

The Blue & Gray

Manasquan High School

February 2018

Call them Champs!

Squan dominates winter sports as Boys Swimming,
Girls Basketball, and
Hockey win titles



in this issue

Mr. Wiemken hosts first Band concert
Squan-a-Thon quickly approaching!
Drama Club prepares Spring musical
Art Show features work of MHS artists
Coach Mike joins MHS to train athletes
Eagles win Super Bowl!



The Blue & Gray Manasquan H.S.

Volume LXXXV

Issue Three

February 2018

Principal:
Mr. Rick Coppola

Staff:

Max Strapp
Maggie Kelly
Sara Rupertus
Christian Rogich
Jenna Stanley
Vicky Gathmann
Luke Morgan
Savannah Hobbie
Marc Gargiulo
Caroline Waller
McKayla Dalton
Niamh Mather
Lexi Barth

Adviser:
Mr. James Mawn



Drama Club Preparing for Quirky Spring Musical, *25th Annual Putnam Spelling Bee*

Shows scheduled for March 22-24 in the Jack

By: McKayla Dalton

The Manasquan High School Drama club's spring musical, *25th Annual Putnam Spelling Bee*, is set to be a light-hearted, humorous affair. The students competing in the bee reveal the hardships and struggles of young adolescence in the laugh-out-loud fashion.

Shows are set for Thursday, March 22 through Saturday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the Jack.

The play tells the story of six quirky students competing in a spelling bee at fictional middle school, Putnam Valley. It uses the storytelling device of flashbacks to show the audience each student's motivations for competing in the bee. Along with students Leaf (Brian Rogers), Chip (Colin Waldman), Rona (Natalia Tapia), Barfee (Connor Hughes), Olive (Erin McBride), Marcy (Natalie Villalpon-do), and Logainne (Brigid McCarthy), there is the judge of the spelling bee, Vice Principal Panch (Brendan Ertle).

The spring musical was originally *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, but due to what Mr. Weisert, head

of the Drama Club, referred to as "technical constraints" that plan was scrapped in favor of *Putnam Spelling Bee*. The play was chosen because Mr. Weisert was "looking for something that would be fun and different" than the usual shows.

The original production of the play included audience participation, and MHS's version will not be any different. Members of the audience will be pulled up onto the stage to spell different words, with the characters interacting with the participants and adding improvised dialogue to make everyone laugh. This allows for a unique and thrilling experience, as no two shows will be exactly the same.

Gillian Roberts, head of the Drama Club, described the play as "humorous" and "feel-good" while Mr. Weisert declares it "the funniest thing you've ever seen."

If you're looking for a funny, light-hearted show, look no further than the *25th Annual Putnam Spelling Bee*. You might even be one of the lucky people pulled up on stage. One thing is for sure: expect the unexpected.

Big Hit Band Concert here at MHS!

By: Niamh Mather



Wednesday, February 7th was the Winter Band Concert here at Manasquan High School. Both jazz band and concert band played pieces chosen by the new band director, Mr. Wiemken.

The students have been working very diligently for two and a half months, perfecting and adjusting their performance. All students involved did a spectacular job; in fact, Mr. Wiemken was very pleased with his students' performance.

"Everything came through for the concert and that's all anyone could hope for," said the new band director.

The show consisted of nine pieces: the jazz band played four and the concert band played five. The song selection for the concert featured a wide variety of styles. The purpose of this is to allow the students to be exposed to different genres of music and broaden their knowledge. The length of each piece also has an important impact as well as the ability of the musicians.

A few students stood out and showed off their musical talents during their solo parts. During the piece "Don't Get Around Much Anymore", Michael Provenzano (Alto Saxophone)

and William Giunco (Trumpet) played powerfully during their parts. Greg Tocket (Drums) and Michael Provenzano (Alto Saxophone) played wonderful solos in the piece "Sidewinder". Jack Gray was the only soloist during "Smack Dab in the Middle". Finally, Brian Russo (Bari Sax) and Herm Nicolas (Tuba) ended the Jazz band section fittingly, with their lively performances during "The Chicken".

Each piece was performed very well, Mr. Wiemken said, but he singled out Chimes of Liberty and Symphony No. 9 in particular.

"The march and Divorshak went well" said Mr. Wiemken.

Mr. Wiemken has been working here at MHS since the beginning of the school year and thinks that we have a fantastic, supportive community. A new director doesn't always mean a lot of change; the music program was already good, in Mr. Wiemken's opinion, and needed little change.

So much has happened with the band this year, from losing the band room to the construction project to getting a new leader. Through it all, Mr. Wiemken has made the best of it.

If he could change anything about the performance, he would add more pieces and start rehearsing sooner. Overall the performance was a big hit and Mr.

Wiemken is settling in very nicely here at MHS as the students have warmed up to him in the past months.



Warrior Jazz Band

"Don't Get Around Much Anymore".....
Duke Ellington (arr. Paul Cook)

"Sidewinder".....Lee Morgan (arr. Mark Taylor)

"Smack Dab In The Middle".....Sammy Nestico

"The Chicken".....Alfred James Ellis (arr. Kris Berg)

Concert Band

"Chimes of Liberty".....Edwin Franko Goldman (arr. Loras J. Schissel)

"Greensleeves".....arr. Claude T. Smith

"Gershwin Portrait".....arr. John Higgins

"Toccata for Band".....Frank Erickson

"Symphony No. 9 (From the New World)".....Antonin Dvorak (arr. James Curnow)



Pictured clockwise from right: Senior Michael Provenzano plays a saxophone solo during the Jazz Concert. (Bottom right): the full concert band in action. (Bottom Left): Brian Russo jams on the Baritone Sax during the Jazz Concert. (Top Left): Mr. Wiemken with some of his students.



Annual Art Show is a Hit!



On January 18th, 2018, Manasquan High School had its annual Art Show. The night was met with great success as a result of the hard work put in by students and faculty. The classes included in the show: Cultural Arts, Ceramics, Painting, Fine Arts, Graphic Design, and AP Studio Art presented works by all the students in each class. The Art Show is a celebration of that hard work, and shows that even students who doubt their own creativity can produce art they are proud of.

Mrs. Treney, a Ceramics and AP Art teacher, expressed her excitement in having the show in the new Media Center this year. "It was honestly the highlight of the school year! We had sort of a plan for the most part, but ending up not following it. It was mostly winging it!" she explained while packing away students' ceramic creations.

This year's show was much different than last's, with more open space for people to wander through the rows of paintings, sculptures, and

By: Jenna Stanley

teapots. A relaxing atmosphere was created by the music playing through the new speakers around the Media Center, as well as refreshments placed out for attendees.

The public show attracted a lot of attention, with faculty, local residents, and families coming to see the display. There was much to celebrate, as students took home prizes from all different areas of art (see list of winners, next page).

Most notably, senior Cassidy Turnbach took home first prize in the AP Art 2-D category. Junior Nina Groff also received first, but for the AP Art Drawing category. These talented students will submit this artwork, along with other pieces in May to be evaluated for the College Board exam. In the general category,

senior Mary Lou Becker placed first for her mesmerizing creations in ceramics.

Another notable win was by senior Aidan Mistretta, who placed third for his realistic depiction of a close-up face. He said on the subject, "I think it's the best I've done. I also did a one-point-perspective watercolor that was in the show. I'm glad it was in because I worked hard on it and it was difficult to get right."

The next day, Mrs. Edwards was kind enough to allow the art department to leave up the displays from the show and allowed students from both the high school and Manasquan Elementary School to look around at all the art. As a result, this year's Art Show was one of the best, with new and exciting editions on the horizon for next year's

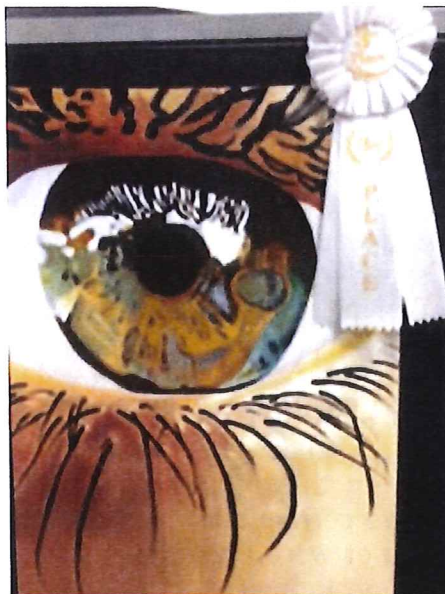
show. Currently, M.H.S. is developing an Art Academy, which will be established in the near future. These new developments in the art department are helping to push the

continued on next page

Left, Senior Aubrey Taylor smiles with her ceramic crocs. Above, seniors Quincy Zawadzky and Bridget Walsh admire some pottery. Right, winner of "Most Promising Young Artist" Meredith Magnusson, poses with her works.



Arts to the forefront of MHS's community. Make sure to check out the winning artworks in the display cases in the main hall near the Vice Principal's office and near the Media Center!



Far left: senior Cassidy Turnbach talks to Mr. Mawn and Mrs. Pagano about her artwork. Bottom left, an overview of the art show with a sculpture class's dunking man. Bottom right, seniors Greg Tocket, Niamh Mather, Aubrey Taylor, and Anthony Whille admire ceramic snowflakes. Left, senior Lucy Brennan's oil painting on display. Above, junior Nina Groff's first place display. Center, senior Camryn McTighe's oil painting of a close-up eye.

And, the Winners are...

2D

Drawing

3D

1st Place

Cassidy Turnbach

1st Place

Nina Groff

1st Place

Mary Lou Becker

2nd Place

Anna Maraziti

2nd Place

Jenna Stanley

2nd Place

Keaton Fortney

3rd Place

Camryn McTighe

3rd Place

Aidan Mistretta

3rd Place

Katie Butkus



"FOR THE KIDS, BY THE KIDS"

Squanathon Committee Works Hard to Bring Change to Community

By: Luke Morgan

Year after year, Squanathon takes its place as the biggest night of the Manasquan High School school year. As students stay up for twelve hours with one another and enjoy the activities planned, the speakers hosted and the Squanathon committee constantly remind the students to dance "for the kids". This bridge of support between the students and those affected by pediatric cancer would not be possible without the perseverance of the Squanathon committee.

With the help of dedicated advisor and organizer of Squanathon, Mr. Battaglia, the Squanathon committee is made up of four subcommittees: Entertainment, Marketing, Dancers and Chaperones, and Food. The students on the Squanathon committee work tirelessly to fundraise for the event and make sure the penultimate event is a wild success. Every year, they succeed.

The entertainment subcommittee, for example, makes sure that everyone stays on their feet, as well as handles the element of surprise and the design of the 8pm-to-8am timeline.

Below: Dancers getting pumped up last year before entering the gym for the night of Squan-a-Thon.



"When you are on the committee, you get to look at Squanathon from a different perspective," said Entertainment Committee member Chris Black. "Working behind the scenes is much different, and it's cool to work with the different businesses and people involved. The people in the different committees have certain tasks and there is a ton of work, but there is a huge payoff in the end."

Many may think the night of Squanathon is easy to orchestrate, however, the committee has been hard at work since the day they were accepted into the committee. Getting through a rigorous interview process was no simple task, and they were put to work right away, organizing events and planning fundraisers to make change in the community.

