

# The Blue & Gray

## Manasquan High School

October 2017

### Construction Comes to Squan

*Inconvenience today means improvements tomorrow*



**Above:** A recent September afternoon saw construction crews taking down trees in front of the former high school science labs.

#### in this issue



College application season heats up for seniors

New teachers join MHS staff

Guidance introduces new course selections for students

Halloween festivities coming soon... what's your costume?

Fall Fashion: tips for all!

North Korea, Las Vegas, Puerto Rico and Spain dominate headlines around the world

Warriors Compete for Crowns in fall sports

Art classes create a buzz with strange new tape sculptures





# Massive Renovations Underway

## Dr. Kasyan says work will be finished next December

By Max Strapp

Since the start of the summer, Manasquan High School has been undergoing massive changes and renovations all over the school. The major renovations still being worked on are new science labs, an HVAC system, and a new greenhouse. Also, over the summer, the school completely renovated both the school's media center and the shack near the Vic Kuba football field.

According to MHS principal Mr. Coppola, the "main focus of the renovations is the science wing." Throughout the year, the school will be renovating two science labs on the first floor and will be converting another lab into a STEM lab. On the second floor that is being added to the northside of the school, another regular science lab will be added, along with a new room for the Technology team, and a greenhouse.

This is all part of an effort to improve our out-of-date science facilities. As a result, along with the renovated science rooms, the administration plans to add additional science-based classes and give every incoming freshman the opportunity to take Biology their first year. As the science rooms were last renovated in 1962, these changes are desperately needed.

Another major renovation that the school administration is optimistic about is the new HVAC system that will control the heat-



*Pictured above: a computer rendition of the high school when the work is completed. Notice the far right, where the new science labs will be larger and on an even plane with the existing facade. Below: one of the old science labs, after demolition and now a work in progress.*



ing and cooling in the high school. As many students at MHS are very aware, the temperature in each room of the building can sometimes drastically differ. With an HVAC system, the school will have a much easier time regulating temperature. Over the summer, Manasquan Elementary School had an HVAC system installed and nearly all of their temperature issues have been fixed.

The majority of these renovations will be paid for by Manasquan taxpayers, who passed a referendum in late January 2017, which established a budget of about \$12.5 million.

Sending districts, meanwhile, will pay interest on loans taken to float the \$12.5 million.

Of the total dollars, \$8.1 million will be going to Manasquan High school while the rest will be used to renovate Manasquan Elementary school. As of early October, the school has already spent a total of \$1.4 million on renovations.

On October 4, Dr. Kasyan, superintendent of Manasquan Schools, assured the staff that the renovations will be completed "on time and under budget."

In the past, the referendum was repeatedly shut down as Manasquan residents found that too much of the funds were going to the football field and the shack. This time around, however, the district had made it a priority to not include any sports related improvements in the referendum outside of a new playground for MES. Still, the school was able to renovate the shack next to the football field over the summer thanks to a donation from the MHS Alumni fund.

As long as there are no more major setbacks, the renovations will be fully finished by early January of 2019—about five months later than the first time-table predicted before construction started. Nonetheless, these changes will dramatically improve our school and help us stay prominent in the future. This is a very exciting time to be an MHS student for those who will see the renovations to the end.



# Squan Robotics Engineers Impress at STEAM Tank Competition

By: Vicky Gathmann

On October 25, two groups of Manasquan High School students earned a huge honor, the opportunity to present their robotics projects in Atlantic City, in the finals of the statewide STEAM Tank Challenge competition.

Sponsored by the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA) and US Army, the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, & Math) Tank Challenge's task is to "invent something new, modify an existing product or identify a situation or problem that needs resolution ... and present their inventions before a panel of entrepreneurs, business leaders, and inventors".

The two projects that have advanced to the finals from Manasquan are the Exo Controller and the Outdoor Eco-Track. The Exo Controller, described by Mrs. Edwards as "an Xbox controller powered by the heat of the player's hands", is the idea being presented by Will Bielicki and Joe Maimone, both seniors, with the help of junior Chris Palangio. Seniors Kevin Lin and John Heeseman, along with Marc Gargiulo and junior Matt Palangio, are going to present the Outdoor Eco-Track.

