

# The Blue & Gray

## Manasquan High School

October 2016



## Squan Rides into New School Year

*Below: Sophomores Surprise Seniors, Win Annual Water Balloon War*



### in this Issue



- New Fields for MHS Athletes
- Drama Club Prepares Fall Play
- Health Careers Hosts Blood Drive
- New Clubs: Volleyball & Debate
- Meet New MHS Teachers & Staff
- Features & Editorials:

Kaepemick Protest,  
Lochte Controversy,  
Canvas in MHS,  
Saturday Night Live,  
Election 2016

- Advice to Seniors, for Seniors
- Football Starts Strong
- Girls Tennis Leads Division
- Ready or Not, Here Comes  
Halloween!!
- Much More!

# Support from Alumni and Community Helps Fund New Fields

By: Jeff Petrulla

This year, Manasquan High School was lucky enough to be granted with a brand new football field. The project includes new sod on the football field, goal posts, a press box, a snack stand, and a totally new look for the all-purpose field behind the school. It was joint funded by the Manasquan BOE and the Manasquan Endowment Association. The new press box, called the Manasquan Savings Press Box, was funded almost completely by the Manasquan Savings Bank.

Mr. Cahill, MHS's Athletic Director, is excited about the new renovations: "It's great to have a facility where all athletes can enjoy home games. It gives our campus a better feel."

So far, we've successfully hosted three football games on the new sod. Manasquan's players, fans and members of the community already love it. Boys' and girls' soccer have both also played on the new turf extensively, and will hopefully continue to be used for other sports. The renovations are set to be completed November 24th, in time for this year's Thanksgiving football game versus Wall. The work has been on schedule thus far, and everything is going well.

Attempts to renovate the fields and athletic complex have been proposed for the past three years, but each were shot down by taxpayer referendums. Before the work, the field was in a poor state and the shack was falling into a state of disrepair. Now, it's brand-new and looking great.

Renovations were finally pushed through with the help of the Manasquan Endowment Association and the Manasquan BOE. In a Faculty Meeting held on September 28th, Mr. Coppola said that the work was "largely due" to the help of the Manasquan Endowment Association, and that he's appreciative of their help.

The Manasquan Endowment Association is an organization headed by Manasquan alumni, and it's dedicated to giving back to the school. They're almost completely to thank for the new developments of our athletic complex.

Besides the athletic complex, the Endowment Association also organized the first Alumni Day, held on Saturday, October 15th, when the boys soccer team and football team helped to celebrate with MHS victories.

*Above: the new shack, sponsored by Manasquan Savings Bank; Left: the green grass freshly mowed before a recent soccer game.*



## The Blue & Gray Manasquan H.S.

Volume LXXXIV  
Issue One

September /  
October 2016

Principal:  
Mr. Rick Coppola

Adviser:  
Mr. James Mawn

### Staff:

Shane Connelly  
Lauren Fielder  
Jenn Forcillo  
Rachel Irizarry  
Amanda Karp  
Abby McHugh  
Jeff Petrulla  
Mike Rafter  
Liz Rooney  
Leah Tilton  
Nicole Zito







Another summer has come and gone, and with the opening of school, comes the opening of

By: Amanda Karp

another sort – the school's fall play.

This autumn MHS Drama Club will perform *Museum*, which will be presented in the Jack Nicholson Theatre on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup>. Tickets will be \$8 for students and \$10 for adults.

*Museum*, written by Tina Howe, has had a lengthy history. It premiered on April 19<sup>th</sup>, 1976, at the Los Angeles Actor's Theatre, and was performed Off-Broadway in 1978. The play fell from notoriety, but picked up traction in the early 2000s, as it was performed through workshops and table reads. It came back to audiences when it was performed at Villanova in 2012, and was directed by Joanne Rotté.

MHS Drama Club director Mr. Weisert is optimistic about the show: "It's been on my radar for years. It's an interesting comedy that has some dramatic moments."

The play is meant to poke fun at art, and how it is perceived by many different groups, and thus takes the viewer through roughly an hour and a half of conversations that go on in the museum, as the audience "people-watches" the actors. In particular, the show is likely to attract artistic students. Mr. Weisert added, "Being an artist in music it also interests me because I spend a lot of time in the MOMA" (Museum of Modern Art).

MaryGrace Iorio, a senior, who plays Mrs. Salt and Lillian, said "The fact that I get to play more than one character is very exciting, and I also get to do a lot

# MHS Drama Club Set to Perform Fall Play



Seen above is the cast from the 2012 production at Villanova University, with (from left to right): Michael Jansen as The Guard, Ahren Potratz as Jean-Claude, and Felicia Leicht as Francoise.

of pantomiming." She said that in this play she has a small amount of lines, but nevertheless, hopes to make the most of the fall show and the musical in the spring.

*Museum* features a large cast of characters, quite literally. When Howe created the play, it had forty roles that needed to be filled, and instead of twenty people taking on two roles, forty people were cast to play the roles of the rotating cast. The Drama Club, however, will be using the method of doubling up the roles for their production, as they have 25 people in their play.

Some people who will be performing double roles will be MaryGrace Iorio, Sarah Curtis, and Dylan Scott. Others who have a singular role are Adam Dayton, Brendan Gillespie, and Erin McBride.

Sarah Curtis, a sophomore, plays Carol and Gilda Norris. She is very passionate about the

preparation for her performance, as she is running through her line and is working on memorizing the cues for her lines. She said, "It's less about knowing what you say, and more about knowing who you are as the character," as she improves on her methods for doubling, learning about each of her character's personalities.

Adam Dayton, a senior, plays The Guard, said, "I'm looking forward to being on stage in full costume" and that the play is "going to be fun, so totally come out and see it!" This will be his seventh school production.

Drama Club president Chris Heilos, who is also the stage manager for the production, said that he's looking forward to working with the cast, to be spending time with them, and is excited to see how the play turns out.

So, support the Drama Club this fall and pick up tickets to come see *Museum*!

# WATER BALLOON BATTLE 2016

By: Amanda Karp

Someone never knows how dedicated they are to a class, until they're rolling out of bed before nine am on a Sunday, dressing in team colors, and heading off to Manasquan High School with a cooler full of water balloons, mentally preparing themselves for a battle of epic proportion.

The annual Water Balloon Battle kicked off at nine am on the field hockey and softball field on Sunday, October 16th, 2016. It was a sunny day, temperatures were in the sixties, as sophomores, juniors, and seniors of Mr. Bryant and Mr. Fagen's various history classes took to the field with a ferocity akin to when the final bell of the school year rings, and students scramble to get out.

But in this case, instead of running away (for the most part), students charged towards each other, wielding water balloons, shields, and sling-shots, all for the glory of winning – which includes bragging rights, the winning class's name on the plaque at the end of the history hallway, and, of course, eternal glory.

For others, however, there was no sweet victory, only, cold, shuddering, disappointing, defeat. This was such the case for the juniors and seniors. Initially, the juniors were defeated by the seniors, who had hoped to win, but were instead bested by the sophomores.

"It was an epic battle," Mr. Fagen remarked, "but with controversy that should lead to a rematch."

"There definitely needs to be a rematch, because there was a lot of dispute over the timeline of events and the outcome," Mr. Bryant said. "Regardless of the outcome, the sophomores made history, but I hope to see the upperclassmen come back with a strong effort."

The seniors had declared war first, with a double-sided sheet of printer paper that read: "Dear Sophomores," and on the other side "Dear Juniors," it continued with a warning, "Watch yo backs. Luh (Love), Seniors."

They stuck true to their word, and succeed against the junior class. The juniors were the first to be defeated, as the seniors captured their flag with the help of Mr. Bryant's daughter, Lillian, and her two friends, Marin McCarthy and Emma Brown. This gave the seniors a boost in confidence, as this left the sophomores and seniors to battle it out on the field.

The sophomores, although inexperienced, made up for it with theatrics. They had declared war with declaration that borrowed heavily from a letter-turned-painting entitled "Reply



Above: The participants of the 2016 Water Balloon Battle. From left to right, the sophomores (in red, white, and blue), the seniors (in black), the juniors (in green), Mr. Bryant and Mr. Fagen.

of the Zaporozhian Cossacks to Sultan Mehmed IV of the Ottoman Empire", which was filled with insults and other slights against the upperclassmen.

Some had emerged from dirt path behind the softball field, in the back of a black pickup truck, blasting music. It was a sight to behold, with the sophomores decked out in red, white, and blue, and in one case, a banana costume.

Brian Heine, the sophomore in the banana costume, who said that "the sophomores had made an alliance with the juniors, but we backstabbed them."

Tensions were high, as all through the week, sophomores had hurled insults at the seniors, saying that they had low GPAs and college acceptance rates. As much as the seniors wanted victory, they were defeated by the sophomores.

The seniors were running low, almost out of balloons, when misfortune struck. Half of the team left, in order to make a final run for the sophomore flag. The sophomores struck then, with all of their team running down the length of the field, swooping past haphazardly-thrown balloons, and running their way to victory.

The seniors at the other end of the field were attacked by more sophomores that remained at the base, and as they realized their flag was taken, ran forward, only to be eliminated by way of balloons.

The sophomores made it past the seniors, returning to their base, cheering, celebrating their win, and that was when the accusations started.

Throughout the battle, seniors and juniors were able to decrease the size of the sophomore class, but for the final attack, when the seniors went to steal the flag, all of the sophomore class participated.

This came after the initial review of the rules, where it's stated that if you get hit, you have to take a knee and stay there for the remainder of the battle. Noticeably, when the seniors went to take the sophomores' flag - all sophomores were taking part in the offensive.

Many seniors, immediately after the end of the water balloon battle, took to complain, saying that the sophomores had cheated, since many of the ones that participated in the final attack had water stains on their clothing. However, Mr. Bryant and Mr. Fagen said that once a team wins, another tries to find an issue with how the other won.

Mr. Fagen also suggested that the sophomore and senior classes should have a rematch, but most students dismissed the idea. In the end, the Water Balloon Battle ended the same way it always had, with the students lining up and picking out water balloon remnants from the grass, being reminded to turn in their primary sources (photos, a map, a journal entry) from the battle, and leaving the field, celebrating or wallowing in defeat, most likely in search of a post-battle brunch.

The Water Balloon Battle of 2016 had been an epic one, and as the event finished up, it found students combing through the field, picking up the debris. The sun hung high in the sky, drying the backs of students, and the sophomores rejoiced, having won the battle, while the upperclassmen longed to crawl back into bed, nurse their wounds, and forget the events of the morning. Though the seniors will not have a chance at redemption, the juniors will have another year to plan and plot their revenge against the sophomores, but only time will tell.





# WE WANT YOUR BLOOD!



For the 5<sup>th</sup> year in a row, the Health Career Academy is hosting a blood drive at Manasquan High School! Each year the event takes place in the gym and the Dynamics of Health Careers class, taught by Mrs. Kozic, is in charge of creating a theme and organizing the whole day.

The students are responsible for reaching out to their peers and getting them to participate, but according to senior Declan Reichey, who was in the class last year, "It's not that hard getting people to donate blood when it gets them out of class."

Last year the blood drive was the most successful in Manasquan High School history and was also given the recognition of the #1 Blood Drive in Monmouth County. The Health Careers Academy and Manasquan High School was honored at a Lakewood Blue Claws game during the summer. They even got to throw the first pitch!

MHS senior George

McCormack is part of the Health Careers Academy and belonged to the Dynamics of Health Careers class last fall. George explains the process of giving blood does not hurt, it just takes a long time and he intends of giving blood again this year. However, the best part of the day for George was getting to work with phlebotomists, the people who take your blood. He expressed how this is something he enjoys and how the blood drive gives him opportunities to explore his future, "I like taking care of people, it's something I'm interested in and want to do with my life".

Some students are veterans at donating blood, like senior Colleen Hessinger, who has participated since sophomore year when she was first eligible. Colleen is a member of the Health Careers Academy and like George is very interested in pursuing a future in medicine and health. Once

**By: Jenn Forcillo**

again, Colleen will be involved in the event by helping to organize it and donate.

Others, however, like senior Ally Vernaglia, donated blood for the first time last year and unfortunately fainted after the process. Although Ally said she felt perfectly fine the first fifteen minutes after making a contribution, she soon found herself laying on the mats in the gym with Mrs. Kozic hovering over her to make sure she was okay. "Even though last year definitely did not go as planned, I am looking forward to donating again and hopefully not passing out" Vernaglia noted when asked about her experience last spring.

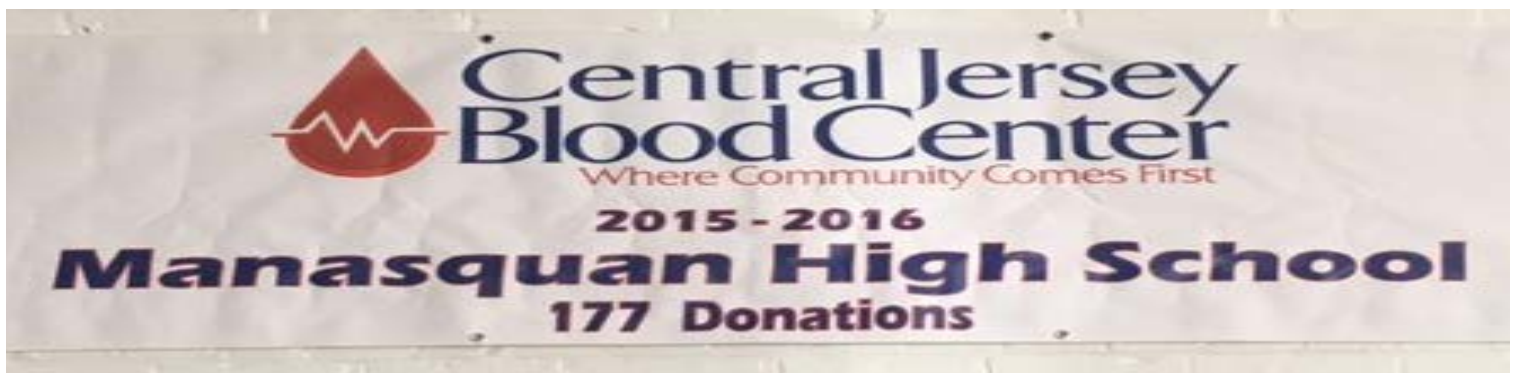
While the blood drive is still a few weeks away, there are some rules those looking to contribute should be familiar with. First you must be 17 years old and at least 120 pounds. These standards are set in place to ensure students safe-

ty and keep them from fainting. Mrs. Kozic then had her own words of wisdom for people wanting to partake in this special occasion, "It's best to eat a healthy breakfast that morning and drink lots of water the day before. The more prepared you are, the better you will feel after". She also recommended to sports players not to donate on days when you have games or competition.

If you find yourself eligible to donate blood, talk to Mrs. Kozic or members of the dynamics class about sign ups so you do not miss out on being a part of a unique event at Manasquan High School!

## Blood Drive Checklist: You Must

- ☐ Be 17 years old
- ☐ Weigh at least 120 lbs
- ☐ Drink lots of water
- ☐ Eat a good breakfast



# RESPECT

## Respect Week Highlights Red Ribbon Month in MHS

Over the past six years, Respect Week in Manasquan High School has grown tremendously. During the first week of October, MHS students show what the meaning of respect is to teachers, janitors, lunch ladies, family, friends, and even themselves.

Mrs. Busco said the purpose of the respect week is to "prevent bullying and harassment in school."

