

The Blue & Gray

Manasquan High School

March 2017



Mr. Battaglia Named Teacher of the Year!

Talented Math teacher praised for pride, dedication to MHS



in this issue



MHS Band marches into spring parade season
Charlie the comfort puppy introduced to MHS
New Service Academy joins MHS academy offerings
Photography Club focuses on creativity
Ready or not, here comes Squan-A-Thon!
Life is Good Day returns to MHS
Students share their favorite electives
College Acceptances keep piling up for MHS seniors
Winter Sports boasts Three State Champs!
Tattoos, free speech, Women's History Month & More!

Squan-A-Thon 2017

The Final Countdown is on

By: Elizabeth Rooney

We've all heard the announcements and have had committee members coming to our homerooms for months now announcing deadlines and fundraisers for one of the biggest nights here at MHS. Squan-A-Thon, less than a month away, has students handing in their final donations, and committee members continuing to work hard to make it the best year yet.

Squan-A-Thon is about helping local families affected by pediatric cancer or serious illnesses financially and emotionally, as well as helping local hospitals and providing support to their pediatric patients.

This year, Squan-A-Thon takes place on Friday, April 7. It will be a memorable night as students who raised the minimum \$200 take part in a 12-hour dance-a-thon that is sure to test their limits, for a greater cause.

Led by many dedicated committee members who survived a rigorous interview process to become event leaders, Squan-A-Thon is one of MHS's best known activities. This year's committee features seniors Annie, Carter, and Justin Condoluci, Emily McLaughlin, Shannon Kirk, Emily Magrini, Ally Vernaglia, Daley McCallum, Jenn Forcillo, Abby McHugh, Kelli

Finn, Karly Grogan, Summer Farren, Melissa Fischer, Ally Johnson, and Abby Rice as well as juniors Olivia Easton, Savannah Hobbie, Maggie Kelly, and Erin Weber.

The committee has been working around the clock to organize the event, and raise as much money as possible. The goal? To raise even more money than last year.

One of their important decisions was choosing the annual theme. "Defy Gravity. Defeat Cancer" is this year's theme, so you will see those words a lot in coming weeks.

Last year Squan-A-Thon took place on Friday, April 15 with students raising the highest amount ever for Squan-A-Thon: a grand total of \$106,899.57. This year the determined committee has continued to feverishly plan fundraisers at local food places including Jimmy's, Cony Waffle, Surf Taco, Top Donut, and Chipotle.

Squan-A-Thon is advised by Mr. Battaglia and Mrs. Basaman with help from former MHS teacher Mrs. McKenzie. One thing they have taught the committee is the impor-

tance of secrecy. What is going to be taking place during the 12 hours of Squan-A-Thon? The answer to that question is kept under lock and key, making everything about the night a total surprise.

In years past there have been the in-



Pictured above: dancers enjoying the action at last year's Squan-a-Thon.

flatable obstacle courses, a photo booth, mechanical bull riding, and many games to play. Plus you can count on all different types of foods at all different hours, and numerous guest speakers, who are brought in throughout the night.

With each new year, new events are added and favorites are brought back, all to keep students on their feet for the next 12 hours. Whether it's the hypnotist, or scavenger hunt, committee dances or karaoke, or simply going on the inflatables again and again, the committee tirelessly works to make the night unforgettable.

Whether you are a dancer or not, Squan-A-Thon is a big part of MHS. It is when students come together for a greater cause. It's a night many students have endless fun, and stay up through the night for a deeper meaning.

If you are around on April 7, come stop by and show your support towards the student body as they dance the night away, or participate in a fundraiser, or donate money to the cause. Remember, Squan-A-Thon is for something bigger than MHS. As dancers prepare for 12 hours on their feet and committee members put the finishing touches on months of plans, you can help to make it the most memorable year Squan-A-Thon has yet to see.

Pictured below: Last year's record-breaking total surpassed \$100,000 for the first time.



The Italian Class Cooks with Joe Leone

By: Rachel Irizarry, Sarah Langan, and Rebecca Irizarry



On Friday March 17, Sgna.. Russo's Italian class celebrated St. Patrick's Day and St. Joseph's Day by inviting well-known local chef Joe Leone in for a lesson on how to make zeppolis. Mr. Leone has come to Manasquan High School in the past and demonstrated how to cook certain meals. He believes that "It is important to come out into the community and spread positive messages and learn about the Italian culture. I don't do it for advertising purposes." Pictured at left is the process on how Mr. Leone makes zeppolis in his restaurant.



**Family Friendly
Local Groups
Music**

**BMW i3 Electric
Cars | BMW
Geniuses**



Manasquan Environmental Commission

Presents:

Electric Car Show

Sunday, April 23, 2017

12pm-3pm

An Earth Day Drive-and-Ride Event

Located At:

South Street Plaza Parking Lot

27 South Street, Manasquan, NJ 08736

Forget Instagram - Photography Club Is Where It's At

By: Tilly Marks

With the abundance of extra-curriculars here at Manasquan, it's hard to know what exactly is available to us. We have our staples – such as sports and the popular Key and Life is Good Clubs – but you'd be surprised at what flies under the radar.

Back in 2009, Mr. Wasnesky started one of these extracurriculars: the Photography Club. Mr. Wasnesky, a fan of snapping photos himself, was approached by some of his students



Above is a beautiful, natural photo taken by Cassidy Turnbach.

with an interest in photography and the club was born. Ever since then, Mr. Was, as he is called by his students, has been teaching interested students all about photography, helping them to improve what skills they already have and showcase the wonderful work they do.

Mr. Was's interest in photography coincided with his travels. As he went from place to place, he couldn't help but snap pictures of the beautiful landscapes and intriguing subjects that he came across. A fan of soft-lighting and interesting perspectives, students of his may observe the beautiful background photo on his computer desktop – a photo he took himself – and see just how talented the Photography Club advisor is.

Students involved in the club have their own amazing talents to offer as well. Members Dillon Dunwoody, Clark Ellicott, Damon Tito, Cassidy Turnbach, and Ben LaMacchia all of-

fer different things to the Photography Club table.

Dunwoody, a fan of scenery and geometric subjects in his photos, enjoys seeing his friends, sharing different artistic perspectives, and overall enjoying what everyone has to contribute to the club.

Although, overall, the club is more laid-back, it still has its challenges. Every two to three weeks, Mr. Was assigns a photo theme that members must complete for the next meeting to discuss and compare.