These seven Squan finalists are the last of thirty of Mrs. Edwards students from the Academy of Engineering and Robotics Club who began competing began all the way back in March of 2017.

Working in groups, the thirty students initially submitted 12 projects in total. Of the twelve, ten were selected to compete in the Central Region semi-finals at the Stryker US Army Reserve Center in Trenton in May, 2017. From there, two were chosen to continue on to the finals.

This is Mrs. Edwards' third year directing the Academy of Engineering here at MHS. She is not surprised by how far her students have come in the competition, but she acknowledges the growing anxiety anticipating the competition. When asked

how she thinks the students feel about making it to the finals, she laughed and responded, "stressed".

The idea was introduced to her at a conference fall of 2016, where she registered for a mailing list to receive more information so that students in the Academy and in her club could submit their ideas.

"So many of the ideas were great," said Mrs. Edwards. "I'm surprised more didn't make it to the semi-finals, so I'm not surprised that two teams are finalists."

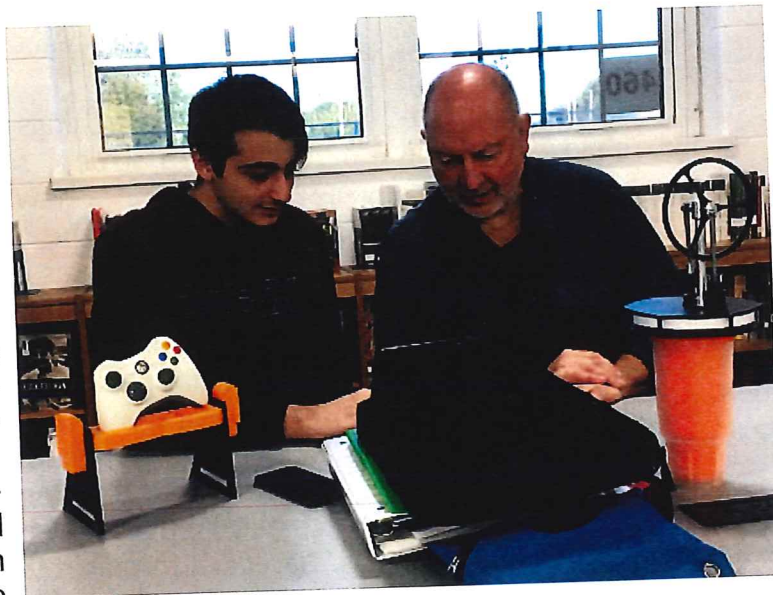
She also noted the tremendous stress and hard work the students have taken on in their projects, since it is entirely on their own time and extracurricular.

Students now need to ensure that they have a working model or prototype of their idea and to create an impressive presentation. Heeseman, grade 12, spoke

about the challenge: "having a working prototype, like the Exo Controller needs to have, is definitely just as stressful as our team needing a really good presentation". He continued to comment on how no matter how good an idea is, it can not pass if the presentation isn't "strong".

So what happens if our Squan engineers design the prototypes and deliver a strong presentation? The winning prize is getting to meet inventor QVC personality, and Shark Tank panelist Lori Greiner! Not only will the winners meet Greiner, but work with her to develop their idea. The winner additionally works with a patent lawyer to patent their idea; ultimately, if their idea is approved, the school will then receive a grant to go towards encouraging students to take part in projects like this.

The students on the final competing team were recognized at the Manasquan Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, where they presented their ideas to prepare for their actual presentation about a week later.



*Senior Joe Maimone consults with Professor Mr. Schilling of Ocean County College on his team's STEAM Tank project, the Exo-controller, which will be presented in Atlantic City.*



# College Applications: Here Sooner Than you Think

By: Jenna Stanley

As soon as someone mentions college applications, freshman look confused, sophomores shake their heads, juniors shudder, and seniors typically bang their heads on the nearest table. Applying to college is one of the most stressful parts of senior year, but guidance counselors are trying to veer students away from letting college applications consume their fall semester.