This year from October 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup>, a new challenge was presented for students to try. On Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> the challenge was to show respect to someone you really don't associate with by complimenting them, talking to them, and or including them during lunch or in gym class. The following day's challenge was designed for students to show respect to their teachers by writing them a thank you note or just expressing your gratitude for all the teaching and life lessons they have given us. On Wednesday October 5<sup>th</sup>, the

By: Rachel Irizarry

challenge was to show respect and or give thanks to the janitors and lunch ladies for keeping us together.

Continuing through the week, Thursday's challenge for the students was to show respect to their family and friends. As the school week starts to come to an end, the last day October 7<sup>th</sup>, had the best challenge and that was to show respect for yourself. Students were asked to think of positive things rather than negative ones.

There has always been a goal for Respect Week, Mrs. Busco explains, and that was to bring awareness to people about bullying, and respecting people because you **WANT** to and not because you **HAVE** to.

"Ever since Respect Week came to MHS about six years ago, there has been more clubs and activities for this cause," Mrs. Busco says. "It's great to see more kids get-

continued on page 9

IN THIS SCHOOL WE WILL NOT TOLERATE THE USE OF ANY WORDS OR ACTIONS THAT PUT PEOPLE DOWN B/C OF RACE RELIGION SEX SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTIC

## Volleyball Club: the Start of Something New

Manasquan High School is proud to present a new club that has been added to our school's already wide selection of clubs, ranging from Ping-Pong Club to Film Club to Life is Good Club. It is Volleyball Club! It is an idea that has been tossed around for years and finally has become something.

This club welcomes all girls from freshman to seniors with little to no knowledge of the sport, but who all share a common interest in learning the basics of volleyball. Hopefully in the years to come Volleyball Club will strive to become an actual sports team here at MHS, competing against other schools, and not just for girls, but for guys as well!

The creation of any new club at MHS results in a teacher having to step up to the plate and take responsibility for their meetings. The club is lucky enough to have someone step up on such short notice. Popular Science teacher Mrs. Chryseis McHugh is the lucky one! McHugh has a wide variety of coaching experience including soccer and basketball, and now she can add volleyball to the list.

McHugh didn't have to think twice when asked to coach the team. Coach McHugh has previous experience of playing volleyball in earlier years. She played beach volleyball in the summer and

By: Nicole Zito

when she was in college she played club. Now it's Mrs. McHugh's time to pass her knowledge of the sport onto those who are eager to learn all about it.

The girls who joined all feel extremely excited to learn and participate while still having fun.

Junior Abby Kinneally said, "I am just so baffled and ecstatic! It's just so exciting because I've been watching my mom play for years and I always wanted to be able to be a part of a team or anything that had to do with volleyball. I was especially excited since this summer was the Olympics and I watched April Ross and Kerri Walsh Jennings tear up the court in beach volleyball. I think this is a great thing that MHS has come up with and it just makes me glad that I'm a part of it. I hope it turns out great and in a couple of years I hope there will be a real team and I can come back and watch them compete, and think to myself, wow I was the beginning of this when it wasn't even a team!"

Hopefully this year will turn out to be successful for MHS's new Volleyball Club, and hopefully it is the first step to becoming an accepted sport and part of the MHS athletic program. We're all excited to see what's in store for the future!



Sara Rupertus (left), Nicole Zito (middle), and Maeve McLoughlin at practice.



Left: The members of the Girls Volleyball Club.



By: Leah Tilton

Halloween is right around the corner, meaning that right about now everyone's Pinterest search history reveals last minute "Do-It-Yourself" costumes, pumpkin spice is almost impossible to avoid (not that you would want to avoid something so good), and your latest purchases include crazy glue, fabric, and face makeup.

Whether you are dressed as a character from your favorite show or you make up something entirely on your own, Halloween is a time for creativity and fun, and that is something that Manasquan High School students have been embracing for decades.

MHS has been known for having the best Halloween costumes year after year. A few years ago it was customary to meet in the hall outside the auditorium and walk across the stage to show off your costume, but with the de-

cisions made by the student council and administration last year, the way MHS celebrates the day has changed.

This year the students will once again be called down to the gym in the morning. Each person can either choose to observe or participate in contests that involve categories like best group or best solo costume.

After the assembly, the day will continue as normal, something reiterated by Principal Coppola when discussing the day. "We will always have our students dress up and continue this tradition while at the same time allowing the integrity of the school day to stay intact," Coppola states when asked about the day as a whole.

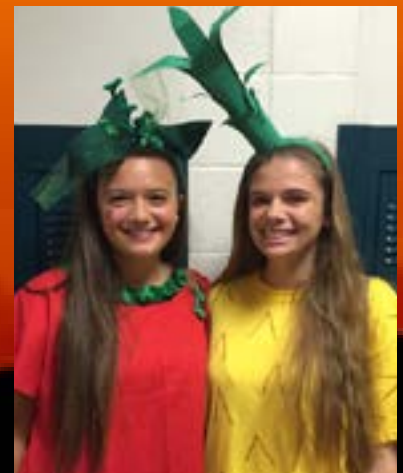
Although Halloween is looked at as a time for children to dress up and ask their neighbors for candy, it is also a time MHS students get to express themselves and have fun, so don't forget to get the Pinterest searches going and to stop by a craft store soon, in fact, it will probably be on your way home from getting that pumpkin spice latte you've been craving since last fall.



Senior Ben Barry dresses as Walter White from the Hit show "Breaking Bad"



Tilly Marks and Kelli Finn, as "good Sandy" and "bad Sandy" from *Grease*



Nicole Zito and Ally Vernaglia dress as a strawberry and pineapple



Can't think of a good idea this year? See page 20-21 for our special 2016 costume suggestions!



# Senior Jeff Petrulla Leads the Charge on MHS's New Debate Club

**By: Mike Rafter**

One student at MHS, inspired by the opinitated discussions he often had with his friends, came up with the idea of a debate club.

Now in 2016, Jeff Petrulla (s hown below) looks to make his mark on the list of clubs at Manasquan. This was an interview



conducted with Jeff about his ideas and expectations for the club.

## What made you want to create a Debate Club?

I made a Debate Club so people can effectivly express their opinions in an orderly manner. I felt that now more than ever, we need effective discussion.

## What will debate club do?

We will teach proper debate strategies and keep an open mind for one another. Politics will be expressed in an adult manner without damaging friendships. All types of personalities and opinions will be welcomed.

## Who is advising the club?

Mr. Mawn will be advising the club. I have had him as a teacher multiple times and he is someone I can trust to stay objective.

## When and where is the first meeting?

It is still to be determined right now.. If you are interested in joining, either contact me or Mr Mawn. Further announcements will be made.

## What will be some of the topics discussed?

We plan on talking about everything from politics to sports to problems at MHS. Its not going to be just the presidential race.

## What kind of turnout do you expect?

This one is really up to you guys. Be there or be square!

Many people, including myself, really hope to see this club floursih.

Manasquan does not currently have any oppertunites like this.

If everything goes well, this will be a great addition to the school, and hopefully one that continues after Jeff graduates in 2017.

## Want to start a club at MHS? Here are the steps to make it happen

1. Come up with an idea and an image of what you want in the club
2. Get a teachers help. They will be needed to oversee the club and can help along the way.
3. Type out a description of your club and a list of signatures and provide them to Mr. Coppola.
4. Be sure to get the word out. Get in touch with MHS-TV and the Blue and Gray.





# Meet the MHS Student Council 2016

By: Shane Connelly

***With the start of a new school year comes a new group of student leaders on the MHS Student Council. The student government plays a key role here at Manasquan High School, as they bridge the gap between students and staff. This year's council looks forward to helping to create a fantastic school year for everyone at MHS.***

***First, we need to know who is serving in each position on the council this year. While many of us remember the election and who we voted for last year, the incoming freshman and transfer students need an introduction to our representatives.***

## Chris Driscoll

is serving as our student council president. Chris is passionate about Manasquan High School. When asked why he ran for student council, he told me, "I really love this school." Chris is hoping to carry on the tradition and pride of MHS, which is his favorite thing about our school. He's also



looking to start some new fundraisers and put together a great class trip for the senior class. Chris is dedicated to his role as president, and he looks forward to putting in the work in order to achieve his goals.

Our vice president for this school year is **Maura Farragher**.

Maura is a kind-hearted individual who is motivated to make a difference in our school as VP. She ran for student council because she is interested in helping people and doing good for the students. Some of the changes she mentioned that we could



see include "another dance" and a revamped open house for the incoming freshman. Maura says that her favorite thing about MHS is "the pride and spirit."

***The student body has a fantastic group of representatives for the 2016-2017 school year. These four bright, creative, and motivated seniors, along with the help of the schoolboard, will do anything it takes to ensure that this year will be wonderful for everyone involved. It's clear that this council has a great batch of ideas and the means to get things done, and we as students should look forward to these ideas coming to fruition!***

Our elected secretary is **Ally Johnson**. Ally is a smart student who says that she likes "being a leader" of the senior class. She also loves planning, which is just another reason she's a great fit for the student council. Ally says the student council has "a long list" of goals for this year that they'll be looking to fulfill through teamwork. Ally also mentioned that one of the goals students should look forward to is a neater, more organized Homecoming dance.



The position of treasurer this year will be handled by **Leah Tilton**.

A cheerleader here at MHS, Leah says she joined student council because she likes to be involved in the school. Her goal as a member of the student council is to allow all students to "remember high school as a good time." Leah went on to say that "a lot of people" have provided suggestions and help along the way in order to make this year go smoothly.



## Respect Week

*continued from page 6*

ting involved and stopping the bullying that happens in our country. More teachers have also included Respect week into their lessons plans."

One of the clubs that MHS gained through Respect Week is the We Stand Together Club. This club was

designed with the help of Mrs. Busco to focus on the HIB Law. The HIB Law is to strengthen standards for preventing, reporting, investigating, and responding to incidents of bullying and to reduce the risk of suicide among students.

To conclude, Mrs. Busco, explains with some confidence that once the week is over she loves how many of the students and teachers still use the meaning of "Respect Week" day after day.

# A New Era of Teachers at MHS

By: Amanda Karp, Mike Rafter, & Lauren Fielder

It's the beginning of another school year, which means that along with new students making their first appearance at Manasquan High School, there will also be a host of new teachers as well. One of them is Ms. Herman. Originally a graduate from NYU with a finance degree, she returned to her original love of art and became a teacher. Along with teaching Ceramics, she teaches Fine Arts, Foundations of Art, and Sculpture.

She passionately told us that art is "visual literacy", and that it shows "where we could go in the world." As passionate as she is, this career was not the original one she had pursued.

Before this, she attended the Rochester Institute of Technology, where she obtained a degree in product design. She then worked in the industry as a designer; but returned to school.

This time around, she went to NYU, and studied finance. However, this career change was short-lived. She went back to school for art, and obtained another degree, finally deciding to pursue her true passion.

Ms. Herman previously taught at Point Pleasant Borough, Howell High School, and Neptune Middle School before coming to Manasquan. This led Ms. Herman to where she is, standing in an art classroom, excitedly talking about sculptures and other art projects.

She said, "I got back into art because I love when people are like, 'Oh my God, I made this!'"

Along with teaching art, she practices what she preaches, and often paints, participating in local art galleries. Even though she's artistic, she is still finds time to be an athlete. Ms. Herman also loves to surf, mountain bike, and do headstands (which she can hold for a whole minute!).

She was born in Red Bank, and grew up in Colts Neck, but now lives in Bradley Beach, with her son Korbin who is, as she says with a smile on her face, "very cute."

It is always exciting to begin a new school year, especially as a new addition to the staff. Anyone

who shares a passion for art, should sign up or one of the classes that Ms. Herman teaches.

Not all of the incoming teachers to Manasquan High School are, in fact, teachers. One such person is Ms. Saliski, the replacement for Mrs. Narucki, who is going on maternity leave.

Ms. Saliski attended Monmouth University, where she obtained a degree in School Counseling. Prior to that, she originally entered college seeking to major in math, but had a change of heart when she was confronted with seeing how other students were going through life. She decided that she wanted to help guide them, and told us, "I want to make sure that people get to live a full life," as being a guidance counselor can aid people on the path to their future.

To prepare for her new role, she took part in three internships, and attended grad school. Previous to her college education, she attended Howell High School, where she grew up.

As active as Ms. Saliski is in her professional life, she also keeps a busy life outside of the halls. She enjoys spending time on the beach, hanging out with her two mini Australian Shepherds, Minka and Jeter, and shopping.

In her spare time, Ms. Saliski enjoys shopping and watching sports; her favorite sport to watch is baseball. When she was younger, she participated in dance and gymnastics, where she once broke her elbow that are still scarred to this day! When she's not out shopping, she spends time with her mom, dad, sisters, and two mini Australian Shepherds.

As of now, she is still learning from the current freshman counselor, Ms. Narucki, before making the transition of becoming the guidance counselor, herself. Her main goal is talking to and getting to know as many students as she can. She wants all of her students find their purpose in life and help guide them on their journey - but most importantly, she hopes to do an awesome job!



*Above: Ms. Herman in her Ceramics class, taking part in their current project, painting a mug she made.*



*Above: Ms. Saliski, who will be replacing Ms. Narucki during her maternity leave*

**Read on and meet more  
new faces of MHS!**



# Welcome, Mr. Shibla!

By: Jeff Petrulla

This year, the Humanities department gained a new teacher, Mr. Shibla. Mr. Shibla teaches classes in World History, US History, and Economics, as he replaced Mr. Read. He's new to the school, but no stranger to the area. Mr. Shibla went to Wall High School, and said he had "many friends from Manasquan" when he was growing up. He went on to graduate in 2003, then got a degree from Rutgers University.

After Rutgers, Mr. Shibla found himself in the business world. Unfortunately, his timing was not ideal. Not long after he left school, the economy entered the Recession of 2008. So, Mr. Shibla decided to go back to school for a teaching certification. Mr. Shibla said he chose teaching because he "really wanted to work with the youth of America" and "al-



*Above: New History teacher Mr. Shibla likes the vibe so far in Manasquan*

ways tutored other students through college." It seemed like the right fit for him.

Since getting certified to teach, Mr. Shibla has taught at Colt's Neck in place of a teacher who was out on disability leave, and a charter school in Plainsfield. He said he "loves it here" and that it's beach town like no other, "There's a certain vibe about Manasquan compared to other beach towns. The closest thing is Point Beach, but it just doesn't compare."

Aside from teaching, Mr. Shibla enjoys surfing and collecting vinyl records. He's applied for a position as the track coach, and also intends to start a JSA (Junior State of America) Club here at Manasquan. We can't wait for Mr. Shibla to make his mark on MHS, and we wish him the best of luck in the rest of his first year!

# Say Hello to Ms. Matrale!

By: Leah Tilton

The Science department welcomes Ms. Matrale to Manasquan High School this year as a new student teacher from Stockton College. Matrale grew up as a Howell native, but it is clear that she fits right in as a warrior.

After first getting her degree in Biology, she decided to also work towards becoming a teacher. She is in an educational program, and will

receive her certificate in December. She is currently sitting in on classes run by Mrs. Crowning, high school biology teacher.

Mrs. Matrale attended Howell High School as a teenager, and for years she grew up hearing about how great Manasquan was. It is because of the great reputation MHS has that she decided Manasquan is where she wanted to further her career.

"Mrs. Crowning has shown me how to have great classroom management skills, taught me different things I would like to do in my classroom, and has been nothing but generous," Matrale said when asked what she has learned so far.

In the past, Matrale was a part of FPAC, a performing arts program

at Howell High School where she spent half her day dancing. She furthered her love of performing by joining the dance team at Stockton College.

While being involved at school was always important to her in the past, she recalls that her high school never did anything special for homecoming, something she is most excited to be a part of at Manasquan this fall.

"I would love to work here in the future. I have been here since August and I have been invited to everything, and everyone has been so welcoming." Matrale remarked when asked about considering a possible future at MHS.