The biggest fundraiser run this year by the 2017-2018 committee was a Gala hosted at Manasquan River Golf Club, where tickets sold for \$100 per person. At the event, baskets, ranging from V.I.P. Giants tickets to a golf cart, were auctioned off, with all proceeds going to Squanathon.

Savannah Hobbie, a two-year veteran of the Squanathon Committee, attended the Gala with her family and says that the event "brought together a lot of the family members of the Manasquan community and enlightened them on a subject they may have not known about. It definitely hit people with how serious pediatric cancer is and how we need to do more to help the cause." Robert Hobbie, Savannah's brother, bought a seven-foot tall stuffed bear for Savannah, while Gary Lembo walked away with an at-home meal for ten cooked exclusive-



Above: Last year's total amount, over \$120,000, raised by MHS.

ly by a Manasquan River chef. The night, in total, raised about \$20,000.

Another new fundraiser the Squanathon committee added this year was the Ugly Sweater Run hosted in December. On a freezing, snowy Saturday, the Manasquan community arrived at the boardwalk, clad with the ugliest sweaters one could see! It was \$25 per person or \$75 per family. While the race was not more than a mile and a half, the Squanathon committed ensured their runners were taken care of by providing hot chocolate and cookie stations throughout the race. Not to mention, holiday music was blasting for all to hear, which made the holiday spirit come to life. At the end of the race, customized race t-shirts with customized mugs (filled with hot chocolate packets and candy canes) were given out to all participants. It truly was an experience like no other and the snow was a perfect addition to it!

This year, the Squanathon committee has one goal: to make this the best Squanathon yet. Don't miss it on Friday night, March 16.

Manasquan Honors Jake "The Tank" at Basketball Game

By: Savannah Hobbie

Usually Manasquan bleeds blue and white; however, on February 3rd, Manasquan sported new colors --blue and gold-- in honor of Jake Honig. Jake was a seven-year-old boy from Howell that was diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer, when he was two years old. Jake completed treatment when he was three and was in remission until his four year scan, when it was revealed that the cancer had come back, aggressively. Unfortunately, on January 21st, 2018, Jake passed away.

The Squanathon committee has known Jake and his family since Jake was diagnosed at two and could not let Jake's powerful story be unheard; thus, a game dedicated to Jake was planned. His favorite basketball team was the Golden State Warriors (even more fitting that Manasquan is known as "Home of the Warriors") and that team notoriously reps blue and gold. At the game, the shirts pictured were sold in honor of Jake and over 150 shirts were sold. The gym perfectly represented a blue and gold atmosphere.

Prior to the game, the Manasquan boys basketball team shook the hands of Jake's parents, as both the team and the parents proudly wore "Jake The Tank" t-shirts. The

game began with a moment of silence dedicated to Jake and his long battle. All persons stood in solidarity and silence. The bleachers were packed, not an empty seat in sight, and the arrays of blues and golds were plentiful. The Manasquan

Our notorious fan section, led by seniors Connor Tuzeneu and Ryan Moloughney, sported the t-shirts, had a huge photo of Jake laminated, and did two chants for him. Not to mention, Jake's parents came down from their seats during a timeout and led a chant for their son, while holding up his photo proudly. The

crowds cheered, "Jake the Tank!" honoring the nickname Jake was given due to his strength put forth during his battle.

Jake's father, Mike, stated that "[The Honig family] felt the love in the gym this afternoon" and thanked Manasquan High School and the boys basketball team for "playing in Jake's memory."

Before, during, and after the game, a plethora of

Manasquan students and parents came to meet the Honigs and pay their respects. It was truly an unforgettable and seamless event that Jake would have loved. In total, the game raised over \$3,000.

Although the game ended in a loss for the boys, the crowd left in high spirits remembering Jake Honig and his courageous battle against bone cancer.



Above: Jake's parents and little sister pictured in front of the Squan bleachers packed with basketball fans, and fans of Jake "the Tank".

boys basketball team warmed up in their "Jake The Tank" t-shirts to display their support.

Also, in attendance of the game were Jake's little sister and numerous family members, sporting the same t-shirts our crowd was wearing. Mr. Battaglia, advisor of Squanathon and friend of the Honigs, expressed that, "The love and respect for Jake and his family was extremely palpable. Although I shouldn't be surprised, it was another reminder of how amazing and compassionate the MHS student body is!"

#BELIKEJAKE

Coming Soon to MHS: The Soofa

By: Lexi Barth

Have you ever been outside studying or waiting for a ride when your device suddenly dies? Worry no more because a new gadget is coming soon to MHS. Next year our school will be receiving two new charging benches called Soofas.

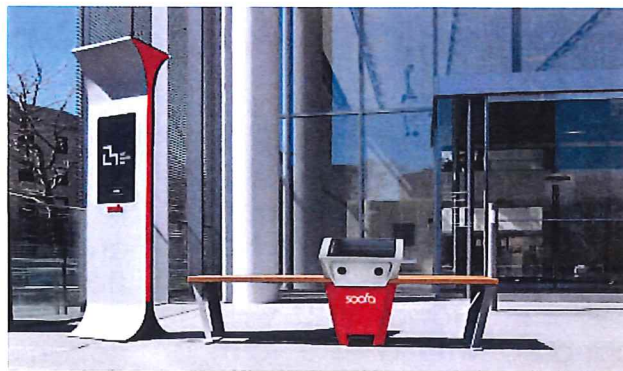
The Soofa is a new sustainable way to charge laptops, cell phones, and other electronics. They are benches with solar panels in the middle that take in solar energy and convert it to battery power. They will be placed in front of the school so when people are waiting for rides or just doing schoolwork or studying outside they don't have to worry about their tablets or phones dying.

You might be thinking "how will these benefit MHS?" According to science teacher Mr. Wasnesky, they will

"reduce our energy and provide gathering places so we can create a community."

Supervisor of English and History department, Mr. Roach, sent in an application for a \$10,000 grant to Sustainable New Jersey this October and heard that we won mid-January. A company called Gardinier will be funding the money for these benches. The MHS green team came up with the idea and presented it to the Board of Education who then gave the thumbs up to send in the application. The green team consists of science teachers Mr. Glenn and Mr. Wasnesky, math teacher at the elementary school Mrs. Eastmond, and Director of the Academy of Engineering Mrs. Edwards.

The Soofas will be arriving next month which is great because seniors will be able to partake and experience these new charging benches. Starting in the spring, seniors will be able to get lunch in town and come back to school and do last minute homework while charging up their tablets for their next class. It's a perfect way to save energy by using solar power to restore batteries.



The upcoming freshman have a lot of new opportunities awaiting them next year. They have the new opportunity to graduate high school with their associates degree from Brookdale and now they will have these amazing charging ports on campus. Mr. Wasnesky, Mrs. Edwards, and Mr. Glenn are planning on incorporating the Soofa into their classes. Mr. Wasnesky's environmental science class will learn about solar panels and how the Soofa works. Also, Mrs. Edwards has plans to teach her engineering class about it as well.

Not only is it a sustainable way to charge their tablets but teachers are "making it educational," said Mr. Roach.



We are a Microsoft Showcase School

MHS Earns Distinction



This past December, Manasquan High School has been honored on a national level. This time it's for their innovative and new-age approach to education by using technology in the High school. The local high school is now officially a Microsoft Showcase School. The award is sponsored and awarded directly by Microsoft.

In a January meeting between teachers and the administration, Mr. Coppola, principle at Manasquan, related that this is "a very significant accomplishment in our school." In order to be honored in this way, the administration entered into a rigorous application program which

accepts only a few schools every year. In all, there are only 2000 schools worldwide that have earned this award meaning that schools in this program are in a very prestigious and limited community. The administration hopes that this award, and other awards alike, should continue to push Manasquan in notoriety and into even great state and country-wide recognition.

This has been a huge accomplishment for an administration that has prided itself in providing the best education through the newest technology. Four years ago, the only class to have tablets were the incoming freshmen. Now, all students are issued a tablet and use them in nearly every class. To Coppola, this policy, dubbed the 1:1 policy, is the main reason that the school was eligible for the award. This gave students the opportunity to utilize many Microsoft products like

By Max Strapp

Word and PowerPoint. Mr. Place believes that by giving students the opportunity to work with these programs, they'll "become better prepared for higher education and the workplace." The school has been most focused on making sure that their students will adjust comfortably to life after they leave Manasquan over the past few years.

In the future, the school will continue to embrace its commitment to incorporating technology into the classroom, and, now thanks to the fact that they are working with Microsoft even closer, they will be able to use the newest tech in the future. Projects like the new renovation and the addition of never before seen courses will give the school ample opportunity to utilize new Microsoft techs.



MHS Hires Strength and Conditioning Coach to Train and Teach Athletes

Calling all athletes of Manasquan High School! Do you want to enhance your performance in whatever sport it is you play? Do you want to get stronger and faster, and learn to work out like the pros work out? Now's your chance!

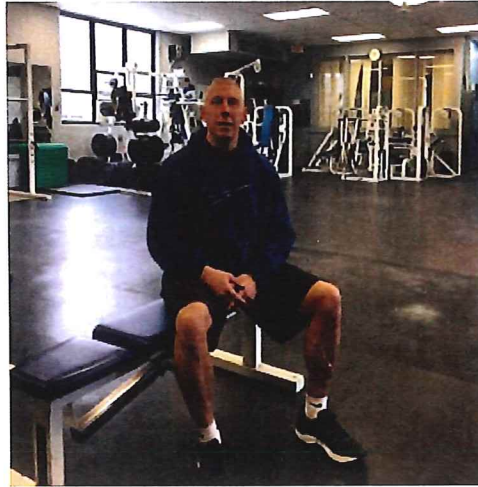
MHS recently hired Mike Johansen, a former strength and conditioning coach for the Rutgers football team. Mr. Johansen is here to work with all the student athletes as a strength and conditioning coach, 5 days a week. Coach Mike joined the staff on January 2, with the goal of "emphasizing the importance of training to get to that next level."

Coach Mike will work with anyone, he said, from "members of the football team to tennis players," and is, dedicated to doing "what's going to benefit the athletes."

After being hired as one of the first strength and conditioning coaches in New Jersey high schools, Coach Mike has big plans for both the student body and for the weight room. Training isn't just about lifting weights, Coach Mike says; his workout routines promote a healthier lifestyle, prepare for college-level weight training, and enhance the overall performance of any student athlete under his watch.

"For a long time, New Jersey didn't have dedicated strength conditioning coaches for high school. It's something that has changed quite a bit in the past few years," he said. "Manasquan is one of the only high schools with a dedicated coach."

Hired at the beginning of January, Coach Mike possesses tremendous knowledge of college-level strength workouts after being employed at Rutgers for 23 years. Before that, he attended Montclair State University, majoring in Physical Education and Adult Fitness, where he realized he wanted to be a strength and fitness coach. Although strength and conditioning coaches aren't high in number, Coach Mike found a way to pursue his passion. Seeking an internship to finish his degree at Montclair, Mike called Rutgers University, and created his own opportunity to intern at R.U. as a strength and conditioning coach. He gives credit to Rock Gullickson for helping him in the early start of his career at Rutgers, and heavily credits Jay Butler for helping him to expand his career at Rutgers. When Butler joined the Rutgers athletic staff in the early 2000s, a new influx of athletic staff were hired. However, Butler retained Coach Mike on the staff: "he really believed in



Above: Coach Mike relaxes in the new-look weightroom; below: Coach Mike in action, pushing athletes in a speed workout.



me," Coach Mike said.

