahl lived the rest of his life in comfort, marrying and divorcing twice before marrying Margueritte Wood, his wife until his death. The two lived



Dahl suprised and delighted by the success of his pet rocks



in Jacksonville, Oregon, where his health slowly deteriorated from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, a lung disease resulting from smoking. He will be missed by many, and remembered by more as "that lucky guy who convinced us all to buy rocks."

Samuel Sarpong

Samuel "Sam" Osei Sarpong Jr. was an English

actor and model born in 1975 in London, England. He was an inspiration for black men in the fashion industry and died on October 26, 2015 at age 40.

Sarpong lived in London with his father, Samuel Sarpong Sr., until he was 11 and the two moved to Los Angeles California. He was a high school basketball star, but when he realized his skill wasn't enough to lead him to a professional basketball career or a substantial college scholarship, he turned to modeling and acting.

Sarpong starred in several films and co-hosted

MTV's hit show, *Yo Mamma*, but his greatest triumphs were in the fashion industry as a sought-after model. He had minimal modeling jobs early in his career and instantly became a success due to his athletic build and charming smile. He became the face of Tommy Hilifiger, an American clothing company, at age 26 and modeled for other top companies such as Gucci and Versace. He then made history by becoming the first black male to work in a Luis Vitton editorial campaign.

Sarpong was unmarried but held strong family values, frequently seen with his father or with his sister, June Sarpong, a popular British TV presenter. He battled depression all his life and on the afternoon of October 26, he was spotted on the edge of the Colorado Street

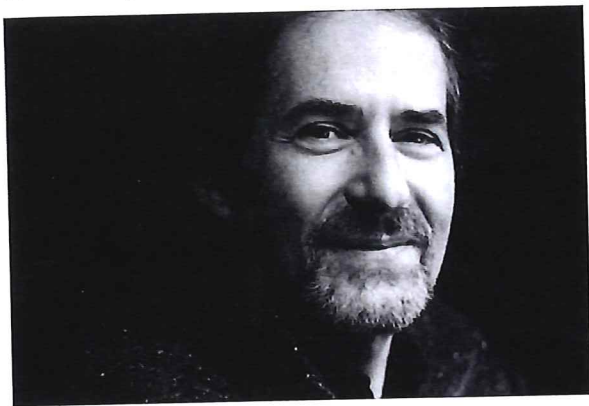


Sarpong, for Tommy Hilifiger, 2004

James Horner

Titanic. Everyone has seen the tale, as it is hailed as the box office champion of the movie business with a gross income of \$1,835,300,000, but few are familiar with the man behind the music: James Horner.

Horner began to study piano at age five, training at the Royal College of Music in London, England before moving to the United States. He earned a bachelors degree in music at the University of Southern California before receiving a masters from the University of California Los Angeles. He stayed to teach music theory at the institution while completing his Ph.D. in Music Composition and Theory.



Horner's big break came in 1982 when he was hired to compose the soundtrack for *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*. Raving reviews propelled him into a career with over 75 projects working closely with world-class performers such as the London Symphony Orchestra.

Despite his many accomplishments, Horner is remembered for his work alongside Director James Cameron on the *Titanic* soundtrack. Horner won an Oscar for "best original score" as well as "best song" for "My Heart Will Go On". In addition, the complete soundtrack became one of the all-time best sellers.

Horner's resume contains other recent big box office names such as *Field of Dreams*, *Braveheart*, *Troy*, *Avatar*, and *The Amazing Spider-Man*. The vast genre of movies he has worked on prove his incredible talent as a composer.

Horner passed away at age 61 in a plane crash in southern California. The single engine plane registered to Horner crashed near Santa Barbara. Horner, a trained pilot, was the sole individual on board. No one else was harmed in the crash.

This prolific composer has a history as rich as the ship he brought to life, and though his death is a tragedy, his heart will go on. Thank you, Mr. Horner, for the art you blessed the world with.

It is a rare and beautiful thing when an artist is able to capture the vulnerability of the human race on their canvas. Percy Sledge, born on November 25, 1940, not only captured, but immortalized the power of love in the first composition of his career. Thanks to him we will always remember what exactly happens when a man loves a woman.

