

The Blue & Gray



Manasquan High School

February 2017



Squan Voters Approve Referendum!

*Hard work of Board, Administration, Staff pays off;
Upgrades to Science Labs, Facilities to begin soon*

THANK YOU!

The Manasquan Board of Education
thanks our community for their overwhelming
approval of our bond referendum.



in this issue



MHS Artists Showcase Talents in Annual Art Show
2016 Recap: Memorable Moments, Lives Lost
Spring Musical, Fiddler on the Roof, Coming Soon
Swimming, Girls Basketball on the Championship Trail
and Much More!





The Blue & Gray Manasquan H.S.

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MHS Art Show Draws a Crowd

Artists show up to show off their talents

**By: Mike
Rafter**

Most days, the media center offers a quiet sanctuary for students to work, study, and concentrate. But on January 12, the media

center was a bustling environment filled with artists and their extravagant creations. From wall to wall, drawings and weavings and ceramics were all on display for public viewing.

The art show offers an opportunity for students to display their talents in a public scene. There are three types of work at the art show: drawing, 2D and 3D, with best in each category receiving a cash prize.

Ben LaMacchia, who won first place in the drawing category for his political art and timed drawing, said it was overall a nice experience. Ben's cartoonish depictions of Trump and Clinton as well as his decadent drawings



Water-color painting by senior Cera Paslawsky. This was one of many works by artsy students.

accomplished in 15 minutes, earned praised from many attendees. Ben also mentioned going to Pratt Institute for Illustration and Advertising, and that the art show was a glimpse of what he wanted to do in the future.

ed to do in the future.

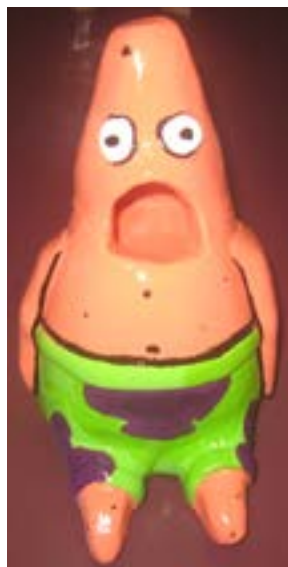
There was also Galiana Garcia, who took home first place for her 3D work and Caila Theilen who won first for 2D. There were also several honorable mentions, such as Clark Ellicot's rendition of Kanye West and Syd Valles' psychedelic cardboard creation.

Viewers were overall satisfied with the quality of the work on display, with one parent commenting how it reminded them of being in a New York art museum. Mrs. Herman, Manasquan's newest art teacher, said she thought the quality of some of her students work was "Fabulous."

"I look forward to provide even better opportunities for students in the future," she added.

Between the somber tone, the quality of the work, and the general admiration of the student's work, the media center felt like it did in fact turn into an art museum for a day.

Tilly Marks, a senior who attended the art show, said she was surprised at how artistic some of her friends were.



Above: Table of artwork on display during the art show; Left: "Suprised Patrick" by junior Grant Gilbert.

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Third Time IS the Charm: Manasquan's Referendum Passes!

By: Shane Connelly

Manasquan administration has reached their goal, as the third time proved to be the charm for the school referendum. After a lot of hard work put in by superintendent Dr. Kaysan and other key contributors, Manasquan residents decided that this referendum was deserving of their vote.

This time around, the administration pushed to educate voters on the costs they would be responsible for and what exactly the money would be going toward. Parents in support of the referendum created a website that helped spread real information on exactly what this referendum would do for our students and our school system in Manasquan. A tax calculator was also provided in order to help voters see how little the rise in taxes would actually be for each household.

The efforts made proved to be strong, as the \$12.5 million budget successfully passed after two previous failures. Big changes will be coming to both schools, and they're coming soon.

This year's referendum was modified from previous versions, as the administration learned from the past and varied their approach. In the past, Manasquan residents have shot down the referendum because they thought that too much money would go towards the football field or the shack. Through the education of voters, as well as some cuts, people got a better idea of what exactly they were voting for.

The changes that are coming to our schools are much needed adjustments for both the elementary and high school. Both schools will see improved security as the referendum revamps the security and alarm

systems. The elementary school will also replace windows and add more door monitoring in order to ensure the school is completely safe.

Here at the high school, big renovations are coming. Our ancient science labs are getting a much

"The partnerships helped most," Dr. Kaysan said of the successful referendum.



needed overhaul, and new labs will be added to the second floor. Further improvements to the science department are also in the plans, as the school will be getting a STEM lab and a greenhouse. These advancements will greatly enhance the school's science program.

Finally, the one thing that students have prayed for over the years will be solved. The school's HVAC system will be revamped. That means (hopefully) gone are the

days of going from a boiling hot English classroom into an ice cold History class.

Dr. Kaysan has done a great job constructing this referendum in order to ensure that both the voters and the students will be satisfied with the outcome. He said, "the partnerships helped most" in executing the game plan and successfully getting this referendum passed. Dr. Kaysan

also gave credit to Leanne Coppola, Mark Mead, and Mike Minton specifically as key contributors to the process.

The hard work of this committee drew a 35% voter turnout, much higher than the 13-16% turnout that other New Jersey towns reported in recent referendum votes.

Now that we know that changes will be coming, the question is, when?

Dr. Kaysan said that work will be done at night during the school year. The summer also provides a good amount of time for construction as both students and staff will be away from the building. He also provided a timetable for the completion of the project, stating that in "a year from August, the majority of the building will be done."

Manasquan schools are heading in the right direction. Dr. Kaysan has set high expectations, as he confessed that his ultimate goal is to turn MHS into "a top ten school in two years." He remarked that the passing of the referendum is "the last piece of the puzzle," in order to get this done. He is extremely confident in the administration, staff, and Board of Education, and he believes that our school is well on its way to being one of the best in the state.



The Board of Education posted this message on Manasquan Schools' homepage to express their thanks to the voters.

DRAMA CLUB PRESENTS THE MUSICAL: “FIDDLER ON THE ROOF”

BY: RACHEL IRIZARRY

As second semester starts here at Manasquan Mr. Weisert, the Drama Club director, has already picked out a musical. This spring MHS Drama Club will perform “Fiddler on the Roof”, which will be held in the Jack Nicholson Theater on March 30th, 31st, and April 1st. Tickets will be \$8 for students and \$10 for adults.

“Fiddler on the Roof” is a musical production with music by Jerry Bock, lyrics by Sheldon Harnick, and book by Joseph Stein. This is set in the Pale of Settlement of Imperial Russia in 1905. The story is about Tevye, the father of five daughters, and his attempts to maintain his Jewish religious and cultural traditions. He must cope both with the strong-willed actions of his three older daughters, who wish to marry. When they choose their husbands, Tevye realizes that they move further away from their religion.

The original Broadway production of “Fiddler on the Roof” opened in 1964. This was the first musical in history to surpass 3,000 performances, until Grease hit Broadway in the 1970s.

This year’s Drama Club will have fourteen high school men and women, three faculty and staff members, and six elementary school children who will be featured.

Adam Dayton, a senior, plays the main characters Tevye. About this achievement, Adam said: “Getting a lead role is a lot of responsibility. Even though you have a lead role, it doesn’t mean that you are more important than anyone else. This is an opportunity to be a good leader.”

Another person who has a lead



Above: This is a picture of the cast of the hit Broadway musical “Fiddler on the Roof”.

role is senior, MaryGrace Iorio. She will be playing Tevye’s (Adam Dayton) wife. Knowing this is her last spring musical here at MHS, she is excited but sad. Drama Club was a big part of her life throughout the four years of high school. She also admits that she is ready to move on and do exciting things in life.

Besides having one of the lead roles, there is another part of Drama Club who has plenty of pressure on them to make sure this year’s musical is the best. This job is stage manager. Some of the characteristics of a stage manager is that you take charge when the director is busy and be aware of your surroundings.

This year’s stage manager is junior, Gillian Roberts, who has only been stage manager once before this.

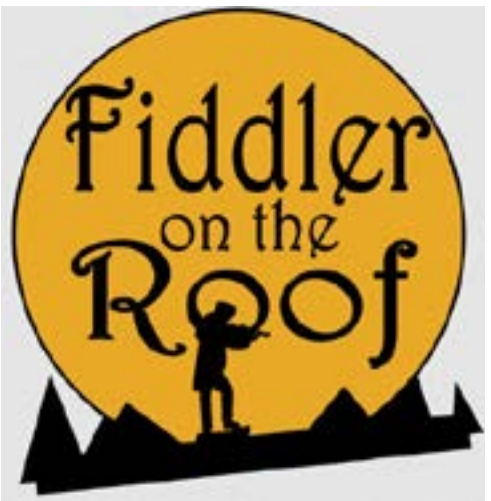
Gillian confessed that this role is a lot of work, but in the end it pays off. “It’s a lot of responsibility being the stage manager. You are the person that everyone will come to with their problems,” said Gillian.

Brenden Gillespie, a senior, who plays Perchick (the student) wants everyone to come see the show. “This is a great show to come see! It’s about tradi-

tion and this school is all about tradition. “‘Fiddler on the Roof’ is a perfect fit for our school and that is why you should come see it,” he said.

I couldn’t agree more with Brendan’s statement. So, make sure you come support the Drama Club this spring as they perform “Fiddler on the Roof”.

Below: “Fiddler on the Roof” logo.



Students Tackle Issues in the World

The Blue & Gray Editorials

Women's March Gathers Millions

By: Amanda Karp

On Saturday, January 21st, 2017, there was the Women's March on Washington, D.C., following the inauguration of Donald Trump on the 20th. Over a million people marched in a peaceful protest of the Trump administration, and to promote the idea that women's rights are human rights, as well as other marginalized identities.

Along with the march in Washington, there were many 'sister marches' that took place all over the country, and the world. Though it was most concentrated in North America, within the U.S., many sister marches took place in Europe, East Asia, Africa, Australia, and South America. Though these marches were not as concentrated as the ones in America, the overall attendance at the marches was over four million for 673 marches.

The official website of the march stated its goals were to "send a bold message to our new government on their first day in office, and to the world that women's rights are human rights. We stand together, recognizing that defending the most marginalized among us is defending all of us."

The Women's March on Washington began with a rally at 10:00 am that concluded at 1:15 pm, and commended the march. The march began on Independence Ave (northwest) and in between Third and Fourth Ave. It ended near the Ellipse, the 52-acre park near the White House.

Speakers included actresses America Ferrera and Scarlett Johansson, director Michael Moore, NAACP National Board of Directors Chairman Rosalyn Brock, Ilyasah Shabazz, Malcolm X's daughter and Malcolm X and Dr. Betty Shabazz Memorial and Educational Center Trustee, and writer, activist, and organizer Gloria Steinem, to name a few.

The march was a resounding success. It brought attention to those who oppose the new administration, and the issues that cause contention: the rights of people of color, LGBT rights, rights for people with disabilities, climate change, and healthcare, among many others.

If someone couldn't get to D.C., they could attend a sister march, which is what many people did throughout the day. Locally, there were marches in Asbury Park, Trenton, Wyckoff, Pompton Plains, Sicklerville, Westfield, and of course, New York City, where there were estimates of over 250,000 people attending the march.

The march in Asbury Park gathered over 6,000 people, two of which were my mother and I. When I had announced to her that I was going, her response was that she was going with me.



Above: Marchers at the Women's March on Washington, D.C.

We made signs and crossed the bridge from Ocean Grove to Asbury, and were immediately immersed in a crowd of hundreds, watching as more poured in. After a few speeches were made by the organizers of the event, Dani Fiori, Dallas Hlatky, Amanda Kane, and Jennifer Lampert, the march began at 12:30 pm.

We marched along the boardwalk, and ended the march at Bradley Park, behind the Convention Hall, where the crowd gathered for a final round of speakers.

This included Asbury Park Councilwomen Yvonne Clayton and Eileen Chapman, Minister Nicolle Harris, Reverend Gil Caldwell, Trina Scordo, Assemblywomen Joann Downey, and keynote speaker Patricia Teffenhart.

Harris had an incredibly moving speech, and passionately told the crowd: "You will have to love the hell out of some people in the next four years. They won't know they cared about women's rights until they meet you."

Her words were followed by others, then Teffenhart, who is the Executive Director for the New Jer-

continued on next page

Students Tackle Issues in the World

The Blue & Gray Editorials

Meryl Streep's Football Putdown Misses the Point



By: Quinn Giblin
Special Contributor to *The Blue & Gray*

I. Love. Sports. Did anyone else feel a tremendous sense of bliss watching the Super Bowl? There's just something about sports that's uniquely human. No scripts, no ulterior motives; just two teams doing whatever they can to win. See, politics

have captivated America for the last few months, and you can't watch something, or socialize, or even breathe without some mention of some ludicrous thing Donald Trump may or may not have said or done. Even the arts have been infected: at the Golden Globes, beloved actress Meryl Streep condemned Trump in her defense of the arts, saying, "So Hollywood is crawling with outsiders and foreigners, and if we kick them all out, you'll have nothing to watch but football and mixed martial arts, which are not the arts."

Politics aside, what's wrong with football? Are "the arts" uniquely worthy of our time? Sports is just as much of

a cultural celebration as any art. While African Americans fought for rights in America, men like Jackie Robinson and Jim Brown joined artists in trying to bring our culturally divided country together. Fighting injustice may not seem as prevalent today, but if you look closer you'll see Colin Kaepernick, protesting injustice in a way that got the nation talking about issues bigger than sports. There's a lot to talk about in America, but something is different about sports.

I'm not sure if Meryl Streep watched the Super Bowl, but I do know that most of America did, and it was inspiring. In the past year, America has watched the Cavaliers come back from a 3-1 deficit to win the NBA Finals, Villanova beat UNC on a buzzer beater for the ages, the Cubs come back from a 3-1 deficit to win their first World Series since 1908, and Clemson beat Alabama on a last second TD in the National Championship. While we are divided in our team colors, sports fans everywhere are captivated by the uninfluenced, uncensored competition that the games bring. Meryl Streep can say what she wants about Trump, but leave us our sports, and with all due respect, remember: the best things in life don't require a script.

Women's March

continued from previous page

sey Coalition Against Sexual Assault, spoke.

Teffenhart rallied for those in the crowd to continue their fight past that day. She told the crowd that they would feel a variety of emotions: angry, frustrated, exhausted. But they also needed to remember the importance of self-care during this challenging time.

She quoted Alice Paul, an early twentieth century feminist and suffragette, who said, "When you put your hand to the plow, you cannot put it down until you get to the end of the row." Her words still guide us today. We are not yet at the end of the row."