Within the next few years, Coach Mike helped to develop the strength and skills of many Rutgers athletes in football, some of who are currently active in the NFL, as well as the highly successful women's basketball team. He eventually moved up to assistant athletic director and opened his own business in Freehold, before coming to MHS.

Best of all, Coach Mike is very passionate about his job and what he does to train athletes. He believes athletes should understand what they are doing with their muscles, what the exercises are targeting, and why they are doing that specific exercise. "It's important to know why [and how] the muscles are reacting together [and affect the body]," he said.

In the long run, this knowledge sets his athletes apart from other athletes because they truly have an understanding of their workouts. He tailors some workouts to specific sports also.

Additionally, Mike intends to teach nutrition to MHS athletes. He doesn't follow a specific diet but heavily emphasizes eating healthy foods and eating them in moderation. He will not force a specific diet on his students, but instead he recognizes that an athlete can thrive when they eat right as part of their training.

One of Coach Mike's goals for the next year is to update the weight room. He says he wants to "clear the weight room and train as many athletes as possible." He is moving and getting rid of the old machines that clogged up the room. His remodeled weight room will have more open space and be able to fit more kids inside to work out, and have updated equipment and machines that will provide greater benefit to student-athletes.

Coach Mike emphasized to us how training in high school can make all the difference for an athlete. Whether they want to go to the next level as an athlete in college and/or beyond, or if they just aim to be the best they can be right now, his program will help athletes gain strength, both physically and mentally.

"It's more than just lifting weights and calling it a day," he said.

Now, even if you are not an athlete or are unsure about embarking on this new fitness journey, stop by the weight room and talk to Coach Mike. He is ready and eager to work with more students!

Life is Good Day Coming Soon

By: Caroline Waller

Each year, Manasquan High School hosts its infamous Life is Good Day. This year Life is Good Day is scheduled for March 22, 2018. It will be the eighth recurrence at MHS. The club has been working very hard to prepare for this day and students should expect a fun and inspirational afternoon.

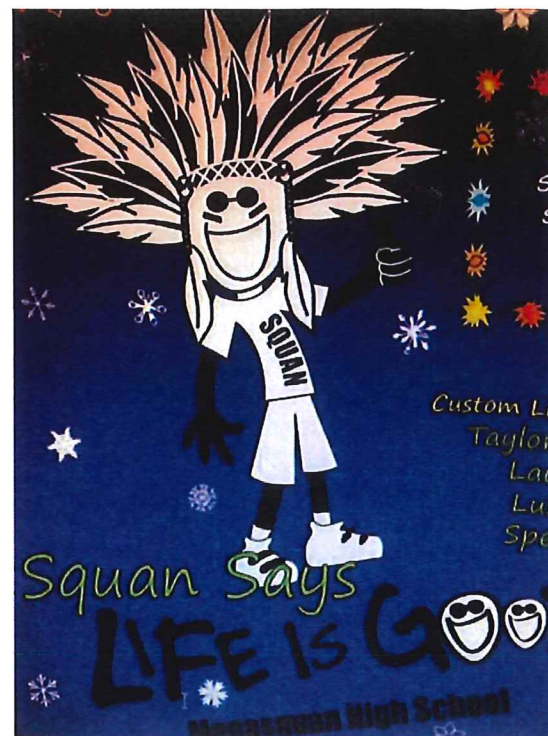
The goal of the Life is Good Club is to promote a positive attitude and outlook within our school and community. The goal is achieved through the collaboration of the enthusiastic club members to establish the Life is Good Day celebration and additional uplifting events throughout the school year.

The day consists of many fun activities involving students, and always ends with a surprise guest speaker that always leaves the students with a powerful and impactful speech. In previous years there have been professional athletes, actors, and more, telling their stories. The speakers typically tell their life story, leaving an impact on the kids.

The Life is Good Club has been preparing for this year's day since September. The club meets about once a month in the auditorium with Mrs. McHugh, and discusses ideas and suggestions for ways to improve and ways to make the day perfect for everyone.

Just like every other year, the speaker is kept a surprise, but as usual, the students should definitely expect to leave the gym feeling inspired.

Life is Good Club is one of the largest clubs in the school, including over 100 students from all grade levels. The diversity of interests, skills, and personalities of the club's members has given it the ability to reach out and connect with the entire student body, as well as the community. Anyone from any grade can join the Life is Good Club, but it is important to be a consistent member and attend to all the meetings.



Construction Project Making Progress

Construction on the science wing of the high school has dominated life at MHS this year. But the construction is progressing on schedule, and while it may look messy, a closer look at the construction zone definitely shows that progress is being made. Below left to right: A late September afternoon, when the trees in front of the science rooms were just being removed. Center: a December day before the steel beams were installed on the side of the building. Below right: January and February saw demolition of the old classroom 002; On the next page, two shots taken most recently: on the left a late February day shows a cinderblock wall in progress; on the right, around a week later, the protective tarp is down, and additional wall construction is clearly evident.



Academic Team Competes with the Best

By: Caroline Waller

The MHS Academic Team placed in the top 10 at their most recent competition, the Pop Culture Tournament at MAST. The team excelled in many categories, and beat their rival, BioTech, from Freehold. The team was especially strong in "Books," and "New Jersey Music." Other categories included "Songs," "Movie Taglines," and "Stranger Things."

The Academic Team is a team of students from all grades who compete in competitions against other schools from all over the area, answering trivia questions. Typically, the team is used to answering academic based questions, such as math, science, literature, and history, but this meet was strictly pop culture based. It was different from what they're used to, but they still did great!

Cassidy Turnbach, a senior who has been on the team since her freshman year, felt pretty confident in the team's win. She said, "Placing in the top 10 felt pretty good because we usually come in last place." She hopes for more students to join the team next year so the winnings can continue.

The Academic Team's advisor, Mrs. Crowning, stayed humble about the win. She said, "It wasn't a huge win, but my goal for academic team is to have fun and enjoy everybody's company, but we're still very excited to come in the top 10, beating BioTech."

The team is hoping for the best and to continue their winning streak in their upcoming competition, the 3-day-long Allentown Academic Ball, scheduled for March. In preparation for this big competition, the team joins together after school to practice.

The Academic Team is a good way to further your knowledge on various topics- Cassidy Turnbach claims that it has "certainly made [her] smarter." The team practices about twice a month in Mrs. Crowning's room on Wednesdays after school until 3:15. Mrs. Crowning and the team welcome new members at any time and from any grade.



Above: The Academic Team practicing, preparing for a competition.

Healthy Meals

continued from previous page

perwear if you do not already have it. It is the key to transporting your food from home to school!

THE HEALTH BENEFITS:

Arugula top 3 health benefits: is high in Vitamin K (which aids in improving your hair, skin, and nails), has great antioxidant health benefits (due to it being high in antioxidant carotenoids like beta-carotene) and because arugula has a special sulfur, arugula protects against certain cancers.

Carrots top 3 health benefits: like arugula, carrots are high in beta-carotene making it a great antioxidant, it also decreases the risk for heart

disease and stroke due to the high antioxidant and by lowering oxidative stresses, and carrots protect brain health and cognitive function also due to it lowering oxidative stress (high oxidative stress causes nerve signaling capacity to weaken).

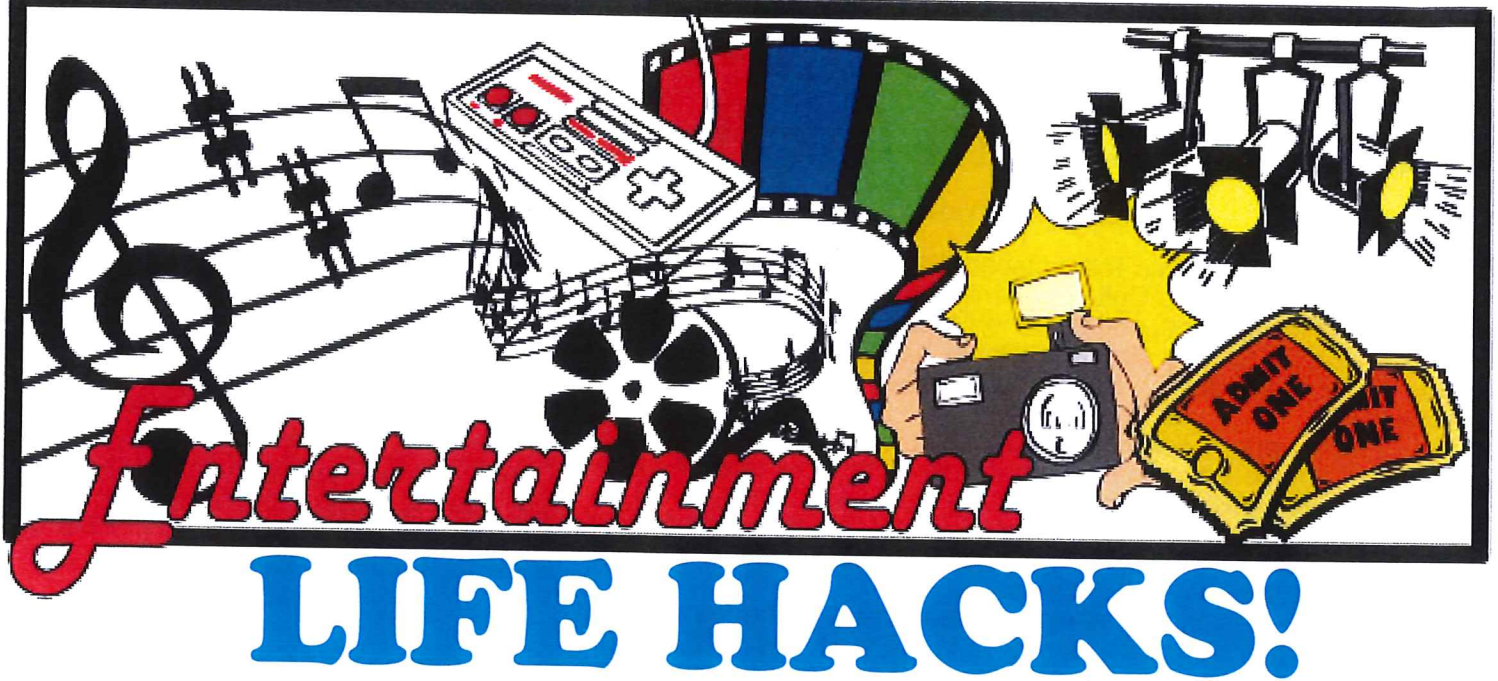
Chickpeas top 3 health benefits: provides a great source of plant-based protein, improves digestion thanks to high fiber content, and helps control blood sugar levels

Brussel Sprouts top 3 health benefits: brussel sprouts are huge in vitamin C which is essential for your immune system and normal growth, it is also great in fiber which aids in improved digestion, and sprouts are high in antioxidants, again protecting your cells from oxidative stress which can harm your DNA.