Sledge performed with the Esquire Combo on the weekends, paying the bills with minimum wage hospital work Monday to Friday.

However, thanks to life's irony, it was not his weekend job that jump started his career, but instead a connection through the hospital. A former patient introduced Sledge to producer Quin Ivy in 1960, and from there Sledge flew.

Sledge's first recorded single was the famous "When a Man Loves a Woman" in 1966. The song sold a million copies, hitting the top of the pop and R&B charts instantly. Sledge's success paved the way for Souther-based soul to have major airwave time. The emotional lyrics came to Sledge during one of his performances and harp on his experiences of being left by a woman for another man. However, the young musician (only 20 at the time) made the mistake of granting credit to other musicians, despite the fact that Sledge wrote most of the song. Referenced as "the worst mistake of his career", the error cost Sledge all of his rightful royalties.

Sledge was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2005 after "When a Man Loves a Woman" was named #53 on Rolling Stones' list of the Best Songs of All Time. The song has and will continue to stand the test of time, despite Sledge's death on April 14, 2015. The singer had been battling cancer in the months before his death.

Percy Sledge



ZODIAC COMPATIBILITY CHART

By: Brittney Buechele and Ella Luzzi

Are you and your crush destined to be? We all wonder that now and again. With our help, you'll get your answer. Find your zodiac sign on the top and your crush's zodiac sign down the side and line them up. Are you a perfect match? Is it obvious that you guys aren't meant to be together? Should you two stay friends? Let the stars decide.

You

	Aries	Taurus	Gemini	Cancer	Leo	Virgo	Libra	Scorpio	Sagittarius	Capricorn	Aquarius	Pisces
Aries												
Taurus												
Gemini												
Cancer												
Leo												
Virgo												
Libra												
Scorpio												
Sagittarius												
Capricorn												
Aquarius												
Pisces												

Key:



= Perfect Match



= Not Gonna Happen



= Platonic Pals

DO YOU NOT KNOW WHAT YOUR (OR YOUR CRUSH'S) ZODIAC IS?

