

The Patriot

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Washington Township High School,
529 Hurffville-Cross Keys Road, Sewell, NJ

November, 2009

Farrow bids farewell

By Chris Bucci '10, Weston Eldridge '10 and
Luke Verrillo '10

On Nov. 13, Mrs. Rosemarie Farrow walked the halls as Executive Principal of Washington Township High School for the last time. On that day she retired from education after 37 years. Farrow found it to be a very emotional departure.

"I'm a very people-oriented person; I love the staff, I love the students." She said, "It's the ending of relationships that will be the most difficult for me."

Farrow held an informal press conference on Oct. 28 with the students in Journalism 2 and 3 and shared her thoughts on retirement and her reflections of her career and her seven years as WTHS Executive Principal.

Dressed in a suit and wearing a brooch to add, what she called, that extra "bit of pizzazz" to her professional attire, Farrow fondly recalled her time spent here.

Farrow feels that her most prestigious recognition came in 2005, when the school won the Governor's School of Excellence award. Out of the 600 schools in New Jersey, only 25 schools win the award.

"I stick by my quote—we are a large school with a personal touch. I'm sure Washington Township will continue to grow on the successful path it's on," Farrow said.

As Mrs. Farrow's term as principal comes to



Shane Sibert '10/The Patriot

Mrs. Rosemarie Farrow said some personal goodbyes when she opened her office to staff and students on her final day as WTHS Principal. Farrow had served in the position since 2003.

an end, she says she has had no regrets and hit all her goals.

"I wanted to improve SAT and HSPA scores, and I feel we've accomplished that," she said.

Though Farrow's career within our school district may have begun as an assistant principal

in the 9/10 wing in 1998, her career in education began much earlier as an elementary school teacher.

She worked for many years in the Catholic school system before becoming an administrator

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Coach's legacy honored

Kevin Whitehead '10

Throughout his 21-year career at WTHS, former head football coach Mr. Tom Brown compiled a record of 159-55-4. He never had a losing record and was the second-winningest coach in Gloucester County. When he lost a valiant fight with Melanoma cancer in Jan. 2006, Brown was one of three coaches to win 200 games, he had a record of 216-70-5 ranking him fourth all time in South Jersey.

"Brown embodied the American coach. He expected the greatest from athletes in the classroom and on the field," Athletic Director Mr. Kevin

Murphy said, who worked four years with Brown.

Prior to the Thanksgiving game versus Eastern, Washington Twp. commemorated Brown's impact on WTHS with the honor of naming the turf field, Tom Brown Field.

"The Board of Education recognized [that the] lives of many student athletes were changed because of him. This is a way to recognize his contribution," Murphy said.

Along with Brown's great success, he touched many lives during his tenure as head coach.

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News

Wing night cancelled Salad bar a hit with seniors

Maria Petruzzi '10

"Hot 'n Honey," Sarah Kurtz '10 says as she sits with her friends at a booth in PJ Whelihan's Pub.

Every Tuesday night for the past couple years, PJ's has offered half-priced wings--any flavor or amount. For many high school students, this provided a cheap opportunity to go out to eat on a school night with your friends.

"A dinner half price fit right into my "welfare" budget," said Shea Mallison '10.

Teams at WTHS took advantage of PJ's Tuesday specials and bonded as a team, but the night wasn't exclusive for athletes. Everyone, students or otherwise, were invited to enjoy the wings.

The parking lot was always packed, forcing some to park in different lots. The wait may have been long, but definitely worth it.

Recently, PJ's routine has changed. With a steadily increasing number of people ready to eat, problems arose. Hostesses were forced to work twice as hard to accomodate the large numbers, as did the cooks and waiters.

When conflicts arose, often



Graphic from P.J. Whelihan's

Chaos in the parking lot of P.J. Whelihan's caused the cancelling of "half-off" wings.

the problems escalated and required police to be on scene for the now hectic Tuesday nights. High school drama and irresponsible teenagers lead the management of PJ's to reconsider Wing Night and eventually cancel it for high schoolers.

The restaurant remains open on Tuesdays, however the price of wings remains unchanged, rather than the half-off deal. Students were shocked and ultimately disappointed to learn of the restaurants new policy.

"Wing Night was something for everyone to look forward to. Now there is nothing to do during the week," says Ashley Brisseau '10.

To replace the cheap prices of PJ's, many recommend Sakura for their Wednesday special: half-priced sushi. Fast food restaurants, according to students, can also be a fun place to go to with your friends for a cheap and convenient meal.

Students also need to take into consideration that PJ's is a local pub and should demonstrate responsibility and respect the rules in place. May be, after enough time has passed and the fighting and conflicts have quelled, the management at PJ's will reconsider their decision about Wing Night. Everyone deserves a second chance.

Field hockey scores for research

Taylor Perkins '11

She is your mother, your sister, your aunt, your grandmother, and your best friend. This is how many people around the country feel about the serious disease breast cancer. Washington Township High School has done many things to help fight the disease and save the lives of women all over the world.

On October 28, the Township field hockey team played a game that meant more than the score. The team played a game for breast cancer research and did everything from wearing pink jerseys, dying their hair pink, to selling breast cancer bracelets. The field hockey team felt that it was a game that meant a lot

and needed to be played.

Prior to playing the game, many of the girls knew women that had breast cancer. But some of the girls did not exactly know what really happened and wanted to know more.

"Once our coaches informed us about the cause and gave us newspaper articles to read about the disease, we definitely wanted to raise money and try to help find a cure" Meghan Phizenmeyer '11 stated. Meghan and the rest of the team felt that playing the game was something that the team wanted to be apart of.

Breast cancer is something that will take any woman by surprise. It is something that will change not only a women's life, but her family and

friends' lives as well.

With the field hockey team playing the game, students became more aware about the disease. The entire school got involved by buying bracelets and making shirts.

Of course, there are many other ways that you could get involved and help find a cure. You could donate to the Susan G. Komen organization. You could also support the women that have breast cancer by getting involved in walks and marathons.

If you are interested in helping find a cure for breast cancer, or even want to contribute by donating to Susan G. Komen contact the organization at 1-877- GO KOMEN (1-877-465-6636).

Salad bar a hit with seniors

Christina Schillaci '10

A new perk for the seniors was introduced this year. The addition of the salad bar in Cafeteria B is becoming increasingly popular at Washington Township High School.

"The idea for the salad bar came from the food service director, Ginnie Bowden," said food service worker, Ms. Myrtle Brown.

Among the many assortments offered at the salad bar, there is coleslaw, tuna, ham salad, and other sides. Your custom salad is guaranteed a breadstick and croutons everyday. Toppings include vegetables, pepperoni, cheese, and more, as well as the occasional chicken nuggets or popcorn chicken. Food service workers and students alike have noticed that the chicken options are particularly popular.

"My friend buys a salad at least twice a week," said Nina Crivaro '10. "She loves them. Everyone says they're delicious."

On an average school day, about eighteen to twenty-five salads are sold per lunch period.

"[The salad bar] is getting to be really popular," said Brown.

"I like the salad bar a lot," said Gloria Maynard '10. "The way it's set up makes it easy to get your salad and go."

The salad bar has provided vegetarian students with a healthy alternative to the ordinary lunches.

"I think it's great that our vegetarian students have an alternative option," said Sara Masciulli '10.

The salad bar is open Tuesdays through Fridays in the senior cafeteria.

Township residents walk for cure

Luke Verrillo '10

On November 7, people from throughout Washington Township gathered at Washington Lake Park in an effort to raise awareness of epilepsy by participating in the third annual "Steps for Seizure" walk.