Yellow Squash top 3 health benefits: by containing omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids, yellow squash helps prevent heart diseases, arthritis and cancers, and as yellow squash is high in potassium, it aids in strengthening the walls of blood vessels besides enhancing blood circulation.

Edamame top 3 health benefits: the antioxidants found within edamame assist in healthy skin and repairing damaged skin, to add, with all of the nutrients, vitamins, and antioxidants, edamame strengthens the immune system as well, and due to its contents of soy, edamame has been said to reduce tumor growth and inhibit tumor growth.

By Savannah Hobbie



Entertainment LIFE HACKS!

noun: a strategy or technique adopted in order to manage one's time and daily activities in a more efficient way.

By Savannah Hobbie

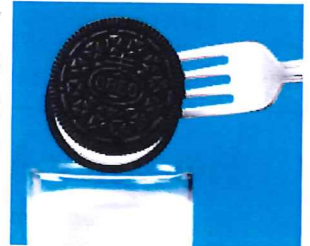
1. Create double clothes hangers with can tabs.



4. A frozen, saturated sponge in a bag makes an ice pack that won't drip all over when it melts.



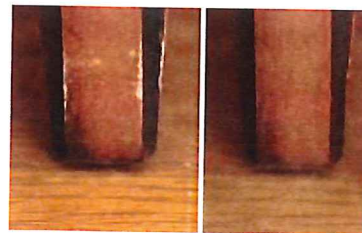
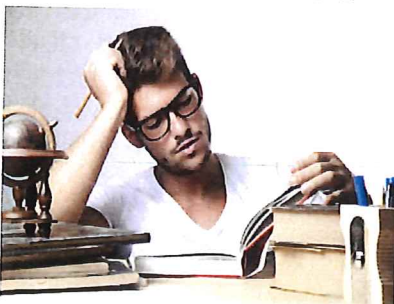
7. Hold oreos with fork so your fingers don't get messy when dunking



2. Stack your clothes vertically so you can see.



3. Studying for 30-50 minutes at a time (with 10 minute breaks in between) is the most effective way to retain information.



5. Rub a walnut on damaged wood furniture to cover up dings.

6. To stop your shoes from being smelly, add baking soda to them.



8. Keep plastic wrap over banana stems to make them stay fresh over a week and longer.



9. Before frying, sprinkle a little salt in your pan. This will keep the oil from splat-tering.





Black Panther Quickly Becomes Cultural Phenomenon

By: McKayla Dalton

Marvel's Black Panther has been acclaimed by critics and audiences alike, not only for the film itself, but its cultural significance. Released on February 16, the middle of Black History Month, the film is being praised for its representation of black people and making history in its own right.

The Walt Disney Studios film takes place in the fictional Wakanda, a technologically advanced nation in Africa. T'Challa (Chadwick Boseman) returns to his homeland after his father's untimely death to serve as the new king. Challenges arise, however, when an old enemy from the past tries to settle a score and a new one emerges to steal the throne. T'Challa must assume the mantle of the Black Panther to save his homeland, and the world.

The film is directed by African American Ryan Coogler and is led by a primarily African American cast. This is a first for Marvel, who while having African American characters in their previous films, (Falcon, War Machine) were in supporting roles. Coogler believes that this representation is "quality stuff the world will embrace."

The film is a critical success, with a 97% score on Rotten Tomatoes, and has done incredibly well financially, grossing over \$200 million its opening weekend, the second-best Marvel opening after The Avengers. This is similar to the success of a film released in February of last year, Get Out. The film was also directed by an African American, Jordan Peele, with an African Ameri-

can male lead, Daniel Kaluuya, who also has a starring role in Black Panther. The film deals with issues about race and was also praised by critics and audiences alike, earning an Oscar nomination for Best Picture, showing that diversity in films can

succeed and thrive. Another superhero film that was released May of last year, Wonder Woman, was also praised for its representation

of women, being directed by and starring women. The feeling of empowerment and support for the film's portrayal of strong women is a similar feeling to that of Black Panther for African American audiences.

Celebrities embraced the film as well. Oprah Winfrey tweeted that the film was "phenomenal." Cast members and guests at the Los Angeles premier wore traditional African clothing. Former first lady Michelle Obama tweeted that the film will "inspire people of all background."

Alan Horn, chairman of Walt Disney Studios who owns Marvel, said of the film that "representation matters," and went on to say, "it's a powerful and important thing for people to know they are seen and to see themselves reflected in our films and the stories we tell."

New Yorker philanthropist Frederick Joseph echoed these sentiments in a Huffington Post article. He felt that young African American children should be able

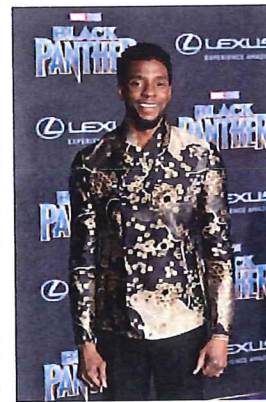
to see themselves represented on the big screen, so he organized a GoFundMe for underprivileged African American children in Harlem to be able to see the film. He encouraged others to do the same in what became the Black Panther challenge where people raised over \$400,000 for young children to see the superhero Joseph and others only dreamed of seeing. It became the largest GoFundMe in history for an entertainment event and celebrities from Ellen DeGeneres to Viola Davis donated. Oscar-winning actress Octavia Spencer rented out an entire theatre in Mississippi so that "all our brown children can see themselves as a superhero."

Brooklyn teacher Kevin Malliard was able to take a group of seventh graders to a screening of the film after Disney donated tickets. He closely followed the conversation about the film and the shared belief that it would help African American children's self-esteem to see a hero that looked the way they did. After the screening, he asked his students for their honest opinions and shared them in a New York Times article. The kids shared that they wanted to be Black Panther and were thrilled about finally being represented. They shared how proud they were that Black Panther was a

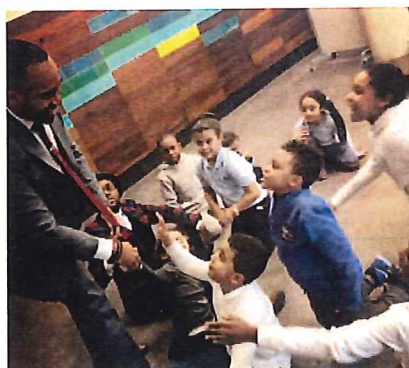
black man who was in control of his own country and was respected and admired. One student, Ethan Tudor shared that the film was important for black people and that "we must represent ourselves" and "make ourselves known to the world."

Black History Month is about celebrating African Americans' contributions to society and their culture. While the film has accomplished a lot in terms of money and critical praise, it's accomplished so much more in the sheer fact that it's inspired young African American children and showed that representation

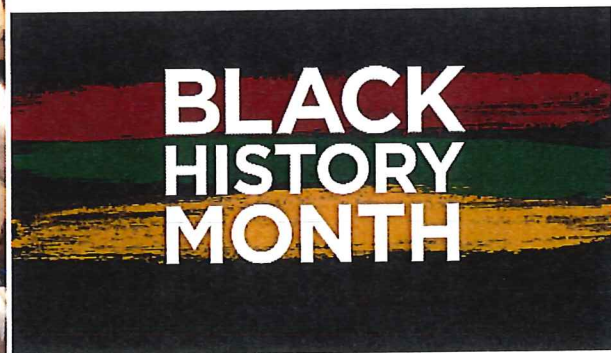
for everyone is wanted and needed. In seventh grader Scottia Coy's words, "Black Panther will show people of the world how much more people of color can do."



Chadwick Boseman wearing African inspired clothing at the premiere



(Right): Frederick Jones with students who were able to see the film thanks to his GoFundMe efforts.



Lights...Camera...JUNIOR PROM!

From prom dresses to promposals, this Junior Prom is one-of-a-kind!

Ah, Junior Prom. The first "big dance" for an upperclassman. While it may seem like all fun and games at the night, there is a lot of preparation that goes into it! From promposals to prom dress shopping to tux shopping, it's a lot to think about for students who already have classes and extra curriculars on their plate.

However, it is a lot of fun and the fun has already begun!

Junior Aidan Tolnai

asked his girlfriend, also a junior at MHS, Anna DePalma to prom through a hockey tradition.

Anna says that,

"Usually in NHL games when a player sees their S.O. they will throw them a puck. So, I thought because I'm Aidan's girlfriend [that] he was giving me a puck, but it said 'Prom?' and I was freaking out!"

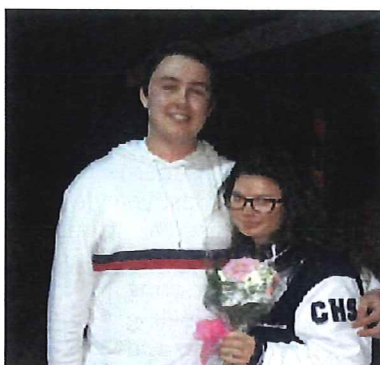
Meanwhile, junior

Cate Bauer asked her boyfriend, Brian Mason from CBA, to prom by having Steelers wide receiver Juju Smith-Schuester

BY SAVANNAH HOBIE

ask him to prom over Facetime!

The Steelers has been his favorite football team for ages and to accomplish a Facetime promposal from a



Steelers player is sensational! However, Cate was super nervous about the interaction.

Cate says, "I didn't know how he was going to react. I wasn't sure if he was going to be speechless or cry or not have anything to say [due to shock], but I was really happy that it went over well!" That surely is a once-in-a-lifetime Promposal. Great job, Cate!

Our third and final promposal to report as of right now was junior Brian Heine. He asked Communications student Alex Herman to prom through "an inside joke." Brian says that he "wasn't really nervous because [he] was pretty sure that she was going to say yes," however, as the

time approached to ask her, "[he] had [his] doubts that she might not [say yes]." But, all ended well for Brian and Alex as "she said yes with a big smile on her face!" Super cute! As for prom dresses, there are plenty of places that

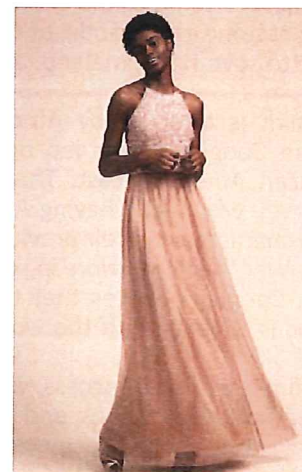
supply gorgeous gowns in an array of colors!

Gracie Beyer, a junior, got her beautiful black dress from Lulu's! She says the reason she picked it because "she liked the back."