There is the common phrase of "I'll get to it later" or, "I'll always remember this", when dealing with large service projects or important activities that should be put on a student's resume or Common Application. Mr. Hoffman, a guidance counselor for upperclassmen, encourages all students to stop thinking like this: "Every year, the guidance department sends out a Naviance Curriculum for students to follow. Students who fulfill these requirements each year are typically much less stressed come their senior year because they have done their research." He also notes that it is important to begin documenting all activities beginning

freshman year, so all those achievements will demonstrate student growth over their four years at M.H.S.

Another issue many juniors and even seniors have, is finding the right college fit. Mr. Hoffman tells students to "find their strengths and to pick something you like, because it makes going to school and eventually working in that career that much easier." This is advice that anyone in their high school career can listen to. Mr. Hoffman also encourages students to really discuss what the best option is for both parents and student, whether it be a trade school, two-year or four-year school, or any of the other options available.

Many seniors have started, or even completed the college application process already. Senior Mary

Shaughnessy has found her mom to be her go-to person when it comes to anything college. She says, "I have been doing most of it on my own because my brothers have gone through the same



Seniors Dina Richards and Mary Shaughnessy are deep in the college application process and looking forward to receiving ACCEPTANCE LETTERS!

process. My mom knows everything I have to get done." Excited to study nutrition when she finally finds where she's been accepted, Mary has found the scariest part to be waiting to hear her colleges' acceptance decisions. Another senior, Dina Richards, has taken a more "relaxed" approach to her application process. She feels more comfortable waiting for her acceptance letters because, "I have a variety of schools that I'm applying to, so I'm not really worried about getting in." Interested in becoming a civil or mechanical engineer, Dina is looking forward to college too.

So, applying to college isn't as scary as many seem to think. The challenge is asking the right questions and listening to those who are there to give guidance. *The Blue and Gray* wishes all the seniors the best of luck in the college application process!



## Invasion of the Tape People!



You may have seen some strange figures around Manasquan High School in the first month of the school year. In the media center one reads a book and another sneaks behind the Warrior sculpture, while in the gym one throws down a dunk. Elsewhere two arms and a leg bust through the construction barrier blocking off the old science wing, and another playfully swings from the branch of a tree near the tennis courts. No, we have not been invaded by aliens (although they do resemble some classic sci-fi images of Martians and other extraterrestrials). These are tape sculptures created in Mrs. Hermann's art class.



# The Blue & Gray

## FEATURES

### Mrs. Festa Joins Science Department

By: Jenna Stanley

Science is becoming one of the most important and prominent fields of study in the world today. So, Science teachers are incredibly important to teaching the new generation of scientists, and Manasquan is lucky enough to have Mrs. Festa as a new Lab Integrated Science and Lab Biology teacher this year.

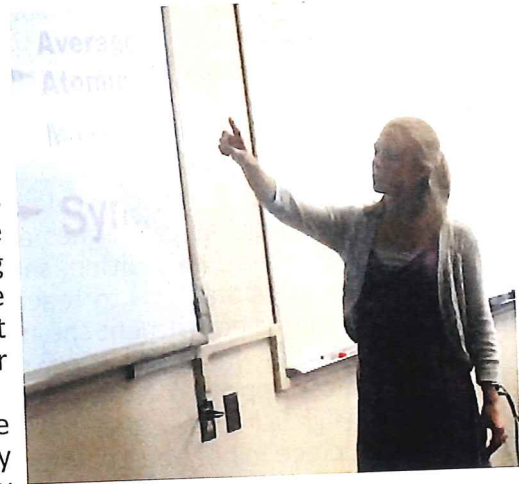
Mrs. Festa is beginning her eighth year of teaching, after previously teaching science at Cranford High School in New Jersey as well as a school in Pennsylvania. Although she didn't grow up in New Jersey, she studied biology for her undergraduate degree at Seton Hall and received her Master's in Education from Rutgers. One of the main reasons she applied for the job at M.H.S. was that her husband grew up and now works in the area, and after hearing the good reputation Manasquan has, she was excited for the position.

When asked why she wanted to become a science teacher, Mrs. Festa responded, "My high school science teacher was so easy to relate to and made class enjoyable. I've always been interested in science, but it wasn't until

college that I realized I wanted to teach." She hopes to continue demonstrating the importance of science that her teacher showed her.