Aries: March 21st - April 19th

Taurus: April 20th - May 20th

Gemini: May 21st - June 20th

Cancer: June 21st - July 22nd

Leo: July 23rd - Aug. 22nd

Virgo: Aug. 23rd - Sept. 22nd

Libra: Sept. 23rd - Oct. 22nd

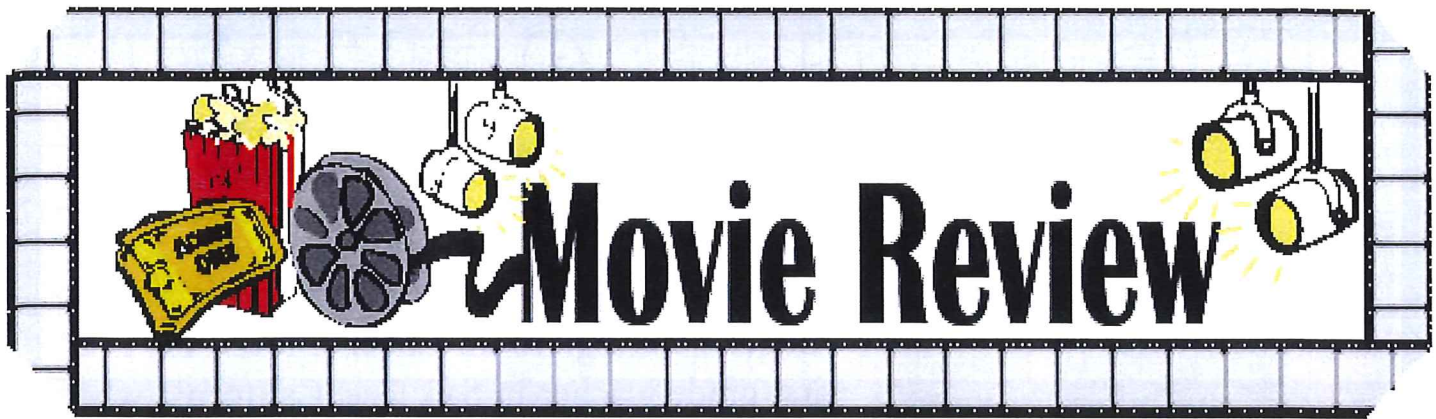
Scorpio: Oct. 23rd - Nov. 21st

Sagittarius: Nov. 22nd - Dec 21nd

Capricorn: Dec. 22nd - Jan. 19th

Aquarius: Jan. 20th - Feb. 18th

Pisces: Feb. 19th - March 20th



Rocky's legacy thrives once again

By: Beau Bradley

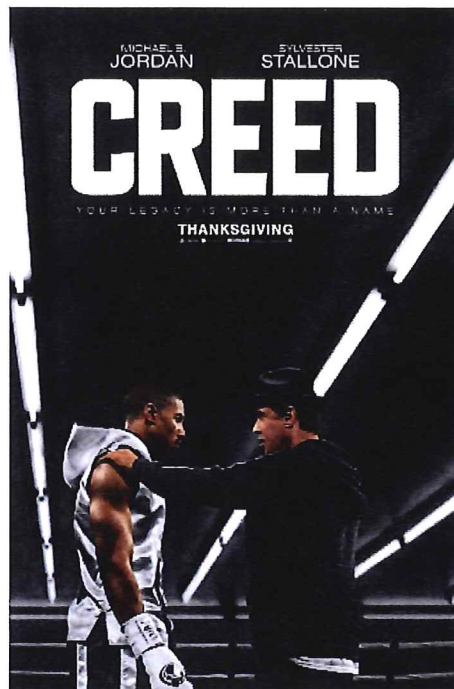
The *Rocky* series is back and better than ever. Harder punches, bigger enemies, wilder fights, and most of all, a new focal point: Adonis Creed.

Adonis is the infamous Apollo Creed's son, and his fighting in *Creed* is taken to the next level by former champion Rocky Balboa.

I saw this movie in December and don't want to spoil anything, but you *need* to go see this movie. Before seeing the movie I had heard that it was being compared with the quality of the original *Rocky* movie, and I highly doubted it. But, coming out of the theater, I couldn't agree more with the comparison.

This movie revived the dying *Rocky* series. From the training scene to the big fight, from the storyline to the miniscule details, this movie was made to perfection.

The thing I found most impressive from this movie was not Sylvester Stallone's character,



but Michael B. Jordan's. Jordan put on 25 pounds of muscle weight for the Adonis role by boxing for three hours a day and working out non-stop for months. The hard work paid off. Not only in his body, but his acting. His character, Adonis Creed, stole the show.

All viewers feel the pain of Adonis taking hits and feel the relief of connecting a good punch. As the movie progressed, I found myself inching further and further to the edge of my seat.

One thing that must be addressed is what some believe is the most important part in any

movie in the *Rocky* movie series: the training scene. With music from Philly's very own Meek Mill and an exhilarating performance from Jordan, the scene was arguably the best scene in the whole movie.

Overall, I was thoroughly impressed by *Creed*. In a movie series with extremely high expectations, Adonis's story exceeded them. Michael B. Jordan and Sylvester Stallone's performances were *unbelievable*, and I can see multiple awards coming their way very soon.



Ratings

Rotten Tomatoes: 93%

IMDb: 8/10

Metacritic: 82%

My Rating: 10/10

Troye Sivan: *Blue Neighbourhood*

An Album Review

By: Erin Brolewicz

It's not a surprise to me that Troye Sivan, a South African born, Australian actor, singer and YouTuber is now rising to the fame that he most definitely deserves.

On December 4th, Sivan released his first album titled *Blue Neighbourhood*, after putting out multiple EPs in the past that were all successful. His album has been giving him the attention that he's always craved, since he was just a boy on YouTube. His fans, subscribers and followers were anticipating this album for months and were VERY pleased with how it came out.