We hope that Ms. Matrale enjoys her time here at Manasquan High School and we wish her luck in her future career.



*Left: Student teacher Ms. Mantrale is earning her degree at Stockton College, and developing her teaching skills this semester at MHS.*

# The French Department adds a new face!

## MANASQUAN ALUMNI COMES BACK TO TEACH!

By: Jenn Forcillo



Manasquan High School has begun broadening its horizon in terms of foreign language. Last year, for the first time, Italian was available as a class and Signorina Russo took initiative to start the World Language Resource Center.

Now as we start another school year we see another new face in the foreign language wing, but this time in French. Mrs. Virok is the new French teacher at both Manasquan High School and Manasquan Elementary School, replacing Mr. Januario.

As a teacher for both schools her schedule consists of five classes in one day and even though when 2:30 comes around she is exhausted she claims it's a "fun kind of exhausting, one that makes you realize how much you get done".

Mrs. Virok spends most of her time making new lesson plans for all of the classes she teaches. Even though she has taught French before at a high school in Pennsylvania, the curriculum differs in almost every school.

Growing up in Hamilton, New Jersey, she eventually made her way to Newark, DE where she earned her

Masters from the University of Delaware. Before becoming a Fighting Blue Hen, Mrs. Virok visited France when she was 16 and fell in love. Ever since that moment of inspiration, she has been committed to learning the history, the language and immersing herself in the culture of the beautiful country while compelling others to do the same.

Mrs. Virok confesses the move from Pennsylvania has made her life just a little busy to get involved with extra-curricular activities just yet. However, she is excited for all the opportunities Manasquan High School has to offer. We hope that she has a great first year and finds the same excitement in teaching at Manasquan as she does when she talks about her French classes!



*Right, Mrs. Virok poses with a smile during his French honors class*

Spring Lake Heights native Mr. Napolitano returns to the halls of Manasquan as he fills in for Senora Anderson while she is on maternity leave. Although only here temporarily, he is making the most of his time at his old stomping grounds and is hoping to find a long term spot for himself here.

Mr. Napolitano has previously worked at Lakewood High School and Rumson Fair Haven High School but this is his first time subbing in for maternity leave. As stated before he graduated from Manasquan High School where he was on the wrestling team and eventually took his educational talents to Richard Stockton University in Galloway, New Jersey.

When asked what made him want to be a Spanish teacher he responded with "Who would want to do anything else?" and his enthusiasm seems contagious as all his students were spewing out questions and answers fluently in a second language. And just as he remembers



*Above, Mr. Napolitano embraces the Spanish culture while wearing a sombrero*

it from his teenage years, everyone at Manasquan is so nice and welcoming.

His interests do not just stop at speaking Spanish, he admits that he loves surfing when he's not getting involved in the classroom and is one of the coaches of the surf team! He even confessed his favorite surf spot is Brown Ave in Spring Lake! Hopefully we will be seeing more of Mr. Napolitano in the future around the halls in MHS and possibly even at the beach shredding it up!





# MANASQUAN ADDS A NEW FACE TO SOCIAL SERVICES TEAM

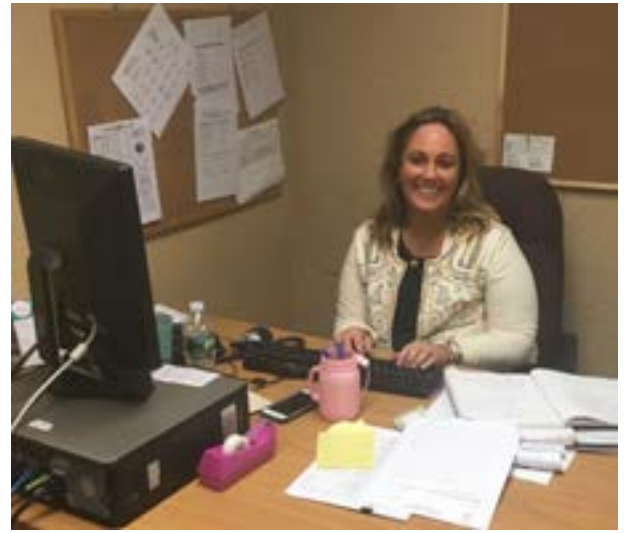
BY: ABBY MCHUGH

New social worker Mrs. Rudder recognizes the impact an authority figure can have on a high school student's life. The recent hire, who previously worked as a mobile response social worker for children, says that she "has always had an interest in school counseling" and "realizes the impact she can have for children".

Mrs. Rudder is originally from South Orange, and is currently living in Wall. She received her undergraduate degree from Ithaca College in upstate New York and received her masters from Fordham University in New York City.

Asked why she became a social worker, she cited her desire to help people, coupled with her aversion to the spotlight. Social work is not a glamorous job- they are not rewarded by glory, or even a healthy salary. Often having to deal with tough cases, social workers rely on their sense of self and aspiration to help others to pull them through cases.

Rest assured Manasquan students have a healthy support network with a passionate new social worker like Mrs. Rudder on the job.



## Ms. McManus Joins MHS Child Study Team

By: Liz Rooney and Rachel Irizarry

Starting a new school year can be tough for anyone, with new classes, new teachers, and new expectations. For teachers starting a new school year isn't easy, either with new tablets, new lesson plans, and students names to memorize. But what about if you're a new staff member at the high school?

That is the case for several new members here at Manasquan. One of many new staff members is Ms. McManus, the newest member of the Child Study Team.

Ms. McManus grew up nearby in Wall and went to Wall High School. Currently she takes graduate classes at Seton Hall University. As an undergrad she majored in psychology, a subject she first became interested in from a girl she was friends with at school who was a psychologist at another school. From talking to her friend, Ms. McManus found herself becoming interested in it. Growing up, though, she never thought she would be interested in psychology and education like she is now.

So far Ms. McManus has all positive things to say about MHS, sharing: "I like it her a lot and

couldn't ask for anything else"

When she isn't working Ms. McManus has a few interests and hobbies she likes to keep up with. She enjoys going to the beach and even though she can't be at the beach all year long she loves living near it. She also really enjoys doing Pilates in order to get a workout in. If she could do anything else with her life, Ms. McManus says she would want to be a brain surgeon - saving lives and making a difference in people's lives.

Even with Ms. McManus being focused on work right now she still has some life goals in mind. Her biggest goal right now is to receive her doctorate in psychology. She is currently working towards that goal and really hopes she can achieve it. Another ambition is to change the world, whether it is here in Manasquan or someplace else, making a difference is important to her.

Ms. McManus might be new to Manasquan, but she is finding her way around, looking to get involved and hoping to make a difference. Whether you see her in the hallways or see her going back and forth between the elementary school and the high school, Ms. McManus is working hard and fully determined to make her mark here at Manasquan High School.



# Dear Seniors

## ADVICE FROM GUIDANCE



By: Elizabeth Rooney

For seniors the start of the school year can be a stressful one. For seniors many must begin their college application process just as the school year is about to start. A process that can put stress upon seniors just as they are getting used to a new school year. This process is what most seniors go through and Guidance wants to help you through it with some key pieces of advice.

Before you can even start the application process it is important that not only you research the schools you are interested in, but also that if you can go and visit the schools. When visiting schools, you should try to keep an open mind. You never know what you might like. You should give it a fair chance. One thing you should do while visiting the schools is talk to the students on campus. You can find out information and get a good sense of the school you may not have gotten from going on their website at home.

Head of the guidance department and Dean of Students Sean McCarthy explained, "One of the best things students could do for themselves during this process is to relax, don't panic, and stay sane."

Mr. McCarthy adds that there are some things you are going to want to find out the school that you normally wouldn't think of, like finding out about the social life at the school, housing and food, and whether or not you can graduate in four years or not. Explaining why students should find out those kind of information Mr. McCarthy says, "Students go to school and after the first week of school the student finds out most people go home on the weekends. That would have been something you would want

to know ahead of time, which might have affected your decision," adding that there you really should research the social life on campus before making a decision of any school.

When getting started on finalizing your list of schools there are a few key points Guidance thinks you should keep in mind. As for when considering what your top school or schools may be you should try at all costs to avoid the perfect college syndrome. There is not one perfect college as someone may think. There are many different options you should consider. If you like one school, there are similar schools that you can look into that might appeal to you and what you want. You never know what you are going to find unless you broaden your horizons and take some chances. There are no black and white reasons why certain students are accepted to the colleges they apply to. With that in mind Mr. McCarthy advises students, "Take some chances and apply to a school you wouldn't expect to be accepted

to. You never know what can happen."

The start of the application, the requirements, and the waiting period can be very overwhelming for some students. When doing your application, you should keep an eye on the calendar. Before you know it deadlines will approach and fast. Then after you have applied, patience is going to be important to have for the next several months. Once applied you are going to have to wait a few months until you hear for colleges depending on when you applied. Once you are accepted you should wait before you reply back to see if the school is willing to give you money or if you are offered any scholarships from the school. This could take some time, but it is important that you not only go to a school that interest you, but also a school that you and your family can afford. The last piece of advice that Guidance stresses is to rely on your guidance counselor for help. Mr. McCarthy adding, "They are here to help you in any way possible. If you need some advice or help to get you through this process, you should reach out or stop by. We are here to help."

For seniors the next few months may be stressful for you, but if you take the advice offered by guidance and reach out when you feel like you are sinking they are there to give you a hand. You may seem like you must do this on your own, that you will be going off to school soon enough and it is time to learn how to do things on your own, but right now that is not necessarily the case. Guidance wants to help. Your counselors want to help you, so reach out. and they will have the answers to your questions.

### *A Handy Checklist to Keep in Mind*

- ☐ RELAX, DON'T PANIC, STAY SANE
- ☐ AVOID PERFECT COLLEGE SYNDROME
- ☐ LOOK AT OVERLAPS, SECOND TIER SCHOOLS
- ☐ KEEP AN OPEN MIND
- ☐ BE PATIENT
- ☐ TAKE SOME CHANCES
- ☐ TALK TO KIDS ON THE CAMPUS
- ☐ FIND OUT ABOUT SOCIAL LIFE
- ☐ CHECK HOUSING, FOOD
- ☐ CAN YOU GRADUATE IN FOUR YEARS?
- ☐ WATCH DEADLINES
- ☐ GO TO A SCHOOL YOU CAN AFFORD
- ☐ RELY ON GUIDANCE COUNSELORS FOR HELP



# Advice For Freshman

As everyone knows the four years we spend in high school go tremendously fast. Throughout the four years there can be ups and downs. Many freshmen struggle with grades, the amount of homework, their social lives, and much more. Upperclassmen have more of an advantage to these difficulties since they now how to cope with them. So, here, seniors offer some of their best advice for this year's incoming freshman.

By: Rachel Irizarry



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

- **Logan Roddy**



"Get involved and join as many clubs as you can."

- **Annie Heenan**



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

- **Vaughn Mangle**



"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**



"Socialize and make new friends."

- **Megge Sanchez**



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

- **Elizabeth Kingman**



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

- **Brielle Stevens**



"Do your homework."

- **Hannah Digerness**

# Students Tackle Issues in the World

## The Blue & Gray Editorials

### Taking A Stand By Sitting Down

By: Shane Connelly

Before each and every sporting event in the United States, we hear the home stadium's speakers ring out, "Please rise and remove your hats for the singing of our national anthem." Up until now, this command was never questioned. The fans in the audience and the players on the field obeyed this message promptly and once the anthem concluded, the game began. While the anthem was originally a brief sign of nationalism, it has now become the center of controversy.

Colin Kaepernick, quarterback for the San Francisco 49ers listed second on the team's depth chart, recently made headlines as he sat alone on the bench during the playing of our country's national anthem before a preseason game in Levi's Stadium. He was not injured. He was not ill. He was making a protest.

Kaepernick, now in his sixth NFL season, is speaking out against what he describes as the poor treatment of African Americans and minorities who live in the United States. When NFL Media caught up with the QB after the preseason game versus the Green Bay Packers, Kaepernick explained, "I am not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses black people and

*Several Miami Dolphins players joined in and protested the national anthem before their first game of the season versus the Seattle Seahawks.*



people of color," and went on to say, "There are bodies in the street and people getting paid leave and getting away with murder."

Several other high profile athletes have joined Kaepernick in protest during the national anthem. Eric Reid, teammate of the controversial quar-

terback, knelt beside Colin Kaepernick during the playing of the anthem before the final preseason game on the 49ers schedule. Shortly after, more and more players around the league followed suit. Some of the players who protested the national anthem on September 11<sup>TH</sup>, the opening week of professional football and also the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of one of the biggest tragedies in United States history, include the Chiefs All-Pro cornerback Marcus Peters, Dolphins running back Arian Foster, and Los Angeles Rams players Kenny Britt and Robert Quinn.

With the increase in support for Kaepernick on the field, the story has become one of the focal points of the 2016 NFL season. The protests have been covered daily by news and radio networks, and nearly everyone has weighed in on the situation. Dallas Cowboys billionaire owner Jerry Jones said in an interview with local radio station KRLD-FM that he and his team "strongly, strongly support the flag." Even presidential candidate Donald Trump weighed in with his view on Kaepernick's protests, stating, "I have followed it, and I think it's personally not a good thing. I think it's a terrible thing," and continued with, "maybe he should find a country that works better for him."

Though Kaepernick has received a great amount of criticism, he has achieved his goal of publicizing his issue with the treatment of minorities in the United States. His jersey has become the number one selling jersey on [www.nflshop.com](http://www.nflshop.com), the NFL's official merchandise retailer. Per NFL rules, a player gets about two thirds of the profit from each of his jersey sales, which means Colin Kaepernick is in for a big payday. In order to continue his support for his cause, he announced on his Instagram account that he will be donating all of the proceeds from the sales back into the communities in need.



*49ers safety Eric Reid knelt along side Colin Kaepernick during the playing of the national anthem before a home game.*



# Students Tackle Issues in the World

## The Blue & Gray Editorials

# R Triggered on Campus

By: Abby McHugh

Over the previous month, news coverage has been divided over a letter sent to incoming freshmen by the University of Chicago. The letter states that the school “does not support so-called ‘trigger warnings’” and that students should get comfortable getting uncomfortable. What the letter highlights, though, is a growing divide between safe-space proponents and those who staunchly oppose it. As much as the news media loves to portray this issue as democrat vs. republican, in truth the issue has become moderate democrats vs. staunch liberal democrats, with most of these battles taking place on northeast, rich, democrat-leaning campuses.

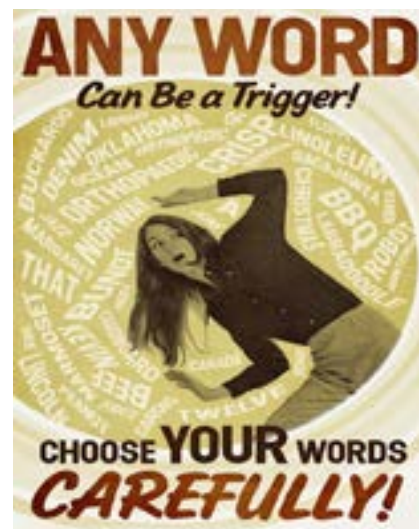
“Trigger warnings” are warnings issued before potentially traumatizing content is shown to students. Psychology Today’s Editor in Chief Hara Estroff Marano disagrees with the use of trigger warnings, writing that “Step by well-meaning step, colleges are being transformed into something more akin to mental health wards than citadels of learning”. She argues that kids these days are too fragile: “Angst has long afflicted those of college age; but once it

instances of students with severe psychological problems. In 2014, a survey by the American College Health Association reported that 54% of college students had reported they felt overwhelming anxiety in the past 12 perfect. Students seem to be reporting more emotional crises, seem more fragile, and this has certainly changed the way the universities they attend have interacted with them, by introducing safe spaces and trigger warnings.