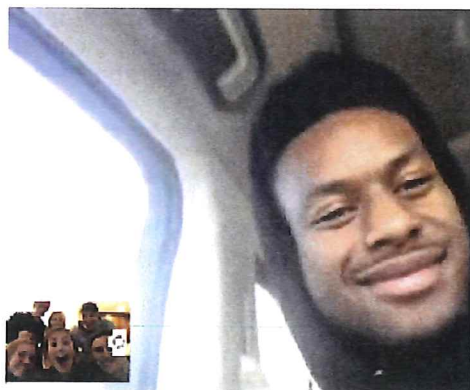
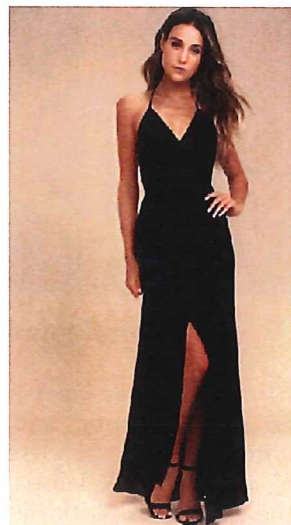
However, it took her quite a bit to find her dress...a month to be specific! But all that dress searching will be worth it on the night of April 13th!

On the other hand, Marilyn Bolderman went on a completely different route to find her prom dress. "My

dress is from bhdn.com which is Anthropology's wedding website! The dress is actually a bridesmaid dress!



I chose it because I knew [the embroidery] dress would be different than everyone else's dress!" Unlike Gracie, Marilyn found her dress easily! She says, "it was the first dress I saw on the website!" Go Marilyn! Catch all of these beautiful people at J-Prom on April 13th!



March Horoscopes

By: Lexi Barth

ARIES



March 21st-April 19th

You have one fresh start ahead of you, Aries. The energy you radiate is ever-present. Keep cheerful and positive and others around you will feel the same.



TAURUS

April 20th-May 20th

Your hard work is going to pay off, Taurus. The stress you've been feeling lately is going to fade soon. Keep working hard and your dreams will become a reality.



GEMINI

May 21st-June 20th

Temptations are all around you, whether it be money, food, or romance. However, don't get distracted, Gemini! Keep your eyes on the prize and good things will come.

CANCER



June 21st-July 22nd

Though you might be feeling bad lately, how you react to the situation will make or break your happiness. Breathe and be patient, and good things will come your way, Cancer.

LEO

July 23rd-August 22nd



Life seems to be going pretty good right now, Leo. For once, let loose and have some fun.



VIRGO

August 23rd-September 22nd

Injuries and issues are expected, Virgo; it's a part of life. Try to look at the solution, not the problem, and you'll know what you need to do



LIBRA

September 23rd- October 22nd

Life is speeding by, Libra. You're racing forward and keeping up to speed. Don't let the future blind you; focus on the present.

SCORPIO



October 23rd-November 21st

Life is rushing at you hard and rough, Scorpio. Brace yourself well and everything will be fine.

SAGITTARIUS

November 22nd-December 21st

Take a much needed break, Sagittarius. Just go with the flow and you won't regret it.



CAPRICORN

December 22nd-January 19th

Things are going off the deep end, Capricorn. Sit back, let the worries fade, and everything will fall back into place.



AQUARIUS

January 20th-February 18th

As the outside cools down, make sure your soul is still burning up. Your life is slowing down, at least for now, but don't let that slow YOU down, Aquarius.

PISCES

February 19th-March 20th



Be careful, Pisces. There's been a lot of problems on the news lately, but don't let that get to you. Just keep your friends and family close and you'll be fine.

The Blue & Gray

FEATURES

February Break: What did you do?

Seniors

Jess Collinson, really excited, went to Punta Cana.



Gab Popovitch and Maggie Kelly went to Barbados together.



Juniors

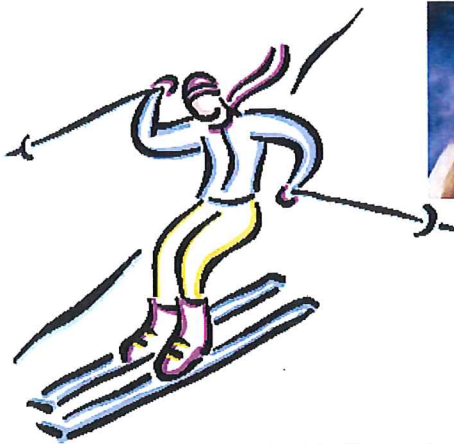
Janie Cowley flew off to the Cayman Islands.



Haley Daughton stayed cozy, staying at home.

Sophomores

Audrey Moran, Gianna Attardo, Jane Antonucci, Kristie Lavalla, Madison Morgan, and Ella Hayes took a big group vacation to Orlando to enjoy the sun.



Katie Hallman hit the slopes in Jiminy Peak.



Freshmen

Paige Harms and Payton Carroll joined Janie on her Cayman Islands getaway.



Remembering Those We Loved and Lost in 2017



2017 was a year full of entertainment and excitement, but also loss. While we look forward, hoping that 2018 will be just as good, if not better, we must also look back on the people who passed away last year.



Gay Rights Pioneer Edith Windsor Passes at Age 88

By: Victoria Gathmann

Edith Windsor, LGBTQ community figurehead and icon, died this year on September 12th, 2017 in Manhattan, New York City, NY where she lived. Windsor was a devoted civil rights pioneer. She was 88 years old.

The New York Times reported that her wife Judith Kasen-Windsor confirmed her passing but did not specify a cause of death.

Edith was best known for being the plaintiff in the federal case of *United States v Windsor*, one of the most influential legal precedents in the battle for LGBT marriage equality in America. In the 2013 ruling, the Supreme Court struck down Section 3 of the "Defense of Marriage Act" (DOMA). DOMA had previously excluded gay couples from all of the benefits and protections of marriage under federal law.

Edith had been in a loving relationship with Thea Spyer for more than four decades and finally married her wife in 2007 in Canada. Her wife Thea was a highly accomplished woman, having her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology. She was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis and her

disease had progressed to the point of being in a wheelchair by the time of her marriage. Edith lost her wife two years later.

Edith began her professional career spending two decades "working with mainframe computers, first as a research assistant at NYU and then, starting in 1958, at IBM where she attained the highest technical rank. She won a competitive IBM



Spyer (left) and Windsor (right)

PhD. Scholarship, and in 1987 was honored by the National Computing Conference as a Pioneer in Operating systems. Edie received the first IBM PC delivered in New York City", according to her website, and was always a successful, independent woman making strides in her career field.

Edith spent 30 years working with LGBT organizations in New York City, as well as becoming one of the first Marriage Ambassadors for Empire State Pride Agenda. The Edie Windsor

Fund for Old Lesbians, "gifted to Windsor on her 70th birthday and maintained and administered by Open Meadows Foundation," presents meaningful grants to projects by and for older adults in the lesbian community.

Edith was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to James and Celia Schlain, a Russian Jewish immigrant family and was the youngest of three. Her father owned a modest candy-and-ice-cream shop which her family lost during the Great Depression. She attended Temple University and went on to get her master's degree in mathematics at New York University. She married Saul Windsor, but they divorced in less than a year and confided in him that she was a lesbian.

She left Philadelphia to

Windsor after the 2013 court ruling



Windsor at a 2013 Pride rally



Notorious Cult Leader and Mass Murderer Charles Manson, 83, Dies in Prison

Charles Manson, a musician, a car thief who cashed fake checks, a convicted murderer and leader of the infamous Manson Family cult, died Nov. 19, 2017 in Bakersfield, California. He was 83.

The cause was cardiac arrest resulting from respiratory failure and colon cancer.

Paul McCarthy said "Charles Manson interpreted that Helter Skelter was something to do with the four horsemen of the Apocalypse. I still don't know what all that stuff is; it's from the Bible, Revelation - I haven't read it so I wouldn't know. But he interpreted the whole thing - that we were the four horsemen, Helter Skelter the song - and arrived at having to go out and kill everyone."

"He aimed his followers like a gun, and they slaughtered mercilessly," Jeanette Manning, writer of the Cults podcast, wrote of Manson in the series.

In the late 1960s, Manson attracted a quasi-communal cult based in California that was later known as the "Manson Family". The group committed the murder of Gary Hinman in July 1969, then gained national

By: Christian Rogich

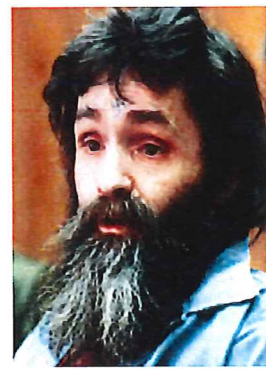
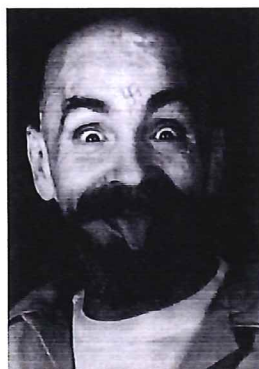
notoriety after the murder of actress Sharon Tate and four others in her home on August 9, 1969, and Leno and Rosemary LaBianca the

next day. Murders were executed by Tex Watson and three other members of the Family, acting under the specific instructions of Charles Manson. The Family was also responsible for the attempted assassination of United States President Gerald Ford in Sacramento. Under orders from Manson, the family took the blood of the victims and wrote Helter Skelter and Pig on the walls of the victims homes. Manson was trying to start a race war, he believed himself to be "god" and he was sending his message to his people.

Despite his wickedness that shocked the world, Manson is viewed as influential in 20th century pop culture for his life story, and his unimaginably evil deeds.

Charles Milles Manson was born Nov.12, 1934 in Cincinnati, Ohio. His mother was 16 at the time of his birth and his father was army Colonel Walker Henderson Scott Sr. who had a reputation of being a con man. Mason spent the better part of his life in reform schools, correctional facilities, and state prisons. Manson is survived by his two ex-wives Rosalie Willis and Leona Stevens and his three children Charles Luther Manson, Charles Manson Jr., and Valentine Michael Manson.

Below: Four faces of Manson



Rose Marie, Child Actress, dies at 94

Rose Marie, television star on the hit 1960s sitcom "The Dick Van Dyke Show" died on December 28th, 2017 in the Van Nuys neighborhood of Los Angeles. She was 94.

Her death was brought by natural causes and was confirmed on her website by her publicist B. Harlon Boll.

She is best known for her career playing character Sally Rogers on the "Dick Van Dyke Show." Sally was one of the three writers for the fictional series-within-a-series, "The Alan Brady Show." Many considered Sally to be tough as nails, which was much like Rose Marie herself. Writer of the show Bill Persky said, "Rosie was tough. She had seen and heard it all. And if you weren't straight with her, she

By Sara Rupertus

would bury you-but in a nice way."

Rose Marie Mazzetta was born on August 15, 1923 in Manhattan, New York to her father, Frank Mazzetta, and her mother, Stella Gluscak; they were never married. Her father was an Italian-American vaudeville actor, which is what got her started in the industry when she was only a toddler. At the age of three, she began performing under the name "Baby Rose Marie," and won a local contest to star on a small radio show. By the time she was five she had her own show on NBC and she was a radio sensation.

She had gained quite a lot of fame as a child singer, and she made many of her own records and was featured in a number of Paramount films. She made her first screen debut with the short,



Chris Cornell, 52, Grunge Pioneer and Soundgarden Lead Singer

By Max Strapp

Chris Cornell, singer and songwriter for Soundgarden and Audioslave and major influencer of the Grunge movement, died on May 18, 2017 in Detroit **Michigan. He was 52.**

The cause was determined to be suicide by hanging according to the medical examiner of Wayne County. It occurred in his hotel room following a Soundgarden concert.