There are a great number of issues that will

continue to affect many Americans over the next four years, due to the new administration and the decisions it makes. It is important to remain engaged, by participating in the midterm elections, contacting local lawmakers, senators, and Congress members.

It is just as important to talk to family and friends about their views, and to have open and honest conversations, in order to be part of a more understanding society.

"We want the same thing. We want the children we love to grow up in a safe, less violent society." Teffenhart continued. "We must resist easy answers. We will need to engage in challenging conversations that allow truth to rise to the surface... No matter what you do – do something. Stay engaged. Do not despair."

Art Show

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"It was really cool to go and see all the artwork from all the people that I know" she commented.

Overall, the art show was an enjoyable

experience for both creators and consumers of art alike. From contemporary to classical, no style or genre was left out of the mix. While I did not know what to expect at first, I left satisfied by the talent that Manasquan High School has to offer. The event in the media center left such an impression on me that I plan to attend next year to gawk at the talent that I lack.

The Blue & Gray

FEATURES

Surf's Up, All Paws On Board!

By: Lauren Fielder

It seems as though there is never a shortage of people around the world with strange talents and abilities. As it turns out, this person is not a person at all – but a dog!

As a puppy, Ricochet failed training to become a service animal, but that didn't stop her from helping those in need. Nowadays, you can find Ricochet out catching waves off the coast of San Diego as the first-ever surfing therapy dog.

Known for her flawless balance on the board and friendly, energetic behavior, Ricochet has been surfing for most of her life and regularly competes in dog surfing competitions, which she most often places in the top three. She even has her own internationally best-selling book, *Ricochet: Riding a Wave of Hope with the Dog Who Inspires Millions*, with currently 4.9 out of 5 stars on Amazon.

Judy Fridono has been training ordinary puppies to become service dogs ever since she suffered the personal loss of a loved one, many years ago. In the midst of training young Ricochet, she had to abandon the conventional service dog training route due to the puppy's playfulness and lack of focus.

Although Ricochet loves surfing with sick and dis-

Below: Ricochet puts a smile on a young boy's face while riding with him on the surfboard.



Above: Amazon customer reads Ricochet's best-selling novel with her dog.

abled individuals, she is best known for the happiness she provides to combat veterans who suffer from PTSD (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder). Ricochet is part of the "PTSD Battle Buddy Initiative", where puppies and service dogs provide emotional support to veterans.

Additionally, Ricochet has her own program called "Operation Socialization" to help former members of the military, and to ensure healthy development of the puppies involved. People who are affected by PTSD can experience intense feelings of anxiety and loneliness which may lead to self-isolation. Being able to hold a puppy can ease the discomforts that may come along with being in a social setting – even lowering heart rate and blood pressure, giving veterans the renewed sense of confidence and support that they need. As for the puppies, the exposure to new people, smells, and sounds, is a vital part of their early development.

Back in 2009, Ricochet traveled to the spiritual city of Sedona to strengthen her healing power and re-energize herself with "vortex energy". During her stay, she received a Reiki attunement, or a process where healing energy is used to allow her to better heal others with her own spiritual energy. She currently holds the title of Level II Reiki Practitioner.

Besides the surfing, support groups, supernatural healing, and best-selling novels, Ricochet has raised over \$500,000 for charity. Whether she's catching waves in California or helping a veteran rediscover his purpose in life, you could say she is certainly a one-of-a-kind therapy dog.

Below: Ricochet (Left) with a veteran and his puppy as a part of "Operation Socialization"



Below: A veteran brings his therapy puppy with him to the supermarket.



Students Tackle Issues in the World

The Blue & Gray Editorials

A New Way to Play

By: Amanda Karp

Gym. Everyone's got it, some for twice a week for a full year, paired with an AP class, and others every day for a semester. There's a variety of activities to do, from playing volleyball, basketball, flag football, and tennis, to going to the weight room, and many others.

Each activity is cycled through – volleyball is the ever popular sport, played anywhere from two weeks to a month, and rainy days – and gets its fair share of interaction with students.

But what happens when a student doesn't want to participate in a sport, and the activity they have to do is one they don't have any interest in,

and they absolutely despise it? Could time in gym be better spent?

Everyone has something they enjoy in gym, whether they'll openly admit to it or not. The key is actually getting to do that activity, because when someone enjoys an activity they do in gym, they're more willing to participate.

Enter a solution to the issue: allowing for rotating activities that students can choose from each marking period.

The key here is this: with the option to choose an activity, students would be more motivated to perform well in gym, and thus, their grade goes up, which would reflect well on the teachers.

Imagine having volleyball for a marking period, and if that's what you like, then you can sign up for it again. If not, you could choose a different activity, like going to the weight room, or playing basketball. These options for



activities could also be altered to incorporate the changes of the seasons.

For instance, in the early fall and spring, tennis, softball, net ball, and other outdoor activities could be incorporated into a category titled "Outdoor Sports". The "Indoor Sports" such as basketball, volleyball, pickle ball, and hockey, could still be available, and the option to go to the weight room could be its own activity.

Allowing students the freedom to choose, and giving them the option to pursue an activity they enjoy would be greatly beneficial. They would be more engaged in the activity they choose, their grades would go up, and everyone would benefit from students being more active and content with the activities they take part in gym class.



Local Teens Charged with Murder

By: Bailey Redy and Maddy Ryder

In the early hours of December 3rd, 19 year old Sarah Stern was declared missing when her car was found on the Route 35 bridge. Sarah left her house in Neptune City driving a 1994 Oldsmobile Eighty-Eight Royal, according to her father, Michael Stern.

Police said that after finding the empty car, they headed to Stern's house which was unlocked with nobody inside.

Even though her body has yet to be recovered, on Wednesday, February 1, two 19 year old men were accused in the murder of Sarah Stern.

According to authorities, 19 year old Liam McAtasney, from Neptune City, went to Stern's house with intentions of robbing her. This resulted in the death of Sarah when McAtasney allegedly strangled her.

McAtasney then called Preston Taylor, also a 19 year old from Neptune City, who was asked to dispose of the body.

The boys drove her car to the Route 35 bridge in an attempt to fake a suicide. Authorities say the men tossed her body off of the bridge.

McAtasney is charged with

1st degree murder, robbery, desecration of human remains, conspiracy and hindering apprehension. Preston is charged with desecration of human remains, conspiracy and hindering apprehension. Both teens pleaded not guilty.

Authorities found McAtasney's phone in Stern's driveway, which he later reported as stolen. Both of the teens participated in search parties for Sarah.

Sarah's father, Michael Stern, sat in the back row of the courtroom, accompanied by his attorney, Charles P. Stone. Michael Stern hadn't learned of his daughter's murder until after McAtasney and Taylor were arrested on Wednesday.

"He's overwhelmed, as any parent would be," Stone said. "This is the worst nightmare you could imagine as a parent."

Sam Draper, a friend of Sarah, explained the relationship between the teens: "They were best friends in eighth grade; it's really shocking to me."

Authorities have recovered two safe deposit boxes related to the investigation.

While close friends and family mourn the truth about Sarah, the search continues for the recovery of Sarah's body. State troopers resumed the search on Monday, February 6th.



The high school friends, pictured together at their senior prom.

Juniors And Seniors Favorite Electives!

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

By: Rebecca Irizarry



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



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



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



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



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



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



My favorite elective last semester was Screen Writing. - **Tyler Mrazek**



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

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

Salma Nicolos-



Right; My favorite elective last semester was Dynamics of Health Care. -

Dalia Gonzalez



The Combat of Commercials

By: Bella Jannarone

For many Americans, the super bowl is not necessarily about the football- it's about food, family, and friends. For others, it's all about the commercials. According to Sports Illustrated, 17.7% of adults say that advertisements are the most important part of the event.

This year a 30- second super bowl ad costed 5 million dollars- that's \$16,667 per second, stated to the business insider.

You may have seen the one minute Budweiser commercial that caught the attention of many viewers because of its political message, timed to the current political conversation. The ad showed the journey of an immigrant traveling to America seeking a better life. Whether or not you agreed with the message, Bud-

weiser accomplished the main goal of advertising- it got people talking.

The 30- second Airbnb ad, "#weaccept", was put together just days before the super bowl in response to Trump's highly controversial travel ban. Portraying people of varying ethnicities with the message "We believe no matter who you are, where you're from, who you love, or who you worship, we all belong. The world is more beautiful the more you accept," the commercial was a big hit.

Honda produced a commercial that caught the attention of many viewers because of the many celebrities that were featured, including Steve Carell, Tina Fey, Robert Redford, Amy Adams, Jimmy Kimmel, Viola Davis, Stan Lee, Missy Elliot, and more.

Previous to the big event,

Fox news advertising guidelines announced it will not sell commercial time "For viewpoint or advocacy of controversial issues." Although Fox released this statement, many ads included political undertones, a difficult area of interest to avoid.

Compared to last year's unforgettable ads, many viewers admit that this year's ads lacked comedy and risk taking. Gym teacher, Mr. Fenchel, was very disappointed with this year's ad, saying that they were the "worst commercials ever."

Several super bowl advertisers dropped out this year, including Doritos and Butterfingers, who produced some of the funnier ads in the past. Even though this years commercials might not have been the best, Sunday's game will go down in history



A Tribute to Those We Lost in 2016



By: Leah Tilton

Prince

Prince Rodgers Nelson, famous singer-songwriter better known as 'Prince', who was best known for his individuality in pop culture, died on April 21st. He was 57 years old.

The cause of the sudden death was an opioid overdose, confirmed by publicist Yvette Noel-Schure. The Carver County Police Department responded to a 911 call at 9:43 a.m. When they arrived at the scene, they identified that there was an unresponsive adult male in the elevator and began the process of CPR. After several minutes of the process with no signs of resuscitation, Prince was pronounced dead at 10:07 a.m.

When Prince began his rise in the music industry, he concerned himself mostly with getting his ideas out into the world. "When I first started out in the music industry, I was most concerned with freedom. Freedom to produce, freedom to play all the instruments on my records, freedom to say anything I wanted to," he stated in a speech when he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. He used music to express himself, and for years, adoring fans appreciated this genuine quality that was rarely found.

Prince didn't allow himself to be stuck in one genre or place in his career. His multiple decade-spanning career allowed him to experiment in funk, rock, R&B and pop, while singing, dancing, and playing the keyboard, drums, and guitar. Almost all of his recorded music is him entirely, vocals and instruments alike.

Not only was Prince successful in expressing himself, his prosperous career featured seven Grammy's, countless 'Top 10' hits, including those he wrote for others, popular album and movie 'Purple Rain' (1984), an Academy Award, and millions of adoring fans across the world.

Prince Rogers Nelson was born on June 7, 1958 in Minneapolis. His father was L. Nelson, a musician better known as 'Prince Rogers,' and his moth-



Prince performing at the Super Bowl in 2007

er was Mattie Della Shaw, a jazz singer who performed with Prince Rogers. They divorced in 1965, and Prince spent most of his time teaching himself how to play instruments and surrounding himself with music.

During his time in high school, he ran away to his neighbor, André Cymone's, basement. It was there that the two formed a band with Morris Day. Prince then moved on to solo endeavors, and signed to Warner Bros. Records.

From the release of his first album in 1978 to 2016, Prince continued to lead a successful career influencing people around the world, and the world truly was in mourning on April 21st.

Prince is predeceased by his son, Boy Gregory. He is survived by his sister, Tyka Nelson.

Harper Lee

Harper Lee, most famous for her first book *To Kill a Mockingbird*, which skyrocketed in popularity in America during the 1960s due to its wonderful story of a small Alabama town and its racial injustice, died on February 19th. She was 89.

She died while sleeping at her assisted living facility, the Meadows, affirmed by her nephew Hank Conner.

Lee became known almost overnight after the release of her novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The novel was released in 1960, and the following year won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction the following year. This skyrocketed Lee's novel, making her one of the most famous writers from America in history, and had resulted in more than 40 million copies being sold, the release of a popular film, as well as becoming one of the most taught novels in high schools.

Lee was known as a humble person. When first awarded the Pulitzer Prize for fiction, Lee told an interviewer "I never expected any sort of success with 'Mockingbird', I was hoping for a quick and merciful death at the hands of the reviewers, but, at the same time I sort of hoped someone would like it well enough to give me encouragement."

For more than fifty years, Lee only published *To Kill a Mockingbird*. She became well known for staying to herself and never making any public appearances. Then in February of 2015, Lee announced the shocking news that she was to publish her second book, *Go Set a Watchman*, it was to be a sequel to her first.

Nelle Harper Lee was born in Monroeville, Alabama on April 28, 1926 to her father, Amasa Coleman Lee, and



Harper Lee, Pulitzer Prize winner, died last year at the age of 89.

her mother Frances Finch Lee. There are many situations in which Lee's life parallels her novel. Her father, a prominent lawyer can be seen as a model for her main character's father, Atticus Finch. Her mother, who was known throughout town for being an overweight, emotionally lost woman can easily be paralleled to another character of hers, Miss Fanny. The conclusion can even be drawn that Lee had used the main character, Scout, to represent herself.

Lee spent many days in her childhood beating up boys and playing outside in the dirt. She grew up to attend Huntingdon College, a local school for women, and began writing stories in their newspaper. After a year, Lee transferred to The University of Alabama to study law, however it was never something she was particularly interested in. After a year at Oxford as part of an exchange program, Lee moved to New York to become a writer. A family, the Browns, believed in her work so much so that they wrote a check to Lee, enough for a year's salary so she could take off her job and write for an entire year. It was then that she wrote the famous work.

Lee's writing has had a lasting imprint on the world. Her words have influenced many who have come across her word, and entertained all.

Harper Lee is predeceased by her sisters, Alice Finch Lee, Louise Lee Conner, and brother, Edwin Lee.

Muhammad Ali

By: Abby McHugh and Leah Tilton

Muhammad Ali, three time world heavyweight champion, who was popular during one of the most unstable times in American history, died on June 3rd. He was 74.

According to his family, the cause of death was septic shock, attributed to Parkinson's disease. Ali was admitted to a Phoenix hospital with respiratory problems earlier in the week, and after five days it was confirmed by family spokesperson, Bob Gunnell, that Ali had died.