However, instead of simply just taking away safe spaces and trigger warnings, colleges should introduce more mental health centers for students. If the internet age is not suited for the 21st century, stressed student, why not have help available away for them?

It is one of the only plausible solutions put forward by colleges and mental health experts today. But, it probably won’t be put into action- both sides are staunchly opposed to compromise, all at the expense of the student. In the 60 years since the American College Counseling Association has started collecting data, the rate of student suicides has increased 5-fold. It will probably take another 60 before both sides of this debate will come to agreement.

*A recent cover of The Atlantic, whose cover story contributed to the debate.*



*A pro- trigger warning poster hung at Georgetown.*



*Students at the University of Chicago protest sexual assault.*

had been an intellectual, existential cast. Now it is primarily emotional. By some psychic sleight, common life dilemmas have become mental disorders”. She blames this issue on a multitude of issues, including the 21st century academic pressure and prevalence of binge-drinking on campuses.

The University of Chicago sought to solve this issue by getting rid of the trigger warnings and safe spaces that made students so coddled in the first place. This is the right solution. According to the American College Counseling Association, nearly all member schools reported higher



# The Blue & Gray

## FEATURES

### Reflections on Rio: Ryan Lotche and Scandal at the Olympics

By: Abby McHugh

American swimmer Ryan Lotche has found himself floundering both in and out of the water at the 2016 Rio Olympics this summer. After failing to medal in his only individual event, the 200 IM, and swimming a subpar leg of the gold-medal winning 4x200 freestyle relay, Lotche and three other swimmers, Jimmy Feigen, Jack Conger, and Gunnar Bentz, all partied until the break of dawn at the French House in Rio (breaking their curfew). In a drunken stupor, they stumbled into a Brazilian gas station and proceeded to break the door down, pee all over the bathroom, and argue animatedly with a security guard who happened to have a gun on him. After paying the security guard, the swimmers drove off, hoping to forget the evening ever happened.

And it would have happened, if not for the stupidity of Ryan Lotche. Hoping to evade the wrath of his mother, he lied and told her that they were robbed at gunpoint by a taxi driver. His mom blabbered to the press, causing a media frenzy. Eventually, with a stopped airplane, police charges, and international pressure upon him, Lotche finally admitted he had 'misremembered the events'.

Now, in a surprising twist, Lotche's redemption was interrupted when his routine on ABC's *Dancing with the Stars* was interrupted by two protestors wearing anti-Lotche shirts. What motivated the protestors to such drastic and ridiculous measures is unclear.

Ryan Lotche has always had a reputation for being America's dolphin: better in the water than in the classroom, or even in an interview. Google "Ryan Lotche interview", and you'll be greeted by several montages of his most infamous moments, including making several news anchors laugh on air for his air-head behavior. A sports management major who graduated from University of Florida, Lotche has managed the last few Olympic cycles with mixed results- after a successful 2012 Olympics which included 5 medals, along with an individual gold in the 400 individual-medley, he launched his own reality show "What Would Ryan Lotche Do?" which audiences had trouble answering (or watching).

But after this, a new spotlight shifts onto Ryan Lotche. Although America ac-



*Lotche, above, at an Olympic press conference.*

knowledgeed and embraced him as having both the swimming and intellectual abilities as the dolphins that inhabited his native Daytona Beach, Florida, this scandal showcases how he (and the media) took advantage of the narrative already going on in Brazil.

All of the major media outlets had been hailing Rio, and its Olympics, as a disaster even before the Games began. As they missed construction deadlines and athletes complained of the dorms, choruses erupted about how "this games would be the worst yet". And although these narratives arise before nearly every games, this time was different- this was the first modern Olympics in history hosted in a South American country. The stakes were high to prove that the Games could once again come back to the area once the 2016 torch was put out.

By taking advantage

of people's assumptions about Brazil and its safety, Lotche took the spotlight away from deserving athletes. Conger and Bentz, who may very well not make the 2020 games, and Feigen, who has said that this will be his last Olympic games, will leave Rio with memories of being pulled off of a plane for questioning, while Lotche sat at home in America, safely watching the scandal unfold. And because of Lotche's lying, the three of them will not have the privilege to meet the president during the Olympic athlete's reception this spring.

As Lotche's career fades to oblivion, from a height of possibly being the second best Olympic swimmer of all time after Michael Phelps, it is time for him to take his step out of the spotlight. As they say, the camera adds ten pounds, and in his case, takes away 10 IQ points- and it's not like he has very much left to loose.



# The Blue & Gray

## FEATURES

### Live From New York, It's Saturday Night!

By: Jeff Petrulla

SNL broke new ground this year as they opened Season 42, on October 1st, without some familiar faces. Missing from the cast are actors Taran Killam, Jay Pharoah, and Jon Rudnitsky. Taran Killam had been on SNL since 2010, but recently was let go from a seven-year contract due to scheduling conflicts caused by a movie he's directing. Jay Pharoah was also on SNL since 2010, but was actually cut along with Killam this year. Rudnitsky was originally a feature cast member, so his departure comes as a surprise. However, their places were filled quickly by actors Mikey Day, Alex Moffat, and Melissa Villaseñor. Mikey Day was a former writer and feature cast member, but he's now permanent. Alex Moffat and Melissa Villaseñor were both SNL outsiders, Melissa getting her start on YouTube and Alex starting in the stand-up comedy scene.

Apparently, the promise of new cast members and a brand new host, Margot Robbie, attracted many. Season 42's Premiere was the most popular in eight years, getting more than 5.8 percent of all household televisions watching. That's a whole lot of people, and a whole lot of pressure.

Of course, nobody cracked. The episode went seamlessly, with instant classic scenes like the Presidential Debate. SNL stuck to its famous political commentary, with Alec Baldwin playing Donald Trump and Kate McKinnon playing Hillary Clinton. Besides the politics, SNL kept up the comedy with skits like "The Librarian" and "Female Actresses Round Table," where even Robbie couldn't help but crack a few smiles.

My personal favorite sketch of the night was the "Family Feud: Political Edition" in which Team Trump faced off against Team Clinton. Team Trump was composed of campaign manager Kellyanne Conway, Ivanka Trump (and brothers), Chris Christie, and a shirtless Vladimir Putin. Team Clinton had Bernie Sanders, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Sarah Silverman, and Bill Clinton. The segment included multiple Bridgetate jokes (a Jersey favorite) and ended with Bill Clinton going off-stage with Ivanka Trump. Oh satire; sweet, sweet satire.

The Weeknd was the featured performer this episode, and he performed 'False Alarm' and 'Starboy'. I, as would many, say he absolutely killed it. The crowd went wild, and I doubt the studio signs saying "PLEASE CLAP" had anything to do with it. Some didn't recognize him,

with his fresh new haircut that isn't half as tall as the old one. Personally, I'm glad to see it gone. It feels less threatening around the pyrotechnics he tends to use.

The Weekend Update marked yet another year without Seth Meyers, who made a name for himself on the news bit. This episode's Weekend Update was hosted by Michael Che, a former Daily Show correspondent, and Colin Hanks, a former SNL writer. Despite the fact that everyone misses Seth Meyers, Che and Hanks did a great job and spurred some laughs with constant politically charged jokes. Even The Weeknd joined the fun with his own "Weekend Update." All he said was, "I got a haircut," and then it cut off. Comedy gold. I personally think the best joke of the segment was aimed at Hillary Clinton, and her poor song choice for her debate victory rally. She came out to "I Feel Good" by James Brown. Hanks noted, "This is awful ironic for someone who's recovering from pneumonia, considering James Brown died from pneumonia." Michael Che added a few moments later, "If she actually had black friends, she'd know that."

After the Weekend Update, actress Leslie Jones made a cameo, returning to SNL after her new Ghostbusters remake. The remake may have gotten poor reviews, but her spoof of Mr. Robot gets two thumbs up from me. Windows 95 and millennials jokes? Priceless. She even poked fun at her recent picture leak controversy, which is not only respectable, but hilarious.

Needless to say, the episode went well, and surely shut down any critics of SNL. It has had a growing opposition the past few seasons, between a long line of far from notable hosts and sketches that definitely won't be remembered in ten years. I foresee SNL turning over a new leaf after that premiere; here's to hoping it actually happens!

**Taran Killam and Jay Pharoah, you will be missed!**



Robbie as Ivanka Trump on Family Feud: Political Edition



# Students Tackle Issues in the World

## The Blue & Gray Editorials

### Good Luck America

By: Jeff Petrulla and Amanda Karp

*This election has been one for the history books. With Hillary Clinton making her second run for president, she hopes to finally break the barrier that has previously excluded women from such a coveted seat in office. But she's not the only one running. Donald Trump is as well, making history right alongside her. Along with Libertarian Gary Johnson and Green Party Member Jill Stein, each is a presidential hopeful, looking to garner the most votes to make their way into office.*

*We've compiled a list of pros and cons for each candidate, regardless of your party preference, to keep you informed.*



## Hillary & Donald

### The Pros



#### - Experience in office: NY Senator, Secretary of State, First Lady

·Hillary has been around the track at least a few times. She was a New York Senator for 8 years, though her Senate record isn't much to be impressed with. She also spent 4 years as President Obama's Secretary of State, when, some allege she allowed the Benghazi incident.

#### - Carries herself in a stately manner

·Hillary, though her opponents like to paint her as shrill and annoying, has done a far better job in keeping her composure and acting appropriately compared to Donald Trump.

#### - Explicitly stated policy plans

·Hillary is less rhetoric, more plans. She has extensive explanations for her plans in office on her website, from healthcare to Russia.

#### - Women's issues, glass ceiling

·Women have undergone a long social struggle for equal recognition in the workplace, and politics is one of said afflicted workplaces. Electing the first female president would do huge things for America's attitude toward women.

#### ·Is a very good negotiator

-Good at negotiating business deals, political vantage points

#### ·Speaks his mind, frank with voters

- Says whatever comes to his mind, open, truthful

#### Successful business career

-The Grand Hyatt Hotel, which was falling into disrepair in 1974, and after six years of construction, was reopened, and has had a great deal of business since.

-Trump Tower, which broke ground in 1980, is a luxury high rise boasting upscale restaurants and residential living, is one of New York City's most highly sought after real estate.

#### ·Strong leadership skills

- Trump worked on renovating Wollman Rink in 1986, and was able to finish on time and \$750,000 under the \$3 million budget.



# Students Tackle Issues in the World

The Blue & Gray  
Editorials

## Hillary & Donald: The Cons

### The hair

-Have you seen it? Have you ever seen it move? Does natural hair even bend that way?

### Constantly switches his opinion on voting issues

-He has "offered up three different views on abortion in eight hours"  
- NBC News

-Goes from saying that he will ban all Muslims, to stating that it was a suggestion, then saying that it is matter of policy and it must happen, to then rebuking on his word and stating that the Muslim ban was never about Muslims.

- Wants to raise taxes on the wealthy, but also cut them.

- Criminalize abortion, wait, no, don't criminalize abortion.

### Has had no prior experience in government or otherwise as a public servant

-Held no elective, appointive, or military public experience

### Has cut corners in business

-"Donald Trump was... hunched over a platter of meat to kick off his line of premium steaks that he dubbed the "world's greatest" ... has since been discontinued—maybe it had something to do with the Trump Steakhouse in Las Vegas being closed down in 2012 for 51 health code violations, including serving five-month old duck." - Time Magazine.

-Trump University was responsible for defrauding thousands of students.

-Has been a defendant the 1,450 lawsuits filed against him.

### Is allegedly bigoted toward other cultures and religions

-Advocated for shutting down mosques.

-Didn't condemn anti-Semitic attacks on journalists.

- Wants to ban Muslims and Muslims from countries with terrorist backgrounds from entering the U.S.

### Long trail of corruption: Whitewater, Benghazi, email scandal

-Though it was before most of our lifetimes, the Whitewater scandal was a thorn in the Clintons' side during Bill's presidential campaign. It included a mix of corruption, underhanded real estate deals, and banking mistakes. Some would argue it's nothing compared to Benghazi, as 4 Americans died, but Hillary never was legally connected to either, so she shakes them off.

### Hawkish on Middle East policy

-Many would argue that Hillary looks to start an unwanted ground war in Syria, in order to set strong opposition to the Russians. Unfortunate for her, the Cold War is over, and a proxy war isn't economical or sensible for the United States.

### Operates secretly, not generally trusted

- Since her email scandal, the whole nation has been curious about Hillary and her conduct. She's been transparent, yet most people still don't trust her and her intentions. It doesn't help that she recently had a 200-day streak with no press conferences.

### Likely won't fix gridlock in Capitol Hill

-Everyone sees Hillary Clinton as a model Democrat, and also the Republicans' least favorite politician. This won't help her in an already stagnant Congressional setting.

### A little too close for comfort with Wall Street

-It's obvious that Hillary has gotten more than a fair amount of money for speaking fees from Goldman Sachs and other major financial institutions, so many people view her as a spokeswoman for the establishment.

# Gary Johnson, Electoral College, and The Problem With Third Parties in America



Most polls have Gary Johnson, the Libertarian Party nominee, between five and ten percent. Jill Stein, the Green Party nominee, remains at about two percent. The only time third parties have done this well in polls was when Ross Perot ran in 1992 and at one point was polling 39%, compared to Clinton's 25% and Bush's 31%.

Even with such success, it did not make a real difference, as he spiraled until earning 19% of the popular vote in the election. With nearly one in five Americans supporting Perot, he should have gotten 102 of the 538 electoral college votes.

Yet, he did not get a single one.

This is the inherent problem with American third parties. The American electoral system has a winner take all system: if you win a state, you gain all of its electoral votes.

As John F. Biddy said "There

is no reward for second place".

For this reason, third parties will always have difficulty gaining electoral votes over the two significantly larger major parties. Even when many are disappointed by their choices, like Trump and Clinton, choosing to vote for a third party is only slightly better than not voting at all. Gamblers who bet on the winner of the election sight Johnson's chances of winning at less than 0.01 percent.

Even with feverish dreams of starting a revolution and getting everyone to vote for a third party, it would be almost impossible to orchestrate. The electoral college, in its current form, punishes politicians with specific messages and supporters spread out among the country.

The electoral college does not favor support that is spread about, but rather highly concentrated groups of people backing a single candidate. By winning only a few

key states, someone could be President with just 22% of the popular vote. That would be 270 electoral votes. Flashback to Perot: only three points off, 270 votes shy.

As you are starting to see, the electoral college is a broken system, which is only now being realized as more people consider third parties.

This system of electing politicians has always been somewhat questionable. The college was originally created when America just gained independence from Britain. It was used as a way to let the people speak, but prevent uneducated citizens from making a poor choice. 250 years later, we still have the electoral college voting for us.



**Vermin Supreme, a man that wears a boot on his head, has had as many electoral votes as Ross Perot.**



# The Exclusive (Electoral) College Parties

One of the most frequently suggested solutions to the electoral college is to depend solely on popular vote. While this would eliminate some issues, such as winning with less than a quarter of the country's support, it's still not perfect. Third parties would have a slightly better chance of winning, but it would still require a miracle.

Proportional representation, in many ways, is a better system. Put simply, if a party gets 30% of the votes, that party gets 30% of the seats available. This system is used by over 80 countries, spread across every continent, and is the gold standard of democracy in Europe.

It's main benefit would be that everyone's vote really is making a difference. Voting for Johnson or Stein is no longer wasting a vote. It no longer leaves you with two unappealing candidates. Support for lesser-known parties will also grow as they would then have *some* level of representation.