While not currently involved in any clubs or sports,

Mrs. Festa hopes to find one of the many clubs or sports that M.H.S. offers to participate in, such as Cross Country and Track, or a more service oriented club. Outside of school, she enjoys living a healthy life style through fitness and cooking as well as making the community she lives in a better place. Mrs. Festa is excited to continue learning about her students this year and making an impact at Manasquan.



### Miss Eggie Returns to MHS English Department

By: Christian Rogich



very excited to be back!

Miss Eggie currently teaches English I Honors, and English IV. Next semester she will also teach English II.

Originally from Kearny in northern New Jersey, Miss Eggie grew up in Tinton Falls. She went to Monmouth Regional high school and moved to Spring Lake Heights two months ago.

After completing her student teaching here at MHS last semester, Miss Eggie is

She attended Rutgers and graduated in 2014 then went to Thomas Edison State University (where she received her English degree) and now attends Georgian Court University to work on her master's degree. Ms. Eggie is a former substitute teacher at Tinton Falls and MHS is her first full time teaching experience; she hopes to teach here for a long time.

Ms. Eggie's student teaching consisted of senior and freshman classes. She is very happy to be teaching here and loves her class and students. We look forward to seeing her contributions to the classes, the English department and to MHS.



# Hot Job at MHS: Maternity Leave Replacement

*Many of the new faces seen around MHS this year were hired to replace teachers out for the semester or the year on maternity leave. So while those veteran teachers are raising babies, we have the privilege of working with their replacements.*

## Ms. Matrale

By: Jenna Stanley

The new school year presents lots of excitement and nervousness for incoming freshman, new students, and even new teachers. Ms. Matrale, while new to teaching Astronomy and Meteorology as well as Marine science while covering for Mrs. McHugh who's away on maternity leave, is no stranger to Manasquan High School.

Last year, during first semester, Ms. Matrale was student teaching Biology with Mrs. Crowning. Then, during second semester, she covered for Mrs. McHugh when she left on maternity leave. Ms. Matrale is a graduate of Stockton University, where she received her bachelor of science in biology as well as a teaching certification in biology.

When deciding where to student teach, Manasquan was



her first and favorite choice. She expresses, "I heard lots of good things about Manasquan High School. I was told how hard working and dedicated the students were and I wanted to be a part of that." Now, that she's here, she is enjoying connecting and creating professional relationships with the other teachers and making an impact on student's lives, even if she is only here for part of the year.

Students love that Ms. Matrale can connect with them, through stories and discussion-based classwork. Avi Pelly, a senior in Ms. Matrale's Astronomy and Meteorology class, relates, "Ms. Matrale teaches in a relatable way that we understand. She makes it so we're not just sitting in our seats." Students have really taken to Ms. Matrale and hopefully

ly she will become a more common sight at M.H.S and will continue to help students grow.

## Mrs. Facer

By: Max Strapp



A new face that you'll be seeing around the school is Mrs. Facer, the new Spanish teacher who was a long-time teacher at Sea Girt Elementary school until coming to Manasquan High School. Mrs. Fac-

er attended Providence in order to get her BA, and, after spending a year at the University of Salamanca, she returned to the States to get her Masters at Monmouth University. Before that, she went to high school at nearby St. John Vianney. According to her, the reason she decided to pursue a job in education is that she believes that "anyone can learn Spanish" which is a belief she tries "to prove every day."

During her interview, she told the Blue & Grey that what appealed to her most when deciding to work at MHS was the block scheduling and how friendly the

students were. At her previous job, the school had eight periods and the students took the classes for the whole year. Also, she felt that working in a high school was very different compared to an Elementary school because the high schoolers require much different things than the lower grades due to the difference in ages.

So far, she feels that working at Manasquan High school has been great and she "love(s) it so far." We at the Blue & Grey want to welcome her to the MHS family, and we hope she continues to love working here!

## Mrs. Podos

By: Sara Rupertus

From theatre, to television, to teaching, Mrs. Podos has done it all. She is just one of the many new amazing teachers at Manasquan High School this 2017-2018 school year.

Prior to teaching here, she taught a theatre elective at Howell High School, as well as senior English. Before that she was a student at Binghamton University in New York and majored in English, while also receiving a minor in theatre. While there she was heavily involved in performing arts, whether that meant being front and center on stage, or staying

backstage as a member of the stage or costume crew. She always wanted to be involved no matter what role she had to take on.