Members, such as Clark Ellicott, even delve into more complicated forms of photography. When asked about some of the more complicated topics, Clark told me about the double exposure he had to do. A double exposure picture is where you take one photo on top of another – essentially a mixing of two photos into one. Clark had difficulty with this because he lacked the technology to accomplish it, which shows some of the challenges members face with their photography assignments.

Mr. Was says that he usually likes to balance the themes between something that is pure photography skill and something that requires more creativity than technique. "I like to give them room for creativity," Mr. Was says, "but also challenge them to pose images in ways we haven't seen before or are not used to seeing."

The club may not take our yearbook photos or help to capture Manasquan High School's most



To the right are pictures by Damon Tito (top) and Dillon Dunwoody (bottom). The difference in art style in each photo is what Photography Club is all about.

high-profile events, which Mr. Was believes is best left to the professionals anyway, but the Photography Club often takes part in the Academy of Finance Fashion Show, Squan-a-thon, and other smaller school events.

At the end of the year, the club finishes out with its annual student exhibition of photographs, showcasing the wonderful work that members have been doing all year and allowing for the school and community to view their accomplishments. From what I've seen, it sounds like something to definitely check out. As you can see from the photos I've been provided, these guys definitely have their fair share of

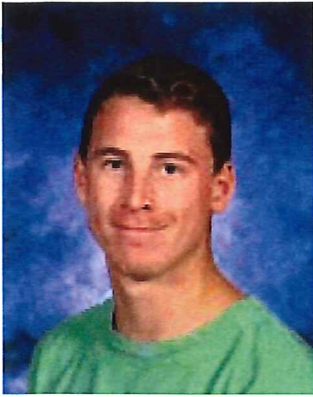
Below: Junior Cassidy Turnbach walks on a jetty, in a photo taken by senior Ben LaMacchia.



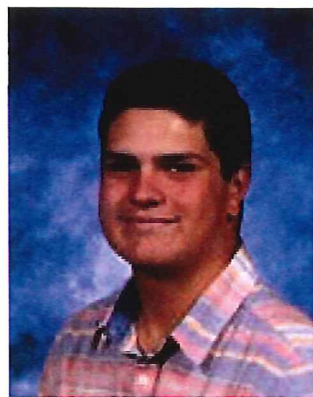
Juniors And Seniors Favorite Electives!

We asked seniors around the school these two questions. What is your favorite elective first semester? What is your favorite elective this semester? We only asked juniors the first question since some of them do not have electives this semester. Underclassmen: you might want to pay attention, so you know what classes to pick for next year!

By: Rebecca Irizarry



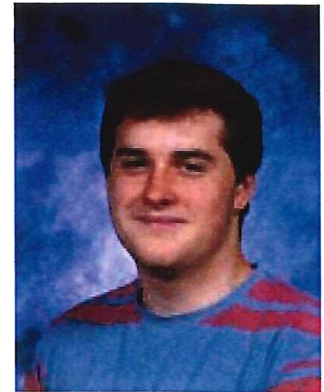
My favorite elective last half was Entrepreneurship with Mr. Driscoll. My favorite elective this semester is Ceramics with Mrs. Treney. - **Devan Carroll**



My favorite elective last semester was Principles of Officiating and Coaching Team Sports with Mr. DeMuro. - **Ryan Moloughney**



My favorite elective last semester was Principles of Officiating and Coaching Team Sports. My favorite elective this semester is Basic Foods with Mrs. Morris. - **Dylan Ownes**



My favorite elective last semester was Introduction to Acting with Mr. Harvey. - **Luke Morgan**



My favorite elective last semester was Emergency Clinical Care & Sports Injury Management. My favorite elective this half is Crafts. - **Julia Whalen**



My favorite elective last half was Dynamics of Health Care. - **Bryce Isaak**



My favorite elective last semester was Screenwriting. - **Tyler Mrazek**



My favorite elective last half was Introduction to Acting. My favorite elective this half is Introduction to Cinema. - **Sarah Lambert**

My favorite elective last half was Dynamics of Health Care with Mrs. Kozic. My favorite elective this semester is Emergency Clinical Care & Sports Injury Management with Mr. Hyland. - **Salma Nicolos**



My favorite elective last semester was Dynamics of Health Care. - **Dalia Gonzalez**



mentary school as well.

While in Mrs. Van Note's office Charlie will stay in a crate. Right now, she is tiny (and cute) but Charlie should eventually weigh around 50 pounds and will be put onto a natural raw diet.

Mrs. Van Note is excited now that Charlie is in school and her training is complete. "She is a puppy, and the sooner she gets into a regular routine of coming to school with me the better off she will be," added Mrs. Van Note.

Mrs. Van Note only asked "that when a fire drill is planned that I know about it for Charlie's sake. A puppy hearing that loud blaring sound may not go over well in her office."

Charlie isn't living

with Mr. Van Note, and currently Mrs. Van Note is beginning to prep her kids for Charlie's arrival. She hasn't quite told her kids about Charlie, but she continues to tell them "that their friend Charlie is coming to visit and stay with them."



at first, it might be a distraction, especially since it's an adorable puppy, but after the initial cuteness affect wears off, believes the dog could become quite beneficial.

Amanda thinks that a dog could potential help

Mrs. Van Note is really excited about Charlie coming into her and her family's life. She believes, "that one of the reason why she was named the dog handler was because of her current experience with animals."

Mrs. Van Note previously owned a dog before her kids and currently has goats, chickens, and cats. She thinks that her experience with animals and the animal environment she has around her house will benefit Charlie.

Senior Amanda Karp, who loves dogs and has one of her own described the idea of having a therapy dog at the high school as "fantastic."