Cornell first captured national attention when his band "Temple of the Dog", featuring himself and the members of Pearl Jam, released their first and only album. The band was a tribute to the late Andrew Wood who, like Cornell, struggled with drug addiction for most of his life. There, he met Matt Cameron who would later work alongside him with Soundgarden.

One of Cornell's most notable achievements is his time with Soundgarden which formed in the mid-eighties and played together until 1997. At the beginning of Soundgarden's career, the group only achieved fame in the Seattle area without receiving any notable amount of national attention. It wasn't until

the grunge movement kicked off in the early 90s that they saw true success. Albums like *Badmotorfinger* and 1994's *Superunknown* which would prove to be their biggest hit. On this album, they would release songs like "Spoonman" and "Black Hole Sun"—a song that got the band their first grammy. *Superunknown* would mark a turning point in the band's career as it saw them moving away from the heavier sound that they were best known for.

The band would go on a hiatus that would last more than a decade following the release of 1997's *Down on the Upside* due to many creative differences. From there, Cornell soon fell back into the drug habits that plagued him during his teen years. Still, Cornell would form the supergroup Audioslave made up of members of Rage Against the Machine. With the new group, Cornell was able to get his life back on track and achieve a similar amount of success as he did with Soundgarden. Soundgarden would reunite in the 2010s and would play together up until Chris Cornell's death.



Like many of the singers and songwriters that took part in the Grunge movement, growing up in Seattle was rough. According to Cornell, both of his parents were major alcoholics, and, as a result of their negligence, he had turned to drugs at a very young age. Throughout his teen years, he had battle with drug and alcohol abuse until he found solace in his music. He said that his mother buying a drumkit is what saved his life.

Chris Cornell had both a very illustrious and influential career. By being one of the first bands out of the Seattle Grunge movement, he was able to make his mark on music history by influencing other grunge artists, such as Eddie Vedder from the band Pearl Jam, and was able to influence those that came long after the band's height even those in the present-day. As he was once of the greatest singers in rock history, it is sad to see him go. Cornell is **survived by** his three children, Lilly, Christopher, and Toni.

George Romero, Father of Modern Zombie-Movies

By Max Strapp

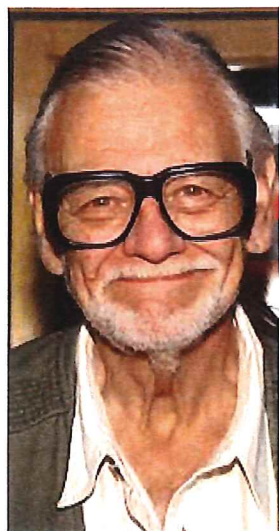
George Romero, father of the modern-day zombie horror genre and widely considered one of the greatest horror movie directors of all-time, died on July 26, 2017. **He was 77.**

The cause was lung disease according to his long time producing partner, Peter Grunwald. Romero only found out that he had cancer shortly before his death. As such, the battle was categorized as "brief but aggressive".

Romero's biggest achievement came in 1968 when he released *Night of the Living Dead*. Even though

it made little money, the film was an considered a hit and was praised by critics, and it catapulted both Romero and the zombie film genre into major notoriety with the film world.

Romero would not achieve as much success for another decade until 1979's *Dawn of the Dead*



Tom Petty Dies at 66

By: Maggie Kelly and Max Strapp

Tom Petty, iconic rock star and songwriter, and lead singer of Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, died on October 2, 2017. He was 66.

The cause of Petty's death was cardiac arrest, according to his manager Tony Dimitriadis. He was in California at the time, and died at UCLA Medical Center.

Tom Petty started the band Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers in the 1970's and became known for their debut album in 1976, with the famous song, "American Girl". He was remembered for his down-to-earth and hardheaded lyrics, and his one-of-a-kind voice. Petty and the Heartbreakers dropped many top hits and albums as the younger generation was starting to fall for their catchy and ambitious lyrics. Petty said he "turned anger into ambition" to take his greatest hits to the top of the charts.

The band, led by Petty, was unstoppable, performing 60-concert tours with Bob Dylan, Stevie Nicks, and more. They became a worldwide sensation. Even today, his songs still resonate with people and enjoy hours of airplay. From songs like "Mary Jane's Last Dance" during his time with the Heartbreakers to "Free Falling" and "You Don't Know

How It Feels" during his solo career, Petty managed to leave his mark on rock music—and rock culture—over his successful 40-year career.

Then Petty dropped a solo album, recorded with some Heartbreakers members, and his most well-known song "Free Fallin'" was released. The album became the most popular, selling 5 million copies, and the single breaking record. But, he and the Heartbreakers continued to rock, as they sold out hotels, theatres and concert halls across the world, headlining with their famous song, "Mary Jane's Last Dance".

Thomas Earl Petty was born on October 20, 1950 to Earl Petty and Katherine Avery. Petty remembers his childhood with beatings from his father and doing poorly in school. Influenced by the Beatles and inspired after meeting Elvis Presley, Petty grew out his hair, got a guitar, dropped out of high school, and joined a local band.

The small band he joined, Mudcrutch, gained following and was signed by a record label. After a lot of decision making, the Heartbreakers were formed and the debut



album, "Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers" dropped. Tom Petty's indescribable voice and passion for music became his ticket to fame.

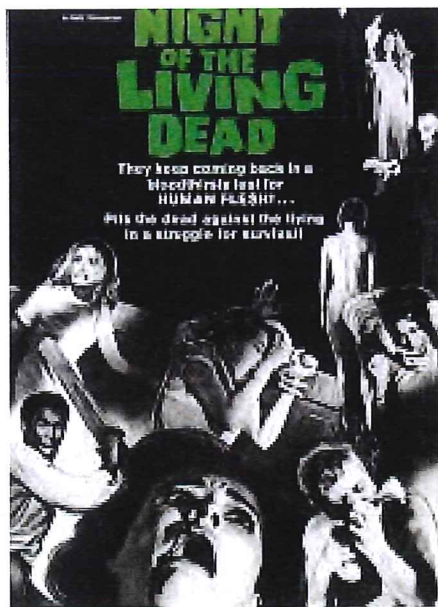
In many ways, Petty's music became timeless and the band was able to capture fans from each successive generation. Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers were still active until Petty's timely death. In fact, only a week before his death, Tom Petty was out touring around the nation for his band's 40th anniversary tour.

Petty described to Rolling Stones magazine that the Heartbreakers "was one of those old, lucky bands." They started as a small, little band, and "making the most of not knowing what the hell we were doing" created an unforgettable group of men, and became a Rock and Roll Hall of Fame artist.

He is survived by his wife; a brother, Bruce; two daughters, Adria and AnnaKim; a stepson, Dylan Petty; and a grandchild.

George Romero

continued from previous page



would hit theaters which signaled Romero's return to the zombie genre. Like *Night of the Living Dead*, the movie would become a massive cult hit and would be widely acclaimed by his contemporaries as his best work. The film is famous for its satire on the state of American consumerism in the 20th century as the zombies would aimlessly traverse a mall while the human protagonists would end up living a very materialistic life while stuck in the mall. George Romero would continue to work in the film industry until shortly before his death.

George Andrew Romero was born on February 4, 1940. Growing up, he always had a fascination with monster movies and the horror genre which would greatly inspire him in the future. Being the son of a successful commercial artist, Romero would study art and design at which is now known as Carnegie Mellon University. Following his graduation in 1960, he would form a low-budget production company with his friends whom he met in college in order to make *Night of the Living Dead*.

In terms of influencing the successive generations of horror writers and directors, George Romero may be the most prominent. By making the first modern zombie film and being the first to have the zombies be "undead", he has directly or indirectly influenced every zombie film that has come out since the late 60s. Modern-day zombie stories, such as "The Walking Dead", would not be the same if it was not for Romero's influence and ideas. Like the monsters in many of his movies, his legacy as a film director will never die. The director is survived by his **wife Suzanne, and his children, Tina, Andrew, and Cameron.**

Adam West, TV's Batman, Loses Battle with Leukemia at 88

By: Jenna Stanley

Adam West, known for his role as Batman in the hit 1960s TV show, died on June 9th, 2017 in Los Angeles. He was 88.

The cause was a brief battle with Leukemia and died peacefully surrounded by family. They said in a statement, "Our dad always saw himself as The Bright Knight, and aspired to make a positive impact on his fans' lives. He was and always will be our hero."

West was best known for his iconic role as Batman. He was an immediate hit on the series and played the Gotham hero with panache. West said that he played Batman "for laughs, but in order to do that, one had to never think it was funny. You just had to pull on that cowl and believe that no one would recognize you." And audiences loved it. For three seasons and a hit movie, West dazzled audiences with his caped-crusader, capturing villains like the Joker, Penguin, and Catwoman.

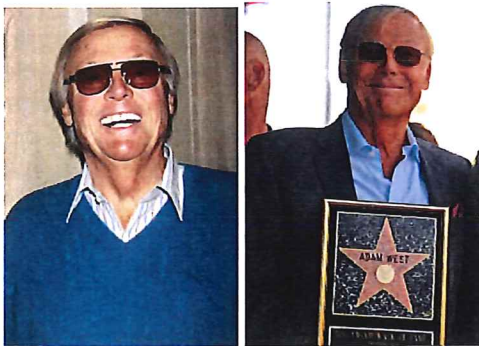
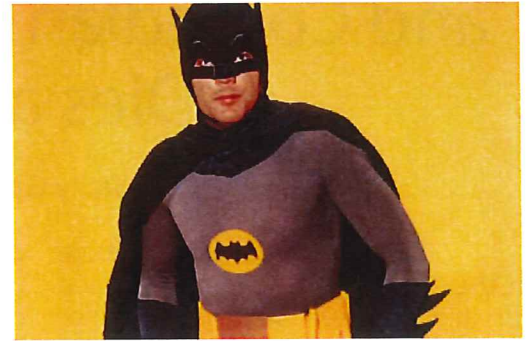
Besides his well-known role as Batman, West also voiced the Mayor of Quahog on "Family Guy". Creator and writer of the show, Seth MacFarlane, asked West to join the cast as they had similar senses of humor and West thought, "it would be neat to do something sort of absurd and fun." He voiced the corrupt and crooked mayor from 2000 to "Family Guy's" most recent season.

Though he came from humble beginnings, Adam West made a lasting impact in the realm of TV. Born William West Anderson in Seattle on Sept. 19, 1928, the second of two sons to his father a wheat farmer and mother, a pianist and opera singer. As a child, he informed his father that he would one day go to Hollywood to become a star.

Measuring up at six feet two inches, West was hard to miss. His striking features and brown hair cemented him in history as the original and most iconic batman. West originally got his start in media though, working at a radio station his senior year of college. He also starred in a few plays, where people enjoyed his cheeky personality even then. Before getting the role of Batman, he worked as a television host in Hawaii with a chimp named Peaches.

It was in Hawaii where he finally landed a job at Warner Bros., where he acted in one of the studio's TV shows almost every week. His first prominent role before Batman was as Det. Sgt. Steve Nelson on the series "The Detectives". It was after this when "Batman" came around and changed West's life forever.