Theatre had always played a major role in her life because it gave her an outlet to show people her creative side. This translated to her career in creative marketing. For sixteen years she worked in television marketing, which gave her the opportunity to work with and interview celebrities, such as Rob Lowe.

Mrs. Podos did not always know that she would end up with a teaching career, but eventually it seemed like the right fit. She grew up in New City, New York, with her father who was also a teacher. That, along with her desire to share her passion with others, is what

led her to be teaching at Manasquan today. When asked if she still does theater she said that it was hard to do because of her career, but then said, "If Steven Spielberg came knocking on my door wouldn't say no."





# THE BLUE AND GRAY WISHES A WARM WELCOME TO THE CLASS OF 2020!

As we quickly make our way through the school year, freshman should have learned their way around by now, but we still have some tips to keep in mind!

- Make sure to walk fast and stay to the side of the hallways!
- Try and get as much homework done in Study Hall as possible, so you don't have to spend all night doing it!
- Buy Walter's Big Cookies every time they are in the cafeteria!
- Get involved! Join clubs, play sports, volunteer!
- Go all out for Halloween!
- Help with the Homecoming hallway, play in the Homecoming pep rally games and go to the Homecoming Dance!
- Go to Football games and do the chop, go to Basketball games and dress up in your craziest outfits, jump in the bleachers and chant, be a part of the Student Section!
- Go to the fall play, and the spring musical. And to a parade when the band is marching. You'll be amazed at the talented performers in our school!
- Make new friends, even upperclassmen!
- Most importantly, have fun, the next 4 years go by SUPER quick!

## LEARN FROM LAST YEAR'S SENIORS: ADVICE FROM THE CLASS OF 2017



"Get involved and join as many clubs as you can."  
- Annie Heenan

"Don't get into trouble."  
- Mitch Grogan



"Don't be too full of yourself, you are still at the bottom and you have to work your way up to the top. But keep in mind, try to interact with people and get to know as many teachers as you can."  
- Katie Zhang



"Do your homework."  
- Hannah Digerness

"Socialize and make new friends."  
- Megge Sanchez



"Use study hall wisely, get ahead, and load up on AP classes."  
- Logan Roddy

"Stay on top of all of your work. It will pay off."  
- Vaughn Mandle



"Try new things, join clubs, and make as many friends as you can."  
- Brielle Stevens



"Get involved as much as possible and try to make new friends."  
- Elizabeth Kingman



# Men's Fall Fashion

By: Christian Rogich

*Even though we're sad to see it go, summer is over. Fall is now here, leaves will turn brown, temperature will drop, and your whole wardrobe must change. Here are some helpful hints into the trending styles for this fall.*

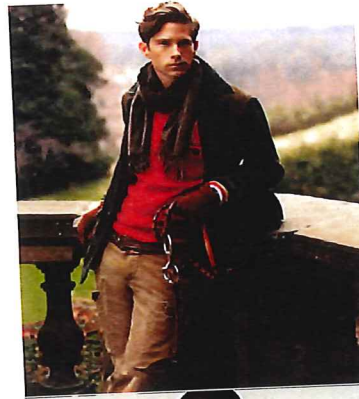
**Back from the Grave**  
Bomber jackets have made a comeback, recent trends at fashion shows in New York, Milan, and London indicate that bomber jackets are back and bold. So, dig in the back of your closet, dust off your old bomber, and turn heads wherever you are.

## Big and Bold

Puffer jackets have made their mark on the runways and streets of the fashion capitals this season. If you're looking for a warm and comfortable, yet stylish accessory this fall a puffer is the way to go.

## Add Some Color.

Red specifically bright red is a great choice for your fall looks. Here are some places you can find some pieces like those described in this article. H&M- great for bomber jackets  
Abercrombie & Fitch- Having a sale of puffer jackets



# Women's Fall Fashion

By: Maggie Kelly

As the summer winds down, there are more important things to think about than just the change of weather. Switching from fall fashion to summer fashion is a big move for many girls.

Putting away those summer tank tops and high-waisted shorts can be rough, but there are so many new Fall 2017 trends that are sure to give your style an A plus!