In 1964 Ali became the youngest ever World Heavyweight Champion at the tender age of 22. He continued that streak for two more years, before losing to Joe Frazier in "The Fight of the Century". He ultimately regained his Heavyweight belt two more times, in 1974 and 1978. His career was also highlighted by wins against Sonny Liston, Joe Frazier in "The Thrilla in Manila" and against George Foreman in "The Rumble in The Jungle". He is the only boxer to be named



Muhammad Ali, pictured at left in the prime of his career, and below as he battled Parkinson's in his later years



The Ring's Fighter of the Year six times, and was ranked as the greatest athlete of the 20th century by Sports Illustrated and the BBC.

Ali was known for being one of the best boxing champions in history. However, it was not just his athleticism that he is known for today. After his smile and energy, his conviction is what he was admired for as well.

After his first heavyweight title in 1964, Ali immediately held a press conference in which he announced his conversion to Islam and changed his name to Muhammad Ali.

This change was spurred by his involvement with the Nation of Islam, and its leaders Elijah Muhammed and Malcom X, who became his spiritual and political advisers in 1962. After aligning himself with the movement, Ali became a staunch pacifist. In 1966, at the height of the Vietnam War, his draft status made him eligible to fight in Vietnam. As a Black Muslim, he argued against it, saying he was a conscientious objector. "My conscience won't let me go shoot my brother, or some darker people, or some poor hungry people in the mud, for big powerful America," he said at the time.

Cassius Marcellus Clay Jr. was born in Louisville, Kentucky on January 17, 1942. His family consisted of teachers, musicians, and craftsmen, and he

learned to work hard at a young age. Ali started to box when he was 12 years old. When his bike was stolen, he reported it to policeman Joe Martin, who ran a boxing gym. Ali talked about how he was going to beat the thief up when he caught him, and Martin suggested he learn to punch correctly first. From there a relationship was born. He soon made his way up the ranks and rose to stardom.

Although Ali worked hard in the ring, he was never a good student, never even learning to properly read. He graduated high school at the bottom of his class, though he did it as an amateur boxing champion.

After going and winning the 1960 Olympics, Ali went professional when he signed a six-year contract. From then, Ali further developed his religion and his views, becoming the Ali we know today. He went on to be one of the most successful boxers of all time.

As a Gold Medalist at the 1960 Olympics in Rome, he was a teenager spewing words about the great country he was representing. But after his conversion and refusal to join the Army and fight in Vietnam, he took a different approach by criticizing the nation.

In the 1970s, he had a children's TV show called I Am the Greatest: The Adventures of Muhammad Ali. In it, he reflects on his career and the challenges he faced: "A little disappointment shouldn't get you down. It should make you stronger for the final round. Take it from the champion of the world".

Comedian Dick Gregory once said, "He lived a lot of lives for a lot of people," showing the controversy Ali generated, and the complicated man he truly was.

In recent years Ali was affected by both Parkinson's disease and spinal stenosis. Both hurt him physically and deter-

iorated, his communication skills. From then on he mostly kept to himself, though he shared many memories, and said he "wanted to entertain people, to make them happy."

Ali is survived by his nine children, Maryum, Jamillah, Rasheda, Hana, Laila, Miya, Khaliyah, Muhammad Ali, Jr. and Asaad Amin, and wife Yolanda Williams.

Below: one of the most famous sports photographs of all time - Ali standing over Sonny Liston after a first round knockout.





Final Farewell to those lost in 2016.... You will be greatly missed.



America's First Lady: Nancy Reagan

By Jeff Petrulla

Nancy Reagan, one of America's most recognizable First Ladies, died on March 6th, 2016. She was best-known for being one of the most influential First Ladies in history, virtually taking over for President Ronald Reagan near the end of his second term. She was 94.



Spokesperson for the Reagan Library Joanne Drake announced that Nancy had died of congestive heart failure in her Los Angeles home. Huge waves of mourning followed, with contributions to the Reagan Library taking the place of flowers.

Though Nancy Reagan was very much her own person, she was partially known for being married to Ronald Reagan, one of America's most beloved presidents. She became known independently early on in her life, then known as Nancy Davis, when she was a young movie star in the 1940s. Her stardom almost never faltered since marrying Ronald Reagan in 1952, when he was still the president of the Screen Actors Guild.

Anne Frances Robbin spent her entire life in front of the press; she was born on July 6th, 1921 to actress Edith Puckett and car salesman Kenneth Robbins. Her godmother, Alla Nazimova, was a silent film star. Nancy's childhood had a lot of movement, her parents got divorced when she was young, and she then stayed with her aunt and uncle. Eventually, her mother remarried to Loyal Davis, a neurosurgeon. She loved him, and he eventually adopted her, changing her name to Nancy Davis. School was "average" for her; she attended Girls's Latin School of Chicago and then went on to attend Smith College to major in English and drama.



Nancy, in the 1960s

Once out of college, she got right into acting. After a few minor roles, she signed to Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios, and competed for roles against stars like Debbie Reynolds. She was often cast as a secure, steady woman and a loving housewife. She played in movies like *The Next Voice You Hear* and *Night into Morning* during the early 50s. In 1953, MGM released her from her contract and she married Ronald Reagan. Soon after, she had her first daughter, Patti Davis. It was here that her acting career began to fade, and she grew closer to her "Ronnie."

Her political career began when Ronald Reagan was

elected to the office of the Governor of California in 1967. She attracted a lot of controversy early on in her decision to move their family out of the Governor's Mansion, which many called "snobbish." They were not widely supported in California, though Ronald Reagan managed to balance the budget and cut hiring in state positions. This success helped lift Ronald and Nancy both into the White House. It was here that Nancy and Ronald cemented their legacy, making some of the biggest decisions of the modern era and leaving huge shoes to fill. Nancy's campaign while First Lady was to bring an end to recreational drug use, famously known as "The War on Drugs." It may not have been wildly successful, though it was a noble cause for a noble woman. The turbulent work that Nancy did clearly left a mark on her: she once said, "A woman is like a tea bag, you cannot tell how strong she is until you put her in hot water." Nancy Reagan is survived by her son Ron, her daughter Patti Davis, and her stepson Michael. She is predeceased by her husband Ronald Reagan, and her daughter Maureen Reagan.

The End of a Revolution: Fidel Castro, Dead at 90

by Jeff Petrulla



The young revolutionary Castro

Fidel Castro, the notorious Cuban dictator who outlasted ten Presidents of the United States, died on November 25th, 2016 in Havana, Cuba. He was 90 years old.

The cause of death was mainly unexplained by the Cuban state, but his brother, Cuban President Raul Castro, said he died of natural causes overnight.

Commonly known as Castro, Fidel Castro became a household name after successfully overthrowing the brutal Cuban President, Fulgencio Bautista. However, he is best known for being a vocal adversary of the United States in their own hemisphere for 50 years; something no other Latin American country had even dared to accomplish. After the fall of Bautista, Fidel Castro served as the head of the Republic of Cuba for 32 years, until taking medical leave in 2006.

As President John F. Kennedy once said, "Castro is not just another Latin American dictator-a petty tyrant bent merely on personal power and gain. His ambitions extend far beyond his own shores."

Fidel Alejandro Castro Ruz was born August 13th, 1926 in Biran, Cuba. He was born out of wedlock; the son of a wealthy Spanish farmer named Angel Castro y Argiz and his servant, Lina Ruz Gonzalez. His early life took place in private school, he attended a Roman Catholic school from age six to eight, until he was thrown out for misbehaving. He then enrolled in a prestigious Jesuit school, until transferring to another highly-regarded Jesuit school. Here he took interest in history and debate, but tended to focus on sports. After graduating,

continued on next page



Janet Reno as Attorney Gen.

America's First Female Attorney General, Janet Reno

by Jeff Petrulla

Janet Reno, the first female Attorney General of the United States, died on November 7th, 2016 in her Miami home. She was 78 years old.

Her sister, Margaret Hurchalla, announced that the cause of death was Parkinson's, which Reno had been diagnosed with in 1995.

Janet Reno is an icon in law enforcement. She was the second longest serving Attorney General, and one of the most well-known. She is best known for two of the most well-covered cases of the 90s: the botched raid on the Camp Davidian compound in 1993, and the refusal of a Cuban refugee child in 2000. "I don't believe Janet Reno ever cut a corner in her life. Not as a prosecutor and not as a person," said Bill Clinton at Reno's funeral service.

Janet Wood Reno was born to Jane Wallace and Henry Olaf Reno (both journalists), in Miami, Florida. She had three siblings; Mark, Robert, and Margaret. Her early life was happy and filled with the outdoors- her mother had built their house in the Everglades with her bare hands- and she loved to canoe, swim, and camp. However, her real talents were apparently in the classroom. In elementary school, she was the debate champion of Miami-Dade County (just Dade County, at the time). When she went on to high school, she continued this intellectual trend and graduated valedictorian of her class. She then went on to attend Cornell University in 1956, majoring in chemistry. At Cornell, she was the president of the Women's Self-Government Association, and became more interested with legal pursuits. After graduating from Cornell with a Chemistry degree in 1960, she decided to attend Harvard Law. She was one of only 16 women in her class of 500. Un-

fortunately, the field of law was full of obstacles for women at the time. Early in her career, she was denied a job completely on the grounds of being a woman. However, she went on to be a trailblazer. At 6'1, with a constantly studious-looking face and glasses, she was a force to be reckoned with. For about fifteen years, she worked in state law offices, until being the first woman ever nominated to a top attorney spot in a county in Florida. She was the state attorney for all of Dade County (which included Miami, the city with the highest crime rate in Florida) for fifteen years, until being nominated to Attorney General by Bill Clinton in 1993. In the office of Attorney General, she cracked down on crime across the nation. The Clinton Administration, with the help of Reno, brought crime to a 25-year low and murder to a 33-year low. She also prosecuted more high-profile cases, bringing Microsoft to court over antitrust laws, convicting the Unabomber and Timothy McVeigh, and also the 1993 World Trade Center bombing convictions. Even when out of the Attorney General's office, Reno's career did not end. She made an unsuccessful bid for a Congress seat in Florida, losing 44% to 44.4%.

Janet Reno was someone who often kept going when she knew she was right, despite widespread criticism and loads of partisanship opposing her. She was brilliant and headstrong, and certainly knew how to do her job. She even allowed investigation of cases against the Clintons; going as far as letting the Whitewater Investigation expand into the affair that would eventually get Bill impeached. She was set on doing the right thing, and that's why she's an important figure for law enforcement. Reno herself once said, "We have the authority to take action... But responsible authority means not only being able to take action, but knowing when and how to take that action." Janet Reno is survived by her sister Margaret "Maggie" Hurchalla, and predeceased by brothers Mark and Robert.

Castro

continued from previous page

he studied law at the University of Havana.

Originally uninvolved with politics, he quickly became an outspoken advocate about anti-imperialism and government corruption. He became embroiled in violent political conflict on campus, often carrying a gun and surrounding himself with armed friends. Once out of college, Castro began to grow his iconic facial hair, and he grew into a six foot three inch revolutionary. His early political career was turbulent, taking beatings in multiple protests and joining a planned overthrow of the military government. Castro ran in multiple elections, but was never part of a major political party. His rise to prominence began when General Fulgencio Batista overthrew the president of Cuba. Castro imme-

diately denounced the radical right-wing government, and filed legal action against the government multiple times. These failed, driving Castro to revolt.

Fidel Castro's revolutionary group, the 26th of July Movement, struggled for power for over ten years. During the revolution, he faced extensive smear campaigns by Batista and the United States. Longtime friend and fellow revolutionary Che Guevara left Cuba not long after to support other Latin American revolts, but was killed in Bolivia in 1967. Fidel was far more fortunate, surviving 30 years of United States-backed assassination attempts numbering as high as 600 attempts.



Castro once said, "If surviving assassination attempts were an Olympic event, I would receive the gold medal." Castro is survived by his brother Raul, sister Juana, son Fidelito, and a litany of illegitimate children. He was predeceased by first wife Mirta Balart.

A Tribute to Those We Lost:

By: Jenn Forcillo

Carrie Fisher

Carrie Fisher, actress, best-selling author and mental health advocate, died on December 27th at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles, CA. She was 60 years old.

The cause of death was originally speculated as complications from a heart attack she suffered on an airplane from London to Los Angeles, but according to the L.A. County Coroner's Office, the autopsy was inconclusive and did not prove the heart attack was fatal.

Fisher is best known for being everyone's favorite princess and rebel leader, Princess Leia, in George Lucas' "Star Wars" films, and for being the child of two of Hollywood's biggest stars, Debbie Reynolds and Eddie Fisher. However, Fisher did not love her famous heritage and struggled greatly to come to terms with fame. She even told Oprah in an interview "I did not want to be Debbie Reynolds' daughter."

Still she continued to see the positive in her life and along the way married musician Paul Simon in 1983, but got divorced in 1984. Eventually she had a child in 1992, Billie Lourd, with talent agent Bryan Lourd.

After her "Star Wars" career, Fisher turned to writing; her first book was a semi-autobiography titled *Postcards from the Edge*. In it Fisher satirized her own drug addiction that took place during the filming of *Star Wars*, and her tumultuous relationship with her mother.

In her memoir, *Wishful Drinking*, Fisher described her diagnosis of bipolar disorder and how it affected her family and career. She took a humorous approach to her life but also talked about



Above, Fisher as Princess Leia, her most famous role

the importance of mental health and how to properly treat it.

The week of her death, Fisher was in London, promoting her latest book, *The Princess Diarist*, another memoir based on the diaries she kept as a young lady during the filming of *Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope*. On the plane ride to Los Angeles she suffered a heart attack about fifteen minutes from landing.

Carrie Frances Fisher was born on October 21, 1956 in Burbank, California to Hollywood legends Eddie Fisher and Debbie Reynolds. Both were huge superstars in the film industry, resulting in Carrie always being in the spotlight. However, when she was just two years old Fisher and Reynolds divorced due to her father's affair with Elizabeth Taylor. Unfortunately, Debbie Reynolds died only a day after Carrie's sudden passing, wishing to be with her daughter, according to Carrie's brother Todd Fisher.

Overall, Fisher will be remembered for her resilient role as Princess Leia. In *Wishful Drinking*, she had one final request about her death, "I want it reported that I drowned in moonlight, strangled by my own bra."

She is survived by her daughter Bille Lourd, dog Gary Fisher, and brother Todd Fisher. She is predeceased by her father, Eddie Fisher.

Debbie Reynolds

Debbie Reynolds, actress, singer, humanitarian and star of one of the best movie musicals of all time, *Singin' In The Rain*, died on December 28th, only one day after her daughter Carrie Fisher died. She was 84 years old.