An overall favorite on the album is definitely, "WILD". Between its smooth electronic drum beats, and catchy chorus, it was bound to be well-liked. Let it be known that the young sounding voices heard throughout the song are actually children, and they make the song sound beautiful. Everything about the song completely disregards the title of it, as its very laid back and chill.

In the song, "EASE" (feat. Broods), Troye's voice sounds angelic and calming. I feel as though I could listen to it when I'm going to sleep. It's very relaxed and chill, making anyone feel calm in an instant. Also, the lyrics in this song



are very relatable. Sivan tells about how he's feeling alone, something that kids feel every-day. Sometimes listening to a song that relates to your life at that time, is reassuring. Broods' voice combined with Troye's is heavenly. The two different voices mesh together perfectly.

The two songs that I like the most on this album (although I've developed a personal connection with all) are definitely "DKLA" (feat. Tkay Madiza) and "BITE". DKLA stands for Don't

Keep Love Around and by the sounds of this song, it seems like Troye doesn't keep it around. In the beginning it has a dark tone to it, the drum beats giving it the life it really needs.

"BITE" is another one of my favorites on the album. The beginning of the song is just Troye's voice, with an echo behind his voice. No instruments, no nothing. Until the hook, where the synthesizer comes into play, which adds a great beat to the song. I truly love this song. It's so simple, yet so complex with its lyrics and all.

If you're looking for a different style of music to listen to, I'd definitely recommend this album. His songs have such promise and relatable lyrics to each and every one, accompanied with beautiful drum beats and synthesizers. 10/10 for sure.

Senior: Guess Who?

By: Nicole Place and Erin Brolewicz



This senior boy is one hilarious dude! He often does impressions of Matthew McConaughey, fellow students & even teachers. In this kid's free time, he will be listening to either Kendrick Lamar, or J.Cole. He loves playing NBA 2K16, but can also prove his love for basketball in real life on any court. He is also an amazing dancer, and can be seen in the middle of the giant circle at any of our school dances. After school, you can find him serving oatmeal to old people as a part time job. He's loved by all, and is just a caring person all around.

Your Name: _____

Your Homeroom: _____

Your Guess: _____

Think you know who this is? Drop your guess off at Room 112 for a chance to win a chocolate kiss!



Stars that Dazzled at the Golden Globes



It's no surprise that celebrities go all out for award shows, especially ones like the Golden Globes. This year, many A-listers dressed to the nines, "wowing" the audiences tuning in. Here are the best dressed celebrities for the 73rd annual Golden Globes.

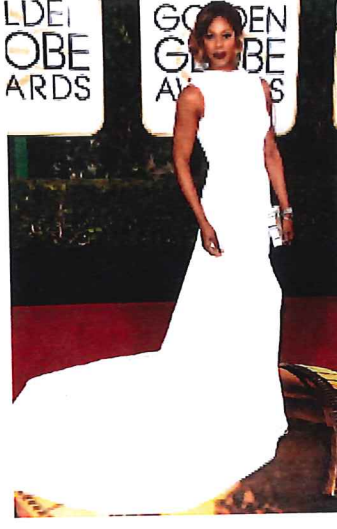
By: Erin Brolewicz



Eva Longoria wearing a beautiful detailed gown by Georges Hobeika



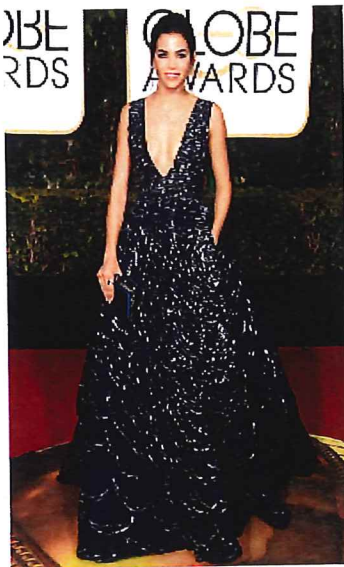
Gina Rodriguez in an elegant gown by designer Zac Posen