She does admit that

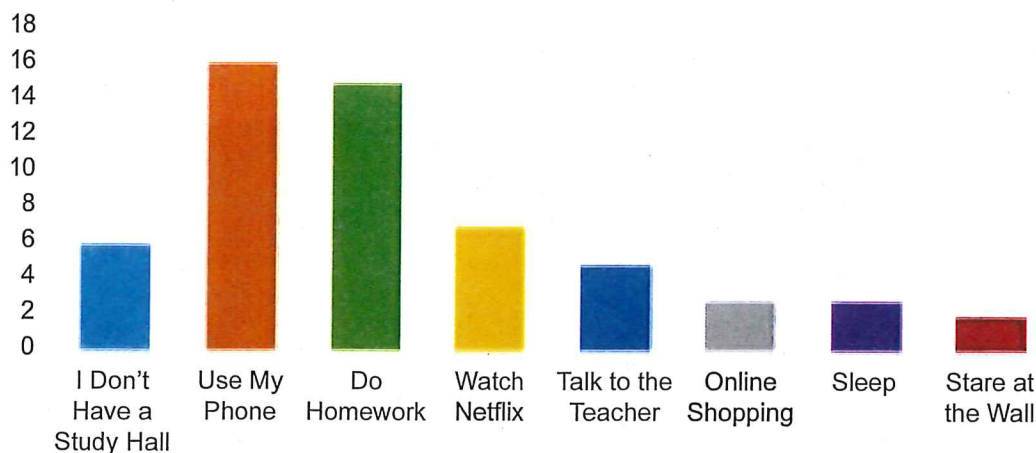
students, but not necessarily to learn, as "dogs bring a positive mood into the environment around them," adding, "who doesn't feel happy when around a dog?"

Charlie is ready to become a part of this school and become a Warrior. It may be some time before you see her, or maybe you'll get lucky and be in one of the first classes Charlie visits. Before you know it, Charlie will be bringing positive energy and positive vibes into the halls and classes here at MHS.



What Do You Do In Study Hall?

Although students aren't able to choose whether they have a study hall or not (with the exception of AP classes) they can choose what they do during that time. In attempts to find out how students spend their time in study hall, I surveyed 57 different people with the question, "What do you do in study hall?" Here were my results:



By: Lauren Fielder



The Snow Day That Never Was

By: Shane Connelly

Usually Mondays at Manasquan High School are filled with dread about the upcoming week, but this past Monday, optimism filled the air. While the weather forecast looked gloomy, students rejoiced at the thought of a potential snow day to shorten the five-day week.

The rumors of a snow day are always met with suspicion. Too many times students have gotten their hopes up only to be dashed by an incorrect forecast. This time around, the weathermen predicted at worst a blizzard that would bring nearly two feet of snow and at best a wintry mix that would lead to dangerous roads and potential power outages.

We didn't get anything like that. We did, however, get a day off of school, along with just about every other school in the state of New Jersey.

After Governor Chris Christie declared a state of emergency on Monday night, most of the schools in New Jersey decided to call off school on Tuesday. Manasquan Schools held out for a while longer to see the weather



Storm Stella destroyed the sea wall on the Point Pleasant side of the inlet.

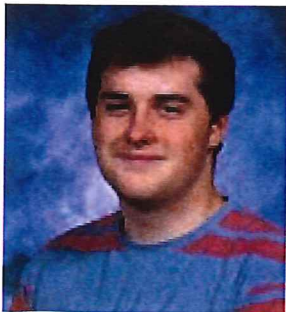
conditions but eventually followed suit.

It started raining early Tuesday morning, and it was expected to turn into snow before the break of dawn. Instead of cooperating though, Mother Nature had different plans. Tuesday's storm, which was given the name "Stella," ended up a downpour of rain with extremely high winds for our area.

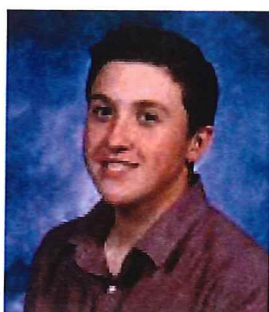
Manasquan was lucky to avoid the snow as other nearby areas were walloped with heavy snowfall. Vernon, New Jersey had the largest total in the state with 20.3 inches of snow. New York and Pennsylvania also saw much larger amounts of snow, and many New York City businesses shut down for the day.

Even though the storm didn't bring any snow to Manasquan, students still enjoyed their day off, despite the horrible conditions outside. It made for a good day to sleep in, read a book, watch a movie, or catch up on some homework. The month of March tends to be a long one, so any break from the action is great for the students and the staff alike.

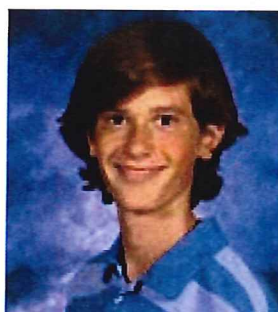
We asked MHS students: How did you spend your day off?



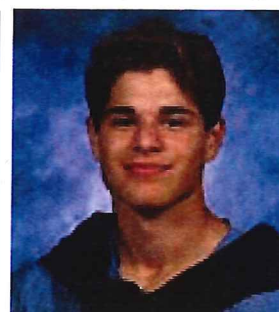
Junior Luke Morgan: "I sat in bed."



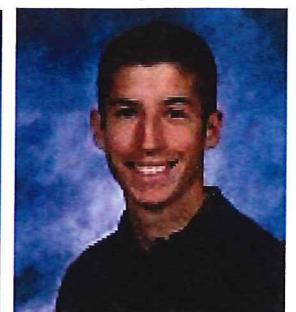
Sophomore Ian Flood: "I went to the gym and played basketball with my friends."



Junior Jake Walsh: "I just stayed at home."



Senior Dan Del Guercio: "I went to the beach and looked at the waves."



Senior Carter Condoluci: "Netflix."

Students Tackle Issues in the World

The Blue & Gray Editorials

The Great Free Speech Debate

By: Shane Connelly

Freedom of speech has become a controversial topic following the election of our 45th president Donald J. Trump. Both the left and the right have been up in arms over the fear of losing the first amendment, but the truth is, it isn't going anywhere.

Before we delve into the predicament of the modern day, we must look back at the history of free speech in order to see just how far we've come as a country. On December 15th, 1791, the United States Bill of Rights was adopted.

Proposed by James Madison, the Bill of Rights contained ten constitutional amendments that weakened the power of the federal government and gave more power to the people of our country. The first amendment states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

Since the ratification of the Bill of Rights, there have been multiple cases that tested the strength of the first amendment. One particular 1969 case changed the laws regarding censorship of opinions.

Young students John Tinker, Mary Beth Tinker, and Christopher Eckhardt were suspended from school for wearing armbands in protest of the Vietnam War. The students sued the school district for violating their first amendment rights, and the court ruled that the rights of these students were violated. The result of this case was the establishment of the "Tinker Test," which states the circumstances in which the free expression of a student can be deemed punishable.