Debbie's son, Todd Fisher made a statement saying that while discussing Carrie's funeral plans, Reynolds was rushed to the hospital and died due to stroke, but no autopsy has been done yet to prove this.

At the young age of 18, Debbie Reynolds became famous when she starred opposite of Gene Kelly in *Singin' In The Rain* and from there her success and career took off. She starred in *The Unsinkable Molly Brown*, which earned her an Academy Award nomination.

Other films she starred in included *The Singing Nun*, *Charlotte's Web*, and *Mother* which earned her a Golden Globe Nomination. In 1969 she started her own television program called the



Above, Reynolds in *Singin' In The Rain*, her first Hollywood role

The Debbie Reynolds Show, but had conflicts with NBC due to cigarette commercials airing during it. Reynolds has also been known to be ahead of her time when it came to societal issues and was a huge LGBTQ activist and performed at an AIDS fundraiser in 1983, which is practically unheard of.

Although her career was one for the books, Reynolds had terrible marriage success. She married Eddie Fisher and had two kids, Carrie and Todd who both went into the Hollywood business. But he divorced her only a few years later for Elizabeth Taylor. Reynolds then married Harry Karl but his gambling problem put them in bad financial shape and they divorced in 1973 after thirteen years of marriage. Her third and final union was to Richard Hamlett in 1984, but once again, he ruined her finances and they divorced in 1996. Reynolds never married or dated again after that.

Despite her love life, Debbie was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Screen Actors Guild in 2014 and the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award from the Academy Awards in 2015.

Mary Frances "Debbie" Reynolds was born April 1, 1932 in El Paso, Texas to Maxene and Raymond Reynolds, a carpenter for the Southern Pacific Railroad. Her family moved to Burbank California when she was seven and soon got her nickname "Debbie". When she was sixteen, she won the Miss Burbank beauty contest in 1948 and soon after, she had a contract with Warner Bros.

Her daughter, neighbor and best friend, Carrie Fisher had died only a day before when she suffered what appeared to be a stroke and told her son Todd she "just wanted to be with Carrie". She is survived by her son Todd and granddaughter Billie Lourd. She is predeceased by daughter Carrie Fisher and parents Maxene and Raymond Reynolds.



George Michael

George Michael, one of the most popular and prolific pop stars in the 1980s as well as a performer, singer, songwriter, and producer, died on December 25, 2016 at his home in Goring-On-Thames, Oxfordshire, England. He was 53.

George Michael was found dead by his partner Fadi Fawaz on Christmas morning. The cause of the death wasn't immediately determined, but his manager Michael Lippman confirmed that heart failure was the cause of death. Fawaz described the death of his partner as, "passing away peacefully," and further explained, "I went round there to wake him up and he was just gone, lying peacefully in bed. We don't know what happened yet. Everything had been very complicated recently, but George was looking forward to Christmas, and so was I."

Michael was best known for his work done between 1980s and 1990s, including two biggest hits, "Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go" and "Last Christ-



George Michaels rocking out back in the 80s

mas" along with his well-known albums *Faith* and *Listen Without Prejudice*. Michael sold well over 100 million records all across the globe. In 2008 Michael was ranked 40th on *Billboard's* list of the Greatest Hot 100 Artists of All Time. Michael also won, Brit Awards, MTV Video Music Awards, Ivor Novello Awards, American Music Awards, and two Grammy Awards.

Georgios Kyriacos Panayiotou

GEORGE MICHAEL

By: Nicole Zito

was born on June 25, 1963 in East Finchley, London. His father worked as a restaurateur and his mother, Lesley Arnolds, worked as an English dancer. He had two siblings, Yioda and Melanie. George attended Kingsbury High School, but later his family moved and he attended Bushey Meads School in Bushey, where he met his future band mate, Andrew Ridgeley, and together they later formed Wham!

"I have to believe that somebody up there thinks I've still got some work to do." George Michael's will forever be known as the person who seriously cared about his music. He is survived by his former partner Kenny Goss, father Kyriacos, sisters Yioda and Melanie.

He is predeceased by his mother Lesley Angold Panayiotou.

David Bowie

By: Jenn Forcillo

David Bowie, English singer, songwriter, actor and musical experimenter, died January 10th, 2016. He passed away only two days after his birthday. He was 69 years old.

The cause of death was liver cancer, which he had privately been fighting for 18 months, said his publicist, Steve Martin.

Bowie was best known for his fierce songwriting and career that spanned decades and taught generations of musicians about the power of personas and being individualistic. By 15, Bowie had started his first band, and went through quite a few groups and failed singles before transitioned into a solo career and finally found fame when he released his first album *David Bowie* in 1967.

Two years later, *Space Oddity* was released and then the Spiders From Mars were formed as his backup band. Only a year later, they finished Bowie's third album of *The Man Who Sold The World* and astoundingly *Hunky Dory* was released in 1971. One of Bowie's biggest hits "Changes" was also featured on the album.

Bowie then found fame with his next album *The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars* and his alter ego Ziggy. But the world just could not keep up with Ziggy, but the persona Bowie carried with him affected

him personally.

After many years of releasing albums every year Bowie was considered a chameleon of music, adapting himself to fashion and trends. However, during this time, he struggled greatly with drug addiction. After this, Bowie sobered up and moved to Berlin, ushering in his "Berlin Era." During this time he worked with Brian Eno to create the Berlin Trilogy, which included one of his most famous albums, *Heroes*.

After this, Bowie once again adapted to the times and found himself in the New Romantic and pop era, and found international and commercial success. While David Bowie's success cannot be measured by record sales or chart hits, it is no doubt that his decade spanning career, with over 20 studio albums released is one that no one will forget.

David Robert Jones was born on January 8th, 1947 in Brixton, South London, England to Margaret and Haywood Jones. His mother was a waitress and his father was a promotions officer for a children's charity. When Bowie went to school, he was considered "gifted and vividly musical" by his teachers and peers. His interest in music first started when his father would bring him home records.

David Bowie is seen as one of the most influential artists of the 20th century and his legacy lives on through his fans and people who take inspiration from his decades worth of work. While he left us too soon and without notice, keeping his illness a secret, Bowie was always one step ahead of the game and gave us this piece of advice for his own passing in his song "Starman", "There's a starman waiting in the sky / He's told us not to blow it / 'Cause he knows it's all worthwhile." These lyrics will not be forgotten as we mourn the loss of an icon.

Bowie is predeceased by his parents and survived by son, Duncan Jones, current wife Iman, and daughter Lexi Jones.



Above, one of Bowie's most famous looks on the cover of his sixth studio album, *Aladdin Sane*

Two from the World of Sports

By: Abby McHugh



Craig Sager, NBA Basketball Announcer

Craig Sager, a shining (and oft-patterned) face of NBA basketball, died December 15th, 2016 of Acute myeloid leukemia. Sager, an American sports media icon, was the prominent Turner Sports NBA sideline reporter for over 25 years. He was 65.

According to his son Craig Sager Jr., he died of complications arising from his cancer, which he was diagnosed with in 2014. After a long fight that included two bone marrow transplants (both from Craig Jr.), he died surrounded by his family in Atlanta, Georgia.

Sager pioneered the art of sideline reporting at a time when coaches and players maligned the interviews as distracting from the game. Developing a repartee with normally hardheaded NBA'ers such as Gregg Popovich and Kevin Garnett, Sager was beloved by the community. In 2016, he received the Jimmy V ESPY award for Perseverance as a testament to his long and often tumultuous battle with cancer.

Craig Sager was born June 29th, 1951 in Batavia, Illinois. He attended Northwestern University in Chicago, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Speech, and was the school's mascot for three years. He began his career in Sarasota, Florida as a reporter for WXLT- he worked as a radio news director in 1974. His career skyrocketed when, in April of 1974, he dodged security and ran onto the field as Hank Aaron hit his record-breaking 715th home run. In 1980, he joined CNN and Turner Sports and was the first live remote reporter by CNN from the 1980 baseball playoffs. He began his basketball sideline career on The NBA on TNT, where he realized his talent as a natural entertainer.

Sager will be remembered just as much for his colorful wardrobe as for his personality. With his natural friendliness, Sager charmed the NBA community and the viewing audience alike instantly after becoming a sideline reporter. Although he only lived to the age of 63, he had a full life (and closet). When he gave his speech accepting his ESPY award, he mentioned his battle with time: "Time is something that cannot be bought, it cannot be wagered with God, and it is not in endless supply. Time is simply how you live your life."

He is survived by his five children and his wife of 15 years, Stacy Strebel.

Pat Summit, Winningest Female Basketball Coach

Pat Summit, the legendary Tennessee women's basketball coach, died of Alzheimer's disease in Knoxville, Tennessee on June 28th. She was 64.

According to former UT women's athletic director Joan Cronan, she died from complications stemming from the debilitating illness in the early morning.

A prominent figure in women's sports, Summit was an early fighter for women's sports at the elite collegiate level. Accruing a 1,098- 208 game record at Tennessee, Summit won the NCAA division 1 championships eight times and the SEC tournament 16 times. She was the 8-time SEC coach of the year and 7-time NCAA coach of the year. She was named the Naismith Coach of the 20th century, and was awarded a Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2012, along with an Arthur Ashe Courage Award.



Summit after winning the SEC Championship in 2009.

Patricia Sue Head was born on June 14th, 1952 in Clarks-ville, Tennessee. In her younger years, she was known as Trish to her friends, and had four siblings. From there, she attended Division 1 University of Tennessee Martin, where she won All- America Honors- all before the passage of Title IX. She later captained the United States women's national basketball team at the 1976 Summer Olympics, where she won a silver medal. When she won the gold as a coach in 1984, she became the first U.S. Olympian to win a basketball medal and coach a medal-winning team. Her son, Tyler, was a walk-on for the Tennessee men's basketball team and is now an assistant coach at Marquette University.

Summit will be best remembered for her hands-on coaching style and winning record. Her simplicity in coaching made her teams great. Before the 1992 national-championship winning season, Summit was quoted: "Here's how I'm coming to beat you. I'm going to outwork you. That's it. That's all there is to it". Summit is survived by her son, Ross Tyler Summit, and by the hundreds of current and former Tennessee basketball players on whom she had a profound effect on.

The Blue & Gray

FEATURES

2016: The Year In Review

Plane Crash Devastates Brazilian Soccer Club

By: Jenn Forcillo

It was the greatest Cinderella Story the small city of Chapeco had ever seen. Only a small Brazilian city of about 200,000, their soccer team Chapecoense, made it to the most prestigious tournament in South America, and were set to play in the Copa Sudamerica finals in Medellin, Colombia.

However, heartbreak swept the soccer world and Chapeco when the plane carrying the team, along with some journalists and some officials, crashed into a hillside in Colombia, killing 71 people. There were only six survivors.

Chapecoense had made headlines this soccer season for being a huge underdog and being part of one of the biggest Cinderella Stories of the times. Less than a decade ago the team was part of the nation's 'D' league, essentially the low minor leagues, but climbed the ranks and earned themselves a spot in Brazil's top league in 2014.

Their success shocked the world, but as their season wasn't over just yet, they were headed to Medellin, Colombia to face Medellin's own team Atletico Nacional in the finals of the tournament.

The LaMia Flight 2933 took off from Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia and was headed for Medellin Colombia, but was scheduled to make a stop in Bogota, Colombia to refuel, but instead the pilot continued on his way, making the decision that they had enough fuel to make it.

However, 22 miles away from the airport in Medellin, the crew issued a frantic Mayday to air traffic control. The pilot reported that

he needed to make an emergency landing due to running out of fuel and then electrical difficulties. Air traffic controllers at the Medellin tried their best to guide the pilot to the runway but the connection suddenly was lost and the jet then slammed into a mountainside at an altitude of almost 11,000 feet.



Above: the jet after it crashed into the mountain side; below: fans mourn the loss of a team



The crash killed everyone but six passengers, three team players, two crew members and a journalist. Surviving a plane crash is very rare and unheard of, but the six lives that

were saved are contributed to the fact that since the plane had no fuel, it did not explode on impact and there was no fire.

Flight data shows a pattern that suggests the jet circled a few times after the pilot declared an electrical failure. Experts say that it was caused by fuel starvation, and the circling was a way to give them time to solve the electrical issues, but they realized their lack of fuel too late.

Usually when a plane crashes, the fuel causes an explosion or fire, and since there were none, it reinforces the theory that fuel shortage was the cause of the crash. The crash is still being investigated by multiple parties to rule out any other explanation or cause of crash.

One flight attendant who survived the crash recalled that the cabin lights went off minutes earlier, and then the jet had a quick, sharp decline before a huge impact. This was when the jet dropped at an altitude of 11,000 feet the hit the hillside.

Gianni Infantino, the president of FIFA, said, "At this difficult time our thoughts are with the victims, their families and friends. FIFA would like to extend its most heartfelt condolences to the fans of Chapecoense, the football community and media organizations concerned in Brazil." While the South American Soccer Federation canceled the final game to pay its respects, the president of the Atletico Nacional demanded they be declared tournament champions.

Thoughts and prayers are with Chapeco and the family of the victims of this horrific plane crash.

The Killer Clowns of 2016

By: Lauren Fielder

One of the most memorable events of 2016 was the clown scare. Beginning in August and continuing through October, sightings of malicious individuals dressed in scary clown costumes caused the general public to fear for their lives.

It all started in late August, when residents of a small South Carolina town began hearing stories from their children about clowns who tried to lure them into the woods with money. They claimed the clowns lived deep in the forest near a house by a pond, and what started as a silly rumor, ended up terrifying everyone in the community. More sightings were reported, this time by adults and children. One resident even fired shots into the direction of the wooded area with his gun. After investigating the rumor, police found no evidence of clowns in the area - but at that point, it was too late. All of America was already terrified of the deadly clowns.

Throughout the next few months, clowns were all over the media. It seemed that no matter where you lived, there were reports of them in your local area – but clowns weren't the only thing to be afraid of. Many people took ridiculous measures in rallying against them.

Early Tuesday, October 4th a mob of over 6,000 students from Pennsylvania State University flooded the streets with the intentions of hunting down a clown who was supposedly spotted on campus. Students angrily marched down the streets, climbed trees, and chanted "We are Penn State!" However, police Sgt. Mike Nelson claimed, "If there were any clowns with this many students out there and with our police responding to calls, we would have ran into it."

On October 3rd, a clown was seen near Merrimack College wielding a rifle. The college was immediately put on lockdown and while some students were evacuated from their dorms, others were ordered to seek shelter and stay there until further instruction. In response, hundreds of students took the streets, wielding weapons and screaming. No one was injured.