The walk was organized by the Clayton Hope Organization; a non-profit charitable organization dedicated to educating the public about epilepsy, donating funds towards research and, ultimately, finding a cure. The association was formed so that Clayton, a resident of Washington Township diagnosed with epilepsy, and others can hope for a day where epilepsy is a nothing more than a distant memory.

"It's such a great cause and I'm glad that I could help out," Jordan Wilson '10 said. Wilson, along with many other WTHS students, joined the walkers on the early Saturday morning and worked alongside



Courtesy of Clayton Hope Organization

Members of the community walked together towards a cure.

members of the community towards the common goal. "I hope that the money we raised really helps out and makes the difference needed."

Due to the high number of participants that walked in the park and various charitable donations from past events, the Clayton Hope Organization raised over \$15,000 dollars at the walk, allowing for Clayton's Hope to donate a check of \$250,000 for epilepsy research at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

"We all know loved ones who are afflicted with illnesses and diseases, so to be able to raise money and show our support for these people means a lot to me" Michelle Biala '10 said. "Whether for epilepsy or not, it's always great to see people coming together and working towards helping others."

Many Washington Township graduates were present, each showing their support and love for the Bollendorf family by sporting

"Team Caitlin" bracelets as they walked throughout the park.

"This walk meant a lot of things for a lot of different people. There were so many people there and each group had a different name on their signs," Tim Flank '10 said.

A cure for epilepsy becomes closer to reality with each donation. To learn more about the organization or how you can help, visit <http://www.claytonshope.org>.

Senior Year an unexpected hurdle

Julia Hahn '10

Many members of the senior class had heard for years from WTHS alumni that senior year would be relatively easy. For some this has been true.

"This year... isn't that bad and I'm just able to enjoy all of the senior activities," explains Sean Stenstrom '10.

Others feel like their year has come with unexpected hardships.

"I definitely feel like the people who graduated fibbed a little. This year is not as easy as I was told," said Nicole Burgo '10.

Some seniors are taking a full schedule of Advanced Placement courses. The AP classes only have two more points of a weight than regular honors courses, but there is a vast difference in the amount of work involved. AP students are sent home with a large amount of home-work each night which leaves them less time to get involved with senior year activities. Many of the students who take AP classes are those who are involved in extra curricular activities as well.

"I expected things to be difficult with AP classes but I would have

reconsidered my class choices if I had known I was getting in so over my head," said Chelsea Earley '10, "It's a little hard to stay after school for my different activities and then go home to five hours of homework every night."

"I have six AP classes this year and it's really tough. Especially [when] I'm taking two AP sciences," states Sam Cacia '10.

Students are divided about the amount of work given to them.

"I think senior year is meant to be fun, it shouldn't be about a lot of hard work. Teachers should know that students are really just focusing on getting into college and enjoying the ride of senior year," says Stenstrom '10.

"I actually appreciate the work load I'm getting this year. I feel it's getting me prepared for college. They're not going to go easy on me. You start at the bottom in college," said Brooks Kinch '10.

The one thing that surprised most students from the get go was that so much work was piled on them so fast. "This year is my craziest one so far. I've never had this much work in the beginning of the school year before," said Earley.

Forensics lab solves case at WTHS

Students enrolled in Mrs. Shannon Hornibrook's forensics course had the opportunity to solve a mock crime on school grounds to better grasp the material covered in class on October 9.



JESS HEALEY '10



JESS HEALEY '10

To aid the students in their investigations, two Gloucester County CSI detectives came to the school and participated in the day's activities, treating the scenario as a real live crime scene.

Principal Farrow retires

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at WTHS. Throughout the years she worked as a history teacher, activities coordinator and dean of students. From 1986 till 1998, Farrow taught at Camden Catholic High School where she continued to "wear multiple hats" as a department supervisor and a teacher of American government.

Ironically, she said that she never could have imagined herself becoming a principal. Transitioning from working in the classroom to handling administrative duties here at WTHS was a difficult change for Farrow. Admittedly, she missed the classroom at first as she experienced some difficult times easing into her new job.

"I've tried to never lose sight of the importance of the classroom," Farrow explained.

Her actions at WTHS back up her words. Farrow is recognized for establishing two highly student-oriented organizations at the school, the Renaissance Program and the Freshman Transition Program. She is proud to have been a part of bringing various ideas and programs to the school.

Through the years the principal has faced many challenges.

"The thing that stressed me the most here was making sure the building was always safe, anything could happen at any time and it was always on my mind," Farrow said.

She admits that her first year was the hardest for her. There were multiple

serious evacuations. It was a time when she was just coming to grips with the magnitude and responsibility of the job.

"During my first year or two here I wasn't ready to say I was having fun," Farrow said. "As the years went by it just seemed to get better each year, I was able to get more involved with the students and that's where I had the fun."

Taking over as Executive Principal is Mr. Joseph Bollendorf. In applying for the position, Bollendorf went through several rounds of interviews. Farrow said she highly recommended Bollendorf for the position.

"I could not be more thrilled about Mr. Bollendorf taking over," said Farrow.

With the job having allowed little time for personal interests, Farrow looks forward to reading more post-retirement and enjoying her family's company. With her fifth grandchild due in January, the timing couldn't be more perfect. She and her husband plan on spending their winters in West Palm Beach, Florida and their summers in Cape May and hope to travel when possible.

"I haven't had a lot of time for hobbies with being a principal, but I'd definitely like to take a walk, be more active, and spend time with my grandchildren and sons after I retire," Farrow said.

Farrow closed with a parting thought for the students: "Always be true to yourself; take advantage of all the opportunities here; the future will be good if you do."

"As the years went by it just seemed to get better each year, I was able to get more involved with the students and that's where I had the fun."

- Mrs. Farrow

Gridiron coach remembered

STADIUM from page 1

"He gave me every opportunity to succeed. I wouldn't be where I am right now without coach Brown," said Mr. Christopher Mitchell, a former player, assistant and defensive line coach.

Currently a History teacher at WTHS, Mitchell was an All Group IV and All Conference offensive and defensive tackle when he played from 1992 to 1995. Brown gave Mitchell a chance to play football at a very early point in his football career. Mitchell is more than grateful for what Brown gave to him.

"We were pretty close," Mitchell said. "[He] gave people chances. He saw the talent in players and got the most out of them. [He was] a very demanding coach."

Brown's ability to pinpoint talent and the ability to get the most out of players gave him an advantage over opposing coaches.

"He left a mark with all of his assistant coaches," Mr. William Hyatt said.

Hyatt coached the Varsity squad with Mr. Tony DeLucas before Brown joined the program. DeLucas moved on to Rowan University and Hyatt became the coach of the freshman team.

"He worked so hard to establish a successful program. He thought this school was a sleeping giant," Hyatt said.

Hyatt and Brown soon developed a good relationship. Their love for football gave them a common ground.

"I remember our first coaches meeting. I left at six o'clock and told my wife that I'd be home around midnight. Well I got home at four in the morning thinking, 'Man this guy loves his football,'" said Hyatt.

Brown was able to instill that love for the game in many of his players.

"No one has really gone professional," Mitchell said. "There were a few good players here and there, but no one big."

In fact, current head coach Mr. Mark Wechter played offensive line from 1987 to 1990 under coach Brown. He later was given the opportunity to coach with him.

"They say the players who can't

play coach," Wechter joked.

As a coach, Wechter has enjoyed early success with the Minutemen and attributes some of that to Brown.

"He showed how to organize the program. He was on top of everything," Wechter said. "Just his passion and feel for the game really showed me a lot."

In 1991, Wechter was able to become an assistant coach in his sophomore year in college.

"I was really young and clueless," Wechter said. "He gave me a fresh start after high school."

It was Brown and Wechter who pioneered a new spread offense for the Minutemen, deviating from the old Wing T offense. Again, Brown's attention to detail proved valuable.