With our current system, every state must have a minimum of three electoral votes, so states like Wyoming, which technically should only have one, now have three. And states like California, that should have 65, are moved down to 55. Rhode Island has twice as much representation than it should have, while California has 4/5 of its proper representation. By winning these radically over-represented states, candidates can become president with 22% of the nation's support.

Making every percent matter would mean that candidates would have to care about every state



Electoral representation is not proportional to the amount of eligible voters in each state. If it was, representation would equal 100%. Here are some ridiculous examples:

**Florida:** 83%

**California:** 85%

**Arizona:** 87%

**Texas:** 79%

**Rhode Island:** 215%

**Alaska:** 247%

**North Dakota:** 264%

**South Dakota:** 211%

**Wyoming:** 318%

**New York:** 90%

**Delaware:** 194%

**D.C.:** 286%

and every vote. When we vote, the point is to make a difference and have our voices heard, so why not have a system that actually supports that? Some people will stop this system dead in its tracks, citing that it's not in the Constitution, but consider this: the Constitution was written over two centuries ago. In 1776, the electoral college was a mediocre system when we only had a handful of states. Now we have 50 states to account for. It may be time for an update.

With the election being right around the corner, many will likely forget about this issue after November. That's a huge obstacle.

With something this important, bringing it up once every four years really hampers the credibility of any argument. If instituting proportional representation is something that is really wanted, this needs to be pushed all year long.





# ELECTION 2016: DEBATE ANALYSIS

BY: ABBY MCHUGH AND JEFF PETRULLA

*It's almost November 8th, and you know what that means: its debate season! Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump are preparing (well, maybe not the Don) for their battles in the coming weeks. Here you'll find coverage and analysis of the best parts of every debate.*



Debate Overview	Best Zinger	Best Outright Lie	Winner
<b>Date:</b> September 26th <b>Location:</b> Hofstra University in Hempstead, N.Y. <b>Moderator:</b> Lester Holt, NBC News <b>Candidates:</b> Hillary Clinton (D) and Donald Trump (R)	<b>Clinton:</b> "I think Donald just critized me for preparing for this debate. And yes, I did. You know what else I prepared for? I prepared to be president" <b>Trump (after being asked about Hillary putting her plans to defeat Isis online):</b> "I don't think Gen. Douglas MacArthur would like that"	<b>Clinton (on not paying taxes):</b> "He's paid nothing in federal taxes, because the only years that anybody's ever seen were a couple of years when he had to turn them over to state authorities..." <b>Trump (on claiming climate change was a lie created by China):</b> "I never said that." To be fair, he DID tweet it.	<b>Winner: HILLARY CLINTON</b> For the next debate, Trump should sway from the "not holding any mock debates.. reading his briefing books.. and testing zingers over bacon cheeseburgers, hot dogs and glasses of Coca-Cola", he should take Hillary's approach- actually preparing for the debate.
<b>Date:</b> October 4th <b>Location:</b> Longwood University, Farmville, V.A. <b>Moderator:</b> Elaine Quijano, CBS News <b>Candidates:</b> Tim Kaine (D) and Mike Pence (R)	<i>No great zingers to report- stay tuned for the next debate, hopefully where the candidates will actually speak a full sentence without being interrupted by each other!</i>	<b>Pence (on defending Trump):</b> Mike Pence repeatedly denied that Trump said things that he <u>actually</u> said. <b>Kaine: (on the Iran Deal)</b> "[Hillary Clinton] eliminated Iran's nuclear program without firing a shot."	<b>Winner: MIKE PENCE</b> From the beginning to the end, Pence seemed more comfortable on stage, providing a well-needed boost to a struggling Trump campaign. Kaine kept going after him, only to be coolly brushed off.
<b>Date:</b> October 9th <b>Location:</b> Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri <b>Moderator:</b> CNN's Anderson Cooper and ABC's Martha Raddatz <b>Candidates:</b> Hillary Clinton (D) and Donald Trump (R)	<b>Clinton (on Acess Hollywood scandal):</b> "Okay, Donald. I know you are into big diversion tonight, anything to avoid talking about your campaign and the way it's exploding, and the way Republicans are leaving you, but --" <b>Trump (in response to Clinton saying she's glad Trump isn't in control of the law):</b> "Because you would be in jail."	<b>Clinton:</b> "You know that we are now for the first time ever energy-independent." Though we are less dependent on Middle Eastern oil, we import far more than we produce. <b>Trump:</b> "I was against the war in Iraq." Donald has failed to present solid evidence that he was against the war in Iraq, and been shown to be a bed-rudging supporter in the past.	<b>KEN BONE-</b> That man is arguably the most adorable man in America. His little red sweater, his disposable camera, and his plump figure may be the cutest thing of this election season. He's become an instant internet sensation, and we hope to see more of him to come.

**OCTOBER 19TH: HILLARY V. DONALD DEBATE #3!**  
**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE**





By: Leah Tilton

For anyone that has ever driven to Manasquan High School in the middle of January, it is well known fact that the trek from your car to the front door doubles as a walk through the tundra. The days it rains leave you slippery and soaked, and humid mornings cause you to sweat before the day even begins. It has always been the dream of MHS students to have a closer place to park their car in the morning, and this year that dream is finally becoming a reality.

The administration has reserved two spots in the teacher's parking lot for a few very lucky seniors to make use of this year. Each student will automatically be entered in the lottery for the spot during their birthday month. At the beginning of each month, one student's name will be drawn from the list at random, and the name pulled will be the person to receive the spot until

the next drawing. How the second spot will be given is still being discussed among the administration.

Vice Principal, Mr. Read, who has helped in coordinating the idea remarked "Winning is really just luck, if

you were born in a month with few birthdays, you have a better chance to win."

The winning students will receive a parking permit to hang in the car they drive to school. If they don't drive to school, and carpool instead, the permit can hang in their friend's car that drove them. On

October 5<sup>th</sup>, the administration pulled two names to receive the spots. They pulled for one birthday in September and one in October, so that September birthdays were also included. The two winners were Edward Perez, who has a birthday in September, and Anthony Davila, who has a birthday in October. To allow summer birthdays to also get a chance, in June Mr. Read will be generously giving up his spot in the parking lot. This will result in a total of three spots available for the final month of school, providing spots for people who have birthdays in June, July, and August.

When asked about who the second spot will be given to during the year, Mr. Read commented, "We are considering a number of ideas for how the second spot will be given, an announcement will be made soon as to how it will be handled."



Debate Overview	Best Zinger	Best Outright Lie	Winner
<b>Date:</b> October 19th <b>Location:</b> University of Nevada, Las Vegas. <b>Moderator:</b> Chris Wallace, Fox News <b>Candidates:</b> Hillary Clinton (D) and Donald Trump (R)	<b>Clinton:</b> 1) (On Donald's meeting with the Mexican president): "Didn't even raise it [the issue of the wall]. He choked" 2) In response to how Putin has no respect for her: "Because he would rather have a puppet than a president" 3) On the Clinton Foundation: "I'd be happy to compare what we do to the Trump foundation, which took money from other people and bought a six-foot portrait of Donald" <b>Trump:</b> No good zingers to report. Check the Donald's twitter, maybe?	<b>Clinton:</b> "Wiki-leaks is working with the Russian government". Not true! There has been no evidence that Wiki-leaks has colluded with the Russian government. <b>Trump:</b> "They are ripping babies out of the mother, three, two, even one day before the due date". Not only is this not medically correct, but women get these type of late-term abortions because they threaten their health or that of their baby. WRONG!	<b>WINNER: HILLARY CLINTON.</b> Clinton saves her best performance for last in this masterful takedown of Trump. In managing to adopt the traits that make him popular- the calling out, the interruptions- she manages to portray him as a spoiled child while also getting the policy discussion she deserved. Clinton looked stately, knowledgeable, and more willing to call out Trump on his lies than in debates past. If there were any undecided voters left, this debate surely had to have them saying #ImWithHer.



# 4 Trendy Costumes for Halloween this Year



By: Lauren Fielder

Think there's no Halloween costume idea that hasn't been done yet in MHS? You're wrong. Throughout Manasquan's many years, students have dressed up in everything from robots to teachers to teletubbies – but have no fear! Here are 4 trendy costume ideas that are sure to get you noticed this year.



## #4. A Snapchat Filter

This is a good DIY costume for artsy people. Just pick your favorite snapchat filter and take your best shot at replicating it in real life! Some popular ones include the dog filter, flower crown filter, and the emoji filter. If you need inspiration, there are countless tutorials on YouTube.

## #3. Drake & Rihanna

...This year's perfect couple's costume. Go ahead, show off some new dance moves or break out into a duet with your significant other. Not a fan of Drake & Rihanna? Then go for the classic, Kim & Kanye



## #2. A Political Candidate

With the election only weeks away, now is a perfect time to support your candidate of choice. Whether it's to advocate for or make fun of the politician you dress up as, you're sure to get some feedback from your peers. You could even make a friend dress up as your vice president!



## #1. Taylor Swift's Squad

Make everyone else jealous when you and your squad show up on fleek. Choose between Cara Delevigne, Selena Gomez, Gigi Hadid, Lili Aldridge, even Taylor. Walking through the hallways on your way to class? More like walking down the red carpet on your way to accept your Grammy.





# Last-second Costume Ideas for Halloween

By: Mike Rafter



**Ghost-** For this simple costume, all you will need is a white bedsheet. Simply poke 2 holes out for eyes and throw it over your head. A ghastly getup indeed.



**Identity Thief-** If you have some nametags lying around, sticking them all around your body with different names on them is as witty as it is creative.



**Greaser-** Assuming every guy has at least one pair of jeans and a white t shirt, you can look straight out the 50's. Hair gel and a leather jacket aren't necessary, but helps sell the look.



**Rosy the Riveter-** Females have an easy costume with Rosie the riveter. Get your hands on a red bandana and a blue denim shirt. Roll up the sleeve and pull your hair back and you're ready to do it.



**Ceiling Fan-** Whether you want to a band wagoner or a true super fan, this costume is always there for those who want to show some appreciation to those fans.



**Sports Player-** To those athletic individuals who want to get dressed up at the last minute, you could just wear your uniform. Its and easy copout, but a stylish one at that.

Will you be wearing an elaborate or interesting costume this haloween? Have an outfit worth showing off? You may just end up in The Blue and Gray!

# Canvas: A New Digital Favorite, or Flop?

By: Amanda Karp

Another school year calls for new technology to be introduced into the school system. For the past year, students and teachers alike have been using OneNote, but this year, there's a new application that's being used – Canvas. It's a sudden change from OneNote, in terms of style and ease of use, but it has the same, if not better, kind of accessibility that OneNote has, or lacks.

Created by Instructure, and launched in 2011, Canvas has been implemented into Manasquan's learning system this fall, which has drawn both positive and negative feedback from both students and teachers alike.

Ms. Kukoda, who is the Technology Integration coach, had a large part in implementing Canvas into Manasquan High School. "Mr. Place, who is the Director of Technology, wanted to find an LMS (Learning Management System) that would be beneficial to various classrooms," she said.

Since many colleges, especially Ivy Leagues, use Canvas, exposing students who are still in high school to the application is the next logical step in working to prepare college-bound students for their next level of education.

On the subject of OneNote, Ms. Kukoda admitted that: "The goal in the long run is for classrooms to use OneNote and Canvas together." Each program has something the other doesn't, which makes it a good idea to use them in tandem, because they have the ability to complement each other.

Visually, "OneNote is a binder," Ms. Kukoda explained, "whereas Canvas is more of a planner." She went on to elaborate, saying that OneNote is more experimental, and it allows the students to house their notes, while in contrast, Canvas is where students are more rigid in what they do, as it allows them to submit homework and other assignments.

There are certainly people who have ranges of opinions – from despising Canvas with a burning passion, thinking it's useful but has some downsides, remaining decidedly neutral about the whole affair, or believing that it's much easier to use.

Colleen Hessinger, a senior, is very passionate about OneNote. "You don't have to save," she said, which makes it much more convenient than Canvas, because the work typed into the submission boxes isn't saved. OneNote is "so much easier to use, and there's so much going on in Canvas, with more steps than needed."

Seniors Kelli Finn and Tilly Marks are of the second group of



opinions – believing it's useful but in need of improvements.

"It's helpful for certain classes, but for others, it seems like the teachers struggle to use it, and it's more of a nuisance than a helpful educational tool," Kelli remarked.

Tilly said that, "It's useful, but I hate when the whole class is using Canvas, and then the internet goes down, and you can't proceed with class."

Some classes find themselves heavily reliant upon Canvas, which can cause things to go awry when there is something to be shown online but there is no internet that can be used to proceed with the lesson. Such is Mr. Fagen's AP Human Geography class, which runs solely on content based in Canvas.

"I like it, but there's still work to be done. It's a learning process," Mr. Fagen said. In the beginning of the school year, Mr. Fagen's tablet had been unable to connect to the internet. This impeded the class's ability to learn because all the content had been unreachable and textbooks hadn't been delivered yet. Mr. Fagen appreciates having the advantage of being able to access content online – if students happen to leave a document at home they can easily pull it up online.

But a pen and paper has always done the job, and done it well. "People like writing on paper, and



I prefer it," Mr. Fagen added, "but moving forward is just a matter of getting used to Canvas and sticking with it."

Others, such as Mr. Harvey's AP English Literature class, doesn't use it at all. "It's not user friendly – I like OneNote better for English," Mr. Harvey said. He thinks Canvas is better suited for online classes, because it is a one-stop shop for all the needs of online students – from ways to access Powerpoints and notes, to ways to take tests and quizzes.

"It should be easier to use, and it should make documents look how they really are, in regards to sizing and space, they're all wacked-out," Mr. Harvey added. He also thinks that technology is "improved enough, but we should really be working on perfecting and using what we already have, before changing to something else."

Canvas most certainly wins points for ease of access – simply login when connected to internet, and everything is there – and in all the resources it's able to provide for its students, but OneNote has the leg up when it comes to usability and design – much more simplified and streamlined than Canvas.

When asked how Manasquan can further improve the applications and programs it uses to have better learning experiences, Ms. Kukoda responded optimistically: "To be able to use these resources to take the student beyond the classroom – to research and find information directly related to class content is incredible." Ms. Kukoda believes that the use of OneNote and Canvas together can be extremely helpful to students.

So whether or not students like Canvas, it is Manasquan's way to further prepare them for college and future jobs. It's here to stay for the foreseeable future, and that means students and teachers alike will have to make their peace with Canvas, and either work with it, or work their way around it.





# Entertainment

## A CHILDHOOD FAVORITE WITH A TWIST

By: Elizabeth Rooney

This summer I went to go see *The BFG*, a movie based on the book by Roald Dahl and directed by Steven Spielberg. I was pleasantly surprised by how much I enjoyed the movie.

Growing up I was a fan of Dahl and the books he wrote. I have read most of them, including *The BFG*. I was a bit apprehensive to see the movie, because the book was one of my all-time favorite books I read as a kid. However, the movie didn't ruin the book for me like I afraid it would.

The BFG is a story about a giant and a young orphan girl named Sophie. Sophie has been taken by a giant who



identifies himself as the Big Friendly Giant (BFG) who blows bottled dreams into the bedrooms of children. He explains that other giants eat children, unlike himself, who re-

fuses to eat children. Sophie and the BFG (mark Rylance) quickly become friends and join forces to dispose of the nine other vicious children-eating giants, with some help from the Queen of England.

Sophie was played by Ruby Barnhill, a 12 year old girl starring in her first movie. Rylance, as the BFG, previously won an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor in the movie *Bridge of Spies*.