Freedom of speech has faced challenges in the past, yet it is still one of the most valued amendments in our country. Now, people are concerned that their voices are not being heard, and these frustrated parties have come out in huge numbers to fight for their first amendment rights. The problem with this is, if you are out in crowds of hundreds, thousands, or greater filling the



Above: Mary Beth and John Tinker challenged the boundaries of censorship with their protest of the Vietnam War. Below: Recent protests, such as those at Berkeley, have brought the topic of free speech back into the news.



streets of a major city in peaceful protest, you are exercising your freedom of speech and your right to peaceably assemble, so are your rights really in danger?

The fact of the matter is, it is not. No matter who our president is, no matter what he or she believes, the ability to say what one pleases cannot be stripped from the citizens of the United States. We are protected by our forefathers who believed in the power of the people of our democratic republic, who set up our constitution to save us if we ever fell victim to an overbearing powerful government.

So while both sides argue about being censored, the real issue can be derived. Liberal protestors want their opinions to be heard, but they do not want opposing viewpoints to be recognized, and the same can be said for many conservatives.

No longer is this the matter of free speech that people make it out to be. Instead, it's a pointless argument over whose ideals matter more in our country, and by no means is there an answer to that. That's not how our country was meant to be run.

The United States is a country dedicated to many freedoms, and everyone here

possesses the right to think what they please. In order to maintain a free-thinking nation, we all need to accept that everyone shares their own unique beliefs, and that is okay.

Whether you like what someone preaches or not, it is vital to the foundation of our country that we respect the opinions of others. That does not mean one must agree with it, because disagreement leads to progress, but we must allow all to speak their minds, and we won't have to argue about who deserves what freedoms and who is being oppressed.

In all, our First Amendment rights will never be taken away from us, and that is a fact, but if we continue this trend of attempting to completely shut out differing views, we will strip ourselves of the rights we value so highly, and that is the outcome that no one wants.

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

College acceptances, as of 3/9/2017. Submit your acceptance letters to Guidance, or come tell us at The Blue & Gray, in order to be recognized in our publication.

Maggie Flynn-
High Point University

Jenn Forcillo-
University of Vermont
St. Bonaventure University
University of Delaware
The College of New Jersey
Catholic University
The College of Charleston
Rutgers University
University of
New Hampshire

Matt Forcillo-
University of Delaware
Univ. of North Carolina- Wilmington
University of South Carolina
Manhattan College
Rutgers University

Cady Formichella-
Penn State University
Susquehanna University
University of Delaware

Jon Furson-
Christopher Newport University
Monmouth University
James Madison University

Victoria Galvan-
Univ. of South Carolina

Ivan Garcia-
University of Hartford

Quinn Giblin-
Penn State University

Sarah Galvin-
College of Charleston
James Madison University
Loyola University Maryland
University of Delaware
University of Maine
University of Rhode Island
University of Scranton
University of South Carolina

Karly Grogan-
University of Maryland
University of Miami

Cole Hallman-
Flagler College
University of Hawaii Manoa
Univ. of North Carolina-
Wilmington

Claire Hamilton-
Louisiana State College
Penn State University
University of Arkansas

Madison Harkness-
Albright College
East Stroudsburg
Susquehanna University
West Chester University
University of Scranton
Loyola University Maryland

Logan Harms- High Point University

Shawn Harriman-
College of Charelston
University of Tampa
University of Alabama

Annie Heenan-
University of Mississippi
College of Charelston
James Madison University
Monmouth University
Rutgers University
St. josephs University
East Carolina University

Chris Heilos-
Rowan University
Mount Saint Mary's
Saint Leo University
University of Scranton

Colleen Hessinger- University of Scranton

Nic Howe- New Jersey Institute of Technology

Ally Johnson-
Providence University
Fairfield University
Catholic University
St. Joes University

Amanda Karp-
Emerson College
Monmouth University
Ramapo College
Rowan University
Simmons College
The College of New Jersey

Mikayla Keastead- Brookdale Community College

Padraig Kerrigan- Maine Maritime Academy

Aaron Kocienski- Florida Institute of Technology
New York Institute of Technology

Shannon Kirk-
University of Scranton
The College of New Jersey
Muhlenburg College

Joe LaRosa- George Mason University

Dylan Lembo-
Loyola University Maryland
Pace University
College of New Jersey
University of Delaware
Drew University
Monmouth University

Sam Lyons- Manhattan College

Emily Magrini-
Loyola University Maryland
Misericordia University
Sacred Heart University
Seton Hall University

Riley Martin-
Flagler College
Lynn University

Addie Masonius-
Wagner College

Daley McCallum-
Georgia College
Univeristy of Kentucky
University of South Carolina

Christian McCloskey-
Monmouth University
Stockton University
The College of New Jersey
University of the Sciences





Nick Offerman in 2015

Nick Offerman, aka Ron Swanson on NBC's *Parks and Recreation*, Is Actor and Woodworker Extraordinaire

By: Amanda Karp

So he decided to take part in theatre.

This came about following his graduation from high school, where he immersed himself in a number of different interests, from playing the tenor saxophone to fishing in his spare time.

He attended the University of Illinois, where he founded the Defiant Theatre, which was a theatre company based in Chicago, which later disbanded in 2004.

In the late nineties, he had moved to L.A. to become an actor, and in the midst of the *Friends* craze, Offerman decided to stay true to himself, "If I go to an audition, they're going to see 20 *Friends* wannabes and then this weird farmer. At some point, they're going to need a weird farmer."

This line of thought paid off, when, in 2009, he was cast as the meat-loving, libertarian, *Parks* Department Director Ron Swanson, whose ultimate goal is to make sure nothing gets done within his department.

Offerman's deadpan nature has lent well to his comedy, in such comedy specials as *American Ham* (2014), where he talks of woodworking, occurrences in his life, songs, and J.R.R. Tolkien. It has also aided in his autobiographies: *Paddle Your Own Canoe: One Man's*

Fundamentals for Delicious Living, Gumption: Relighting the Torch of Freedom with America's Gutsiest Troublemakers, and *Good Clean Fun: Misadventures in Sawdust at Offerman Woodshop*.

These works allow the reader to take a peek into Offerman's life – which is otherwise kept somewhat under wraps. He is married to actress Megan Mullally, who he frequently showers with praise whenever he is given the chance.

When asked to impart words of wisdom for an interview, he stated:

"Yes, in fact. Be grateful. Do not take any hour for granted... I'm smart enough to recognize that I've been given some good fortune and I've got just enough education to hang onto my good fortune, so I live gratefully every day."

Nick Offerman in his woodshop, 2012



Nick Offerman is known for his high pitched giggles, extremely neutral face, and his role as Ron Swanson on the beloved show, *Parks and Recreation*, which ran from 2009-2015. While he is an actor, Offerman is also a successful author, woodworker, and a comedian, though he does not consider himself to be one.