"He gave his coaches a lot of leeway," Mitchell said.

"You just knew what to expect from him. [He] didn't have any variety of practice, but he wasn't totally against changing. [He] ran no more than 20 plays and everybody knew it."

Hyatt said that Brown's trust in his coaches benefited the whole program. After Brown moved in, he was able to get his assistant coach Mr. Jerry Taraschi to make the transfer from Paulsboro. Taraschi was by his side throughout Brown's career.

For 21 years, he used the same systems and met success. His teams won three Group IV championships in 1987, 1992, and 1995, and also six Olympic American Conference Championships in 1989, 1992, 1993, 1996, 2001, and 2002.

"The public will remember by [seeing] banners in a gymnasium, but the best attributes are the banners that don't hang. The real banners are the ones who walk through your hallways," Murphy said.

No doubt coach Brown's legacy will live on in Washington Township athletics. The originator of the Fifth Quarter Club and the TWP insignia, Brown personified and displayed the true meaning of "Together with Pride." 21 years on the field and 20 years as a mathematics teacher.

"He is the football program. He made the program. Without Brown, there's no field, no football," Mitchell said.

Commentary

Standardized tests a necessity

Chris Bucci '10

The SAT, ACT, HSPA, PSAT, GEPA, TERRA NOVA are names of some of the standardized tests that have haunted students of all ages for years.

These tests have been judging a student's intelligence level since elementary school. But is it really good for the students to have to take these tests and have those tests alone rank them among the students across the nation?

I think that it may not be the fairest, but it is the best way to compare students nation-wide. The standardized testing isn't pretty or fun, but it gets the job done.

Most students worry about how these test scores will affect their college choices. Students applying for colleges are not solely judged by the results of these test scores.

I have heard from just about every counselor and college that your test results don't hold the key to getting into college. They take the whole package.

This means that they look at what kind of

There is really no other way to compare all the students across the country.

student you were in high school and how you held up your studies. If you got involved in high school activities, did clubs, or played any sports, they take that into play as well. If you held up your end during your high school career and you're just a bad test taker, the odds would still be in your favor to get into a good college.

Another reason why I am ok with the current testing we have is that there is really no other way to compare all the students across the country. There is no school district, town, or high school that are exactly alike and teach the material the same way.

Some schools may not have as good of teachers as the next, or they may not be able to offer the same educational resources. Some schools are harder to get good grades in than others.

The bottom line is that they are all different and there needs to be something that compares these students on the same scale. It may not be the fairest for the student whose strength isn't taking long tests, but it is the only way to get all of the students to match up against each other on an equal playing field.

The standardize testing is also beneficial in many ways. First, having the tests takes some pressure on you having to do well in school.

If there were no testing and just school, there would be tons of pressure on you to do well in school because that would be on what you are solely judged.

Also, it gives you another opportunity to do well for colleges, if you are not the best student. In my opinion, having these tests definitely helps us more than hurts us.

Choice for the animals

Sabrina Doshi '13

Picture this; you are fidgeting at your table, waiting for tonight's dinner, smelling the tantalizing aroma of some delicious roast chicken filling the kitchen. Your hunger tears away at your stomach, and as soon as that plate of chicken reaches you, you savagely rip it apart with your fork and knife.

Do you ever pause and wonder where it came from, and how it got from a green field to the end of your gleaming utensil? These are some facts about simple things like your food that was alive at some time.

Let's start on the journey of that chicken you just filled your stomach with. On factory farms, chickens are stuffed into little cages, unable to lift a wing. They have their beaks cut off.

Would you appreciate it if someone just tore off your nose and mouth and threw you into a dingy cage?

Most of the chickens' lives are spent in this condition. Near the end of their life, they are sent to slaughterhouses to be killed for

food. Most chickens are electrocuted to death, and some are dismembered and skinned while still alive.

Does this make you still want more roast chicken?

Now is a great time to turn vegetarian, and there are great reasons as to why you should. Besides the moral benefits, vegetarianism is good for your health. Most sicknesses

come from animal flesh. If you don't eat it, you can't get infected with these viruses. It spreads from animals to humans, just from eating them. Vegetarianism is a healthier lifestyle for all!

There are plenty of imitation meat products. Try meatless meatballs, hot dogs, even meatless chicken nuggets!

These meatless substitutes taste just like the real thing. My friend, who happens to be a huge meat lover, tried meatless meatballs and said they smelled and tasted exactly like the real thing.

You can give up meat without giving up the taste of it!

Vegetarianism is a change for both you and animals!

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Features

Obsession reaches new heights

Julia Hahn '10

Teen girls swoon at their name, you can't turn on the television without seeing them, and it's impossible to go into a store without seeing some of their merchandise. What is it exactly that pop culture just can't seem to get enough of? Vampires, of course! It's obvious now more than ever that vampires are the new rock stars of our generation.

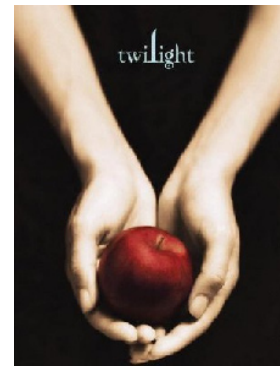
First and foremost, there is the pop culture phenomenon that is *Twilight*. Perhaps phenomenon is even an understatement to describe this series that has taken a hold of every woman's mind in America. *Twilight* is the saga of a teenage girl Bella Swan and her steamy romance with perfect vampire Edward Cullen. The character of Edward Cullen has become a popular dream guy for girls over the past few years and the obsession has only gotten more intense with the release of the motion picture of *Twilight* last November. When hunky British actor Robert Pattinson brought Cullen to the

big screen vampires only grew in popularity.

"The fact that they [Warner Brothers] made Edward so attractive just made more people want to jump on the *Twilight* band wagon," says Natasha Hesketh '11. The sequel to *Twilight*, *New Moon* is to be released on November 20 and the ticket sales are already shaping up to be record breaking. They have been selling since September.

Another popular vampire saga is *TrueBlood*, an HBO series based on the popular books *The Southern Vampire Mysteries*. The TV show is set in the small town of Bon Temps, Louisiana where *TrueBlood* follows Sookie Stackhouse (Anna Paquin) and the vampire she falls in love with, Bill Compton (Stephen Moyer).

Although the main vampire shows, movies, and books focus on vampire romance, it isn't just girls that are being attracted to this trend. The new movie "The Vampires Assistant" which was released on October 23 focuses on why guys



Two popular vampire stories are the *Twilight* series and the HBO series *True Blood*.

are in on this new trend as well. Vampires are immortal beings with strength, speed, looks and what ever other super natural powers they are given.

Let's face it, vampires are cool and it's practically impossible to go any place public without hearing the word these days. It's not hard to see why. Could it be the subtle sensuality of vampires?

"I really think it's the fact that they're just so fictionally fabulous," swoons Taylor Heil '11. "They're

made to be these perfect creatures that you just don't get to see in the real world."

Or could it be the fact that their immortal powers are so appealing?

"There's a mysterious air about vampires that most people find appealing," explains Karch Connors '10.

Whatever the reason, it is more than safe to say that vampires are going to be staying in pop culture for a very long time.

One pint can make a difference

Dianna Lombardo '10

On October 9, 2009, a lot of people with were walking around the halls of WTHS a bands aid on their arm and a shirt saying 'Starve a Vampire, Donate Blood'. The American Red Cross came in full force to our school to collect blood from anyone willing to save a few lives.

Every two seconds in America, someone needs a blood transfusion. About one hour of your time, donating one pint of blood can save up to three lives.