West believed in the fun and inspiring nature of Batman, making many appearances to Comic Cons around the country. This is what his legacy entails. He lived his life with positivity, pushing through the difficult times. He expressed, "I have an audience out there which is always waiting to see whatever I do. And new generations are constantly discovering me in reruns. So, as long as I stay sharp, good things can still happen for me." He is survived by his wife, Marcelle, six children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



Edith Windsor

continued from previous page

go to New York City at that point where she met her future wife, Thea Spyer. Seven years after Spyer's death, she remarried Judith Kasen.

"Married is a magic word. And it is magic throughout the world. It has to do

with our dignity as human beings, to be who we are openly."

Her legacy lives on with every same-sex marriage and step forward in LGBT rights.

She told The New Yorker in 2013, "I don't know how to say it that's not corny as hell—I've been having a love affair with the gay community. I got a million letters. I think Thea would love it."

Edith is predeceased by her first wife Thea Spyer and survived by her wife Judith Kasen.

Legendary Civil Rights Activist and Comedian Dick Gregory Dies at 84

By: Vicky Gathmann

Dick Gregory, a driving force in the Civil Rights Movement known for his satirical stand up comedy, died on August 19th of 2017 in Washington, D.C. He was 84.

He was hospitalized a week prior to his passing according to his death announcement made on Facebook by his son, Christian. The cause of death was congestive heart failure.

His socially and politically inspired humor was a creative response to the world around him, though his primary goal was to make people laugh. Gregory "clearly seethed over the repression of blacks", said the New York Times following his death, but he "resorted to neither scoldings nor lectures" when performing ... rather, he won audiences over with wry observations about the country's racial chasm." His impact on comedy and helping narrow our country's racial divide is indescribable. .

Gregory began his stand up

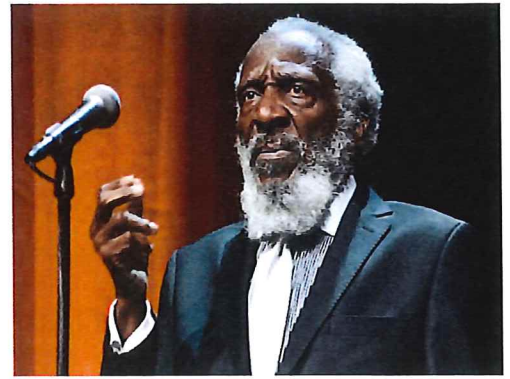
comedy career by filling in and opening up for comedians in small clubs with mainly black audiences. His popularity landed him a three-year contract with the Playboy Club as a headliner.

Aside from entertaining audiences, he attended marches and parades to support numerous causes, including civil rights and opposition to the Vietnam War. He befriended famous activists Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X. He became well-known for his hunger strikes for justice. He would travel to countries like Iran, northern Ireland, and Ethiopia to fight for prisoner freedoms and during one hunger strike weighed as little as 97 pounds. He has been arrested several times for demonstrating civil disobedience for social justice causes.

Gregory also tried to run for president in the 1968 Presidential Election as a write-in candidate for the Freedom and Peace Party.

Author Darryl Littleton once said that "Dick Gregory is the first to be recognized — and he'll say it — the

first black comedian to be able to stand flat-footed, and just delivered comedy. You had other comedians



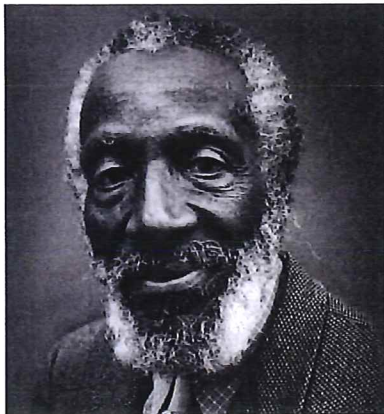
back then but they always had to do a little song or a dance or whatever, Sammy Davis had to dance and sing, and then tell jokes. Same with Pearl Bailey and some of the other comedians. But Dick Gregory was able to grow on television, sit down on the Jack Paar show — and sit on the couch and actually have a discussion, and that had never happened in the history of television.

He was born in St. Louis Missouri to Lucille, who worked as a housemaid, and Presley Gregory. He was only nine years old when he was the victim of a racist attack when he accidentally touched a white woman's leg when he was shining her shoes. In his earlier years, he attended Sumner High School, won a track scholarship to Southern Illinois University, and was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1954 and performed comedy routines in military shows. He returned to school two years after his discharge but left without his degree.

Despite all of the obstacles he faced as a black man in segregated America, he rose to become one of the most influential voices in both advocating change and in comedy.

Gregory once said, "once I realised the value of making people laugh, I got very good at it. Fast."

Dick Gregory is survived by his wife Lillian and his ten children.



Below: Gregory expresses himself as a young man; Left: Gregory in his later years.



Rose Marie

continued from previous page

Baby Rose Marie the Child Wonder, but her first feature picture was International House. As she grew older she began performing in nightclubs and lounges. She also continued to work in radio.

Following her role on The Dick Van Dyke Show she worked regularly as a noble on the game show The Hollywood Squares, and she guest starred on many other series such as The Love Boat and Caroline in the City.

She was nominated for three Emmy Awards for her work, and the show itself was nominated for twenty-five, winning fifteen. Throughout her career many people questioned how she could so easily win over the approval

of an audience. She did it every time without fail. In an interview with Kliph Nesteroff, she was asked "Don't you ever bomb?" to which she replied, "I try not to." Her great successes across radio, theatre, television, and film will not be forgotten.

Rose Marie was predeceased by her parents and husband Bobby Guy, and is survived by her daughter Georgiana and her son-in law Steven Rodrigues.

BLUE & GRAY SPORTS

Boys and Girls Swim Teams Enjoy Record-Breaking 2017-2018 Season

By: Victoria Gathmann



Boys' Win First State Championship!

Our undefeated blue-blooded boys returned this season breaking personal, school, and regional records. They made history this December reaching one-hundred and fifty wins for Squan Boys Swimming in a meet against RBC. Coach Murin documented some of his boys' records using the hashtag #hesfast. Senior DJ De-Somma set a new school record for the 500 Free this year going 4:51.52. Junior Finn Cuozzo timed in at 53.76 for the 100 Fly (also a new school record!). They finished second at Monmouth County Championships, finished second overall at the Shore Conference Championships. They won over Princeton in February and most recently took home their first State Championship, defeating West Windsor by a score of 98-72.. The boy's team's 2017-18 record overall is 14-0.



Above (right): Senior Luke McDonald in the butterfly event; (left): Senior Colby Mallett in the 400 Freestyle Relay.

Another Successful Season for Girls

Our girls are F-A-S-T. They earned their two-hundredth program win this year with a win over St. Rose back in January, ringing in the new year with a historic night. At the Scarlett Classic, senior Bridget Walsh took the win for the 500 Free to qualify for the Shore Conference Championships. The girls placed third overall at Shore Conference earlier this month and finished their season showing tremendous teamwork and great individual talent against Colts Neck. The girl's team's 2017-18 record overall is 10-2. Senior Sarah Brennan says, "It was a great season!" Not just her team, but "both the boys and girls crushed it again like they've been doing for the past four years." Sarah's been swimming with her teammates for her entire highschool career and is "incredibly sad it's over".

End of Season Seniors: 51 wins, 5 losses; 2 state titles, 2 conference titles, 2 county titles, 4 divisional titles. What a career, girls!



Senior Night!





BLUE & GRAY SPORTS



Page 26

Squan Basketball Becoming Perennial Shore Powerhouse

Girls defeat #1 St. John Vianney to win Shore Conference Tournament!

By Max Strapp



Above: Junior Lola Mullaney has been a scoring threat all season for the girls; (below): senior Justin Gladden goes high for a block at the rim.



With lights out shooting and solid defense year-round, both the Manasquan boys' and girls' basketball teams have been phenomenal this entire season. Entering the state tournament, the boys hold a 19-6 record, while the girls' sport a 24-2 record after winning the Shore Conference Tournament.

The girls team has been having a fantastic season this year. So far, they are 24-2, only suffering a loss against what at the time was no. 5 in the State

Red Bank Catholic and a loss from a team from Virginia. They avenged that loss to RBC on their way to the SCT championship, defeating the Casey's 55-37 in the semifinals.

The girls achieved their biggest accomplishment of the year on February 24th, when they beat top-seeded St. John Vianney by 70-52 to win the Shore Conference Tournament. The hero of the game was clearly senior Dara Mabrey who dropped a near-career high 33 points. Behind her the team was able to grow an early lead and did not let up for

the entirety of the game. In what would be the last chance to win another Shore Conference Tournament for many of the players, the team managed to play one of their best games of the season.

Like years past when they took home a state title, the girls are looking to once again prove that they are the number one team in the state. They enter the state tournament as the #1 seed and hope to defend their Central Jersey Group II championship last year.

The girls have many different options on the offensive side of the ball. Players like senior Dara Mabrey, junior Lola Mullaney, and junior Faith Masonius (who scored her 1000th career point this season) have been fantastic throughout the season and are keys to the team's success. According to Lola, another reason why the team has been doing so well is because "everyone can get involved." No matter your grade level or how long you've been on the team, every player is given the chance to make plays. The team's comradery has always been a major reason why girls

BLUE & GRAY SPORTS



Page 27



Above: Senior Dara Mabrey has played her best ball of the season in recent weeks.

love playing for Manasquan.

One of the best parts of the girls' season has been the ongoing feud between Manasquan and Red Bank Catholic. In their first match up together on December 19, Manasquan dominated throughout the game and won by a margin of 60-37. According to Lola Mullaney, it was a great win as RBC has consistently been one of the best teams in the state. A

Halfway through the season, however, Squan would face off against RBC once again on January 23 of the new year. This time around, the results would be different. After staying fairly close the entire game, Red Bank Catholic pulled away late in the fourth quarter to get the win in a heartbreaking loss for Manasquan. Along with the win, the Caseys would take Manasquan's place as number one in their conference for a short time.

Even though RBC would win this game, the girls would once again showed the Caseys who really were the number one team in their conference when they beat them by a score of 55-37. This would be their final bout between this team and would mean that Manasquan would be able to advance further into the playoffs. Like the girls team, the boys have been doing great throughout the year.

Like always, the goal going into the season for the boys was to qualify for postseason play, and prove to the other schools that the Manasquan boys basketball team is one of the best in the state. Even though they were recently knocked out of the Shore Conference Tournament in the semi-finals, they accomplished plenty, and they still have a chance to win states in the coming weeks. The boys team, coached by Mr. Bilodeau, enjoyed a historic year-- even compared to their great season last year. They were undefeated and leading their division well into January, before slipping and losing a couple of close games.

According to senior Emilio Stevenson, the team seems to have a greater sense of unity and has better chemistry. This year, it seems that everyone on the court has a chance to excel and work their best abilities throughout the game.

The team's chances at winning the Shore Conference Tournament, like the girls team, were dashed on Sunday, February 18th when they lost to Mater

Dei in the semi-finals by a score of 46-43. Despite the fact that Manasquan was only the seventh seed playing against the second, the team was still able to persevere and keep the score close for almost the entirety of the game. In fact, it was not until the final two minutes that Mater Dei would take the lead for the last time following a clutch three by the opposition. Despite the loss, the boys still have a chance to prove themselves come States.