The 2016 clown scare was undoubtedly a chaotic and frightening event of the year. Fortunately, the trend died off around the end of the month. For now, we can only hope the killer clowns don't return for Halloween in 2017.



A clown who was reportedly seen in Green Bay, Wisconsin



Police in South Carolina investigate reports of clowns luring children into the woods with money



Thousands of Penn State students fill the streets in attempts to hunt a rumored clown

GORILLA KILLED IN CINCINNATI ZOO

By: Abby McHugh

Patrons hoping to enjoy a relaxing, warm day at the Cincinnati Zoo on Sunday, May 29th were instead treated to a gruesome show as a male gorilla was shot and killed while attempting to save a 4-year-old boy who had fallen into the enclosure.

Harambe, a 400-pound Western lowland silverback gorilla, was nudging the toddler, scooping him up by his pants and pulling him out of the pool that he had fallen into. Over the ten minutes that the boy was in the moat, he became “increasingly agitated and disoriented” by the boy and the screaming of onlookers, according to Zoo Director Thane Maynard.

As his mother screamed in the background, hoping to soothe the boy, the Zoo’s security team went into rapid response mode, saving the child’s life. As Harambe began to exhibit “strutting” behavior- walking around with his arms and leg stiffly extended, to appear bigger to onlookers- and started to carry the boy up a ladder out of the moat onto dry land, the zoo officials made the decision to kill the gorilla with a single gunshot.

Harambe celebrated his 17th birthday one day before the incident.

The shooting immediately became controversial in social media circles. Some observers started that Harambe was unlikely to kill the child. Maynard defended the move, stating that “The child was being dragged around... His head was banging on concrete. This was not a gentle thing.”

Although the boy’s mother was the subject of intense online harassment, Ohio prosecutor Joseph Deters decided she would not be charged with any wrongdoings.

After the incident was recorded and uploaded to YouTube, the incident went viral worldwide, and was the subject of intense celebrity and internet speculation. The incident sparked a debate among biologists on whether



One of the many internet tributes to Harambe.

primates like gorillas should even be held in captivity. Famous primatologist Jane Goodall said that the zoo made the right decision: “... when people come into contact with wild animals, life and death decisions sometimes said to be made.”. Another notable zookeeper, Jack Hanna also defended the decision, arguing that a tranquilizer could have taken several minutes to be effective.

In the months after the shooting, Harambe’s death was a popular meme on social media. Harambe was the subject over a proliferation of over-the-top tributes. He was a popular write-in for the 2016 Australian prime minister and U.S. presidential elections.

Maynard commented on the memes later in the year: “We are not amused by the memes, petitions and signs about Harambe. Our zoo family is still healing, and the constant mention of Harambe makes moving forward difficult for us. We are honoring Harambe by redoubling our gorilla conservation efforts...” The zoo later had to delete its twitter account after being targeted daily by trolls.

If this incident had happened before the internet, it would have been forgotten in a week. But, with the advent of social media and sites like Reddit, users are finding that they now have the ability to control the news. Harambe’s death in May of 2016 served as another poignant reminder of the internet’s capabilities. Look for more weird news stories like this one in 2017.

The Coldest and the Oldest

By: Amanda Karp

They’re big. They’re fast. They live in the North Atlantic Ocean. And they’ve been declared as the longest living vertebrates.

The Greenland shark, also known by names such as the gurry or grey shark, or by their Inuit name of eqalussuaq, was pronounced as the longest living vertebrate on August 12th, 2016.

The leading authors of this study, John Steffensen and graduate student Julius Nielsen, are a marine biologist from the University of Copenhagen.

Steffensen and Nielsen spent several years collecting dead Greenland sharks, after Steffensen became curious about the length of the shark’s lives. Then began the difficult part – figuring out how to uncover

the lifespan of the sharks. They used an unusual method of looking for high deposits of carbon-14, which is a heavy isotope left by nuclear



testing from the 1950s.

The technique specifically used was radio-carbon dating, which is

most often used when trying to calculate the age of sediments. In the case of the Greenland shark, it was used alongside the growth rate of the sharks – 0.5 to 1 cm a year, and grow up to 24 feet and 2,200 pounds – to calculate how old their sharks were, on their eye lenses.

Two sharks were found from the 1960s, after excess carbon was found in the eye lenses of the sharks. For their study, Steffensen and Nielsen only sought Greenland sharks that were female and already dead. Males were not used in the study because they were more difficult to find, but it is assumed that when found, the males will have similar ages to the females.

The oldest was then found,
continued on page ????????

World Record Broken as Winners Claim **\$1.5** **Billion** Jackpot

By: Elizabeth Rooney

This past year a record breaking lottery was won during a Powerball drawing. Three winning Powerball lottery tickets were sold in California, Florida, and Tennessee from the Powerball winning ticket numbers drawn on January 13, 2016. The three winners shared an estimated jackpot of \$1.5 billion. This was the largest jackpot winning in world history.

The winning tickets were sold in Chino Hills, California, Munford, Ten-

nessee, and Melbourne Beach, Florida. The winning numbers were 08, 27, 34, 04, and 19. The Powerball was 10. The odds of winning the jackpot were 1 in 292 million.

Before January 13, there had been 19 Powerball drawings with no winner. More and more people continued to buy lottery tickets as the value began to increase. It was estimated that people spent an estimated \$2.6 billion on tickets since the last winner in November 2015.

In order to have a winning ticket, all five numbers must match in any order along with the red Powerball number. This time the prize money was split up evenly among three ticket holders.

Winners were able to select payments made over 30 years or smaller up-front lump sum value. That value was \$533 million. The previous record for the U.S lottery jackpot was a Mega Millions game in March 2012 that was \$656 million.

With three winners, each per-

son would receive \$327.8 million after taxes. None of the winners had to pay state taxes. Florida and Tennessee do not have a state income tax, and California has a law that exempts lottery winners from paying state taxes. However, the winners still had to pay 39.6% in federal taxes from their winnings.

Out of three winners, John and Lisa Robinson from Munford, Tennessee, were the only ones to public reveal themselves as the winners. According to lottery officials, this isn't out of the ordinary; most winners stay anonymous, which they encourage. There are even a few states that don't release the names of the winners.

The jackpot then dropped back to \$40 million with less tickets sold. Each time the jackpot continues to grow, more and more people decide to take a chance and buy a lottery ticket. There will be a time again when the lottery increases, and you never know you very well could be the one person in 292 million to win next.



NASA News: A Trip For OSIRIS-REx

By: Rachel Irizarry

On September 8, 2016 NASA launched a space probe called OSIRIS-REx (Origins Spectral Interpretation Resource Identification Security – Regolith Explorer). The mission of this probe is to go to a potentially dangerous asteroid called Bennu, and take a two-ounce sample of the asteroid. Then OSIRIS-REx will bring the sample back to Earth. This is so NASA can see if this asteroid is potentially dangerous to us on Earth.

NASA's chief scientist, Ellen Stofan, said "Tonight is the night for celebration. We are on our way to an asteroid."

The OSIRIS-REx mission will be the first US mission to carry samples from an asteroid back to Earth and the largest sample returned from space since the Apollo Era. OSIRIS-REx launched at 7:05pm EDT from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida. The asteroid can be compared to a small mountain. The robot will land on the asteroid in August of 2018.

Once it lands it will start to map and study Bennu in

preparation for the sample collection. After it has done this, the robot will take out its robotic arm called TAG-SAM and make contact with the asteroid for five seconds. Within the five seconds the arm will use nitrogen gas to kick up rocks and dust so it can bring it back to Earth.

"We are basically a space vacuum cleaner. We kind of expect a gravel field on the surface of the asteroid," explained Dante Lauretta a professor of Planetary Science and Cosmo chemistry at the University of Arizona's Lunar and Planetary.

Retrieving a sample is not an easy task, especially when you are a robot. This is why scientists and NASA equipped OSIRIS-REx with a set of eyes so we can watch it as it is happening. The robot has three cameras, once it has taking pictures it will send them back to NASA every few days. This camera has better vision than an eagle.

OSIRIS-Rex will then head back to Earth in March of



**Above: OSIRIS-REx launches on
September 8, 2016.**

Looking Back: The Pokémon GO Release

By: Shane Connolly

While the past year has been viewed in a negative light by many, there were some truly fantastic feats. One of the most iconic apps of all time was released on July 6th, 2016, and that app was Pokémon GO by Niantic. The app was and still is free to download via the Google Play or App Store, and while its player base has since dwindled, at the time of its release, it had more first week downloads from the App Store than any other app in Apple's history.

The concept of the game is simple: start up the app, hold your phone, walk around, and eventually catch Pokémon. The game is based off Niantic's original app called Ingress, a game with the same concept except without the official Pokémon license. Pokémon GO and its predecessor are known as augmented reality games (or AR games), as they provide a unique sense of your surroundings while you play.

The game achieved extremely unexpected popularity right off the bat, which caused some problems for the release. The servers for the game proved to be unprepared for the heavy stress caused by the large player base, and Niantic struggled to keep them up and running. Since the game relies on internet connection, this was a huge problem.

Though Pokémon GO had a rough first few days, the amount of players continued to grow and the game topped the charts of both the App Store and Google Play store. Kids, teens, and even adults could be seen walking around staring directly at their phones during the hot summer days, and even more came out during the



Pokémon GO was the most popular app of the summer.

cooler nights.

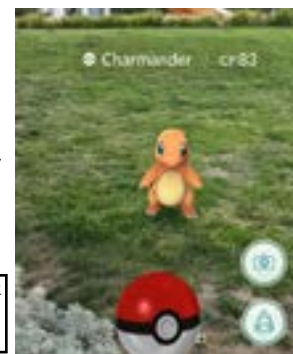
Niantic continued working on the game and tweaked it so it finally ran smoothly, however they did so by removing some of the features that made the game better. For example, they removed the tracking aspect of the game, which many players used to find their favorite Pokémon nearby. They also removed the feature that showed on a map exactly where you caught a Pokémon.

Even though the game was finally up and running as it was originally intended, the removal of the features caused a bit of uproar in the player base. Many people felt that Niantic was being lazy by just

removing features that were heavy on the game's servers rather than editing them in order to run smoothly.

Soon enough, the player count started its fall from the record highs where it once was. People got bored or got angry with the game and deleted it off of their phones after a few weeks. The steady decline of players left only the most hardcore Pokémon fans left playing the game.

Overall, the game provided some fun, many laughs, and a way to kill some time during the summer. Even though its reign was very short, I doubt anyone will forget the Pokémon GO craze of July 2016.



Right: This screen appears when a player tries to catch a Pokémon.

Osiris REx

continued from previous page

2021 and then finally arrive on Earth on September 24, 2023. Once the sample has arrived to Earth, it will be transported to NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas for examination.

The real question is if Bennu will hit Earth one day. The short answer to this would be maybe, the asteroid has enough power to do some real damage.

Bennu has a diameter of 1,614 feet. It will make its next near approach to Earth in 2135, where



Left: This is what OSIRIS-REx stands for. Right: Asteroid Bennu. It is taller than both the Empire State Building and Eiffel Tower.

it will be just inside the moon's orbit.

With this close approach scientist say it will change Bennu's orbit and it will cause it to impact Earth sometime between the years 2175 and 2199. There is a small chance it will hit Earth but NASA wants to get as much warning as possible.

With all of this happening, NASA is trying to increase its knowledge of asteroids that may one day collide with Earth. Being prepared is always the key, as NASA puts it.



FOLLOW THE ARROW WHEREVER IT POINTS

By: Leah Tilton

On April 1, 2016, The National Police Air Service received a little bit of help from a group of children when they quite literally pointed them in the direction of two buglers on the run. Their quick action and smart thinking led to the arrest of both of the suspects.

The children, ranging from ages six to twelve were out for a day of fun in the village of Capel in southern Surrey, England. They had planned for an Easter egg hunt with friends in the local field,

The children and NPAS pose for a photo after the day.



but what they got was entirely different. They had noticed the National Air Service, or NPAS circle above their heads looking for the two suspects, following the report of a burglary nearby. At first, the helicopter was nothing more than entertainment for the group of thirty. NPAS spokesperson said "Initially, the presence of the police helicopter was enough to entertain the children and parents, but it didn't take the intrepid residents long to realize they were witnessing a police pursuit." It was then that they jumped into gear.

In the recording, it is seen that after spotting one of the men with ease, the helicopter camera man couldn't locate the second. As the camera man pans around, it comes over a group of children laid out on the field in the shape of an arrow. When the helicopter's crew followed the line of sight the children had pointed out, they turned on thermal cameras, and were very quickly able to locate the second man in the trees.

When asked about the incident, NPAS Sergeant Paul Sochon commented "I'm sure the last thing the group of dar-



Photos from the helicopter show the arrow the children formed.

ing Capel residents expected when they set out on Friday afternoon was to abandon their Easter egg hunt to assist us in a police search, but the initiative they demonstrated proved to be invaluable." The two men, ages 27 and 28, were swiftly arrested on suspicion of burglary and currently await sentencing.

After dealing with the arrests, the NPAS landed on the ground to thank the children, and the group spent a few hours hunting for eggs and enjoying a beautiful day.

Inflatable Frosty Victim of Stabbing, GoFundMe Helps to Pay for Surgery

By: Mike Rafter

Not even Frosty the Snowman was able to escape the wrath of 2016. On December 4th, 2016 at 11:22 PM, Frosty was wounded by an assailant armed with a knife. Nearby security cameras were able to capture the entire event.

It was the right side of the inflatable friend that was injured. Not until the next morning did the residents realize what had transpired. Frosty was immediately rushed into the ER where he received nine stitches: a procedure which likely saved his life. Live reports state that Frosty was addiment on getting back to work spreading Christmas cheer immediately after the operation.

Police officials have begun to speculate what could inspire such an attack. While the prominent theory involves The Grinch calling a hit on everybody's favorite snowman, Police Chief Kringle denies Grinch involvement and believes it was a rogue attack.

"As of right now, this event is believed to be 'just a prank bruh'. We will inform the public if this is to change" stated the Captian in a press conference held during the surgery. The police offered no further comment on the matter.

Christmas season may have seemed to have taken a hit, but there is an option to retaliate against the Christmas haters; a GoFundMe was created to help pay for surgery. Any remaining money would be given to Judge Joe Murphy's Good Kids In Need which is local St. Louis Christmas charity that has been helping to brighten the holidays of local people and families in the St. Louis



49 DEAD AT PULSE NIGHT CLUB IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA



June 12, 2016

By: Nicole Zito



On the night of June 12, 2016, pledged ISIS member, Omar Mateen, 29, walked into a gay night club, called Pulse, carrying an assault rifle and a pistol into the packed club around 2 a.m. Suddenly he opened fire. The result: an act of terrorism now known as the deadliest mass shooting in the United States and the nation's worst terror attack since 9/11, authorities stated.