So far, 2017 has looked really good. Jean skirts are very popular now. They can range from all different colors to patterns and prints. The variety of jean skirts

for 2017 is incredible.

Another kind of skirt is a skort. Skorts are also coming into style, paired with a vibrant body suit or a chunky sweater. Bottoms are clearly a new hit for 2017, as ripped boyfriend jeans, flare jeans, and bootcut jeans are more popular than ever. Styled with a pair of slip-on vans or high-top converse, these jeans are a great way to come to school comfortable, yet stylish.

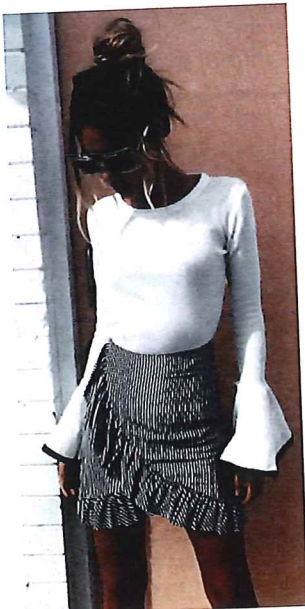
As tops go, one-shoulder or off the shoulder tops are necessary for your fall outfits. Many of these tops have a ruffle to make the top look fancier and adorable.

Statement sleeves are making their way into trends this

year, whether it's a belted sleeve, a ruffle sleeve, a cold-shoulder or cuffed sleeve. Any of these tops look great with a pair of pants or a skirt. Velvet is also still popular for girls. A piece of velvet clothing is always good to have, even if it's a velvet choker or a velvet dress.

Shoes are the final touch to your fall outfits. Over the knee boots, slip-on vans, high-top converse, loafers, and booties are essential pairs of shoes. They look great with a flowy dress, jeans, skirt, or a romper.

Like many girls in our school, Kendra Grogan says, "A pair of booties, ripped jeans, cozy sweater and a skirt is my ideal fall outfit."

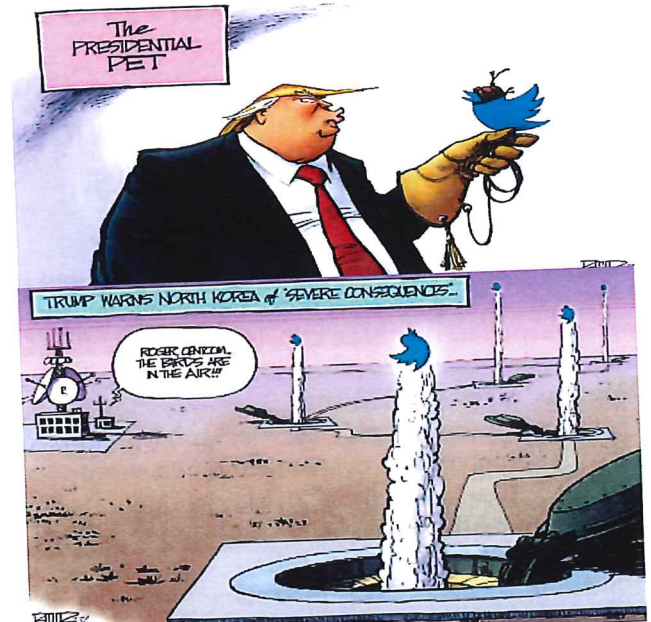
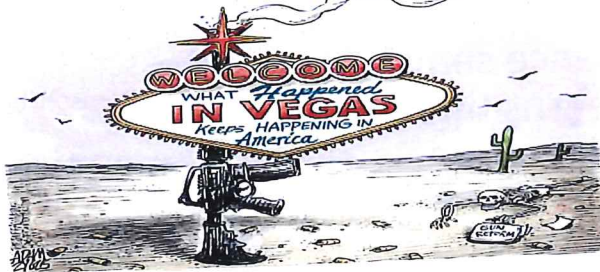




# THE NEWS IN POLITICAL CARTOONS

BY CHRISTIAN ROGICH

With so many controversial, tragic and discouraging stories in the news, ranging from the Las Vegas massacre to wildfires raging in California and, of course, our nation's intensifying conflict with North Korea, political cartoonists have been enjoying a field day. Check out a few we found from around the nation.