Blood is broken up into four major components: red blood cells, white blood cells, plasma and platelets.

Blood also has different and essential nutrients and minerals. Although, you may think that because your body naturally replenishes blood, that it doesn't take a lot to cure a victim of an accident or disease, think again.

According to the Red Cross' website, www.redcross.org, a cancer patient for one treatment can need up to 6 units of red blood cells and 6-8 units if of platelets daily for 2-4 weeks. Patients undergoing bone marrow transplants need 1-2 units of red blood cells given every other day for 4 weeks and 6-8 units daily of platelets for 4-6 weeks. Victims of any sort of an accident can require up to 100 units of red blood cells.

In order for a person to be eligible to donate blood, they must fill out a questionnaire about their possible usage with drugs, alcohol and their medical history. Once you donate blood, a doctor will match your blood with a patient who requires it. There are four types of blood, O, A, B, and AB.

O type of blood can donate red blood cells to anyone; it is a universal donor and is widely accepted by everyone. A blood type can only donate red blood cells to A's and AB's. B's group can only donate red



One pint of blood can save up to three lives.

blood cells to B's and AB's. Group AB can only donate to other AB blood types, but can receive red blood cells from any blood type.

The difference between the groups is group A only has the A antigen, group B only has the B antigen, group AB has both A and B antigen and group O has neither.

The most recent year for which data is available is in 2001, when

the American Red Cross collected more than 15 million units of whole blood (blood that can be separated into its units) and red cells. Hospitals collected 7% and blood centers collected the remaining 93%.

Approximately eight million people donated this blood. This blood collected in 2001, went to about 4.9 million patients with an average of 38,000 units per day.

The donated blood is separated into its multiple components.

These separate components can be transfused to different individuals with different needs.

The volume of blood donation is increasing at the rate of 6% per year.

According to the American Red Cross' website, www.redcross.org, only three out of every one hundred people in American donate blood.

With over 3,000 hospitals across the United States, chances are there is a hospital nearby to donate blood.

After school help improves SAT scores

Carolyn Cicalese '10

The SAT can possibly make or break a student's chance at getting into their dream college; consequently, there are a variety of SAT classes offered at the high school and private classes as well.

Many students feel, or their parents tell them, that they would be more prepared for this huge test if they took a class to help them strategize.

WTHS offers two options to students. They offer a ninth period class that functions as a normal course. Students can choose to take this course during a marking period after their eighth period class and are required to attend each day and do their homework just as any other class would require.

The other option is an SAT review course that students must pay and sign up for in guidance. The course itself is twelve hours, six hours of math and six hours of verbal overall. The class meets twice a week for two hours each of the three weeks before the scheduled SAT. Mrs. Perry, a math teacher at WTHS, teaches the math portion of this course and Mr. Hart, an English teacher at WTHS, teaches the verbal portion, both focusing on content and



Christina Schillaci '10 / THE PATRIOT

Christina Schillaci '10 / THE PATRIOT

Students study hard to improve test scores.

test taking strategies. Some students even saw an increase of 100 points on their score.

Britt Gunderson '10 took both the ninth period class and the SAT review class and noticed, "For the ninth period class it was hard going every day, some days I just wanted to go home. I felt better going only twice a week and for more time during each session."

If students decide not to take either of the courses that the school offers, they have the choice of opting for a private tutor. Two popular tutors for students in WTHS are Myles Bass and Josh Aronovich.

Bass' class meets in Voorhees,

and students go once a week for two hours where students are given a practice test to finish in an allotted time. Bass checks their work and explains to the student how to correct their mistakes. He gives weekly homework, but does not check the homework so students don't have to feel stressed during the school week to finish it, it is for their benefit.

Santina Mazzola '10 found that his class didn't help her specifically because she didn't feel like she was getting the personal attention she needed.

"I didn't like that I only got to see him once in the two hours and that was only at the end."

While some students like Mazzola didn't see improvements, other students such as '09 graduate Katie Dunn saw that Bass' class improved her score.

"I made sure to do the work every time he assigned it, and listened to the direction he gave me, and I saw the increase I had wanted."

Aronovich offers either classes once a week or twice a week for four hour intervals in order to better prepare students for the amount of time they will actually be spending on the SATs. Students are given homework, a practice test, for every class and grade their work in class and go over answers in order to seek new strategies and track their progress.

Students such as Amanda Harvie '10 feel they have benefited greatly from his class; her scores improved over 200 points.

"It was a lot of work at times and it did take up a lot of my Saturday mornings, but in the end I really benefitted from it and I felt completely prepared when I walked in the morning of the SATs and I guess that's all that matters in the end," said Harvie.

Students have many choices of what SAT class to attend, but it's in their hands to sign up and do the work.

Applying to college proves to be stressful

Nicole Heath '10

Fall is more than just the season of Thanksgiving for WTHS seniors. It's the time of spirit week, homecoming, and Powderpuff. But as fun and exciting as these events are it's also the season of applying to colleges.

A large part of the senior class will find themselves spending their November days filling out applications to various schools. This process includes filling out application forms, getting teacher recommendation, writing essays, sending transcripts and forwarding standardized tests scores.

All of this work along with school and extracurricular activities can sometimes bog students down. "It's kind of long and grueling," said Ayanna Moxey, '10, "but exciting at the same time."

To make things easier, sites such as Common application and Universal application have been

created so that students can apply to multiple schools at once. Though many large schools require a supplement in addition to the common or universal applications, students seem to find these websites helpful.

Jessica Healey, '10, said, "I honestly don't think I could have finished as many

applications so far without it [Common app]. I just wish all [colleges] were on the common app."

Though some find that filling out the actual forms would be the most tedious part of the application process, many

students think otherwise. Those students cite essays are the challenging, time consuming, but important, part of the application.

Most state colleges require at least a personal statement, whereas private schools such as Villanova University and Carnegie Mellon often expect two essays.

Essays along with schoolwork, jobs, sports, and extracurricular activities can overwhelm

students.

Guidance counselors serve as a great equalizer during this process for some students. Counselors not only help student pick the right colleges but aid them by setting up an application to do list.

"My guidance counselor told me everything I had to do and how to do it," said Healey.

According to wtps.org, the Guidance departments' duties are to plan and execute "College Planning Night, Financial Aid Night for Parents, Scheduling Presentations for both students and parents, and PSAT presentations and college planning for juniors."

Counselors are meant to help take away some of that application stress.

Through the guidance department and the use of online sites such as Common app, the college application process is made a little bit easier.

Some believe the best way to make the college experience easier is to plan ahead.

"Get the essays done the summer before senior year," Said Moxey, "you won't be rushed to have them done."

"It's kind of long and grueling, but exciting at the same time."

- Ayanna Moxey, '10

New club shoots for success

Christina Schillaci '10

What started out as a simple idea quickly formed into a growing club.

Shane Sibert '11 is the brains behind the idea, and already his photography club is a widely favored one. It seems to be just the connection the school needs.

"I wanted to make an impact in my high school career, and leave behind something that would continue after I left for college," he said. After trying to begin a ski club last year, which was unsuccessful due to liability issues, Sibert changed gears and began thinking of other options.

The idea for a photography club rose shortly after when Sibert noticed the interest in many of his friends who consistently took photos, but were unable to take a class that incorporated photography into the curriculum.

"I really wanted to get all the kids together who were interested in photography," Sibert said.

A club seemed like the perfect solution. Many students at Washington Township have wanted to take part in photography, but have not found the chance to take a class that deals with it, such as Advanced Graphics, taught by Mr. Dale Biebel.

"Shane came to me with the idea two weeks into school," said Mr. Biebel. "For the next couple of weeks we talked about what we wanted to accomplish with this club, and we finally had our first meeting, which was a success."