The overall plot of the movie is pretty similar to the book's storyline. Sure there are little details here and there that are different, but nothing really drastic was changed throughout the movie. However, the ending in the movie and the book are different; in fact, the endings are completely opposite to each other. The movie's ending is the sadder one of the two... you'll have to see for yourself to learn more. I'll just leave it at that.

Despite the change in the ending, overall, the movie was highly enjoyable. *The BFG* is a book that I will always love, and for a movie to not tear the story line apart and ruin a great book, a childhood favorite for that matter, is wonderful. If the only major difference is in the end of the story, it really shows that Spielberg did try to stay true to Dahl's originally story.



# THE WORLD IS MORE GIANT THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE

# It's Never Too Little Too Late

By: Amanda Karp



Above: The cover of JoJo's new album, *Mad Love*.

You most likely remember the head-bopping, catchy, break-up tune of the early 2000s "Leave (Get Out)" by JoJo. You may also remember the song "Too Little Too Late", and remember JoJo when she starred in such films as 2006's *Aquamarine* and *RV*. But beyond that you may not remember her. Simply because she dropped off the map.

A little known fact is that Joanna "JoJo" Levesque was engaged in a legal battle with her record label, Blackground Records, first in 2009, and then again during the second half of 2013, as JoJo claimed that Blackground Records had done irreparable damage to her career by constantly putting off the release of her albums.

Amid the legal action, JoJo was still able to release music – a handful of EPs and mixtapes from 2006 through 2012. But none of it was at the level she had wanted it to be – it wasn't an album release. She left Blackground Records in 2013, after they finally reached a settlement outside of court, and since 2014, has been signed with Atlantic Records.

However, JoJo has been releasing music, albeit under the radar, throughout the past ten years. Since 2006, she has released EPs such as *#LoveJo*, *III*,

and *#LoveJo2*, and mixtapes such as *Can't Take That Away From Me* and *Agápē*, previous to the culmination of the ten-year wait of her *Mad Love* album release on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

*III*, otherwise known as JoJo's "Tringle" – a trio of three singles – was released on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015, and pushed her back into mainstream media. With the songs, "When Love Hurts", "Save My Soul", and "Say Love", JoJo introduced her listeners into a new era of hers – one that would precede the wait for an album ten years overdue.

JoJo's comeback, through the trials and tribulations of the past, showcase just how determined and diligent she is. She has maintained her fan-base through periods of difficulty and inaction, and commands their respect with how open and honest she is about her life, and the struggles that have come along with it. Because of these challenges, her sound is more mature than it had been in previous years, but that comes with the territory of growing up.

*Mad Love* is an album that is rooted in many different genres. Although she had always been categorized as a pop and R&B singer, JoJo's album reflects the kinds of music she grew up listening to and still loves – hip-hop and soul. But among the tracks lay dance anthems, acoustics, and songs about freedom and self-worth.

These roots are found in not only the promotional singles, but the rest of the album as well. The title track, "Mad Love", delves into JoJo's soul background, with soaring riffs and a swelling orchestra backing her vocals.

"Music.", another of JoJo's songs, is acoustic, with only

her vocals and a piano in the background. It is a brutally honest opening track, and though it doesn't set the tone for the whole album, it instead reveals JoJo's passion for music and it is dedicated to her parents. It tells her audience of her upbringing, and how even through hardship, she was able to overcome challenges because of music.

The release was met with largely positive feedback, with a majority of five-star reviews on iTunes, and at numbers one and two on the iTunes chart in the first day of its release.

JoJo's dedication to her craft has certainly paid off, as each track is able to pull from different genres and explores her versatility with both sound and vocals. JoJo has returned to the mainstream with more maturity, expertise and experience, and with an album title worthy of the meaning behind it. Mad love is a phrase that signifies having a great amount of fondness for something, and with this new album, JoJo has certainly won over mad love for her work.



Above: JoJo at the Warner Music Group's Annual Grammy Celebration in 2016.



# GUESS WHO?

CAN YOU GUESS WHO EACH ONE OF THESE SENIORS IS, BASED ON THE PICTURE AND THE DESCRIPTION?

BY: NICOLE ZITO & LAUREN FIELDER



This wacky individual, is highly sensitive with her emotions, has a deep passion (obsession) for One Tree Hill, and finds joy in running six miles every day. She was lucky enough to have braces from sixth grade all the way to senior year of high school. She also has the biggest fear of throw up. Who is she?



This highly approachable senior is passionate about her unicycle. Don't be fooled by the way she looks; this girl can chow down nine Windmill hotdogs at once. She's not a native here at Manasquan, but actually she comes from the great state of Colorado. Who is she?

This dabbing fend is unbelievably talented. He can indeed touch his tongue to the tip of his nose. He has an appetite for chicken parmesan. He is also destined to marry his beloved, Jennifer Lawrence. Who is he?



This optimistic and amiable senior has a life-long love interest with the irresistible Jessica Alba. He also loves the great outdoors. You also may know him for his famous catch phrase... "YOU ROCK!" Who is he?



This rocking senior has visions of one day becoming the female version of Michael Phelps. She compares herself to a bubble because she floats from person to person bursting with smiles. She is in love with bright, vibrant colors. Who is she?



# What's the Verdict? Suicide Squad Popular and Fun, but Lackluster Overall

By: Shane Connelly

*Suicide Squad* was one of the most anticipated movies of the summer. It was expected to be a hit action movie that included a star-studded cast with Will Smith as Deadshot, Margot Robbie as Harley Quinn, and Jared Leto as the revamped Joker. While it broke box office records upon release, the film itself was a major disappointment.

*Suicide Squad* is unlike the normal superhero movies that we see being released year after year. The film is centered around the villains of the DC Universe, who are brought together by Amanda Waller, played by Viola Davis, and the United States Government as a weapon to use against terror. The team of anti-heroes consists of Deadshot (Will Smith), Harley Quinn (Margot Robbie), former Los Angeles gang member El Diablo (Jay Hernandez), edgy thief Captain Boomerang (Jai Courtney), Killer Croc (Adewale Akin-*nuoye-Agbaje*), and special assassin Slipknot (Adam Beach). These criminals have all been caught and captured, and now they are being forced to serve



*A great performance by Will Smith couldn't save this movie from being a total flop.*

the needs of the US Government in order to gain an inkling of freedom.

The team of super villains is kept under control by Rick Flag, a colonel in the US Army, and trained Japanese warrior Katana. Each member of the Suicide Squad also has been equipped with a microscopic bomb capable of killing any one of them who decides not to follow the orders of Colonel Flag.

While the set of characters and concept appears to be solid, the execution was unsatisfactory. Right off the bat, we are introduced to all of the members of the team and given a small amount of background thanks to a

freeze frame and a written description, but the writers assume that this is an adequate amount of character development, which is clearly untrue. I often found myself wondering why Captain Boomerang was even there, and I was extremely surprised to find out that The Joker would only appear on screen for about 15 total minutes.

The poor development of each character did not hold back Will Smith or Margot Robbie however, both of whom delivered fantastic performances. Will Smith as Deadshot became the most likeable character in the entire film. He quickly took the role as the leader of the bad guys

and kept everyone together in order to save the planet just so he could have the chance to be reunited with his daughter.

Margot Robbie also played Harley Quinn fantastically. Quinn, a former doctor blinded by her love for The Joker, is another key member of the Suicide Squad. She provides the wild side that distracts the others from their ultimate goal, while Deadshot remains focused. Smith and Robbie put on a great show despite bad writing, and it is one of the best parts of the entire film.

I would've loved to review the newest rendition of The Joker, but like I said, his lack of presence in the movie makes it impossible to do so. Fans around the world expected to see a lot of the new Joker on the screen, yet there were only bits and pieces of weird cutscenes featuring Jared Leto's creepy method acting.

Yet another weak point of the film was the antagonist that the Suicide Squad is up against. Enchantress, played by Cara Delevingne, is an archae-

*continued on next page*



# iPhone 7: Not Worth Camping Overnight For

By: Jeff Petrulla



Apple's new iPhone was released September 7th, 2016, and thus far it's gotten mostly positive responses. Plus, Apple stock has risen. So, it must be a huge success, right? Not necessarily. Some, including myself, would say the phone is a desperate attempt to mix things up and has only gone downhill.

The main issue I take up with the new phone is the removal of the headphone jack. That makes music almost exclusively available through Bluetooth, though a new adapter allows you to plug in headphones and auxiliary cords. The adapter is large and not as easy to carry as the headphones themselves would've been. If you don't want to deal with the adapter, you have to purchase the Bluetooth headphones, called AirPods, that have a \$160 price tag. And if you want to keep using your wired headphones while you charge, the adapter will cost you about \$40. Not satisfied with AirPods or an adapter, and want to buy higher class wireless headphones? Well, the prices are going to skyrocket, so jump on them while you can.

The one positive tradeoff the missing

headphone jack leaves is that the iPhone 7 is now "water resistant". Note that they said "water resistant" and not "water proof". This is likely an effort to cover themselves legally, but it could also imply that you're not going to want to go swimming with your phone anytime soon. Stick to the LifeProofs, if you want to be truly waterproof. Of course, they're not free, and a LifeProof iPhone 7 case will likely wrack up an \$80 bill.

The iPhone 7's only non-questionable advantage is its lack of competition. What else can you buy? The Samsung Galaxy Note 7 had battery issues where some phones' batteries overheat and explode. That's right, this phone had a chance of killing you. So, the phone was taken off of the market and production permanently halted. That puts Apple's main competitor, Samsung, on the sidelines this year. Microsoft hasn't released a new Nokia this year, so they likely won't be a player in Apple's sales. In fact, they recently announced they're only releasing one more phone before officially shutting down Nokia itself. The only edge any other smartphones have on the iPhone is security, and that's only really a factor for Blackberries.

As for specifications, the iPhone 7 is the same size as the iPhone 6 and only has a slightly brighter screen. Its battery life is reportedly unimpressive; though the camera quality has gotten even better than last year, a major selling point for iPhones. It seems likely that major specification/operating changes will come in iPhone 8 or 7s.

My conclusion? Wait until next year. You can suffer with an iPhone 6s for another year or so, I know I am. The slight changes aren't worth the \$700 price. Or, if you're really desperate, you can wait for Samsung to release a new Note, or buy the Galaxy S7.



The new Galaxy S7, a solid alternative.

## Suicide Squad

*continued from previous page*

ologist who stumbled upon an interesting artifact in a cave. When the ancient rock was broken, it releases a spirit which possesses Dr. June Moone, who then turns into an extremely powerful witch. The US Government believes they can control this spirit, yet Enchantress prevails as the enemy as she attempts to take over the world. If that's not the corniest, lamest villain, then I don't know what is.

However, there were some other positives to be taken out of this movie. The soundtrack, for example, contains songs by popular artists such as Action Bronson, Eminem, G-Eazy, Twenty-One pilots, and Skrillex, which

are not exactly my cup of tea, but the songs blend well with the action in the film, which brings me to another point.

If you're simply a fan of pure action, you might be interested in picking up this movie when it's available for rental. The final battle of the film is very well put together from a cinematic standpoint, and all of the fight scenes contain great camera angles and special effects.

Overall, I'd recommend passing on this film. The producers had all the pieces in order to make this movie great, yet they could not put the puzzle together correctly. The poor writing and lack of character development overshadowed the positives of the movie, making *Suicide Squad* not worth your time or money.

# THE 68TH ANNUAL PRIMETIME EMMY'S

By: Rachel Irizarry



*Above: Host Jimmy Kimmel*

The 68th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards took place on September 18, 2016 at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles, California. Hosted by Jimmy Kimmel, the Emmys celebrate outstanding primetime television within the past twelve months. This year had many great winners, but "Game of Thrones" and "The People vs. O.J. Simpson" led the pack, winning thirty – eight and nine Emmy's, respectively.

The night started out with the opening monologue from Kimmel himself. Joking about how predictable the winners were likely to be, Kimmel said, "If your show doesn't have a dragon or a white bronco, you can go home." He was referring to "The People vs. O.J. Simpson" and "Game of Thrones" since they both had a great number of nominations.

On the political side, Kimmel asked "Who is to blame for Donald Trump?" Of course, the answer to that, according to Kimmel, was Mark Burnett, the creator of *The Apprentice*.

Soon enough the winners became the focus. Kicking the show off, Kimmel ran into the audience to give Jeffery Tambor his Emmy for "Transparent" (Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy Series).

As the show started people began to announce winners for the categories.

There were many great speeches throughout the night, the best one being Julia Louis- Dreyfus, for "Best Actress in a Comedy Series". This was her fifth year winning the award, so she is experienced at making acceptance speeches. Dreyfus started off as usual thanking the people who deserved to be thanked the most. Then she threw in some humor, when she said she "personally apologizes for the current political climate. I think the *Veep* has torn down the wall between comedy and politics." Following that comment she went on to say she promised to rebuild the wall between comedy and politics. But to close out her speech, she dedicated her award to her father, who passed away just two days before the Emmy's.

One of the more



*Above: Julia Louis Dreyfus*

adorable parts throughout the Emmy's would be when Kimmel sent out young actors and actresses from the Netflix show "Stranger Things" to ride on bikes and hand out peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to the audience. Kimmel's mother thought that many celebrities would get hungry about halfway throughout the

show, so she handmade every single one of them.

On the other hand, there were some newcomers who landed their first nominations including Rami Malek (Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series), Keri Russell (Outstanding Lead Actress in a Drama Series), Tom Hiddleston (Outstanding Lead Actor in a Limited Series or Movies), Cuba Gooding Jr. (Outstanding Lead Actor in a Limited Series or Movies) and Ellie Kemper (Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series).

Each year during the third hour of the show, the Emmy's present an "In Memoriam". This is a tribute to singers, actors, actress, and other important people in the media that have passed away over the past year. Former "American Idol" contestant Tori Kelly, sang "Halleluiah" during the "In Memoriam" segment. There were many great names including Gene Wilder, Juan Gabriel, Arthur Miller, and many others.

But one name that was not up there that shocked the media was Christina Grimmie. Grimmie was a talented singer who was on the sixth season of "The Voice" and has made many great songs. Only 22 years old, Grimmie died

this year on June 6<sup>th</sup> in a shooting at an Orlando venue. Many people were not happy that her name was not up on the screen during the "In Memoriam" segment.

A spokesman from the Emmy's sent in his response saying "As in the case this year with the Emmy's, the "In Memoriam" segment is constrained by time and space. Every year the telecast producer is unfortunately limited by time available and cannot include every significant person who passed..."

Overall the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Primetime Emmy's was a success. There were highs and lows. Jimmy Kimmel did a great job hosting and there were some great awards giving out. Perhaps next year, some other show

*Below: Christina Grimmie*



## And the (biggest) winners are:



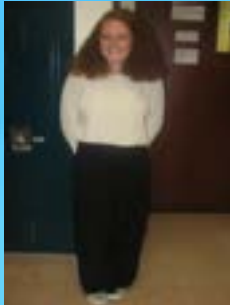
*Game of Thrones and The People vs. O.J. Simpson win the hearts of television viewers in 2016.*





# MANASQUAN HIGH SCHOOL FASHION WEEK

BY: LEAH TILTON AND JENN FORCILLO



## Chloe Luzzi

"Vintage with a slight sense of hippie chic"

### Where do you get your clothes?

"I get almost all my clothes from Squan Dry Goods so it's all consigned which adds to my vintage approach and gives me a funky sort of look."



## Ella Cardelfe

"Comfortable, more modern fashion"

### What is your favorite article of clothing?

"I love sneakers; I think they can really change your outfit completely. My white Nike's are probably my favorite pair."



## Paige Tipaldi

"out of the box, sort of boho chic"

### What if your go-to outfit for Fall?

"Jeans are definitely my go to, especially with a comfy, flowy shirt. Depending on the day I'll grab a cute cardigan and then either boots or sneakers to match."