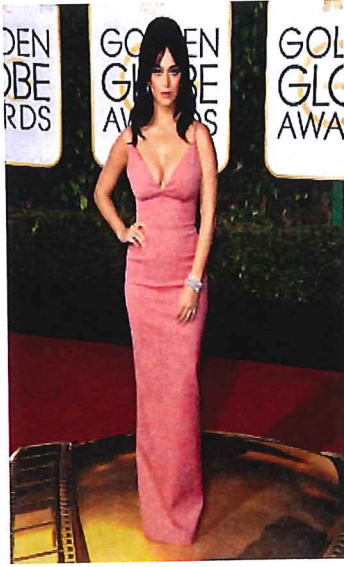
Laverne Cox is stunning in this white gown with a train by Elizabeth Kennedy



Jennifer Lopez is radiant in Giambattista Valli Couture



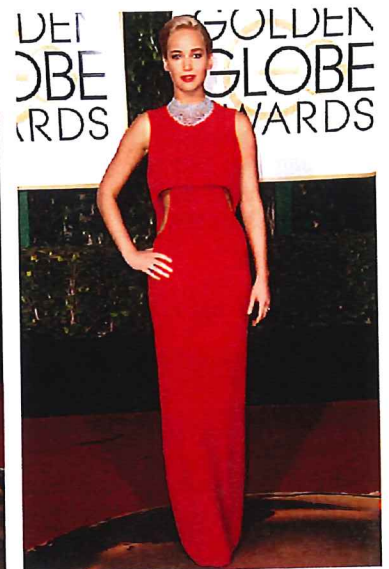
Jenna Dewan Tatum looks amazing in a starry gown by Zuhair Murad



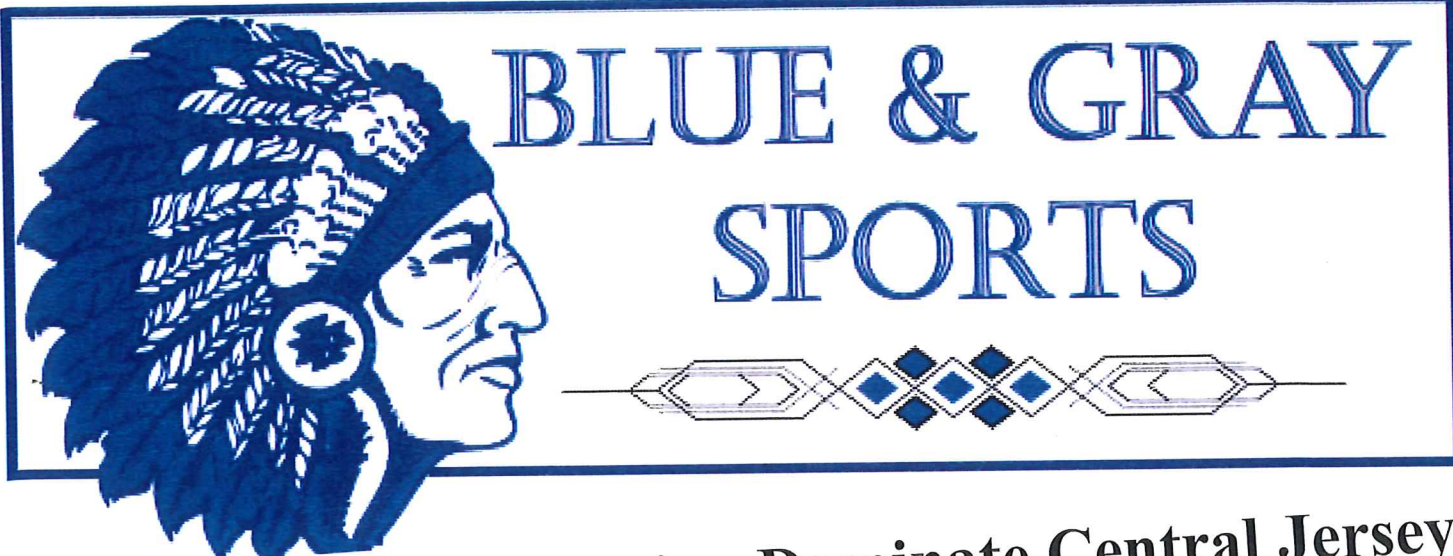
Katy Perry gives off a "retro" vibe in this pink Prada gown