Mr. Biebel agreed that a photography

club would greatly benefit the students who were unable to take his class. Also as the advisor of the new club, he will teach students different techniques to improve their photography.

The turnout for the first meeting of the club, which took place on October 20, was a welcomed surprise to Sibert. Close to fifty students arrived at room G-212 immediately after school, eager for the opening meeting to begin. Sibert was extremely happy with the outcome.

"I thought about fifteen people would show up, and it turned out that kids had to stand or even sit on the floor," he said.

Some of the activities that the club will offer include monthly contests, which feature themes, such as holidays, school sports, and different techniques used in photography. The winners of these contests may find themselves the lucky holder of a gift card to a restaurant or popular store. To help with this, Mr. Biebel has contacted local photographers to find sponsors for the club.

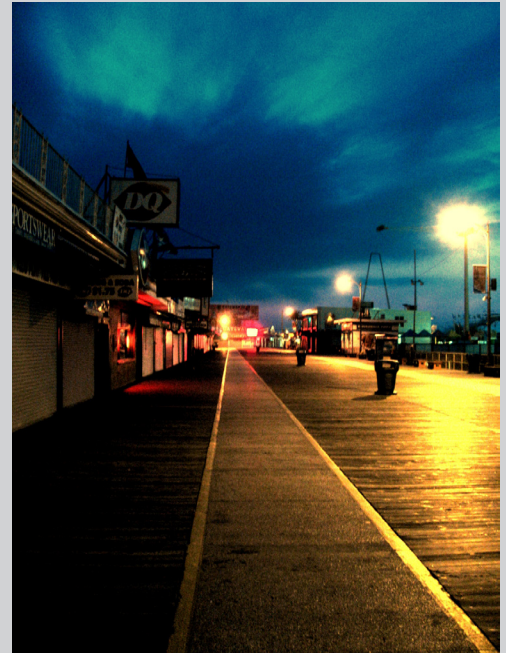
"So far we've had one professional photographer from Intrigue Photography get back to us who'd love to sponsor a competition. [Steve Magnotta] is actually a former graduate of Washington Township High School," said Biebel.

The club also has a group on Flickr, a website that shares photography which is then critiqued and praised.

With so many exciting competitions and events, Sibert is doing his best to make sure the photography club is a hit. The club meets every other Tuesday in room G-212.

Winning Photos

Photo club November competition.



John Maroldo - Leading Line Winner



Natasha Hesketh - Fall Leaves Winner

Want to help
the environment?
Join
SAVE club!

S.A.V.E.-Students
Against the Violation
of the Earth

Recycle weekly
Presentations every
other week

Thursdays,
room J209 after
school.

Creative club inspires

Andrew Gerber '13

Despite an extensive athletics program at WTHS, many students find they are unable to make it onto desired sports teams or just don't think they are cut out for the torturous strains of playing a sport.

However, there are many other clubs in the school to get involved with, and Art Club is especially great for those who like to help others, be creative, and be in a relaxing, low-key environment with their peers.

"I wasn't good at sports. But I was into art! I wanted to be in a club where I could excel," said Art Club advisor Mrs. Serra.

Although fairly new to the school, Serra said that she really

just wanted to get involved with kids when she became the advisor, and she had had a positive experience with advising an art club at her previous school.

She also said that Art Club is a great place for art students and all those who are interested in art.

It's easy to think that you need to be good at art to join the Art Club, however, the Art Club, which meets every other Wednesday in room H-206, is open to all and is a great place to relax and just let your mind run free as you let yourself be creative.

Right now, the club is creating holiday decorations to sell at the winter concert to be held at the school in December.

The Art Club uses some of the money they make to help charities, and they also take two field trips a year to art-related locations.

"Art Club is really fun, and it's nice to help the community in artistic ways," says Jessica Clark, '13.

Anyone who is interested in joining should talk to Mrs. Serra, in room H-206. She can answer any questions about the club.

"People should join if they really like making beautiful pieces of art," said Sabrina Doshi, '13.

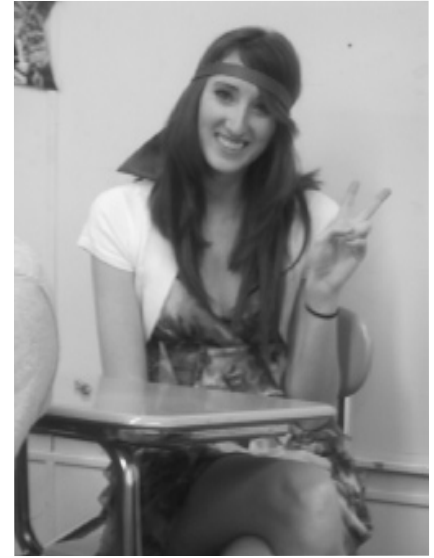
The Art Club is a great way to have fun, get involved in the community, and just let everyday stresses and worries melt away with the enjoyment of making art.

Halloween 2009 at Washington Township

Photos by Christina Schillaci '10



October 30 was an adventurous day filled with superheroes, villains, animals, and alter egos.



Throughout the halls, students celebrated the holiday with cheer and spirit.



People

Student leader displays dedication

Shacarra Almon '10

A well known senior in our school, Erin Hills '10 has distinguished herself different from just a number of the 710 students graduating in the class of 2010.

Born April 12, 1992 in Woodbury, New Jersey at Underwood Hospital, a single child of her beloved parents Hills has lived in Washington Twp her whole life, attending Bells Elementary School and Orchard Valley Middle School.

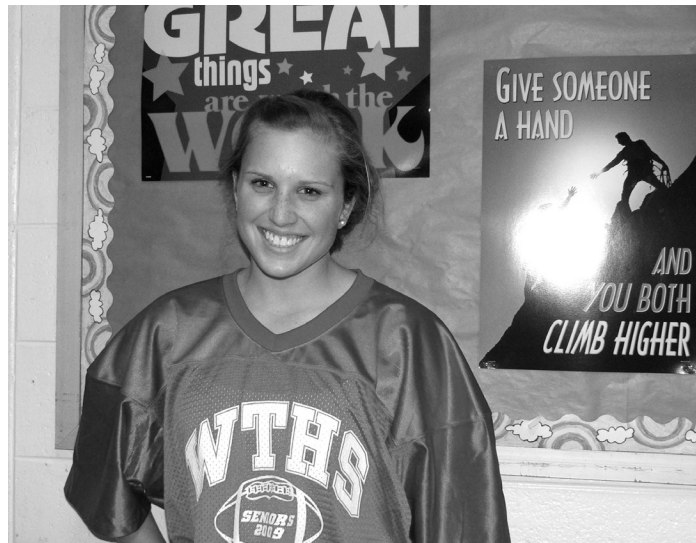
Some of her favorite teachers are Mrs. Alison Bouno, Mrs. Edith Bennet, and Mr. Andrew Holmes.

Mrs. Bouno of Bells Elementary is her favorite for several reasons.

"She is like a second mother to me. Whenever I needed someone to talk to I knew I could talk to her," Hills said.

Academic confidence is a personality trait many teens struggle with in school, but not Erin. Mrs. Bennet, a retired math teacher of Orchard Valley Middle School, is one of the many reasons why Hills enjoys math.

Many students find Chemistry to be one of the hardest subjects in high school. For Hills it is one



NICOLE HEATH '10/The Patriot

Erin Hills is involved in a wide range of activities at the high school.

of her favorites and Mr. Holmes, a chemistry teacher at WTHS, is a teacher for whom she has a great deal of respect.

"He introduced me to chemistry in a different way, captivating my attention so much that now I want to major in chemistry when I go to college," said Hills.