## Clark Ellicott

"90s throwback with a lot of blue's involved"

### Do you dress for fashion or comfort?

"I mean obviously fashion, have you seen my outfits? I mean a little bit of both but fashion plays more of a role when getting ready."



## George McCormack

"hip"

### Who's your biggest fashion inspiration?

"Kodak Black"



## Cole Stevens

"rainy day look good"

### How did you decide what to wear on the first day?

"I bought shorts at PacSun one day, then I bought a new shirt, and I realized they both matched my shoes so I thought it would be a good idea to wear them."



## Mrs. Villano

"conservative"

### How has your style changed over the years?

"Oh it has changed drastically. I mean I was so hip back in the day but now I just can't keep up with all the styles, they seem a little too young for me."



## Mr. Fagen

"professional, this is a workplace not a runway"

### Besides your oversized suits, what's your favorite business attire?

"I like ties, my favorite tie is my JFK one. It really blows people's minds."



# Battle of The Bands: Now vs. Then



## The Music of The Generations Put to The Test

When the new Beatles movie was released on September 15th, I remembered back to an article released by Rolling Stone magazine in 2012 that listed the "500 Greatest Albums of All Time". Unsurprisingly, the Beatles held four spots in the top ten alone.

Kanye West, one of the only modern artists featured on the list, only claims three spots. While you may argue



the list has not included enough from the last four years, its unlikely to make a difference.

Within the top 100, the 90's offer three albums while the 2000's only hold one spot.

The rest of the list: Bob Dylan with 11, Beatles with 10, Rolling Stones with 10, Bruce Springsteen with 8, Eric Clapton with 8, and multitudes other well known

rock stars from decades past.

It begs the question: is modern music underappreciated or was music from fifty years ago objectively better, as many music critics would have you believe?

Writer for USA Today Edna Gunderson described the list as "weighted toward testosterone-fueled vintage rock".

The idea that rap, pop, and disco does not click with a musician or a critic is very true.

On the other hand, all of the albums on the list have weathered the test of time while newer albums and songs have trouble staying relevant for more than a few days. Led Zeppelin existed 50 years ago and there are still die-hard fans. I would be surprised if there were die-hard fans of Adele generations from now.

It's a continuous and in-



teresting debate, so I decided to go ask some students at MHs what they thought: is music better now or was it better 50 years ago? Check out these responses on the next page.



*Right: Bob Dylan at his keyboard in the 60s; Above: Kanye West, one of the only contemporary musicians to make the list; Top right: Jimi Hendrix, of course.*

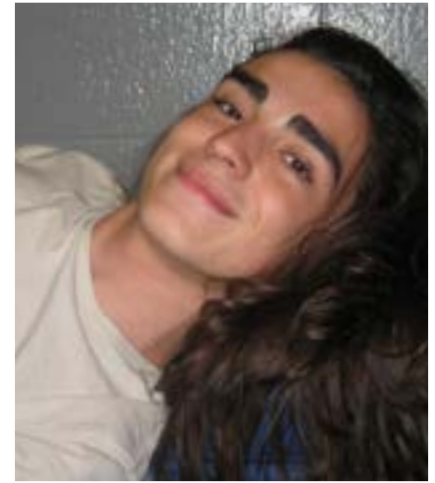




**Tanner Caccavale**- Music 50 years ago was better because it actually had more meaning. The only thing musicians care about now is the beat of the song.



**Michaela Pollock** - It is better now because music is better suited for modern life. Older music has not aged as well.



**Ben LaMacchia**- Older music. There was more talent to make a coherent song on analog recording and playing instruments.



**Jack Bricken**- 50 years ago. Music was better written back then. Overall, really it was better and that's why I prefer it.



**Ella Cardelfe**- I'd say music was better 50 years ago because now it's just written for kids. People only care about how well you can party to music nowadays.



**Nikki Stevens**- Music now because its more upbeat and popular. When I'm going to work out I don't want to hear to the Beatles in my ear.



# Gene Wilder and Arnold Palmer Latest Celebrities to Leave Us in 2016



On August 29th, 2016, Jerome Silberman, better known as Gene Wilder, passed away due to complications with his Alzheimer's.

From Willy Wonka to Bonnie and Clyde, from Young Frankenstein to Stir Crazy, Gene became a well-known actor, comedian, and writer.

Arnold Palmer also passed away at the age of 82 on September 25th, 2016. He passed away awaiting cardiac surgery in a hospital in Pittsburgh.

Known for revolutionizing both golf and iced tea, Palmer was known by all for being humble and kind to all his fans.

The year has been tough on fans of these idols; this page is dedicated to just a few of those who have died in 2016.



David Bowie, Musician  
1947-2016



Prince, Musician  
1958-2016



Nancy Reagan, First Lady  
1921-2016



Rob Ford, controversial Toronto mayor (1969-2016)



George Martin, Producer  
1926-2016



Harper Lee, Author, 1926-2016



Muhammed Ali, Athlete  
1942-2016







# Horoscopes

By: Leah Tilton



## *Aries*

This month your friend will be asking for some help with their English paper that's due the next day, and you won't be able to stop yourself from helping out, because, after all, you are the best kind of friend.

## *Taurus*

You are the friend the Aires was helping out, because, let's face it, you totally are a procrastinator. It's ok though, we all know you perform best under pressure.

## *Gemini*

Someone has been getting a little critical lately, but try not to let them worry you. Take what they have to say into consideration and then use your level-head to make the decision you know is right.

## *Cancer*

Lately you have really kept to yourself, and you most definitely shouldn't! Step out of the box you put yourself in and talk to new people, they are dying to meet you, especially you-know-who.

## *Leo*

Lately you and your new friends have been hanging out every day, but don't forget the ones who were there for you when you needed them! Make sure to give them a call and see if they want to swing by chipotle one day this week.

## *Virgo*

If you know that the application deadline is coming up, start working on it. Even if you think you have all week for that bio assignment, due dates creep up on you and you should definitely get it started!

## *Libra*

Good news is coming your way! I know the last few weeks have been kind of blah, but if you keep your eyes open, something big will be here before you know it.

## *Scorpio*

You are always the one to take charge in your friend group, and this weekend that will be a definite plus. It's going to take you forever to find plans so just do what you do best and organize it all.

## *Sagittarius*

You have been looking for big change in a certain aspect of your life, and its coming, but you need to make it happen! So stop sitting on the sidelines and step up to the plate.

## *Capricorn*

You are finally ready for those changes you know need to happen. It has taken you a while to get there, but now that you are finally open to it you won't regret it.

## *Aquarius*

You might be feeling like you aren't getting the recognition you deserve, but just keep working through it. Try even harder, and even if people don't realize the difference you are making, you will.

## *Pisces*

The past couple days haven't treated you the best, but instead of worrying about it, do something about it. Go for a walk or read a good book, do something for you and tomorrow will be a new day.



# WARRIORS COME OUT TO PLAY

## 4-1 record a strong start to season



*Captains Tommy Meyer (left), Jack Mallet (middle), and Adam Schreck (right) shake hands before kickoff.*

BY: SHANE CONNELLY  
& NICOLE ZITO

The Manasquan High School football team is off to a great start. The Warriors stand at 4 wins and 1 loss, with wins over Long Branch, Woodbridge, Barnegat, and this past Saturday, Ocean Township High School. Their one loss came in a close game versus Middletown South, the top-ranked team in the Shore Conference.

The team's expectations are high this season as they look to improve on a disappointing season the year before.

We were able to catch up with Head Coach Jay Price to get some insight on the team this year. He told us that he keeps the team focused by trying to "show up on time and get better every day." Looking too far in advance can distract a team, and that's not what Coach Price wants. He went on to say, "the returning starters are light-years better than last year," which is a huge compliment to the hard work these players put in over the summer.

The first game of the season came against Long Branch. It was the first chance for many fans to see this year's Warriors. The game started off well for

MHS with a great kick return by wide receiver Damaso Jaime, who played an excellent game to kick off the season. Jaime also caught a long touchdown pass from Quarterback Jerry Maher. Maher had only 5 pass attempts in the game, but made the most of them by completing 4 for 90 yards on the way to a 28-14 victory over the Long Branch Green Wave.

The football team then rolled on to Woodbridge to face the Barrons in a tough away game. Both defenses really came to play in this one, as it turned out to be a low scoring affair. However, Jerry again was able to connect with his top receiver Damaso Jaime for an 82-yard touchdown in the first quarter, giving MHS a 7-0 lead thanks to an extra point kicked by Adam Schreck. The kick proved to be crucial, as Woodbridge was not able to convert their attempt after they managed to score on the Warrior defense, and Manasquan held on to take a 7-6 victory.

MHS headed into the game versus Middletown South as the underdogs despite their 2-0 record. The Eagles of Middletown South came to MHS with confidence, and many predicted that the Warriors would not have a chance against them, which proved to be untrue. What

was expected to be a blowout turned into a very close game, coming down to a late 4<sup>th</sup> and 1 play near the Middletown end zone. Junior Connor Morgan was unable to convert on the play, giving the ball back to the Eagles, who held on to beat Manasquan by a touchdown.

The Warriors did not dwell on the loss, and came out to play in their away game against Barnegat. The defense stepped up, and the rushing offense was dominant. Barnegat had no answer to the combination of Morgan and senior Tommy Meyer, who were Manasquan's rushing leaders of the game. It was clear from the beginning that Coach Price had planned to run the ball hard, and by the end of the game, Manasquan accumulated 406 total rushing yards in the 34-0 dismantling of the Barnegat Bengals.

In their most recent game versus Ocean, the Warriors continued their winning ways. The teams played a very close first half. Both the Warriors and the Spartans made it into the end zone twice before the half came to a close. An amazing one handed catch made by Tight End Adam Schreck tied the score at 14-14 just before the break. The second half was all

*continued on page 44*

*Below, left: The special teams unit lines up to kick the ball away. Below, right: Senior Dylan Pacetti lights up #22 of Long Branch.*







# Squad Goals: MHS Cheerleaders

By: Jenn Forcillo



The Manasquan High School Cheerleaders are the unsung heroes of our football focused small town. Every football game, whether Saturday afternoons or under the Friday night lights, the cheerleaders come out and support.

The cheer squad is led by Coach Dana Warncke and senior captains, Leah Tilton, Cady Formichella, Ally Vernaglia, and Melissa Fischer who have been members of the varsity football cheer team for three years.

While these four ladies are seen in the front line of the team, they are joined by the rest of the team which consists of seniors Julia Barry, Olivia Chevance, Summer Farren, Maggie Flynn, Lizzie Kingman, and Emily Magrini.

The juniors on the team include Kate Degan, Olivia Easton, Arielle Falkinburg, Taylor Grieb, Alyssa Juhasz, Juliana Loughlin, Sara Lynch, Ann Ragan, Madison Rydholm, Lyndsey Starkey, Harley Tice, Olivia Werther, Lindsey White, and Lindsay Zangrando.

As sophomores, Ashley Alvarez, Sam Caccavale, Kaitlyn Hardmeyer, Serena Sinisi, Bella Vitale, Sarah Warren and Bridget Woodrow had the opportunity to cheer varsity this year for the first time.

There are 32 girls on the team, making this season the biggest squad Manasquan cheer has seen in a long time. While there is a lot of them to keep track of, having a large amount of ladies makes stunts easier to complete due to the

Thursday night. We also wear their jersey Friday in school if we have a night game."

These ladies have a lot of responsibility and obligations to the team, but do not let it stop them from having fun. Junior Olivia Easton described

how close all of the girls are, "I think a lot of the time there is a stereotype that cheerleaders are really stuck up and cliquey but in reality we're like a family. There's no drama and we just all love being able to laugh and have a good time while cheering and supporting the football team."

We look forward to seeing and hearing our favorite cheers at the football games and we thank the Manasquan High School Cheer team for all the support they give!



*Featured above is the entirety of the MHS varsity cheer team*

excess of talent and ability.

Cheerleaders are notorious for school spirit, especially for the football team and their individual varsity football player they chose. Senior and Captain Cady Formichella explained the tradition of supporting a single player and what being a cheerleader encompasses. "For home games, on the Friday night before we decorate our players' houses with signs, balloons, and streamers. Then when we have away games we make them goodie bags with their favorite snacks, drinks, candy and bring it to them on

*Below, captains Ally Vernaglia, Leah Tilton, and Cady Formichella hold Melissa Fischer up during team pictures*





## On the Road to Becoming Champions

**With only two losses this season, Girls Tennis holds first place in division**

By: Lauren Fielder

It's fall yet again at MHS and that means Girls Tennis is back in season! With 15 wins and only 2 losses, so far the team is doing awesome!

This year's varsity captains are Ally Kaden, Holly Moloney, and Brie Kozlowski. All three have been on the varsity team for all four years of high school. The team is led by Head Coach Ryan Ritchey with Assistant and JV Coach Dotti Gerlach.

First singles player Calli Sabaitis, along with first doubles team Ally Kaden and Lexie Minton qualified for the individual state singles and doubles tournament which they will be competing in later this year.

On October 6th, first doubles team Ally and Lexie won their 14th game of the season, continuing their undefeated streak. They played Dibya Patnaik and Divya Bandu of Robbinsville High School at the Atlantic Club. "It started off a close match but once we figured out a strategy, we were able to win," said Ally. Thanks to them and all the other girls who won that day, the Manasquan team gained yet another victory.

"We are having a phenomenal season so far," says Coach Ritchey. The team is already first place in the B North division – halfway to achieving their goal of winning the division championship. Along with being division champions, they also strived to perform well in the Central Jersey Group II state championship which they won the first round of, but were defeated during the second round against Rumson.

Coach Ritchey adds, "My goal is to help my players improve their game every day, and make sure they are enjoying their time spent out on the tennis court."

Not only do the girls enjoy their time spent on the tennis courts, they also have fun spending time together outside of the tennis courts. The night before each match, the team has a "pasta party" where they hang out, eat food, and play games together.

"We have a pretty lit group chat," says third doubles play-



*Above, from left to right: Cassidy Sabins, Lexi Minton, Ally Kaden, Summer Smith; Below: junior Katie Parnell serves the tennis ball.*



er, Gracie Harman, "My favorite part about being on the team is spending time with everybody... and the coach is very fun." This is Coach Ritchey's first year coaching the Girls Varsity tennis team and looking at their score so far, he seems to be doing a pretty good job!





# Cross Country Runners Stride for Success



The MHS Warriors girls and boys cross country team opened the season with determination. Both

teams kicked off with The Battle of the Bowl at Holmdel Park. Both teams came to conquer and that is exactly what they managed to do. The squads were extremely eager to see where each of their seasons take them.

The girls introduced a new coach for the 2016-2017 school year, Coach Laura Klink. Coach Klink expressed high expectations and praised the girls: "The chemistry between these girls is remarkable. Each and every one of them work together to improve each other's time and it's just an amazing opportunity to be able to coach a wonderful group like them."

Coach Klink also was astonished by the results of the first race. "I had no idea what to expect for our

first race, but wow did these girls blow me away. I am so excited to see what is in store for the rest of the season."

Brona Nielsen, a senior, has been running since freshman year, and each year she amazes people more and more. She is the varsity captain this year, and for her, the season opener was not a surprise. Nielsen took second at Holmdel Park finishing with a time of 21:55.

Nielsen had a lot to say regarding her expectations this year. "I hope this year is the year we get to show people what the Manasquan Cross Country team can do. We have so much talent this year as a whole. I expect to make it to states this year. When I think back to previous seasons I always remember thinking if I work harder now, next year will be a piece of cake. Then I realized next year I won't be a Warrior. My four years as a Manasquan Warrior had vanished and I'm on the final stretch to the finish line."