Mateen isn't an unknown suspected due to the fact that he was interviewed by the FBI in 2013 and 2014 but not found to be a threat.

As Mateen entered the club and started to gun down innocent club-goers, he dialed 911 and pledged his allegiance to ISIS. Many called Mateen's crimes, "An act of hate". President Obama said in a press conference that, "We know enough to say this was an act of terror and act of hate."

Obama then added that this could have happened anywhere in America, but the fact that it happened in an openly gay night club alarmed him: "This is especially heartbreaking day for our friends who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender."

Omar Mir Seddique Mateen's ex-wife, Sitora Yusufiy, told authorities that she thinks Omar was mentally ill. Omar Mateen's parents, who originat-

Please hug your families to-night and be safe out there.
-Chief of Orlando Police

ed from Afghanistan, said that Mateen first revealed his hatred towards the gay community after he first witnessed two men kissing in Miami.

The night club members walked into Pulse Night Club looking for a great and fun-filled night ahead of them, but around 2 a.m. the fun had ended, replaced with a look of terror on everyone's faces.

Pulse Night Club was described as the "hottest gay bar" in the Orlando area. That night the club had a special event that they were hosting, therefore the loud noises at first didn't occur to anyone as a problem, they felt it was part of the events performance. "At first it sounded like it was part of the show because there was an event going on and we were all having a good time", clubgoer Andy Moss told reporters. Things turned dark when the laughter turned to screams and shots rang out one after another and that's when everyone realized this isn't a show anymore.

"I just saw bodies going down. I heard gunshots. Just one after another after another," Christopher Hansen told reporters. "I was just stopping by to get a drink." The gun

shots were reported to have went on for so long that the shooting "could have lasted a whole song." Christopher Hansen said, as soon as he heard more gunshots he immediately hit the ground and took cover. He spotted a man not too far from him, while crawling on his hands and knees, "I spotted a man who had been shot, I took my bandana off and shoved it in the hole in his back."

This was a never ending nightmare for some people. Some clubgoer's openly talked about what their experience was like. One woman who tried to avoid her death was hiding in the bathroom covering herself with bodies to protect herself. Some of the club's entertainers hid in a dressing room when the shooting started and crawled out of air ducts when the police removed the air conditioning unit. A bartender said she hid under the glass bar, and when Orlando Police came in they announced, "If you are alive, raise your hand."

Omar Mateen was eventually gunned down by Orlando Police force. Injured victims were taken to a nearby hospital and treated, but some did not make it. The whole world came together to pray and never forget about the people who lost their lives in this tragic event in Orlando, Florida.



Left: Chaos outside of the Pulse Night Club after the shooting.
Right: Remembering those who lost their lives.



Frosty

continued from previous page

region for the last 16 years. The page is only \$75 short of its \$1000 goal, with backers hoping to reach the target by the time Santa comes.

Most importantly, Frosty himself seems unfazed by the attacks, going on record saying "I'm going to keep doing me..." before he climbed into his car to return to his job. Frosty may seek additional surgeries after the holiday season, but for now, Christmas is the only thing on his mind.

The police have released some information on the assailant, but have not given a name. The report states "The

assailant appears to be a white male possibly in his mid 20's with a bandana covering his face. The assailant was probably aware of the visible security cameras around the property. The assailant was a passenger in the Grinch-Mobile. The Grinch's getaway vehicle appears to be an older model dark colored 2 door small size pickup truck."

The full video of the event can also be seen on Youtube under the title "Grinch Shanks Frosty! Not So Merry Christmas." The video currently has over 100,000 views on the site.

For any information you may have, please call 1-800-Frosty to help police catch the perpetrator. Until this man is stopped, not just Frosty, but all types of inflatables are in danger. Please do your part to save Christmas. The reward for catching this fiend currently sits at 1 dollar and 28 cents.

Coordinated Bombing Kills 35 and Injures

By: Jeff Petrulla

In March of 2016, the Islamic State of Iraq and the Laurent carried out the bombings notoriously known as the “Brussels Attacks.” Belgium has been an instrumental country in Iraqi conflict, from the Iraqi Civil War to intervention against ISIL. Also, Belgium is well-known for having a weak intelligence network, which enables terrorist cells to embed themselves there. This was the case for the Brussels Attacks; a terrorist cell had been operating in Belgium for months, and the police had began making arrests.

This is what spurred the attacks in Brussels. The cell was under pressure, and it was time for it to burst. Suspect Salah Abdeslam, one of the instrumental members of the cell, was arrested a week before the attack. Authorities assume that it sped up the process of attacking Brussels. The members bombed three sites: two in the Brussels Airport, and one in Maalbeek Metro Station.

In the Brussels Airport, three suspects entered with loads of explosives in suitcases. They were suicide bombers, so they didn’t expect to make it out. However, only two exploded: the third explosive suitcase was ruined by the force of the second explosion. All of the bombs were nail bombs, which are designed to injure terribly but not usually kill. There were eighty-one injured by the airport bombs.

In the Maalbeek Metro Station, one suicide bombed boarded a train and detonated their package. As soon as the bomb detonated, the train was stopped and evacuated by staff. The entire Brussels Metro was subsequently shut down.

There were 5 attackers: Ibrahim El Bakraoui, Najim Laachraoui, Mohamed Abrini, Khalid El Bakraoui, and Osama Krayem. All were connected to or helped plan the earlier Paris attacks, which killed 130. Three of the suspects died as suicide

What was going through their heads at the time was unsure, but it’s definite that they hated the Western world.

The result of the terroristic attack was a total of 35 dead (including the bombers) and over 300 injured. This was the most deadly terrorist attack in all of Belgium’s history, and the country

entered three national days of mourning. The country was on heightened security for weeks after the attack, the



Above: The aftermath of the bombings in Brussels airport.

airport and metro even being temporarily closed. The entire continent of Europe was shaken.

The investigation that followed was rapid. Within a few days, the police located the house that the bombers had been planning in, thanks to a tip off by a taxi driver. In the building, nail bombs, acetone, hydrogen peroxide, and an ISIL flag were found. A laptop was also found, with a suicide note from one of the bombers.

The humanity in the reaction to the attack was incredible. Many nations flew the Belgian flag, and illuminated multiple national monuments with the flag. On social media, many Belgians offered others a free home to stay in while everything was sorted out. The idea that the nation was able to keep its doors and hearts open after such a tragedy was a beautiful thing.

The religious community of Belgium was also highly active in the weeks after the attack. Major Islamic groups were quick to denounce the actions of the terrorists. This was in the face of frequent backlash by Europeans against Islam, as many blame the tide of refugees from the Middle East on terror attacks. Belgium is currently housing about 1,000 refugees, only a small fraction of the total million that have entered Europe in this recent year.

Regardless of religious denominations and the politics that followed the bombing, it’s clear that the actions of ISIL were barbaric and ill-recieved. The attack in Brussels was not the last attack of 2016, but it was certainly one of the worst. We shall not forget the dark spot it leaves on the timeline of 2016, nor will we soon forget the 32 innocent lives lost.

Below: The terrorists, captured on airport security cameras.



bombers, while the other two were arrested in raids at later dates.

The suspects who attacked the airport were actually visible on CCTV footage, giving a chilling image of three men ready to kill themselves and many others.

Greenland Shark

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aged 392, plus or minus 120 years. One of the reasons it only provides a range of ages instead of a concrete age is because the tool they use can only provide ranges, not an exact age.

Nielsen stated, “We had our expectations that we were dealing with an unusual animal, but I think everyone doing this research was very surprised to learn the sharks were as old as they were.”

The second oldest vertebrate is the bowhead whale, at 211 years, which gives the Greenland shark a wide margin of victory over the whale.

“This is the first time ever anyone has made an age range of uncertainty of 240 years and they still consider it a success.” Nielsen said.

This discovery of the Greenland shark’s longevity is alone significant for its age – extending at its oldest to the Pilgrims coming to America and at its youngest, the beginning of King George’s War (thereabouts). If there’s anything to study about the secret of a long life, it would be the Greenland shark.

Right (top): John Steffensen; at right: Julius Nielsen





Who Ya Got?



By: Elizabeth Rooney

Constantly, new digital music options are becoming available, and while most are free for a basic subscription, it is an option to pay a monthly fee for premium service. Two well-known services that are used by thousands of people have both pros and cons. They are Spotify and Pandora.

They have their advantages and their disadvantages, depending on what you are looking for in a music service. Being a user of both Pandora and Spotify at some point over the last several years, it is safe to say there have been times when I have preferred one over the other.

Pandora is a suggested-song streaming radio service, which is good for discovering new music. You can click thumbs up on the songs you enjoy in order to hear more songs like that, and click a thumbs down on the songs you dislike and don't want to hear again. There is no rewind or repeat option, and you can only skip so many songs.

Pandora is free with advertisements. You can upgrade to Pandora Plus for \$4.99/month; if you do all advertisements will be gone, you will receive more skips allowed, and you can listen for longer amounts of times.

Spotify is a music streaming service where users can search for specific songs or albums they would like to listen

to, and create custom playlists based on their favorite songs.

Spotify catalogs the local music files on your computer and displays them. It also allows you to create play-



lists that contain a combination of local music files and tracks from Spotify's own library.

Spotify is free for users with limited ads and limited number of skips. You can upgrade to Spotify Premium for \$9.99/month.

Pandora offers more in discovering artists and music you didn't necessarily know you were looking for. Spotify offers you millions of songs to listen to and create playlists for yourself. All you have to do in Pandora is type in the artist, genre, song, or album and Pandora does the rest. Spotify you search for what you want to listen to and you get to decide what songs you will be listening to.

Commercials have a tendency to occur more often with Pandora, happening every six songs or so. Pandora also likes to ask you after listening for about two hours if you are still listening. Spotify likes to offer you thirty minutes of commercial free music and lets you listen for however long you want.

Pandora is great for someone who wants to discover new music, and doesn't want the hassle of picking the songs and artists they listen to. Spotify is for someone who wants control in what they listen to, but are still able to explore and discover new music with more of a say.

Pandora and Spotify have their similarities and differences: ultimately, which one is better is a personal preference. Do you wish to be able to control what songs you are listening to and create your own playlists? Or perhaps, do you wish to discover new music and listen based on likes?

Music streaming services aren't going away anytime soon, as new features continue to be added to the services. It will be your decision to decide not only what you like best in a streaming service, but also what you want. It is your decision; each one offers a multitude of features that have stood out over the years.

So who do you choose?



Above: Jimmy Kimmel hosts the Oscars for the first time.



The 89th Academy Awards: Who will take home the trophy?

By: Rachel Irizarry

The 89th Academy Awards presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, will honor some of the best films of 2016.

For the first time, Jimmy Kimmel will be hosting this special event. The awards will take place at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, California on February 26, 2017.

There is a total of 25 categories at this year's Oscars. For each category there are between 3 to 5 nominees.

Although there are many nominees, there is one film that is on top with 14 nominations and that would be the film *La La Land*. Following that with 8 nominations are *Arrival* and *Moonlight*, and next would be films with 6 nominations, such as *Hacksaw Ridge*, *Lion*, and *Manchester by the Sea*.

Most of everyone who watches the Oscars usually has some favorite categories. Some of these categories in-

clude "Best Actor in a Leading Role", "Best Actress in a Leading Role", "Best Animation Short Film", and "Best Adopted Screenplay."

Nominees for "Best Actor in a Leading Role" are Casey Affleck (*Manchester by the Sea*), Andrew Garfield (*Hacksaw Ridge*), Ryan Gosling (*La La Land*), Viggo Mortensen (*Captain Fantastic*), and Denzel Washington (*Fences*.) The nominees for "Best Actress in a Leading Role" are Isabelle Huppert (*Elle*), Ruth Negga (*Loving*), Natalie Portman (*Jackie*), Emma Stone (*La La Land*), and Meryl Streep (*Florence Foster Jenkins*.)



Right: This is the coveted trophy that all of the winners will receive.

Below: *La La Land* has the most nominations for this years Oscars. They have a total of 14. Left: *Arrival* has the second most nominations with 8.



Next, are the nominees for "Best Animation Short Film" are Blind Vaysha, Borrowed Time, Pearl, and Piper. Following that is "Best Adopted Screenplay". The nominees for this category are *Arrival* (screenplay by Eric Heisserer), *Fences* (screenplay by August Wilson), *Hidden Figures* (screenplay by Allison Schroeder and Theodore Melfi), *Lion* (screenplay by Luke Davies), and *Moonlight* (screenplay by Barry Jenkins.)

Last but not least, is the category "Best Picture." The nominees for this include *Arrival*, *Fences*, *Hacksaw*, *Hell or High Water*, *Hidden Figures*, *La La Land*, *Lion*, *Manchester by the Sea*, and *Moonlight*. With all of these great categories and nominees listed, it's going to be a hard one. So, make sure to vote starting February 13th until the 21st. Good luck to everyone nominated this year!

2017 Movies Preview: Many familiar titles are slated for release this year. Enjoy!



NCIS:

#1 BEST CRIME AND DRAMA SHOW



Left: The season one cast of NCIS.

Do you like to watch crime and drama shows? Do you like shows that keep you on the edge of your seat? Do you want a new show to binge watch on Netflix, or just to watch on TV in general? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you should definitely consider watching *NCIS* (Naval Criminal Investigative Service).

Called the number one hit CBS show, the original concept for the show and its characters were first introduced in two episodes of the series "Jag", episodes 20 and 21. This show spawned the characters present in *NCIS*. When it first aired, it was originally referred to as *Navy NCIS* during the first season; eventually "Navy" was dropped from the title since it was repetitive - now, the "N" in "NCIS" stands for

This team has four agents, led by Leroy Jethro Gibbs (played by Mark Harmon). Other agents that have been part of the team include former Secret Service Agent Todd (Sasha Alexander), senior *NCIS* field agent DiNozzo (Michael Weatherly), M.I.T graduate McGee (Sean Murray), former deep-cover operative Torres (Wilmer Valderrama), NSA analyst and *NCIS* operative Bishop (Emily Wickersham), and an ex-training agent Quinn (Jennifer Esposito).