As one of the four captains of

Washington Twp. Field Hockey team, Hills had a great season last year. Hills and the Minutemaids beat Eastern at home and won the title of co-champions of South Jersey. Being a captain is the least of her responsibilities.

President of the science league, she is also a member of the Executive Board of the Student Council and

National Honor Society.

"It's great to be a leader of such a phenomenal group of girls, as you know we are the real sisterhood," Hills said.

Hills described her experience to be a wonderful opportunity to meet and bond with girls she most likely would have never met.

"Seeing my teammate's everyday after school and being involved in a sport we share a common interest in is simply breathtaking!" Hills said.

Hills describe herself with three adjectives: determined, optimistic and hard working.

One big moment in her senior year so far is being nominated in Homecoming Court, which should be no surprise for such an accomplished student as herself.

"It is such a great honor to be in Homecoming Court. I was truly shocked when I heard my name announced, sometimes I am still in disbelief. I am very happy, thankful and honored my peers thought me to be deserving," Hills said.

She plans to attend William Mary College in Williamsburg, VA, hopefully graduating with a degree in chemistry and possibly later a second degree in business.

Faces in the Crowd - by Maria Brasco '10

Getting to know Ryan Carr '10

Q: What makes senior year different from all the rest of your years here at TWP? How have you gotten involved?

A: Senior year is different because in my opinion it is easier than the other three years. I know there is only one more year till I get out of school. I haven't gotten involved besides Ice Hockey.

Q: What is something most of your classmates do not know about you?

A: I have no idea, but maybe they don't know that my last name has two R's in it or that I act differently outside of school. In school I am

pretty quiet but out side of school I'm the complete opposite.

Q: Has being a part of a sports team made a difference in your high school years?

A: Our school having an ice hockey team gave me the chance to play and I had never played ice hockey before high school. It made my years in high school more fun and has let me make new friends while still being able to play a sport I like to play.

Q: What are you plans for the future? (college, work, ECT.)

A: I'm trying to go to college at either Rowan or Rutgers if I can actually get in. I am hoping I get accepted at Rutgers because I would not have to pay tuition because I have a family member that works there. But most likely I'll probably go to GCC like the rest of kids in Township who can't get into their college choice.

Q: What advice do you have for underclassman?

A: I'm probably not the best person to give advice to underclassmen since I don't think I took full advantage of my opportunities at WTHS, but I'd say try hard so you



MARIA BRASCO '10/The Patriot

won't get stuck having to go to a community college when all your friends are going away.

Runner sets goals beyond track

Breanna White '12

Anthony Dentino is in his third year at Washington Township High School and enjoys being a junior thus far.

He has recognized how rapidly his high school years have gone.

"I moved to the 11/12 wing and it's...weird. It makes me realize that high school is about to end quickly."

Track plays a huge role in his life. Dentino started running his freshman year and now as a junior, he can't get enough of it.

"Coach Bostwick got me hooked. He showed me how much potential I have and taught me a lot." This is the reason why Bostwick, is one of Dentino's major role models. Quite a few people assume that track isn't a real sport because it doesn't involve throwing, catching or kicking a ball, however, Dentino thinks otherwise.

"Running is a true sport. You still have to work as hard as you can and it's very rewarding to see all the effort paid off."

In school, he enjoys English and one of his favorite teachers at WTHS is Mrs. Salvatore.

"She is one of the best teachers



www.njrunners.com

Dentino led the way for WTHS Cross-country.

I've ever had because she helped me colleges for track.

with my writing," he stated. She helped him improve so much that he wants to major in journalism in college.

"But I definitely want to go to a school with a track or cross country program," he said.

He even got a few letters from

In the future, Dentino's main goal is to succeed academically and athletically and to inspire kids.

Even though he hasn't decided on which college he would like to attend, he wants to graduate and work somewhere in the education field; either coaching in cross country,

track or English. He loves to teach. Dentino would also like to get married, start a family and have an overall enriching life.

Dentino's interests include sports mainly track, movies, music, friends and family. He enjoys comedies and his favorite movie is Anchorman. He likes rock music and his favorite band is Linkin park.

He doesn't have any siblings, which he thinks has its positives and negatives. Since being an only child, he gets a lot of attention however, he sometimes wishes he had a brother or sister to share things with.

"But I'm very close to my parents and I have a big family," he said, with a smile.

Track is the biggest part of his life and he doesn't see that changing anytime soon.

"I know I talk about running a lot but I just love it so much. I can't see myself without running," he said.

Anthony Dentino's Cross-country achievements - 2009

All race times are for 5K (3.1 mile) races

Selected to All Conference First team

Selected to All- South Jersey team

3rd place Gloucester County meet (16:55)

7th place Olympic Conference meet (16:34)

9th Place Sectionals (SJ group IV) (16::05)

27th place States (Group IV) (16.52)

62nd place Meet of Champions (All Groups) (16:54)

The WTHS team won the Gloucester County meet

Faces in the Crowd by Maria Brasco '10

A few minutes with Jonathan Brightly

Q: How has senior year been different from past years?

A: For me personally I feel that I have been given many more responsibilities like driving and preparing for a college. I have always thought about graduating from high school and attending culinary school and now it is within reach. After being in school for so many years and knowing that next year I will be attending college is a great feeling. I have enjoyed my time at WTHS but really look forward to moving on with the next phase of my life.

Q: How have you gotten involved?

A: I have been playing percussion since fourth grade so when I had the opportunity to participate in eighth grade band with the marching band came up I was hooked. I have been in the percussion section of the marching band since freshman year. I also have been a member of the "Machine"

the high school for four years. Being part of these bands has not only allowed me to participate in some pretty amazing things but I have made many good friends. I have been to the Outback Bowl in Tampa, Florida and will participate in the Cotton Bowl in Dallas, Texas in January. These are the things that will stay with me for the rest of my life and they would have not been possible if I had not gotten involved.

Q: What is something your classmates may not know about you?

A: That I am a cancer survivor. I was diagnosed with Stage 4 Neuroblastoma when I was six years old. I spent a good part though many experiences in my seventeen years that most people will never experience in their lifetime. The other thing that many people don't know is that I want to complete my culinary education and then open my own Five Star restaurant.



MARIA BRASCO '10/The Patriot

Jonathan Brightly dreams of one day owning his own restaurant .

Q: What is your favorite quote?

A: "It's not the size of the dog in the fight, but the size of the fight in the dog." By Archie Griffin

A Show of Pride



KEVIN WHITEHEAD '10/The Patriot

Homecoming, football games, and Po are just a few of the events that draw grade levels together in a show of WT



MAR

The Powderpuff game ended with a senior victory.

Seniors crowd into the 9/10 bleachers to pose for the big picture No

Miller crowned queen of the ni

Carolyn Cicalessi '10

"This isn't happening," is what Sam Miller kept thinking as she was crowned WTHS Homecoming Queen '09 on Friday October 16. She said she had no idea that she would ever win.

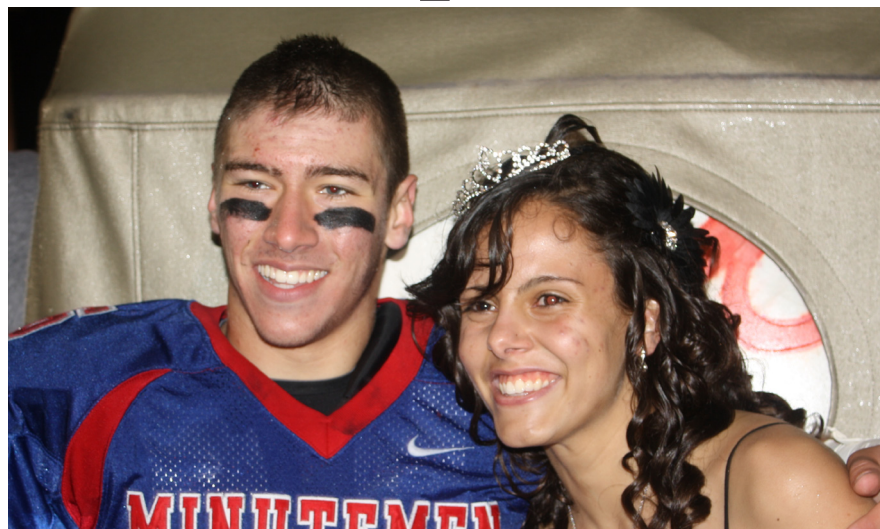
"I always thought Lisa [Patrone] would win," Miller said.