Along with the girls strong first race, the boys squad also found success. They are coached by former MHS history teacher Mr. Schwartz, who has been a part of the boys and girls cross country program for years. He has coached the boys for ten years as well as the girls team too.

Coach Schwartz has many expectations for this year: "I couldn't ask more from these boys, they have grown so much year after year, and it's really obvious that they are putting in

By: Nicole Zito



**"Your workout is our warm up"  
-Kristin Lange**

the work in their off seasons. Every single one of them comes ready to run, and they run hard. I am continuously proud of this group of boys and we have our sights set on the best!"

Senior Alex Fallon excelled in the team's first race, finishing his run with a time of 20:06.

Alex's times for the Holmdel Bowl seem to decrease each time that he is put into battle. Fallon is a four-year cross country runner and has improved greatly since his years as a freshman.

He said, "I take pride in being one of the oldest runners on the team and I hope I improve as a leader along with my running. This year we are scheduled to run the Holmdel Bowl more than any time we ever had. The reason for this is the switching of our division from last year, which results in a lot of dual meets that are settled at the bowl."

Like Brona, Alex also knows the end of his Warrior career is coming. "As the season continues I am slowly realizing that my time as a Manasquan Warrior cross country runner is lim-

continued on page 46



## Girls Gymnastics Off to a Flying Start

By: Abby McHugh

The girl's gymnastics team is looking forward to an updated roster and energetic freshmen to improve their record this season. After finishing with just 2 wins last year, the girls remain optimistic for the season to come- with 4 new freshmen who all have experience under their belts, the girls look to enter the season with a new energy and drive to succeed.

Senior and captain Ashlynn Hayes says that "after only having 4 girls on the team, 7 is a big improvement" and that "I do club gymnastics with almost every freshmen. I know they have a lot of potential".

With a 3-3 record, the team is already off to a better start than their 2-4 record last season. Hayes describes this as "a perfect way to end her last year", saying "This team has the most talent I've ever seen in my four years here. What a wonderful way to end my gymnastics career here at Manasquan".

Ashlynn certainly has the experience to lead her freshmen-heavy team. A heavy hitter in Shore Conference gymnastics, Ashlynn has competed on the team for all of her four years at Manasquan. This year, she has placed either first or second in all-around in every single one of her meets. A highlight came on September 21st again Lacey, where Ashlynn won the Uneven Bars, Balance Beam, Floor Exercise and All-Around. Her highest score in All-Around came in the meet against Manaplan on September 27th, when she scored a 33.5 and won the Balance Beam, Floor Exercise and All-Around. Ashlynn's experience has proven her to be a natural leader among gymnasts on



*The team celebrates a win against Jackson Memorial and Lacey Township.*

the team who are just stepping onto the mat.

She isn't the only Hayes that will be suiting up for Squan this year. Ella, her freshmen sister, is part of the dynamic freshmen team that looks to put a stranglehold on Shore Conference this year.

Ella is excited to learn under her sister's guidance, saying "I wasn't nervous. I know everything already- Ashlynn has been on the team for four years".

Other upperclassman are also helping lead the large freshmen class. Jessie Waldeyer, a junior who had to take her freshmen and sophomore year off due to injuries, is set to make an impact for the Warriors on the vault this year. Says Jessie: "I'm just so happy to be doing gymnastics in high school again, especially with the strength of our team this year".

With such a great start to the season, strong veterans leading the team, and a group of energetic freshmen like Hayes and others providing new energy to the team, the Manasquan Girls Gymnastics team is projected to make an impact in the Shore this year.

**TEAM RECORD:**  
**9/16 Jackson Liberty- Loss 96.7-96.8**  
**9/21 Lacey- Win 101.5-94.3**  
**9/27 Manaplan Win 99.4-94.7**  
**10/06 Barnegat- Loss 97-97.9**  
**10/11 Neptune - Win 100.9-96.3**  
**10/13 Wall- Loss 100-103.2**  
**10/24 Point Boro & Brick**

## Football Starts 4-1

*continued from page 40*

Manasquan. Defensive Tackle Ben Barry snagged his first interception of the season on a tipped pass, but the ball was fumbled by Manasquan on the very next play. Despite the turnover, Manasquan was able to put up two more touchdowns in order to seal the 28-14 win, their fourth on the season.

The improvements made by the players have yielded instant success. The Warriors are rolling in the right direction.

They've already exceeded their win total from last season, only halfway through the season.

A few seniors from the football team talked to us about the skills they have developed most during their time off from school. Jerry Maher remarked that he is "more accurate" now in his first season as the starting Varsity QB. Ben Barry said that he focused on his speed and strength over the summer in order to become a better Offensive and Defensive Tackle.

The newly refined Warriors expect great things to come from this season, and their hot start should help them

reach their goals. Both Jerry Maher and Ben Barry said they're looking forward to winning more games than last year, while fellow seniors Adam Schreck and Damaso Jaime have their expectations set high. Both players said the same thing about this season: "We want to win the state championship."

Confidence from the players and the coaches is key to a successful season, and it is evident that this year's football team has that. Standing at 3-1, the Warriors are in a good place. Make sure to come out and support our team as they continue their quest for success.



## Striving to Improve in a New Conference

The Girls Varsity Soccer team has been challenged this season, struggling with a record of 3-10-3\*. Consistency has been their biggest problem, with many competitive first halves harmed by second half letdowns.

In the season opener on September 8 against Monmouth Regional, the game was scoreless until the last 25 seconds of the game when Monmouth scored, giving Manasquan heartbreaking first loss of the season, and proving the Warriors were going to face some difficulties this season.

The next two games showed some strengths and weaknesses for the team, with both ending in ties. The issue of not coming out as strong in the second half as they did at the start of the game continued, as both games saw Squan lose an early lead. The next two were tough losses for the Warriors, by the scores of 3-1 and 4-0. Again the team's play in the second half continued to cause trouble for the Warriors.

Head Varsity Coach Jamie Onorato discussed the persistent struggle this season with the second half, saying, "I feel like almost every game we have had is the

By: Elizabeth Rooney

same story, the second half starts and we come out flat."

As the season has moved on, the Warriors have had their ups and downs. Their record isn't as strong as they would have liked. But they have played many close and tough games in a new conference with bigger schools and powerful teams, that has proven very challenging.

However, Coach Onorato feels positive about the overall outcomes. "Early in the season we proved we could compete on that level with tie-results against some of the top teams in our conference," she said.

A bright spot has been the team's underclassmen, who have shown that they belong on the varsity team as they make a difference on the field. Freshmen Mary Kinneally and sophomore Molly Weirman both have been vital players for the Warriors, scoring goals, making assists, and taking the ball up the field away from the Warriors goal. The defense has been solid, sending the ball away from goalies senior Jackie Kurtz and sophomore Brooke Kelly as they try their best making tough save after tough save.

Even though there may only be a few more weeks left in the season, and more challenging games to come, Coach Onorato thinks, "If the girls continue to work hard to improve, they can really leave a lasting impression in the division."

With that in mind, they had their most impressive game yet this season on Wednesday, October 5, with a 4-1 win over Ocean. The Warriors were able to score two goals in the first 10 minutes of play. The first was scored by sophomore Molly Wierman in a rare heel-kick goal that you don't see often. Three minutes later junior Sam Wanamaker headed the



***Seniors Jackie Kurtz, Kaitlyn Calabro, Gianna Murphy, and Ana Taboada pose for senior pictures***

ball to score the second goal. Then just before half-time senior Gianna Murphy scored giving Manasquan a 3-0 lead at the half. The fourth goal came from freshman Mary Kinneally. Not only did that goal put the game in the second-half out of reach for Ocean, but also balanced the scoring perfectly. One goal was scored by a freshman, one by a sophomore, one by a junior, and one by a senior, which isn't achieved very often. The Warriors were able to show the diverse skill and talent on the team that led them to a win.

The Warriors continue to strive for improvement as the remainder of the season begins to wind down. They have had a challenging season in a tough conference having to prove constantly that they can compete on this level. It may have not been the season they have all hoped for, but as they continue to work hard to improve we'll just have to wait and see what happens.

***\*Record as of Tuesday, October 18\****



Senior Jackie Kurtz goes up for yet another tough save this season.

## *Perservering through the Season* Field Hockey Team is Slowly Improving

By: Elizabeth Rooney

The Girls Varsity Field Hockey team may have gotten off to a rough start this season, but they continue to turn things around. They started off the season with some losses, but eventually came across their first win on September 16. Ever since then they have been improving, despite an overall season record of 3-9-1.\*

The beginning of the season proved to test players and coaches in how they can move forward following their losses. Five games into the season, they had no wins. But they continued to put effort onto the field, and it payed off at last with a 2-0 win over Manalapan. The first goal was scored in the 41<sup>st</sup> minute by junior Megan Cobb. The next two goals came from sophomore Grace Beyer in the 47<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> minute to seal the victory. It was a huge moment for the team, the first win of the year, and the first win for first year varsity coach Toni Vodola Bruno.

When asked about the win Coach Vodola Bruno was ecstatic to say, "It feels really good. I'm just happy for them because they have the confidence now. This game gives them more confidence to push forward this season."

From the start of the season players have strived to excel. One standout player who has excelled this season is sophomore Grace Beyer, who has scored four goals in four games.

***Sophomore Grace Beyer going for the ball in the win against Manaplan***



When Beyer is on the field she puts in the effort and do the best that she can. One thing Beyer is known for on the field is saving the ball from going out of bounds. A skill she has proven she has mastered.

When asked about her efforts on to keep the ball in play Beyer said, "I

always try to get to the ball whenever I can just to keep it in." Then asked about the amount of goals she has scored she added, "the ball was right there so I kind of just went for it and I scored."

Another player that continues to be an asset on the team is junior Megan Cobb. She scored the first goal in the team's first win, and continues to show effort on the field during each game.

Most recently, the girls have suffered some tough losses. One of those losses was on Saturday October 12 when they lost to Long Branch 2-1. Haleigh McGowan scored to tie the game in the first half at 1-1. Then with only a minute left in regulation Long Branch was able to score.

As the season continues, the team perseveres and keeps working to turn things around. Over the course of the season they have gained confidence and improved mightily. It might not have been the season they all hoped for, but wins and losses don't tell the whole story for this team of great character.

***\*Record as of Tuesday, October 18.\****



***Seniors Hannah Digerness, Alice Jelley, Shannon Kirk, Bayley Pendergist, Jenn Forcillo, and Sarah Galvin pose for senior pictures***

## Cross Country

*continued from page 43*

ited. I hope to finish this season off with positivity and confidence."

On October third, both teams faced off in a duel meet at the infamous Holmdel Bowl. The girls fought for victory aganist Trinity Hall and Keansburg High School. The captain, Brona Nielsen, had a time of 21:56 to win 2nd place, her second 2nd place finish of the season. Co-Captain Krisitin Lange battled her way for 12th place

with a time of 24:59.

Meanwhile, the boys dueled against Long Branch. Senior captain Alex Fallon finished with a time of 17:30. Junior Grant Gilbert was a little bit faster, placing 14th with a time of 17:18, helping to lead the boys to a 10th place ranking in their division.

This is the year that both boys and girls cross country teams prove what they can do. Without a doubt these teams will both go far with the amount of courage and commitment they express through one another. We





## Boys Soccer Makes Successful Move to New Division

By: Jenn Forcillo



As the Shore Conference Tournament and States approach, the Manasquan High School Boys Soccer Team has all eyes on them as they make waves in their new division. Big Blue has excelled in the Shore B North division with a record of 11-4-1.

The boys came up with victories against RBC and Long Branch late in the season to briefly take over first place, before falling to Middletown North on October 17th.

Clearly, the move up to a tough division and competing with bigger schools has not fazed the team, or affected its success.

Not only did the boys have to adjust to a new division, but to the graduation of many key players as well. After their 2015 season ended in a crushing loss against Cinnaminson last year in the state semi-finals, the Warriors were looking to make it back to states and the Shore Conference.

While the team, coached by Tom McGill, consists of an impressive amount of seniors, including Liam Cuozzo, Dan Del Guercio, Pat Felstedt, Matt Forcillo, Ivan Garcia, Aaron Kocienski, Jack Long, Jimmy McCutcheon, Logan Roddy, Bryan Tapia and Spencer Westcott, the younger classmen have been called upon to step up on and off the field.

The Warriors opened their season at Monmouth Regional where they won 2-0 on September 8th, followed by a 3-1 victory against Middletown South at the Vic Kubu Warrior Field on the 13th.

However, Big Blue struggled against the powerhouse that is Ocean Township, a new competitor this season, and finally was faced

with a 2-1 loss on September 15th.

In the wake of a loss, senior Jack Long had a lot to say about the season, "I think we are playing really well as a team, especially the sophomores and freshman stepping up. If we all keep working hard I think we have a good chance of winning the conference."

Only two days later, the Warriors were shut out and defeated by Matawan on September 17th. These losses must have been fresh in the boy's minds as they tied Manasquan's infamous rival, Wall in an impressive 0-0 game on the 19th.

Every team has ups and downs and the two losses did not prove to affect the boys as they kept the momentum up from their impactful tie and went on a six game winning streak. The Warriors continued to prove their resilience and strength as they beat Long Branch, Red Bank Catholic, Point Beach, Middletown North, Monmouth Regional, and Middletown South.

The defense has proved they are a force to be reckoned with as four of their six wins during their streak were shut-outs due to senior Jack Long's presence in the goal.

Defense is led by Junior and Captain Chris Black who says "getting a chance to play with this group of kids is a huge honor and one of the most rewarding parts of high school so far".

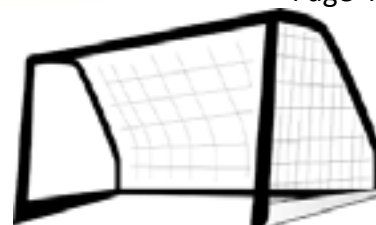
The success of the team was unluckily stopped

by Ocean Township High School once again. Hoping to revenge the 2-1 loss in September the boys played a remarkable game but eventually fell to the second best team in the shore conference, 1-0 in double overtime.

On the other hand, Big Blue faced Wall in a redemption match and came up with a massive 1-0 win with a goal from Dan Del Guercio; catapulting the team to a 9-3-1 record and bumping them to the second seed of the division behind Ocean Township.

However, the wins over RBC and Long Branch gave the Warriors an edge to take over the conference. After a loss to Middletown North, Ocean Township fell behind Manasquan in the standings and the boys took control.

The team will face St. Rose to finish off their regular season, before taking on the competition in the Shore Conference and States Tournament. They may not have the #1 seed, but they still have the chance to prove they're #1!



*Below: The seniors stike a smile and pose for fall sports portraits.*



# TWO truths & a lie

By: Leah Tilton



Can you guess what these MHS teachers are lying about?  
(answers on bottom of page)

Mr. Battaglia

- A. "I am an author."
- B. "Teaching wasn't my first career."
- C. "My oldest child is in high school."

Mr. Wasnesky

- A. "I was born in Idaho."
- B. "I have two kids."
- C. "I have been to 12 countries."

Mr. Fagen

- A. "I was voted most likely to win the lottery in my 8th grade class superlatives."
- B. "I once threw a water balloon at Mr. Bryant that chipped his tooth."
- C. "I once shared a plate of raw oysters with fitness guru Richard Simmons."

Mr. Voskian

- A. "I didn't start wrestling until high school."
- B. "My favorite food is Mac and Cheese."
- C. "My first Halloween costume was an orange crayon."

Mrs. Jaeger

- A. "My first concert was New Kids on the Block."
- B. "I attended the University of Virginia."
- C. "I was a D1 swimmer in college."