Sophia Bush looks classy in a simple black gown by Narciso Rodriguez



Jennifer Lawrence in a ravishing gown by designer Dior



Boys and Girls Swimming Dominate Central Jersey

**Undefeated girls capture Shore Conference championship,
led by Caroline Petrone**

By: Beau Bradley

The boys and Girls swim teams have continued exactly where they left off the last time the Blue & Gray checked in: undefeated. The regular season finished in style with wins over Rumson Fair-Haven. Both teams stand at a perfect record of 13-0, and both feel that their form will be more than likely to continue into the postseason. With Shore Conference and States ahead of them, both teams have high hopes for finishing well in both, especially states.

The one thing that shines brightest among both teams, beyond their ability, is their team spirit. The team is always seen doing wild things outside of the pool. For example, when asked about who has the most spirit on the team, Senior Mary Emich answered, "Colby Mallett and Kevin Aridas. They are always making

the team laugh. When Colby puts on her onezies when she gets out of the pool, and when Kevin puts on his bathrobe and cheers louder than anyone, the team loves it."

The swim team has the feeling of a family. Boys pull for the girls, and girls pull for the boys, which creates a fun and competitive atmosphere




for the team. This is definitely one of the main reasons for their success. Although the team is built from students at Manasquan, Point Beach, and various sending district students at vocational schools, the team has great chemistry.

Not only is the team tightly knit, the obvious reason for their success this season besides their chemistry, is their talent. The team has a tremendous amount of

swimmers that compete with the best swimmers in Monmouth County and the Shore Conference. With seasoned veterans for seniors and exciting newcomers in the freshmen, the team is very complete.

The Manasquan Girls and Boys Swim team's search for New Jersey supremacy is looking pretty good as they head into the postseason. With two undefeated records, the team has one common goal: to keep on winning. This goal is without a doubt achievable if the team just keeps on doing what they're doing. The Blue & Gray wishes the team the best of luck as they head into the most exciting part of their season.





BLUE & GRAY SPORTS

Wrestling team gaining momentum with consecutive wins over Rumson & Manchester

By: Brendan Fahey

With the 2nd semester in full swing, we have finally reached that exciting mid-way point of the school year. With this season among us, the winter sports season is also making big news around the halls of Manasquan. Bowling balls are striking lanes, 3-point shots are being scored, and the boys are hitting the mats to pin their opponents down as the wrestling season progresses.

Leading the team, Coach Voskian proudly represents the boys wrestling squad here at Manasquan High School. One star player of the senior boys, Kevin Pompilio, has recently been crowned Athlete of the Week in the past issue of The Coast Star. He talks about how his failure from past seasons has driven and motivated him to finish strong in his final year as a wrestler here at Manasquan. With a 4-1 record, it is safe to say the hard work he put in during the offseason has paid off big time for him. With the success Pompilio has reached in his wrestling career he was asked what kind of advice he would give to help the underclassman athletes of the sport achieve what he has. "I'd say that they have to get on the mat as much as possible and never take a day off of training, it's a sport that requires constant practice and training in order to be great." He also took note of the strengths that these younger player possesses, "They've been doing really well. They are the best group of young guys I've ever seen."

Though Kevin's success could not have been reached without coach voskian's influence on him, as well as the



team as a whole. He is credited for being a great instructor on and off the mats. With the team continuing to have a great year, it is safe to say coach Voskian's ability to give the athletes of the team the drive to succeed is what has fueled them and set them straight for their season. Other members of the team, such as seniors Rory O'Connell and Phil Vorbach, have agreed with the will their coach has perceived on them to achieve their goals. . With a huge win over Manchester this past week, we can see that the time the team has been putting in has definitely paid off for them. Some notable highlights of the match include Billy Bruno and Shawn Sauly's back-to-back wins, as well as Joe Ostberg's serious domination making it a 33-29 score. With the victory of the match all in the hands of Phillip Vorbach, they managed to pull off this huge win, creating a huge boost of momentum for the remaining matches to come. This win has taught the boys that hard work pays off, and that putting in the time will lead to great success. Good luck to all the athletes participating in the rest of the winter season!