Miller didn't learn that she was in the court in the same manner of all the other girls. The other nominees found out in their first period class and were immediately given their sash and tiara. Sam found out from her hospital bed.

Miller has Severe A-Plastic Anemia, so she spends a few days a week in the hospital receiving treatment. Miller said learning of her nomination "was the most exciting moment; it had been a bad week."

She said at times the responsibilities of homecoming court and school along with the treatments was hard to juggle, because she was already missing school due to treatments. Being in the court required her to miss more days going around to lunch rooms introducing herself.

"I wouldn't say it was hard, just hard to manage. I know my teachers were frustrated at some points because I was already missing



CHRISTINA SCHILLACI '10/The Patriot

Sam Miller and her escort Dan Finneran pose for photos minutes after she was crowned the 2009 Homecoming Queen.

so much school," Miller said.

No matter how hard to manage it got, she maintained her bright and vibrant personality and enjoyed meeting all the new people through the court.

"I got to be friends with girls I never really spoke to in high school," she said.

Miller said she knows that they won't always be best friends, but she hopes they

can all still communicate, and not forget their moments together.

"Sam is just the sweetest girl, I'm so happy to have met her, we had some really good times during dance practices," says Chloe Dawson '10 another member of the Homecoming court.

Although meeting new friends and learning new dance moves were memorable

for Miller, she still

memories were with She was abl because Dan Finn for the football gar spirit parade, so Ni in the parade for hi

"I really enjo escorts, she's alwa and she completel Finneran '10.

After winni happy that none of differently.

"I wouldn't ha the sudden want to I'm homecoming c

This year the place a week before This meant Miller dance unlike the pr The change didn't

"It was differ she said, "but I did a lot of fun."

Sam Miller ma Queen '09 but she stop there; She hop hematology or onc in situations like h

Homecoming 2009

Minutemen suffer tough loss

Kevin Whitehead '10

Coming into a hyped Homecoming game, the Washington Twp. Minutemen and the Cherokee Chiefs were both undefeated at 4-0 at the top of the Olympic-American Conference respectively. The Minutemen wanted to come out and perform in front of a large homecoming crowd.

The Chiefs had other plans.

Through a freezing rain at Washington Twp., the Chiefs beat the Minutemen convincingly in a 35-0 shutout. Chiefs' fullback Sean Farrell ran for four touchdowns in the process.

Other than the Homecoming court, there wasn't much to cheer about.

"It was tough," linebacker Dan Finneran '10. "I felt we had a good game plan, but you have to give Cherokee a lot of credit. They were hitting on all cylinders."

There is no such thing as a good loss in any level of competition, but some losses can ground a team and bring it back to the basics.

"We learned a lesson tonight," head coach Mr. Mark Wechter said. "We have to come out and play the way we're capable of playing."

With a stout defense and a high flying offense, the Minutemen did not seem themselves on the field. After two quick scores, the Minutemen we're still giving it their best on the field. There was no slack on either sides of the ball.

"I know everyone gave their best out there," safety Jim McCabe '10 said. "We just didn't execute our assignments."

Though playing to their best efforts, the Minutemen were perplexed by some new formations and defensive schemes the Chiefs were playing.

"We knew they were going to be a good team," quarterback Nick Valori '11 said. "They did a lot of things different. They

played different coverages and had different blitz packages."

According to Wechter, the Minutemen offense schemed against a cover 3 defense in film study. The Chiefs had been running that set the whole season. This time, they played a cover 4 to try to prevent the Minutemen's deep passing attack. They tried to keep the Minutemen from going long to

senior wide receivers Robert Dim, Adam Marcucci and Cordell McInnis. They were forced to go underneath the coverage.

"We we're checking down most of the game," Valori said. "We beat them with some corner routes."

Valori connected with Dim on a corner route for a 14 yard gain, which gave the Minutemen a lift before the end of the first half. Their next three plays however would lead to a punt.

"We couldn't catch any breaks. We were able to overcome adversity before, but we just couldn't capitalize," Wechter said.

The Minutemen literally caught one break when safety Devon Carter '10 intercepted a pass with a minute to go.

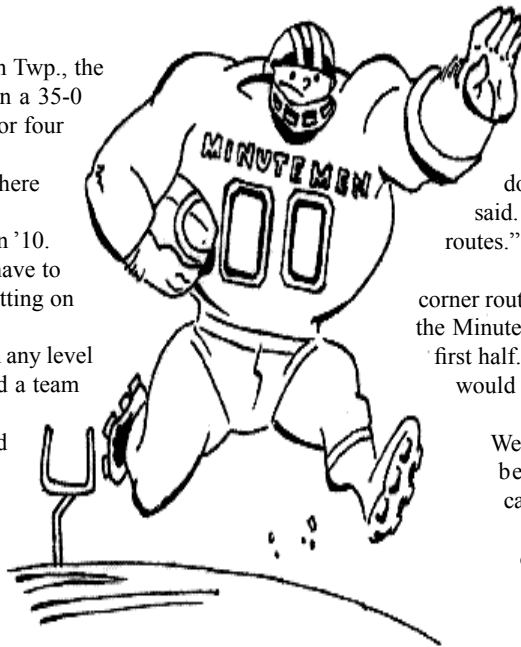
The problem was the Minutemen were consistently inconsistent.

But like most of the night, Valori was getting

rushed. The stout defensive line broke through the line and created a lot of pressure towards Valori. This led a interception, giving the ball right back to Cherokee.

"It was really hard to take any positives out of this one," Wechter said.

Even though this was a tough loss for the Minutemen, this game gives them a showcase for what they have to improve.



CHRISTINA SCHILLACI '10/ The Patriot

The minutemen ended their season on Wednesday, November 25 with a 5-1 record.

de
powderpuff
multiple
WTHS spirit.



RIA BRASCO '10/The Patriot
November 18.

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Rally rocks the gymnasium

Julia Hahn '10

On October 15, Student council sponsored their Fall Sports Pep Rally.

After all of the fall teams were announced Coach Wechter, the head coach of the football team, gave a short speech to the class.

Following Wechter, Student Council President, Tim Flank gave a memorable speech. He caught all the students' attention with his statement - "If you wake up Saturday morning and you can say good morning to your parents, you failed at homecoming."

Although all of the grade levels were there and getting charged up about the homecoming game the class that got the most excited at the pep rally was the senior class of '10.

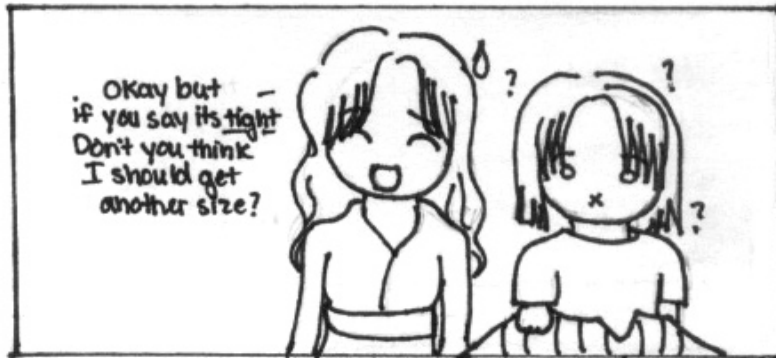
"I feel like once you get to your senior year, school spirit becomes a bigger part of your student life," said Chelsea Earley '10.