He was born in Joliet, Illinois, in 1970, and grew up in Minooka, with his three siblings and parents in a farmhouse.

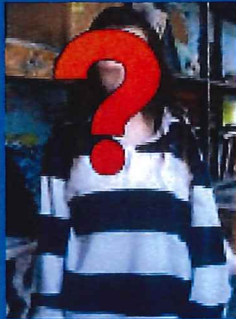
His deadpan style of comedy was born from being an altar boy at Saint Mary's Catholic Church, where he tried to get away with making the congregation laugh, much to the displeasure of his father, so Offerman learned to keep his facial expressions to the minimum.

Being in church, and having somewhat of a strict upbringing with regard to the attendance of church, showed Offerman that he wanted a choice in the matter, and that he'd rather be doing something else instead – which isn't to say he didn't appreciate some of the lessons he learned while going to church.

CAN YOU GUESS THESE SENIORS!?

BY MEGGE SANCHEZ

SENIOR GUESS WHO?



This crazy senior has one of the most unique laughs. She is known to have made a Christmas carol album her freshman year. Some may even call her casserole. Who is she?

A



This edgy senior is known for his "ski cut". He has a celebrity crush on Ryan Gosling. You may know him as Howie. Who is he?

B



This freckled senior loves animals more than people. She's a loud redhead who is also in the Academy of Health Careers. Her celebrity crush is Gene Kelly. Who is she?

C



This funny senior has long hair and is in love with Shakira. You may know him as the boy who can do a split. His favorite activity to do outside of school is sleep. Who is he?

D



This clumsy senior is known to have lots of pets. She even found a stray cat in her attic. You may see her driving around in her VW beetle. Who is she?

E

This Was The XFL Review: Yet Another Great 30 for 30

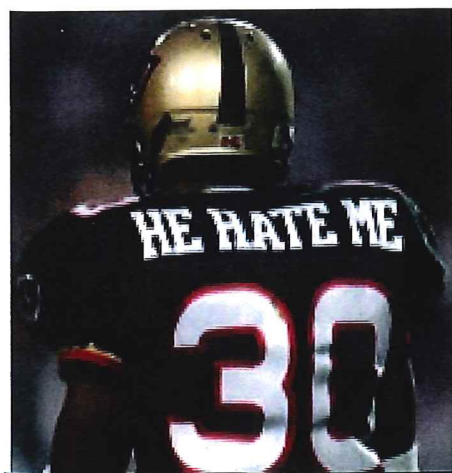
By: Shane Connolly

ESPN released its first sports documentary of the 30 for 30 series on October 6th, 2009, and thus began the sudden ascension of the entire genre. The movie released on that day was *Kings Ransom*, which told the story of hockey legend Wayne Gretzky's departure from the Edmonton Oilers to the Los Angeles Kings. The film, directed by Peter Berg, rejuvenated America's interest in documentaries, specifically those about sports, and paved the way for one of ESPN's most highly regarded productions.

The origin of "30 for 30" came from ESPN's celebration of their 30th anniversary as a company. The first series contained 30 documentaries composed by 30 different directors.

Due to the extreme popularity of the series, ESPN has since capitalized on the opportunity and expanded the parameters of the collection. There are currently 87 released 30 for 30s and there are still more in the making.

The most recent film in the series is titled *This Was The XFL*. Directed by Charlie Ebersol, the movie highlights the extreme highs and lows of the one extravagant season of XFL football. The league, founded in 2001 by Vince McMahon, lasted only one year but provided many memories and made a profound impact on the sports world.



Rod Smart became the poster boy for the XFL with his customized jersey (above).

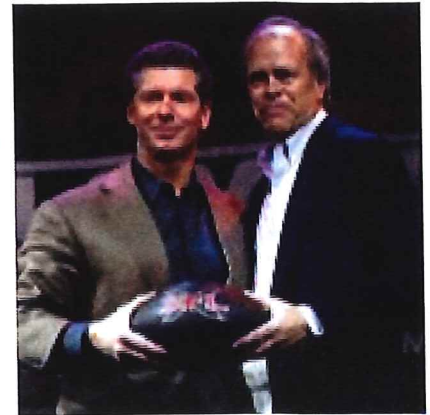
The XFL was created on a whim by World Wrestling Entertainment's owner Vince McMahon in hopes to compete directly with the National Football League, whose established brand has lasted nearly 100 years with minimal challenges to their business. The league promised big hits, crazy celebrations, and larger than life personalities, but much like many of the other outrageous guarantees, it ultimately fell short in the end.

This Was The XFL does an amazing job at showing off the good, the bad, and the ugly of the league as it attempted to establish itself as a real, legitimate professional football league. The film follows the whole story of the league, beginning with its sudden foundation and the day it was forced to fold.

Also examined in the film is the relationship between Vince McMahon and Dick Ebersol, who at the time was president of NBC Sports. Ebersol had just lost a broadcasting contract with the NFL, and he happened to be a good friend of McMahon, making the partnership of NBC and the XFL a seemingly perfect match.

The movie provides intricate details about the action behind the scenes that occurred before the first game was even played thanks to director Charlie Ebersol, who witnessed much of it firsthand due to his father's heavy involvement with the product. At the time of its inception, the media flooded Vince McMahon and Dick Ebersol with questions regarding the rules of the game, the teams, their locations, the coaches, and the players, and for the most part, they got vague answers or none at all. As it turns out, the duo didn't have the answers themselves.

The league was a concept created by McMahon who had no prior experience running any kind of football organization, so the rules, teams, and other essentials were an afterthought for him. In the film, you can see how hectic it was just to find the players and coaches to fill the eight



Vince McMahon (left) and Dick Ebersol (right) pose with the first XFL prototype football.

teams by the time the season started.

The balance between showing the debacle going on behind the scenes and the product that was shown to the fans on Saturdays was perfectly put together. Charlie Ebersol does a good job following a timeline of events while flipping back and forth between moments in the public eye and those only known by a select group of people.

By far my favorite part of *This Was The XFL* was the nostalgic vibe it gave off despite the overwhelming failure of the league itself. All the players, coaches, and commentators that talked about their XFL experience fondly, and only few people still felt ill will toward the league and the management.

If there was one thing I had to choose as a con of this film, it would probably be that Charlie Ebersol may have taken a bit of a biased angle at conveying the story due to his father being at the head of the business deal for the XFL. However, this connection provided background details that no one other than Dick Ebersol and Vince McMahon would know, which was part of why the film was so outstanding.