According to senior Ryan Flanagan, one of the main reasons that the team had been so dominant this season is because they have many more shooting options this year compared to last. Despite the fact that they have lost major scoring threats like Devin Jensen from last year, they made up for what seemed like a lack of offensive firepower once guys like Brad McCabe, Emilio Stevenson, and Ryan himself were allowed to step into a bigger role compared to last year.

Both the boys and girls teams have been playing great, and each has a real shot at getting another state title. Even though this season been a great year in terms of wins, it has also been a great year as everyone seems to love playing for their school's team and alongside the friends they made throughout their time at Manasquan. Also, each person that was interviewed said they loved having a big student section every game so make sure to come to a game this year!

Both teams will be starting States on February 27th.



BLUE & GRAY SPORTS



Page 28

Hockey Wins Dowd Cup!

By: Sara Rupertus

The Manasquan boys' ice hockey team continued its outstanding season, with a thrilling 2-1 victory over Wall in the Shore Conference championship game.

Seeded 6th in the tournament, MHS upset the defending champions from Wall. It was Squan's first Dowd Cup title since 2008.

The victory was built on strong defense, as the Warriors shut down the high scoring Knights. Goalie Steven Gibilisco was one of the stars of the game, stopping 33 shots in total, including some amazing saves with the game on the line.

"It was amazing," he said after the game. "I can't believe it. There are no words."

Sophomores Matt and Mike Franzioni also starred, scoring one goal each to lead to victory.

"That's how you win championships," coach Adam Houli said. "You get a goalie who's going to make those saves for you and you get timely goals."

Houli is new to the team this year, which left many people not knowing what to expect. But with the great group of guys on the team



Above: : Jubilant MHS hockey players celebrate their Shore Conference championship victory over Wall.

this year, it is not surprising that Coach Houli quickly brought them together to secure almost all victories so far this season. Overall, they sport an impressive record of 15-2-1, and are ranked 18th in the state playoff tournament currr Senior Connor Tuzeneu spoke fondly of what Coach Houli has accomplished: "He really stepped up the intensity of the program, especially at practice. He makes us want to work hard to succeed, and so far it's paid off."

Lately, the Warriors have been on a winning streak, which increased to four games in a row when they faced Freehold Borough on January 10th. The date matched the score when Manasquan finished with a victory of 10-0.

In the first period, they scored three goals against the Colonials; two went to Matt Franzoni, and one went to Luke McNamara. By the end of the second period, they put in another six goals scored

by Mike Franzoni, Noah Sepe, James Conte, Ryan Scott, Liam Farrington, and finally the tenth goal went to Connor Tuzeneu. Coach Houli credited this victory not to individual players, but to the way they worked together, connecting passes and rushing to the net.

According to Tuzeneu, Matt and Mike Franzoni have made the greatest impact on the team so far this season. The junior brothers transferred from Saint John Vianney this year, much to the excitement of Houli. In an article for Shore Hockey Report Coach Houli stated, in relation to their transfer, "We thought this team could achieve big things just with the guys we knew were coming back. Now, if we put in the work, focus on getting better each day and develop as a team, you're looking at a deadly mix of skaters that can really make some noise in a great high school conference."

Another big influence on



BLUE & GRAY SPORTS



Page 29

Athletes Competing Hard in Winter Track

By: Maggie Kelly

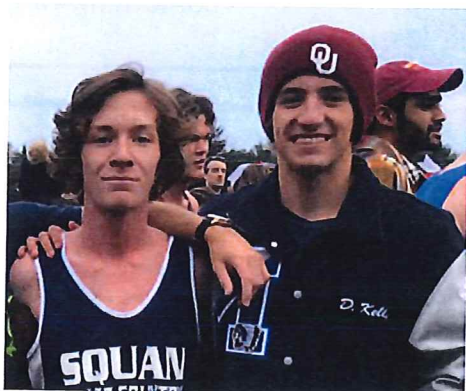
The Manasquan winter track team is currently having a pretty good season. The girls team, coached by Mrs. Anderson, is led by seniors Megan Cobb, Gabriella Farneti and Sam Wanamaker, and juniors Haley Daughton and Grace Weber. The boys team is coached by Mr. Shible and led by seniors Dan Kelly, Jake Walsh, and John Waring, and juniors Ryan McNamara, Dan Bardsley, Brian Sugrue and Antonio Wesley. All of these runners have done an incredible job this season, along with the rest of the team, breaking personal records and winning events for them-

selves, and the team. Senior leader Sam Wanamaker says "everyone's goal is to always get in shape, have fun and win some events!"

Recently, at the Monmouth County Championships, Megan Cobb took 11th place in the 800 meters and Sydney Price took 6th place in the pole vault.

Ryan McNamara had the top finish in the 800 meters, Jake Walsh finished 10th in the 55 hurdles and Brian Sugrue placed in the 1,600 meters. Manasquan track members also competed at the Colts Neck and Friends Invitational and finished with top runners as well.

Below: Outstanding runners Colin Flood and Dan Kelly lead boys winter track.



Dan Kelly took 5th in the 1,600 meters, Jake Walsh and John Waring went 6th and 7th in the 55 hurdles, Ryan McNamara placed in the 800 meters, Sydney Price came in 5th place in the pole vault, and 800 meter runners Meg Cobb and Grace Weber placed 14th and 19th.

The Manasquan Girls 4x800 relay has always been known to be a top event for the girl's team. This year, at the South Jersey Track Coaches Association relay meet, the 4x800 relay of Meg Cobb, Sam Wanamaker, Grace Weber and Gab Farneti, placed 3rd. This same relay placed 10th in the 4x200 and 12th in the sprint medley. What a fast group of girls! Way to go!

Senior Gab Farneti said her senior season has definitely been memorable. "I ran my first 400-meter race without having an asthma attack and I even got a personal best!" she said.

While the team has done very well so far this year, Dan Kelly says they are all looking forward to states, which he hopes most individuals will make. States is early in February and Manasquan Winter Track is hoping to finish the season out strong! Good luck to them!

Hockey Wins!

continued from previous page

the team, according to Tuzeneu, is Point Pleasant Beach senior, Connor Murray. Though the team does not have a designated captain, he is typically the one who steps up to motivate the team and keep everyone together at practice and during game time.

Manasquan's upcoming games are critical for the Warriors to hold their spot in both the Shore Conference and state lineups. Tuzeneu said he is "looking forward to seeing how the end of the season plays out, based on how it's already gone." Just like everyone else in the league, he hopes to be division champions. As of right now, the odds seem to be in their favor.





BLUE & GRAY SPORTS



Page 31

Junior Ethan Dzenis Represents Squan Wrestling at States

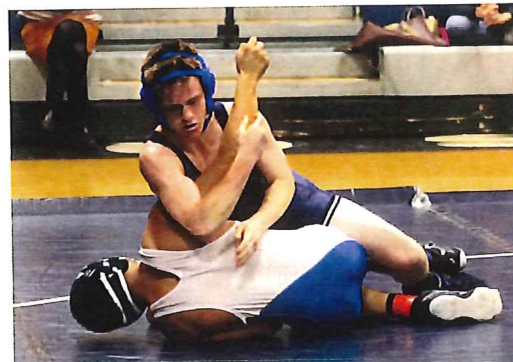
By: Jenna Stanley

Junior Ethan Dzenis lost a tough match against the No. 1 seed in the Regional 6 tournament. Dzenis earned his way to the tournament after finishing second at the District 23 tournament.

This major accomplishment came after working hard during the previous season and attending a camp over the summer to

improve his skill. Dzenis pinned Freehold Boro's Jake Mostowsky in the quarterfinals and then won 14-5 against Wall's Shane Golomb. Sadly, he lost a close match to Long Branch's Ryan Carey. He still moved on though, competing as the No. 8 seed in the Region tournament, where he met his match against the No. 1 seed, Jake Brenner.

Although the loss was dis-



Above: : Dzenis in action earlier this season

appointing, Dzenis still accomplished his goal of placing at Districts. With a record of 28-7 in this season alone, the wrestler still has something to be extremely proud of.



Art Club Contributes New Mural to Gym Entrance

With construction causing the former gym entrances to be closed, members of the art club jazzed up the new, temporary gym entrance with an intimidating greeting to opponents from other schools. Credited with painting the mural are: seniors Abby Redy, Paige Pirollo, Dara Mabrey, Kelli D'Anton, Sophie Vreeland, and Jacob Hale; juniors Ibeth Hernandez Garcia and Dave Pearce; and freshman Meredith Magnusson.



BLUE & GRAY SPORTS



Page 32

Philadelphia Eagles Win First Super Bowl

Football's most fervent fans rejoice!

By Max Strapp

History was made in Minneapolis when the Philadelphia Eagles finally took home the Lombardi Trophy for the first time in the history of their organization. In the past, they made it to the Super Bowl twice, but failed to win it all.

Going into the game, the Eagles were considered underdogs as they were without their starting quarterback Carson Wentz and had an inexperienced head coach compared to the long-established Bill Belichick of the New England Patriots. The QB battle of the game would be between Nick Foles of the Philadelphia Eagles who had an historic year with the team only a few years ago and Tom Brady of the New England Patriots. Under the helm, Foles would throw for three touchdowns, 373 passing yards, and even one catch for a touchdown that came off a trick play late in the second.

The game itself was very exciting. For the entire first half, the Eagles would have the advantage in the game. Their dominance was highlighted at the end of the second quarter when they ran a trick play known as the "Philly Special" for the touchdown that would give Nick Foles his first and only reception of the entire game. The amount of skill and confidence that this play took is one of the many reasons why the Eagles would win the game.

By the last three minutes of the bout, the score became very close at 33-32 in the Patriots favor. Soon after, however, the Eagles would score again and get a strip sack on the next drive thus gaining possession. In the end, Philadelphia was able to clinch the win and even score again.

The Eagles success has been largely attributed to second-year head coach Doug Pederson who, through his gutsy play calling and his ability to outthink the opposing

team, seemed to be able to call the perfect play on almost every down. Despite the fact that this is only his second year with the team, it's not hard to imagine that he will already go down as one of the most beloved coaches in Eagles history. In fact, after this game, it's likely that anyone who was a part of this historic team will be universal-



ly loved by the city of Philadelphia.

Philadelphia has had a long history of being full of diehard fans of Eagles football. Through countless heartbreaking moments and could-have-beens, the people of Philadelphia has persevered and stuck with the team until their peak. As such, once the team finally won it all, the city of Philadelphia decided that it was cause for celebration.

On Thursday, February 8th, 2018, fans lined up along the streets of Philly to see their favorite players at the team's post-Super Bowl parade. In most cities, a super bowl win is not always celebrated with a parade, so the fact that the people of Philly planned this shows how much of a momentous occasion this accomplishment truly is. From all across the country, Philly fans were able to truly show how much they love the Eagles and the city.

It's not hard to imagine that this year's super bowl will go down as one of the best. It had everything—and underdog uprooting a dynasty, a first-time super bowl winner, and a city that truly loves the game of football. Looking forward to next year, with Carson Wentz coming back, it's a very likely possibility that this team will stay as one of the best teams in the league.



The Blue & Gray Manasquan February 2018 High School