Girls Basketball

continued from previous page

scored to send the game into overtime . It was an exciting moment for the team, although they lost in overtime. According to the Shore Sports Network, "The sky is the limit when it comes to Faith's potential, and she has every bit of upside that is needed to

succeed." She stated that being able to play hard with the girls is her favorite thing about the season. Faith is aiming to play hard and win many more games. She echoed Stella's opinion on Coach Kukoda. Yet, added that the coach treats them as if they are her kids.

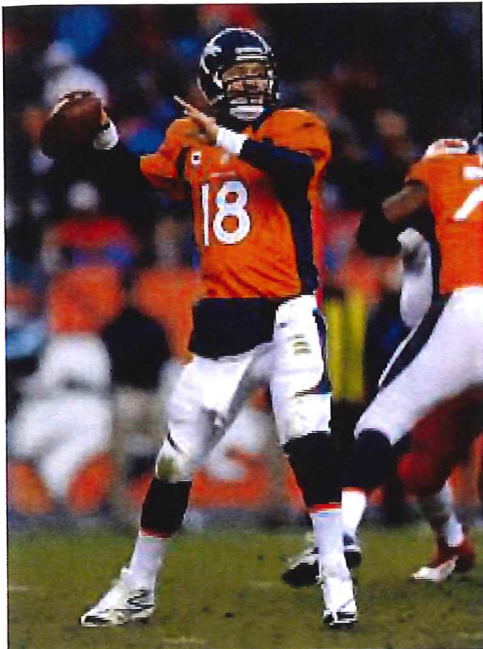
Dara Mabrey, a sophomore point guard, missed a few games during this season because of injury but is back on the court and playing once again. She started this sea-

son by leading Squan to an opening win over Rumson-Fair Haven (RFH). As reported by ESPN, Dara is a "tough, competitive lead-guard with emerging offensive game; handles and passes in transition." Dara pointed out that it's a fierce season and also said that the girls basketball team is working really hard.

Good luck to the girls. Come out and support them for the rest of this reason!



BLUE & GRAY SPORTS



Will the great Peyton Manning go out on top, by winning the Super Bowl in his final game?

matchup between the Cardinals and Packers, a game legendary announcer Al Michaels called a classic and the craziest game he's ever seen, Aaron Rodgers completed two miracle passes, including a last second Hail Mary to receiver Jeff Janis. The game then went into overtime and on the first play of the extra period, Cardinals QB Carson Palmer narrowly avoided a sack and completed a short throw to Larry Fitzgerald, who dodged tacklers and ran all the way down to the 5 yard line. Fitzgerald then caught a shovel pass on the next play and scored the game winning touchdown. Fitzgerald had 8 receptions for 176 yards in the Cardinals 26-20 win.

But the following week, the Cardinals faced the Panthers in the NFC Championship game and domi-

nated from start to finish, winning 49-15 as quarterback Cam Newton had over 470 total yards and 4 total touchdowns.

Now all that's left is the biggest game of all, Super Bowl 50, on February 7th in Santa Clara, California. Panthers vs. Broncos for the title. This matchup seems like a classic clash between a great defense and a great offense: The Broncos defense that shut down Ben Roethlisberger and Tom Brady and the Panthers offense that blew out the Cardinals and Seahawks led by MVP Cam Newton. Add in the

storyline of Peyton Manning potentially playing his last NFL game and you have all the makings of a classic.

Despite the old adage, "defense wins championships." I see this game coming down to which quarterback has the ball last, which I think will be Newton. Cam has made all the plays this year and will continue to shine on Sunday. Because of this, he will be hitting the dab while celebrating his, and the Panthers', first World Title.



Prediction:

Panthers 28

Broncos 24