Overall, *This Was The XFL* is a wonderful addition to ESPN's 30 for 30 series. The film was able to capture and hold my attention the whole time, and it turned out to be very informative as well as entertaining. If you want to watch this movie, you'll have to catch it on one of ESPN's channels or on the WatchESPN app now that ESPN has removed their documentaries from Netflix. If you're a football fan, a sports fan, or a sports history buff, you will absolutely enjoy *This Was The XFL*.

HOROSCOPES

By: Amanda Karp

Pieces

Though you are focused on the present and try not to worry about the future, it's important to have a plan.

Aries

You are always up for a challenge, but be sure to make sure you can manage the stress that comes along with it.

Taurus

You are dependable and hardworking, and dedicated to your craft, but don't let that stop you from having fun.

Gemini

Though you may feel like a loner, remember that people are here to support you, and talk to those who are most important to you.

Cancer

People may expect a lot from you, but that is because they know you can achieve greatness.

Leo

You are a go-getter and a great listener, which comes in handy when people need you to lend an ear.

Virgo

The funniest of your friend group, you always have something to say which will cheer people up and make them laugh.

Libra

Though it may be hard to say no at times, learning to have those boundaries established is an important part of your growth.

Scorpio

Out of all the people, you have the biggest heart, and are very generous with your time, remember to take time for yourself.

Sagittarius

You're honest to a fault, and though some people don't appreciate it now, it will benefit you in the long run to be known as someone who is always truthful.

Capricorn

You are incredibly imaginative - channel your ideas into your work and it will take you places.

Aquarius

You are very patient, but you shouldn't let people take advantage of your nature.



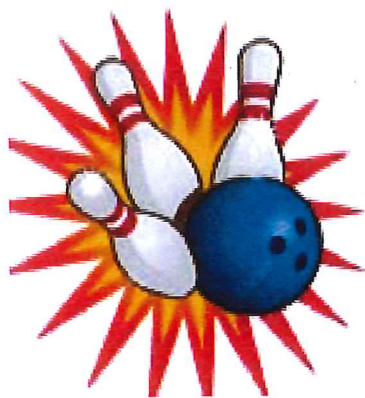
BLUE & GRAY SPORTS



BOYS BOWLING

Page 27

STRIKE DOWN THEIR OPPONENTS TO WIN STATES



By: Elizabeth Rooney

Sometimes it's not always the most popular sports that are on top of their game, but the sports that fly under the radar. Recently the boys bowling, coached by Mr. Clayton and co-captained by Austin Devereux and Chris Heilos, became Group 1 Central Jersey Champions on February 17 at the Carolier Lanes in New Brunswick.

The boys bowling team had a successful season with a record of 16-2. In addition to winning their Central Jersey Champion title, they became Shore Conference Central A Division Champs and finished second at the Shore Conference Tournament, the best in school history.

They had a game total of 3,110 to beat second place Pompton Lakes. After its first game the Warriors were in third place trailing Pompton Lakes and Maple Shade. Then by the second game they were still in third and trailing Maple Shade Pompton lakes, but by a lesser margin.

It was the third game that made all the difference. The team was able to come together and pull ahead of both Pompton lakes and Maple Shade in third game and

win overall with the highest combine total of all three games.

Mr. Clayton couldn't have been prouder of his team and we they have done throughout the season. He especially felt that the team did exactly what was needed to win the title.

Going into the championship Coach Clayton had a game plan: "Our goal was to bowl 3,100. We thought 3,100

Co-captains Austin Devereux and Chris Heilos led the way, not only with their bowling but cheering and encouraging their team the whole way through. Chris was the first bowler and Austin was the fifth bowler known as the anchor.

Austin had a 701 series, Dylan Wolfe a 703 series, and Kyle Bauter a 630, for MHS's top totals that day. All six bowlers were used during all three rounds of the championship game.

This year Manasquan had three bowlers, Austin, Kyle, and Chris qualified for the Individual Shore Conference tournament, and, in addition, Austin won the Central Jersey Individual Champion.

To Austin and Chris, it was a lot of fun and great to be a part of, but more importantly winning the state championship was rewarding to them, the team, and Coach Clayton. It was a season that they will never forget, and as seniors, something to carry on with them.

Mr. Clayton felt this year was a great year for the bowling team. He wouldn't change a thing, stating, "It was a lot of fun to be around those guys, they are a great group of kids."

The boy's bowling team may not be the best known team in school, but they stand on top as champions. So, when you see Mr. Clayton, Austin Devereux, Chris Helios, or any other bowlers in the hallway, congratulate them on a win well deserved that marks an end to an incredible and successful season.



Above: the 2017 champs with Coach Clayton show off their trophies

would win it. We knew what we were up against and we bowled a 3,110."

Coach Clayton believes the team really came together and worked towards their potential, adding, "They pulled it all together. They did it themselves, they rallied around each other. It was a true team effort."

BLUE & GRAY SPORTS

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Marshall, Ostberg are a Diamond Duo of MHS Wrestling

By: Sarah Higgins

For the first time since 2004, MHS sent two varsity wrestlers to Regions! Senior Joey Ostberg and junior Francis Marshall took on the competition by storm. The first day of the regional tournament started on Wednesday, February 22nd and continued through the weekend.

The last time MHS sent even a single wrestler to regions was 2013. Coach Voskian stated how "exciting it is to be going back to Regions, and even more excit-

plenty more ahead. Now I have to settle down after that win and get ready for Quarterfinals."

Ostberg was not only focused on advancing to the next round, he had in his sights a chance to break the school's career winning record, held by assistant coach Steve Schiavo, who had 88 career wins. You would think that he would feel some pressure, but not Ostberg: "I don't feel any pressure really. I'm out here wrestling and having fun doing it. It's like a dream honestly."

Both Ostberg and Marshall felt a great amount of support from team, especially with a lot of them coming out to Brick Memorial to watch.

After Wednesday, they weren't done yet. On Friday, Feb. 24th, both still had a lot of work to do before they would start celebrating. Ostberg and Marshall still had plenty of matches to go.

Up first at 152, Marshall duelled Northern Burlington. Winning by decision with a final score of 15-8, he advanced to semi-finals. There he wrestled Manalapan but unfortunately lost by decision with a final score of 7-2. But he wasn't done yet. After advancing so far, Marshall mentioned how he thought to himself, "I don't believe in luck. I'm supposed to be here."