ROCKET MAN

TINY DANCER







# BLUE & GRAY SPORTS

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## Snatching Victory from the Jaws of Defeat Squan Surfers earn 4th state championship in a row

Sometimes pain lingers a long time. Sometimes we move on from pain quite quickly.

On Sunday, October 15 Manasquan High School surfers spent a long day at Spring Lake beach, competing in the National Scholastic Surfing Association championship for over ten hours against 18 other school from New York and New Jersey, only to leave disappointed.

They finished second, only two points behind Ocean City High School.

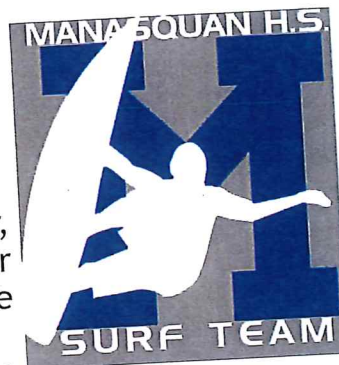
Two days later, however, the scores were recalculated, the result was reversed, and disappointment was replaced with joy. The revised scoring earned MHS the victory in the National Scholastic Surf Association State Championship competition, Squan's 4th consecutive crown.

Mr. Coppola announced the turnaround to the school during 2nd block on Wednesday, October 18, congratulating the surfers on their fine achievement.

Coach Buss, however, deserves credit also for bringing the error to the attention of the state.

Buss reviewed the scoring, knowing that two points in a surf competition is like a fraction of an inch in football. He scrutinized all of the results from the ten-hour competition, and discovered six points earned by Squan in one of the competitions were not added into the final tally. When coaches, and administrators, along with the NSSA director, discussed the error and credited the six points to Squan, the Warriors were the winners.

Continuing the tradition of not only team success but outstanding individual success as well, two surfers earned their own state championships. Sophomore Morgan Iglay earned individual girls state champion, repeating the feat from last year. And Keaton Fortney, a junior, won the longboard competition.



*Below: State champ in longboard competition, junior Keaton Fortney, and, overall female state champ, sophomore Morgan Iglay. Below, right: Surf team wraps up a long day on Spring Lake Beach as darkness falls, not yet knowing they would be champs.*







# BLUE & GRAY SPORTS



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## Cross Country Approaches Home Stretch As Season Comes To a Close

By Max Strapp

MHS boys cross-country has been off to a great start. Everyone on the team, including their long-time coach, Mr. Schwartz, seems very determined, and have proved their determination time and again.

On October 17th at the Monmouth County Championship at Holmdel Park, the team finally qualified for the Shore Conference Championship, meaning that they are top 15 in Monmouth and top 25 overall in the Shore Conference.

This was one of their best meets of the season so far. Junior Colin Flood, and senior Dan Kelly each posted their all-time personal bests, with times of 16:34 and 17:03 respectively. This meet helped solidify their position as one of the best teams in Monmouth and officially qualified



*Pictured at left: senior Dan Kelly has excelled this season.*

them for the Shore Conference Championship.

Mr. Schwartz, coach of the varsity boys cross country team at MHS for the past decade, felt that the team as a whole has done well this year despite numerous injuries to some of the top performers. In particular, senior Grant Gilbert has missed the season with a knee injury.

Nonetheless, Mr. Schwartz feels especially proud of the freshmen who have been able to step up this year and take on the roles of more experienced runners as best as they could. The hard work and ambition everyone on the team has shown is one of the biggest reasons as to why they have done so well.

Coach Schwartz's main goal for the season was to get everyone to work towards their full potential because he knows that if his players do, "they'll be successful." With his players breaking their personal bests again and again this year, Mr. Schwartz said that he was happy with how "the team is getting better over time." As the year goes on, it is clear that

the athletes are not only reaching their potential, but, in most cases, they are exceeding them.

Dan Kelly, a senior who is returning for his fourth year, has had arguably his best year so far. Like himself, he believes that "Overall, everyone's been improving" from the previous year. Also, his goal for the year is for the team to win the central Jersey Group II Semifinals. As long as everyone continues to run as well as they have been, the team should be able to achieve their goal.