Over the course of the series, the team has received aid from Chief Medical Examiner Dr. Mallard (David McCallum), his assistant James Palmer (Brain Dietzen), forensic specialist Abby (Pauley Perrette), and former Mossad assassin who ends up becoming an agent for *NCIS*, Ziva David (Cote de Pablo). Together, they

"Naval".

This show revolves around a fictional team of special agents from the Naval Criminal Investigative Service in Washington D.C. Whenever there is a crime involving the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps in the United States, the *NCIS* investigates.

work under the *NCIS* director, former agent Jennifer Shepard (Lauren Holly), who was eventually murdered and later replaced by a new director, Leon Vance (Rocky Carroll).

"It's like a brand new show. Change is tough for people. When I came on the show, even though there had already been two other actors who had done the role of director, the audience took a while to adjust to it," Rocky Carroll stated, explaining the various changes to cast and characters. "So I think having three people is a real shock to a lot of the diehard fans, but it seems like the response has been really positive."

Coincidentally, one of our own who graduated here at Manasquan appeared on an episode. Michael Broderick appeared on Tuesday's episode of *NCIS* (February 7th). Michael has also appeared on other shows including *Power* (2014), *The People v. O.J. Simpson: American Crime Story* (2016), and *Murder in the First* (2014). It's cool to see one of our own appear on a well-known crime show. Great job Broderick!

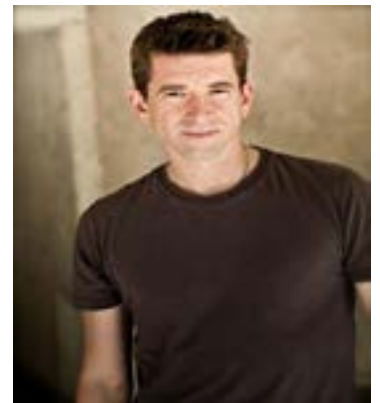
With thirteen seasons under its belt and in the midst of filming its fourteenth season, there is a great deal of pressure, considering it is the number one drama and crime show. Even though



they have been renewed for a fifteenth season, it's still hard work. *NCIS* has surpassed the ratings for *Law and Order: Special Victims Unit*, and became the 15th longest running scripted U.S. primetime TV series.

Take my advice: watch *NCIS*. It's a great show and you will get hooked on it quickly, just like me! You will definitely not be disappointed, especially if you enjoy these types of dramas. *NCIS* will blow your mind.

Below: Michael Broderick, Manasquan graduate.



Winter Madness Sale!

By: Bailey Redy



As the winter skiing and snowboarding season comes to an end, spring cleaning starts to turn the corner in our local surf shops. From February 17th to the 21st, Brave New World is having a Winter Madness Sale in the surf and ski department. Brave has three locations; Point Pleasant, Little Silver, and Toms River. Some of the deals include 50% off pants, jackets, gloves, socks, and accessories. Hard goods like snowboards, snowboard boots, snowboard bindings, skis, and etc. are 40% off. With spring time coming around, all wetsuits are 30% off. If you plan on hopping in the water as the weather gets nicer, now's the time to get yourself the cheapest wetsuit!

What's Brewing at MHS

By: Sarah Higgins and Tilly Marks

High school can be a pretty hectic time for most teenagers. Between the immense amounts of homework, deadline stress, extracurricular activities, and trying to keep up with their social lives, it's no wonder sleep deprivation is a major problem among the high school population. But, there is one saving grace for most of us: coffee.

We went around the school and surveyed one class from each grade on whether or not they liked coffee and, if they liked coffee, what coffee place they prefer to buy from and then we picked a select few people to give us some more indepth analysis on their coffee opinions.



Mr. Bilodeau

Fave shop: Wawa

What he gets: "Because I'm a crazy superstitious guy, I always get a 24 oz., a little bit of Hazelnut, a little bit of milk."



Mr. DeMuro

Fave shop: Dunkin Donuts

Mr. D is not a fan of coffee (more of a tea guy). "I like the smell of it when it's brewing, but it tastes like burnt wires."



Anders Scala (Sophomore)

Fave shop: Starbucks

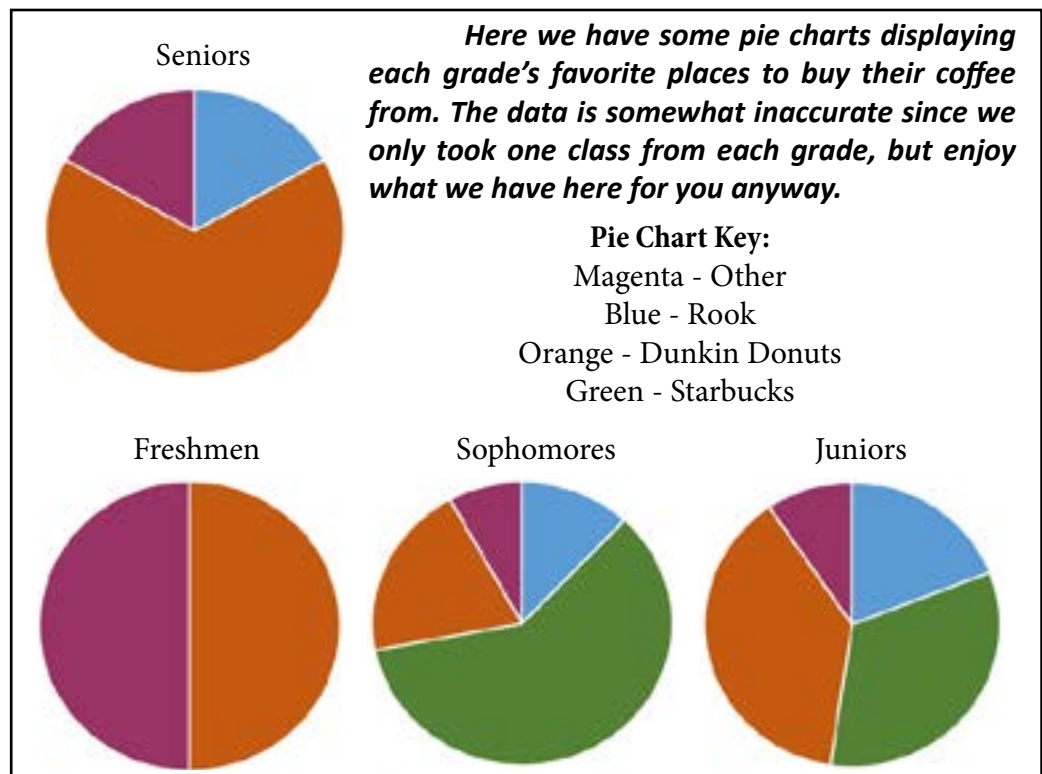
Fave drink: A caramel Frappuccino from Starbucks with "that good stuff on it" ("that good stuff" being whipped cream and caramel drizzle).



Aubrey Taylor (Junior)

Fave shop: Wawa

Why she loves coffee: It "makes you productive" and helps you to "not want to die at 5:30 in the morning."



CAN YOU GUESS THESE SENIORS!?

BY MEGGE SANCHEZ

SENIOR GUESS WHO?



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



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



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



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



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

New Year's Resolutions

According to Forbes Magazine, only 8% of people who make New Year's Resolutions actually achieve them. And according to The New York Times, roughly one-third of resolutions are broken by February. So we went around asking students who were featured in the December issue of The Blue & Gray how their New Year's Resolutions have been coming along.

December Resolution

How's it coming?

Abby Rice

My main goal is to get in shape for my trip to the Bahamas for February break. Also I say every year intending for it to work, but to stop drinking soda.



Abby: My resolution is going horribly. I drank soda just last night, but my brother makes me do sit-ups with him so I've kind of been trying to stay in shape.

Brendan Reilly and Adam Schreck

Avoid the disease known as "senioritis"

To get in shape for baseball season



Brendan: My resolution is in full swing; I watch 10 episodes of Netflix each night.

Adam: Yeah, my resolution is going well.

Addie Masonius

To be the happiest I can be and to stand on top of my world.



Addie: It's going great. It's working.

Matt Kavanagh

I want to keep my grades up and hang with my friends before college



Matt: Yes, my resolution is going good. It will be easy to keep up the grades, me and my boys have been and will continue to enjoy the rest of the year!

Annie Heenan
(left; holding feet)

I plan on keeping my friendships strong and spending time together before we leave for college



Annie: Yep, my resolution is going amazingly. I've been spending a lot of my time with my friends this past month."

Girls Basketball Continues to Dominate

By: Bailey Redy and Maddy Ryder

With a record of 18-1, the Manasquan girls basketball team is a force to be reckoned with. After winning 17 consecutive games to start the season, the girls were ranked number one in the state and seemed unbeatable, but the team's hot streak recently came to an end against Rutgers Prep.

The team made its way to the Coaches' Choice USA College Showcase at Holmdel High School on Sunday, January 29th, and played against Rutgers Prep, the fourth ranked team in the state. The Lady Warriors suffered their first loss of the season by a score of 62-54.

Captain Stella Clark calls them "Manasquan's biggest rival."

Stella has been performing extremely well throughout the season, but her teammates agree that she had her best performance during the RBC game.

During the dying seconds of the game, Clark passed the ball to sophomore Lola Mullaney, who hit a step back jumper for the 44-42 win over the Ca-

sey's.

On January 10th, Clark reached a milestone when she scored her 1,000th career point in a win over Wall. She has been a vital part of the team over the past four years, contributing to winning 103 games, a Tournament of Champions (TOC) title, three group II State championships, and two Shore Conference championships during her time at Manasquan.

Stella explains that playing with cousins Faith and Addie Masonius is helpful with team chemistry. They've been playing together since they were young and feel comfortable on the court together. While Addie has committed to Wagner College, Stella has committed to Northeastern University. This cousin duo will be playing on different teams next season for the first time in a decade.

Senior Nikki Stevens, now committed to Montclair State to continue her basketball career, reflected back on some of her favorite memories from this season. She explains that the thing she

will miss most about being on the Manasquan Basketball team is the amount of time she has spent with these girls. They have become her best friends and she says it will be difficult to start somewhere new next year with a different group of girls.

Although Stevens is excited for all the new beginnings that are approaching, she will never forget the outside-of-practice



Above: Sophomore Faith Masonius working hard under the basket.

bonding the team did such as secret santas, pasta parties, and going to different basketball games together.

One memory Stevens said she will always remember was the team's trip to Florida where they won the KSA Holiday Girls Basketball Tournament. The girls left for Florida on December 26th and returned the 30th. When the team wasn't competing or practicing, they spent the five days visiting multiple Disney parks and swimming in the hotel's pool.

Needless to say, the team is still on a roll and the senior players on the girls basketball team have made great memories and paved the way for the future of Manasquan High School basketball.

Girls basketball team gathers to celebrate junior Dara Mabrey's (center, with parents) 1000th career point



Swimmers Battle it out with Monmouth County's Best

By: Annie Heenan & Julia Barry

With an impressive 12-0 record, the swim team has been dominating the Central B division all season. The captains leading the undefeated team are the following seniors: Summer Farren, Summer Smith, Kathryn Petrone, Abby McHugh, Liam Cuzzo, and Belle Mead. The team has had an exciting season, all the seniors we spoke to were very confident in saying that they are going to go all the way. When asked if the team would win it all, captain Summer Smith exclaimed, "Heck yeah! We're going all the way."

The coach of the swim team, Mr. Murin, is excited for states to begin. The boys will be competing starting on February 10th, while the girls will be competing February 13th. According to Coach Murin, the boys are ranked 4th in the Central B division and the girls are ranked 1st in the Central B division. Mr. Murin also told us that the girls team is ranked an impressive 11th in the state!

The team has had several exciting meets over the season. When talking about her favorite meet, Belle Mead said Counties because they were the "most intense" competitors. She also raved about the tec suits that made her feel that she was swimming faster than Michael Phelps.

Captain Kathryn Petrone is to swim in college. She will be swimming D1 at Florida State University this fall. She chose FSU because she fell in love with the coaches, team, and campus. She decided that she wanted to swim in college when she was 13 and her sister was on her way to swim in college. Kathryn's favorite and

best stroke is the butterfly.

Kathryn broke a 29 year old county record in the 200 free with a time of 1:50.40. She described the practices as being very difficult to help them prepare for their biggest meets. On average they swim 7 miles a practice.

Abby McHugh is another captain who is continuing her swimming career in college. Abby will be attending Binghamton University in New York next year. She chose Binghamton because she received a swimming scholarship and it also has a great engineering program.

Looking back on her four years swimming for Manasquan, Abby says that she loved Mr. Murin as her coach and says she will "really miss him." Abby said that her favorite part of being on the team was watching her teammates (specifically Summer Smith and Summer Farren) improve as swimmers. She explained that watching them get better as

swimmers made her happier than when she did well herself.

When thinking back on the season, Summer Farren recalls the meet against RBC as being her favorite. She said that it was a very close match so it was very exciting, best of all, Manasquan came out with a win against RBC. According to Summer the meet against St. Rose was another favorite: "It was fun because we saw a lot of our friends that swim on the St. Rose team."

Liam Cuzzo and Summer Farren described a pre-meet ritual that the team has been doing for years now. Before the 200 relay they chant "real men eat dessert first" to get them pumped up for the relay.

After speaking to the captains, we got the impression that the swim team as a whole is a close team that truly enjoys swimming together. Their chemistry has helped them to achieve their undefeated record of 12-0.

As they move onto their college years, some of them want to continue their time in the pool, while others may be doing their last competitive lap as a Warrior. Summer Smith said there is a possibility she may be swimming in college depending on which school she decides on, while Summer Farren says, "I may want to join Club Swim" at whichever college she attends.

The swim team looks like they are achieving all of their goals for the season, hopefully their positive predictions are correct and they win another title.

Go Warriors!

Swimmers cheering each other on in match against Msr. Donovan



MHS Hockey Approaches States

By: Rebecca Irizarry

Although the Manasquan Hockey team needed to win their last two games this week to make it to states, there's still a chance for them to make the playoffs.

Currently, the team has a record of 7- 11 - 1.

On Monday, January 30th, the hockey team played Point Boro and lost with a score of 8 to 5. This was the team's biggest rival according to Marc Grogan and Nate Chapman, both seniors.

On the bright side, the Warriors won their match against Marlboro on February 1st with great goals scored by seniors Evan Storer and Nate Chapman. This win could mean that they have a shot at getting to states.

According to coach, Mr. Jim Fagen, due to the team's most recent win, they have a chance of ranking high enough to qualify for the playoffs. The board of coaches has to review all the teams and then decide the top sixteen to make it to the playoffs.