He later had a wrestle back match to decide whether States was in his future or not. Up against someone who he had dominated early on in the season, Point Beach. In true Marshall fashion, he won by decision with a final score of 7-5.

Next he wrestled for 3rd or 4th place, going up against a wrestler from Ewing. Sadly, Marshall was pinned in triple over-

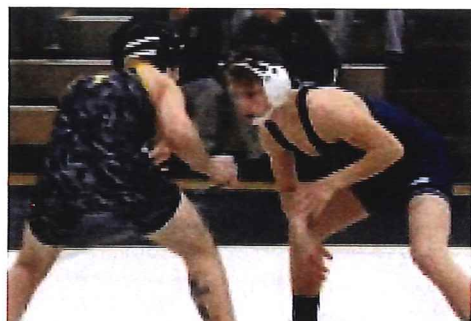
time, getting 4th place. Although he lost, this still meant that he had earned his spot in States.

Marshall traveled to Atlantic City where he wrestled a two time state champ from Bergen County. He was sadly defeated in the second period when he was pinned. He then had his wrestleback against his opponent from Northern Highlands. After putting in a tremendous effort, he was pinned in the second period. Not advancing as far as he had hoped does not overshadow his amazing accomplishment, reaching states as a first year wrestler.

At 160 Ostberg faced tough competition in the regional finals, wrestling Freehold Township. Ostberg put all he had into the match but lost by decision with a final score of 8-4. He followed that up with a win in his first wrestle-back match. Wrestling against Robbinsville and going over time, he won by sudden victory with a score of 8-6.

Ostberg moved onto his second wrestle-back match against Delran, unfortunately losing by decision with the final score of 7-2. Ostberg's final match for regions was the 5th or 6th place match-up against Burlington Township. He did everything he could, but was sadly pinned in the second period.

With both of our wrestlers advancing far in regions, and now one advancing to States, it was a huge success. Ostberg finished the season saying, "every match begins at 0-0."



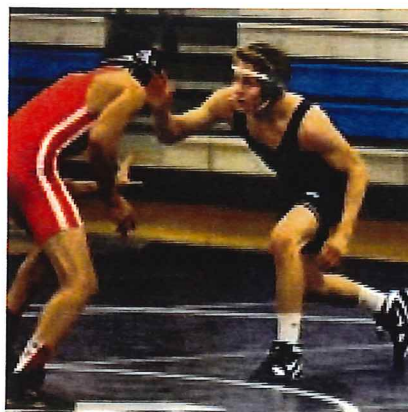
Above: Joey battles an opponent from earlier this season. Below (right): Francis dominates his opponent.

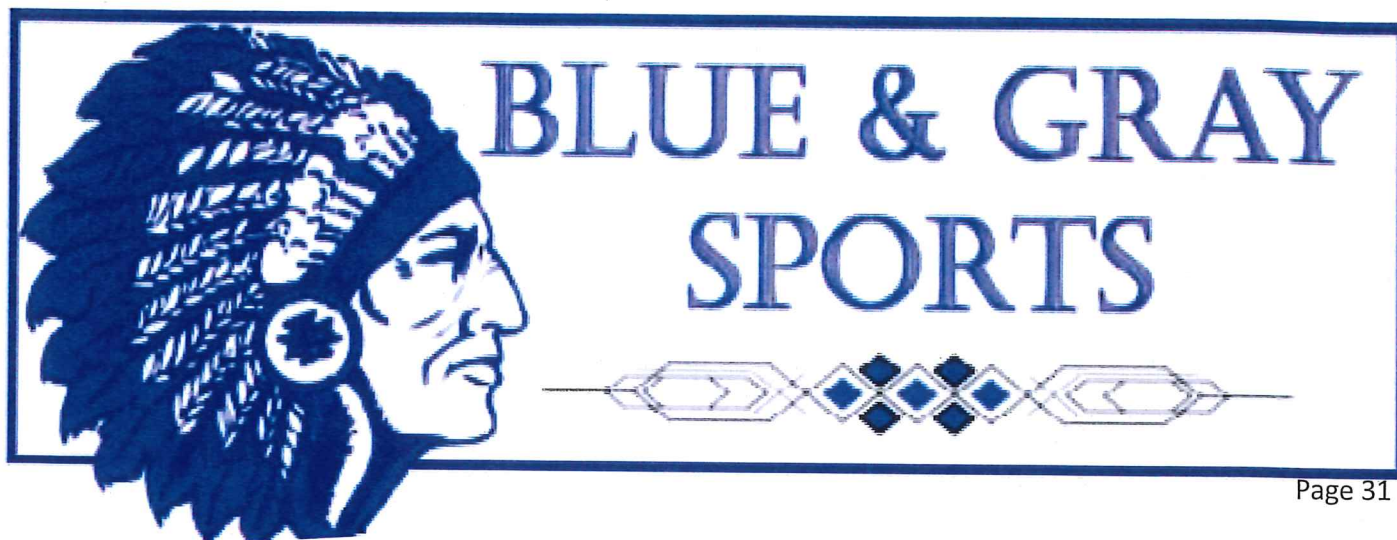
ing to be sending two!"

Both received the 3rd seed for their weight classes, so the odds were in their favor. Both expected to go far in the tournament, and they started off with one win each. Wrestling at 152 lbs, Marshall went up against someone who he had wrestled earlier in the season and defeated from Shore Regional. Now in the first round, he took on Shore again and came out with yet another win, by decision at 11-4.

Ostberg faced Bordentown in his first match, and majored, making his win 16-7, and giving him that spot he needed in the Quarterfinals.

Going into Regions, Marshall said felt great and his body felt great. After winning his match in the first round, Marshall said how "Winning feels good, but there's

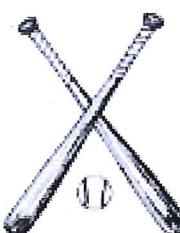




SUPPORT SPRING SPORTS!