The runners will soon take on their toughest challenge yet at the Shore Conference Championship on October 26th in Lakewood. As they currently stand in 14th place in the Shore, they'll be facing their toughest competition so far. However, as long as the group continues to show determination and ambition, and they run as well as they did at Holmdel in the Monmouth County Championships, they should have no problem showing the rest of the Shore Conference just how good they are this year.





# BLUE & GRAY SPORTS



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## At 5 -2, Football Looks Forward to States

By: Maggie Kelly

The Manasquan Football team has put in a lot of work this season. Every player's number one goal is to get back to the state finals, and win. Very hopeful for this year, starting quarterback Tommy Antonucci, believes this team has a lot of potential if they "work together, play hard, and focus at practice. It all comes down to Tuesday and Wednesday practices," Antonucci said.

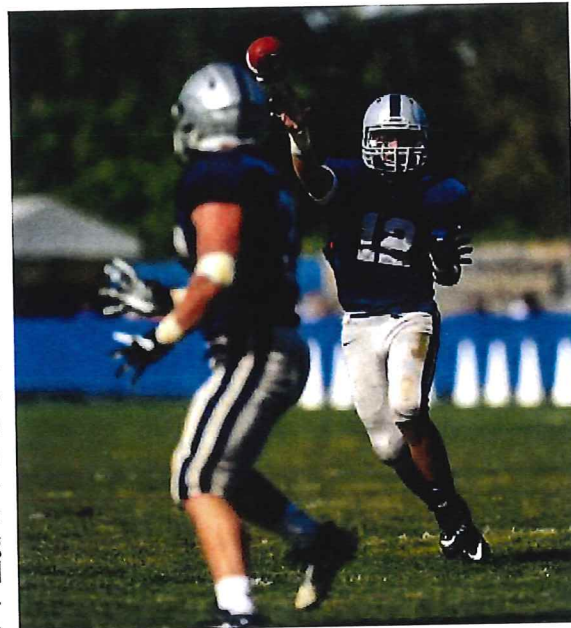
The first game did not go as planned for the Warriors, falling to Long Branch 28-19. Although it was not the best game, Coach Price believes it was a learning experience for a lot of the new players. The Warriors also lost a tough game against Middletown South, falling to the Eagles 10-7. It was an especially tough game for quarterback Tommy Antonucci, as he played against his father, the coach of the opposing

team.

On the bright side, three of Manasquan's wins so far have been shutouts. The Warriors hosted Woodbridge for their second game and won 30-0 with a spectacular performance by the Manasquan defense and senior running back Connor Morgan, who had 3 touchdowns. Another shutout came from the home game against Barnegat. Squan won 27-0, with great performances from running back Canyon Birch and wide receiver and cornerback, James Pendergist. Defensively, Evan Hilla and Dylan D'Anton came up with huge stops against the Bengals. The last shutout the Warriors had was away at Ocean and the Warriors again won 27-0. Mike Page made his Warrior debut with his first catch and a great game.

Coach Lee says that Page "fits right in and is an excellent young man that has already become a team leader." The game stat leaders were quarterback Tommy Antonucci and Connor Morgan.

The Warriors lost a lot of seniors last year, including some major key players. Returning key



*Pictured above: Senior Tommy Antonucci throws a touchdown pass to Canyon Birch against Middletown North.*



*Left: Senior Tommy Antonucci throws a touchdown pass to Canyon Birch in the win over Middletown North.*

players for the senior class include Tommy Antonucci, Connor Morgan, James Mele and Evan Hilla. The strong junior class of Jack Fabean, James Pendergist, Rashid Tuddles, Canyon Birch, Mike Page, Dylan D'Anton, and currently injured Mike LaPoint has shown great promise for the team so far. As a junior, James Pendergist looks to keep every player motivated and playing their best. He wants everyone to work hard so they can win.

The team is looking great so far and Connor Morgan believes a lot of it has to do with the chemistry. The senior running back and linebacker feels the team has "really good chemistry on and off the field. We have a pasta party every week, we hang out outside of football, it's great. I love them. They are like my brothers." With that in mind, the Warriors hope to return to that state final and we wish them the best of luck!