Regardless as to whether the hockey team makes states or not, they still had a solid season overall.

The team achieved the most consecutive school shutouts this year. On a Friday night, not too long after beating Lacey with a shutout of 10-0 a few nights prior, the hockey team managed to do the same to Bayonne, winning with a score of 5-0.

For senior, Nate Chapman, this was the most memorable game of the season for obvious reasons. Two shutouts in a row is a big deal. Sophomore Ryan O'Leary stated that "it felt good" to make such an achievement and it really boosted the team's morale.

For sophomores James Conte and Liam Farrington, one of the team's most memorable games was against Robbinsville. They felt that the Warriors played their best and beat a challenging team.

If you ask the players what the hardest thing to overcome this season was, they would tell you that the big losses were the problem. Playing teams such as Freehold Township and losing by a score of 12-2 was something the team wasn't too proud of.

If you were to ask the coach, Mr. Fagen, the same question, he'd tell you the biggest problem the team has been facing this year is inconsistency. According to Mr. Fagen, they're



*Left: Squan player dominates the ice last year.
Right: Squan player goes airborne.*



still a young team and they need to work on being more consistent to get the team to where it needs to be.

By the looks of it though, the younger players on the team do have potential. According to Mr. Fagen one of the best plays of the season was made by Aidan Tolnai. The sophomore scored a goal in a fashion that Mr. Fagen claims was similar to that of former professional hockey player Bobby Orr.

Although the season thus far has been eventful and full of defeats and triumphs, the Warriors hope to continue into the playoffs and would like to get a shot at the state title.

Wrestlers Rising After Win over St. Rose

By: Sarah Higgins

After a slow start to the season, the Wrestling team came out with a victory on Saturday, January 28th. Coming off a loss from Donovan Catholic on Tuesday, January 24th, everyone was itching for a win, Saturday was that opportunity.

The team came in with their heads held high and ready to fight. Keyport was up first, but they started with loss but that wasn't about to stop the team.

After that loss the mindset had changed and they weren't about to let this team win. So the team put up a fight and had won with the help of some forfeits. They came out strong with a defeat over Keyport, 45-24.



Junior Francis Faasen wrestles in a meet against Keyport last season.

continued on next page



Boys Basketball Fights for the Top

By: Bella Jannarone

The Boys Basketball team is currently holding a record of 11-6, and doing well so far this season. Despite injuries and a few loses, they've still managed to come out strong with a positive attitude.

The starting line-up includes seniors Seamus Hogan, Tyler Hobbie, Devin Jensen, and Brian Paturzo along with junior Ryan Flanagan. Coach Bilodeau believes that success for the team comes from team chemistry and how they work together.

After their first loss of the season against Long Branch, on December 22nd, they decided to work harder and motivate each other to do better. "It highlighted everything I had to work on and same for the rest of my teammates," commented Tyler Hobbie, guard, when asked about that game.

Most recently on January 27th the team had another game with Long Branch, and they came out on top with a very important victory for the conference, earning power points for

the team in state ranking. Leading the boys, guard Devin Jensen scored 33 points, followed by center Seamus Hogan, with 8 points and 6 rebounds for the Warriors.

Injuries have also hindered the team's performance. Forward Brian Paturzo was injured during the first Long Branch game. His impairment had a huge impact on the team, hurting their performance but encouraging other teammates to step up. After being out for four weeks, Paturzo found it hard get back into the rhythm of playing again but he quickly made up for his absence by scoring 6 points playing against Long Branch for the second time.

The players admit that the student section and the crowd size affect the way they play. When they have a large turn-out they play better because they are more motivated. "Having a student section really gets us pumped up and motivated to play our best," said Hobbie.



Devin Jensen scored 33 points in the victory of Long Branch.

Wrestlers Rising

continued from previous page

With the team suffering from some injuries, senior Frankie Faasen said, "It's hard being injured but still feels great as a team. It's a great step forward as districts approach."

Although the team was happy with outcome of the first match, the day was not over yet. St. Rose still needed to be defeated. Starting at weight class 145 with a loss the team was still amped about the Key-

port win, and was not going to let this get to them.

Once they got to weight class 152 there was no stopping them.

Senior Joey Ostberg, coming off a win said, "the team's been putting in the work, so it felt amazing to see some results."

The last match not won by forfeit featured freshman Jackson Jannarone. He had the team jumping out of

their seats in pure excitement for the win by decision.

Coach Mr. Voskian had something good to say as well, "After a 12 loss streak, it felt amazing to come out with 2 wins, especially a win against our crosstown rival St. Rose."

There are still a lot more winning opportunities before we head into districts and see how far the team is able to prevail.

MANASQUAN BOWLING TEAMS KNOCK DOWN COMPETITION



Above: the 2017 team with Coach Clayton

BY JENN FORCILLO

Manasquan High School has created a culture of dominance in Shore Conference bowling in recent years, and this year is no different. Last year the MHS Girls won the state championship and this season are currently 9-2, while the boys team holds first place with a 12-1 record (as of January 18th).

In the few weeks since the season has started, three bowlers have already bowled a perfect game: Sarah Smith, Austin Devereux, and Kyle Bauter.

The girls team, coached by Mr. Glenn, includes Jennifer Bram, Evelin Gonzalez, Ibeth Hernandez-Garcia, Colleen Hessinger, Matilda Marks, Niamh Mather, Erin McBride, Orla McBride, Aimet Salinas, Sarah Smith, and Cassandra Woolley.

Mr. Clayton coaches the boys team which includes Ryan Anderson, Kyle Bauter, Kyle Bott, Joseph Cajas, John Commesso, Daniel Cutillo, Alexander Danish, Austin Devereux, Christopher Heilos, Matthew Tantillo, Dustin Tarleton, Dylan Wolfe, and Jake Woolley.

Last year, the girls bowling team lost a lot of seniors but Coach

Glenn says, "My girls are really exceeding my expectations and I really hope they get the chance to defend their state title."

The team's biggest competitor is Ocean Township, who is in their division and unfortunately did not lose any seniors. Mr. Glenn says while MHS is second in their division, it is a successful season due to the undefeated, powerhouse that is Ocean Township.

Both the boys and the girls have a great batch of seniors who lead the teams in different ways. Tilly Marks and Colleen Hessinger, who have been part of the team since sophomore year, say that the season brings everyone super close together and they meet people they wouldn't usually get to meet. This is



Above: Co-caption Chris Heilos bowls

because Manasquan High School and Point Pleasant Beach High School have a co-op bowling team. Colleen says, "I am really going to miss my team and I enjoy bowling but I'm going to miss Mr. Glenn the most."

As the for the boys, new coach Tim Clayton replaced Mr. Abraham. Senior Jake Woolley says that the change has made a positive

impact on the atmosphere of the team: "I love it, I love my team and my friends and I love the responsibility of my senior year getting to lead the team." Austin Devereux, who bowled a 300 in the first tournament of the season, says that "Mr. Clayton is really dedicated to the team and does all he can to help everyone improve."

The seniors this year consist of Joe Cajas, Johnny Commesso, Austin Devereux, Chris Heilos, Matt Tantillo, Dustin Tarleton, and Jake Woolley. Austin and Chris are co-captains and have a good feeling that the team will go onto the state tournament, which is during February break, and win it all.

Both the boys and girls team left school on January 13th for a tournament where they both placed second as teams. However, Austin Devereux won the high series, meaning he won the tournament individually.

We wish both teams luck in the upcoming seasons and hope that we see more perfect games coming from Manasquan High School!

Below: the 2016 state champions with Coach Glenn



Bagwell, Raines, and Rodriguez

Receive the Calls of their Dreams

By: Elizabeth Rooney

Three dreams came true when decades worth of hard work and dedication to baseball eventually paid off as Jeff Bagwell, Tim Raines, and Ivan Rodriguez were elected to Baseball's Hall of Fame Class of 2017 on Wednesday January 18.

The Baseball Writers' Association of America's results were announced live on MLB Network Wednesday evening, January 18, from Hall of Fame president Jeff Idleson. There now will be 220 players in the Hall of Fame with 124 elected by the BBWAA. This year 332 of 442 ballots were cast with two voters filling out blank ballots.

Entering his final year of eligibility, Raines made it on his 10th attempt. Meanwhile it took Bagwell seven years, and it was Rodriguez's first year on the ballot.

Bagwell and Raines both missed last year when Ken Griffey Jr. and Mike Piazza were elected. Bagwell was short 15 votes of the 330 needed while Raines was short 21.

This year in order to be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame a player would need 332 votes out of the 442 possible votes they could receive.

Jeff Bagwell played his entire 15-year career for the Astros and had the most votes with 381 receiving 86.2% of the vote. He became the first first baseman elected to the Hall of Fame since Eddie

Murphy in 2003.

In 15 seasons Bagwell averaged 30 home runs a season, made 4 All-Star Games, won the Most Valuable Player, Rookie of the Year, and Gold Glove Award once each. In addition to winning multiple Silver Slugger Awards.



From left to right: Bagwell, Raines, and Rodriguez celebrate their inductions at the Baseball Hall of Fame press conference.

Following the announcement in a conference call Bagwell admitted, "I don't even know how I'm supposed to react. It's been a whirlwind. I could not be more excited."

Tim Raines had 380 votes with 86% of the vote and joins Jim Rice and Ralph Kiner as the only players to be elected in their last year on the ballot. The leftfielder posted a .385 career on-base percentage with at least 400 stolen base attempts.

Raines smacked 2,605 hits over 23 seasons with 808 stolen bases. He made seven All-Star Games, won the 1986 National League batting title, and received a Silver Slugger Award. He led his league in runs scored and stolen bases a combined six times.

After waiting nine years for the call Raines eagerly shared, "I'm a happy young man. I don't even think about what happened the last nine years. I'm kind of looking forward to this point on. I got what I was looking for."

Ivan 'Pudge' Rodriguez had 336 votes receiving 76% of the vote in his first year on the ballot. He caught a record 2,427 games for six teams in 21 sea-



Above: Ivan Rodriguez playing for the Rangers

sons and became only the second catcher elected the first time on the ballot. He is considered one of the most well-regarded defensive catchers of his era.

Rodriguez proved in 21 seasons to be an important player offensively and defensively. Defensively, he had a 46% caught stealing career rate and 13 Gold Glove Awards. Offensively, he finished his career with 300 home runs, numerous Silver Slugger Awards, a Most Valuable Player Award, and took part in 14 All-Star Games.

"From day one, I loved the game of baseball and I took a lot of pride every single day," Rodriguez said, becoming emotional as he described receiving the news. He added, "It's a dream come true."

Bagwell will enter the Hall of Fame as a Houston Astro, Raines will enter under the Montreal Expos, and Rodriguez will enter under the Texas Rangers. They will take their place in Cooperstown, NY on July 30 as part of the Hall of Fame weekend among baseball's greats.

Below: Tim Raines playing for the Montreal Expos



Below: Jeff Bagwell playing for the Astros.



Patriots Complete Comeback in Historic Super Bowl LI

By: Shane Connelly

History was made at the conclusion of the 2016-2017 National Football League season. Super Bowl LI between the Atlanta Falcons and the New England Patriots featured a Super Bowl-first, broken records, and a miraculous finish.

The New England Patriots won their fifth Super Bowl in franchise history on Sunday, February 5th, placing them in a three-way tie with the Dallas Cowboys and the San Francisco 49ers for second on the list for total wins, trailing only the Pittsburgh Steelers who have six. Tom Brady himself surpassed Joe Montana and became the winningest quarterback in Super Bowl history, and he did so with a record breaking performance.

The game far surpassed anyone's expectations. Many expected a shootout, lots predicted a Patriots win, but nobody thought that we would see the largest comeback in the history of the big game.

The Atlanta Falcons came in with the hottest offense in the league, and New England brought their strong, sturdy defense with hopes to slow them down. For the first two quarters, the Patriots had no answers.

Atlanta has been known to get a defense on their heels early on in the game, and they did so once again to start off the Super Bowl. Their defense also started strong by forcing two turnovers, and at the half, the Falcons looked to be running away with the game.

As is always the case with New England, the team did not quit despite the seemingly insurmountable odds. Patriots' coach Bill Belichick once again noted the tendencies of the Falcons and adjusted his plan of attack for the second half.

The Patriots looked much better at the start of the third quarter. They held the Falcons offense to only seven points, and put up six of their own via a short touchdown catch by running back James White and a missed extra point by kicker Stephen Gostkowski. The fourth quarter is what changed the course of this game and history itself.

The Patriots were staring at a 28-9 deficit at the start of the fourth, but were able to add three points early on in a five-minute drive capped by a 33-yard field goal. The team needed to keep getting stops on defense and keep firing on offense, as time became more and



Tom Brady raising the Lombardi Trophy for the fifth time in his career.

more of a factor in the game.

Many Super Bowls have a memorable moment where the momentum shifts and the fans can feel it. During Atlanta's attempt to put the Patriots away for good, quarterback Matt Ryan was sacked by linebacker Dont'a Hightower and coughed up the football. The Patriots' recovery put them in prime scoring position, and in just five plays, Brady got New England a touchdown on a six yard pass to receiver Danny Amendola. After a James White rush got the two-point conversion, the deficit shrunk to just eight points.

Atlanta got the ball back once again with a chance to run out the clock, but mistakes by the offensive line hurt the team's chances.

Matt Ryan led the team all the way down into field goal range but a sack and then subsequent holding penalty on Jake Matthews cost the Falcons a ton of yards, forcing them to give the greatest quarterback of all time three minutes and thirty seconds to drive his team all the way down the field and tie the game.

Brady led a methodical drive to get the score, spreading the ball around to five different receivers on the way down the field. James White got his second score of the game, and Amendola grabbed the two-point conversion. The game was tied, and for the first time in NFL history, the Super Bowl game went into an overtime period.

The momentum was clearly on the side of the Patriots, and luck helped them out when they won the coin toss and received the ball to start the extra period. The Falcons defense looked completely gassed at this point in time, as New England won the time of possession battle. For the final time in the game, Tom Brady marched his offense down the field and James White scored the game winner.

This game was an unbelievable spectacle. The amazing comeback by Tom Brady and the Patriots solidified his status as the greatest

quarterback in NFL history. Bill Belichick's halftime adjustments showed once again that he's the greatest mind in the sporting world. The record-breaking, sensational performance by the Patriots was a fantastic way to cap another NFL season, and a wonderful reminder of the greatness of the New England Patriots' franchise.



Julian Edelman's catch was one of the game changing moments for the Patriots.