Softball Varsity & JV

Date	Opponent	Time	Site
Apr. 1	Colts Neck	10:00A	H
Apr. 3	Ocean Twp	4:00P	A
Apr. 5	Middletown North	4:00P	A
Apr. 7	Long Branch	4:00P	H
Apr. 11	Monmouth Reg	4:00P	H
Apr. 13	Wall	3:45P	H
Apr. 15	Holmdel	10:00A	A
Apr. 18	RBC	4:00P	A
Apr. 19	Middletown South	4:00P	H
Apr. 21	Ocean Twp	3:45P	H
Apr. 24	Howell	3:45P	A
Apr. 25	Middletown North	4:00P	H
Apr. 27	Long Branch	4:00P	A
May 1	Monmouth Reg	4:00P	A
May 3	Wall	4:00P	A
May 4	RBC	4:00P	H
May 6	St. Rose	10:00A	H
May 8	Middletown South	4:00P	A
May 13	Elizabeth	10:00A	H



Boys Varsity Tennis

Date	Opponent	Time	Site
Apr. 3	Middletown North	4:00P	H
Apr. 4	Ocean Twp	3:45P	H
Apr. 6	Long Branch	4:00P	A
Apr. 7	RBC	4:00P	A
Apr. 10	St. Rose	3:45P	H
Apr. 11	Monmouth Reg	4:00P	A
Apr. 12	Wall	3:45P	H
Apr. 24	Ocean Twp	3:45P	A
Apr. 26	Long Branch	4:00P	H
Apr. 28	Middletown North	4:00P	A
May 1	Middletown South	4:00P	H
May 2	Wall	3:45P	A
May 3	Manalapan	4:00P	H
May 4	Middletown South	4:00P	A
May 8	RBC	4:00P	H
May 9	Ranney	4:00P	A
May 10	Monmouth Reg	4:00P	H
May 12	Red Bank Reg	4:00P	H

Baseball Varsity & JV

Date	Opponent	Time	Site
Apr. 1	Mater Dei Prep	10:00A	H
Apr. 4	Ocean Twp	4:00P	A
Apr. 5	Middletown North	4:00P	A
Apr. 7	Long Branch	4:00P	H
Apr. 8	St. Rose	2:00P	A
Apr. 11	Monmouth Reg	4:00P	H
Apr. 13	Wall	3:45P	H
Apr. 15	Holmdel	10:00A	A
Apr. 18	RBC	4:00P	A
Apr. 19	Middletown South	4:00P	H
Apr. 21	Ocean Twp	3:45P	H
Apr. 24	Howell	3:45P	A
Apr. 25	Middletown North	4:00P	H
Apr. 27	Long Branch	4:00P	A
May 1	Monmouth Reg	4:00P	A
May 3	Wall	4:00P	A
May 4	RBC	4:00P	H
May 9	Middletown South	4:00P	A
May 11	Rumson-FH	4:00P	A
May 13	Point Beach	10:00A	H



Boys Varsity Golf

Date	Opponent	Time	Site
Apr. 3	Wall Invitational	7:00A	A
Apr. 6	Middletown North	3:30P	H
Apr. 10	Neptune	3:30P	H
Apr. 11	Point Boro	3:30P	A
Apr. 24	Wall	3:30P	A
Apr. 26	St. Rose	3:30P	A
Apr. 27	Colts Neck	3:45P	A
Apr. 28	Long Branch	4:00P	A
May 1	Middletown North	3:30P	A
May 2	Colts Neck	3:30P	A
May 3	CBA	3:30P	A
May 4	Rumson-FH	3:30P	H
May 8	Point Boro	3:30P	H
May 9	Holmdel	3:30P	A
May 10	Neptune	3:30P	A
May 11	RBR/MTS	3:30P	H
May 15	Wall	3:30P	H
May 16	Middletown South	3:30P	A
May 17	Long Branch	3:30P	H
May 18	Southern Reg	4:00P	H



BLUE & GRAY SPORTS

Page 33

Manasquan Girls Claim 4th Group II Trophy, Reach TOC Final Again

By: Bella Jannarone

A team that many believed would not lose a single game this season, the Lady Warriors have proven themselves superior once again, claiming the Group II championship title on Sunday, March 12th against High Point with a final score of 66-40. The team has won four straight Group II titles, making this their fourth consecutive year in the Tournament of Champions as well.

By the end of the first quarter, the Warriors had outscored High Point by 10 points, assuring everyone Manasquan would come out victorious. Dara Mabrey, scoring 126 points in the 6 state tournament games alone, led the team Sunday night with 19 points.

Senior starters Addie Masonius and Stella Clark have gone four-for-four in group championships. The team's seniors are 21-1 in games at Pine Belt arena, including holiday tournaments, shore conference tournaments, and state tournaments. Coming out with 13 points and seven assists combined during Sunday's game, Clark and Masonius hope to win their final game at Pine Belt arena.

Scoring all of her points in the first quarter, sophomore Faith Masonius was the third player to score double digits, ending the game with 11 points, 3 assists and one rebound. Lola Mullaney and Carly Geisler each contributed 8

points to the team's victory, and Mullaney hit a three point buzzer beater at the end of the third quarter.

At the beginning of the second half, Manasquan was up by 21 points. Securing the victory by the end of the third quarter, up by 28 points, Manasquan's Coach Kokoda emptied the bench giving the whole team the opportunity to play at the arena and in a championship game.

Earning a bye in the first round of the Tournament of Champions, Manasquan will play Thursday March 16th, a game not to miss.



Basketball State Tournament

continued from page 28

seconds left on the clock. She knocked down both free throws, sending Squan to a 67-66 win and another sectional title.

Meanwhile, the Manasquan boys basketball team had an exciting week of states, making it to the semifinals in their division, seeded fourth in the tournament.

In the first round of Jersey Central Group II tournament, the boys faced off against thirteenth seeded Robbinsville that ended in a 68-42 victory for Manasquan. Devin Jensen led the team with 29 points and seven rebounds, scoring his 1000 career point. Squan's offense was led by Jensen's six 3-pointers, and followed by Paturzo's 15 points and seven rebounds.

On Wednesday night the boys had their last home game that ended in a 67-49 win for Squan against fifth seeded North Plainfield. Once again, Devin Jensen leads the team scoring 25 points, 12 rebounds and five assists. Sophomore Brad McCabe finished with 16 points,

eight rebounds and three blocks for Manasquan. Senior Seamus Hogan added 9 points towards the team's crucial victory in the state tournament, sending them to the semifinals.

The boys were eliminated from the state tournament after playing number one seeded Rumson Fair Haven during a sold out game Friday night. The Warriors outscored the Bulldogs in the first half, led by Brian Paturzo's 18 points. With the Warriors up by 3 points with less than a minute left in the fourth quarter, Rumson drained a three that brought both teams into an intensified overtime that resulted in a 62-70 victory for Rumson Fair Haven.

Winter Glory!

Images of MHS Champions in Action