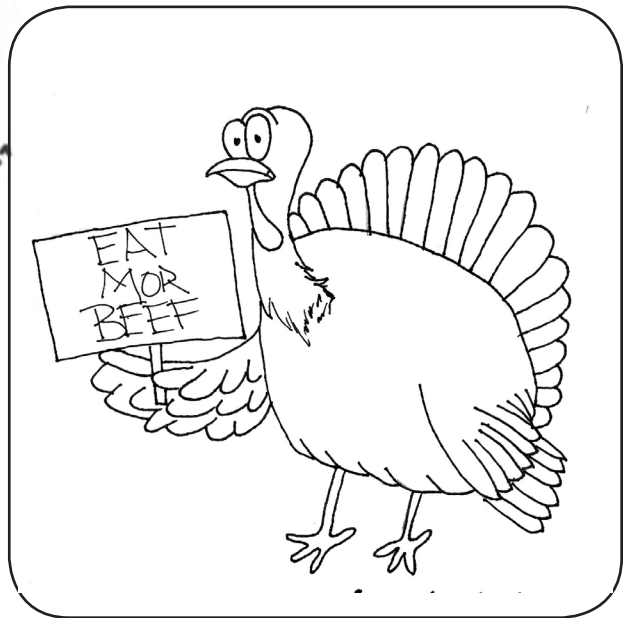
CHLOE DAWSON '10/ The Patriot

WTHS cheerleaders excited the crowd at the Fall pep rally.

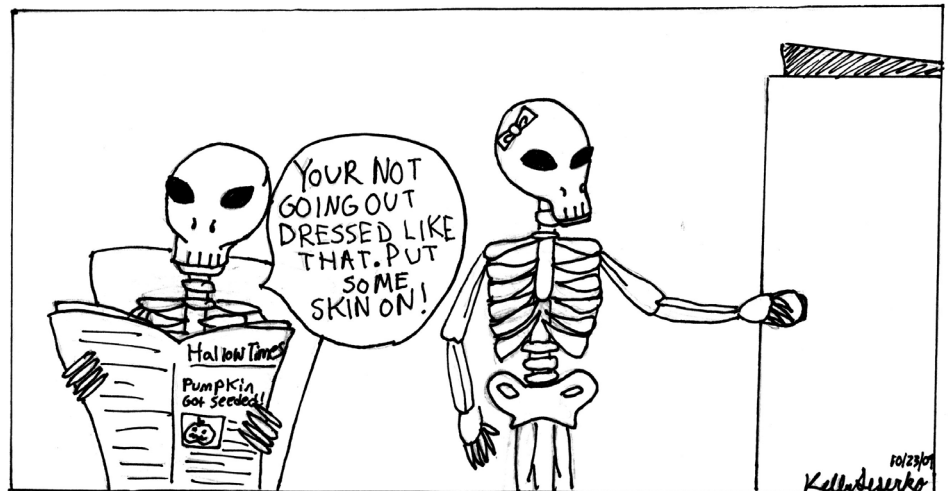
Comics



STUART RUFFIN



Eri McCall 10/23



10/23/09 Kelly Deserko

If you like to draw, send your cartoons to The Patriot.

wthspatriot@gmail.com

Become a part of our new comics page.



Odds & Ends

Phright in Philly

Prison finds second life as haunted attraction

Sarah Kurtz '10

When walking into the Eastern State Penitentiary, several things were on my mind. Fear the highest thought among them. I was excited to test my senses against everything that the penitentiary offered.

The lines for the penitentiary can be as long as a three-hour wait. So while waiting, the line is crawling with monsters and creatures to make your wait worth while. The make-up and colored contacts as well as creative costumes used are impressive and realistic. Fortunately, I didn't have to wait in the long line because of pre-ordering my tickets off the internet.

After the wait is over you enter the prison which is haunted with ex cons as well as some creepy actors who scare you half to death. The prison housed Al-Capone at one point, and after walking through a



Google Images

Eastern State Penitentiary opened in 1829.

large part of the prison you can see his old cell.

Moving through the penitentiary, chills are continuous up and down your spine. At the start of the tour, you enter through a dark hallway that has actors dressed as zombie like creatures. After travelling through that hallway you find yourself in an outside section of the prison and tour an empty school bus filled with surprises.

Returning to the prison again, you walk through a dark hallway that has cellmates on either side of you. While the actors aren't allowed to touch you, I still found that they unintentionally did at times.

Towards the end of the haunted prison, flashlights and 3-D glasses are handed out to everyone in your group. Then you enter a hallway that is covered with bright paint and tricked-out zombies. Each one had a different 3-D appearance, but they were all equally entertaining.

Finally after one last long eerie hallway, the tour is done. The penitentiary is entertaining for sure, but not as scary as it is hyped up to be.

I wouldn't recommend it to anyone looking for a heart-pounding fright, but if you're in the mood for a moderately scary haunted prison, The Eastern State Penitentiary will be your cup of tea.

Alertness key in avoiding predators

Jenn Gordun '12

Washington Township has always been a secure and peaceful place to live.

Children are out riding bikes around the block, teens are uniting with friends to play a pick-up game of baseball at the park, and life is nice, quiet and calm for the most of us.

Overall, most would likely say that Washington Township a safe, healthy, and happy place to live. Still, no matter how peaceful and secure a place is, it does not mean that nothing bad can occur.

Many have heard recent news stories on TV, or have read in the paper that the world can be a dangerous place. Kidnappings, beatings, abductions –although they might be scary to talk about –do happen.

I would like to share with you a few safety tips that my father has told me. These few tips may be common sense to some people, but to others, this can be the determining factor between life and death.

Keep moving: Women have a tendency to get into their cars after shopping, eating, working, etc... and just sit (doing their make-up, or texting,

etc.) **do not do this.** This would be an easy opportunity for a predator to attempt a robbery or an assault. So after entering your car, lock the doors and move on. Don't just sit.

Parking lot tips: Parking lots can be safe enough when they are busy, but late at night or at off-peak hours, they require caution. There are a few things to consider about getting into your car in a parking lot or parking garage.

a.) Be aware; before entering your vehicle, look around you, in your car, at the passenger side floor and in the back seat.

b.) If you are parked next to a big van, be aware or even enter your car from the passenger side door. There are documented cases of abductions where attackers have pulled their victims into their cars. Always be alert.

c.) Be aware of your surroundings. Look at the cars parked next to your vehicle, Notice if they are occupied before turning your back on them.

d.) If you feel uneasy, never be afraid to ask security personnel to walk you to your car. It is always better to be safe.

Investing in a little caution can pay off big in safety.



GLORIA MAYNARD '10/ The Patriot

Lifestyles

Good Eatin' by Chloe Dawson '10

Local pizzerias a favorite for teens

Chloe Dawson '10

After the fourth quarter of the weekly Friday night football games, many WTHS students sprint over to Frank's or Sal's Pizzeria to get the best seat in the place. Both Frank's and Sal's are located in the heart of our township. Frank's sits in front of the 9/10 building and Sal's is located in back of the football fields across from Acme. These pizzerias became classic hang-outs for teens overtime.

After school many of you will see classmates walking across the street to Frank's a very basic "Ma and Pa" shop. It caters to every taste bud that walks through the door. They serve a wide variety of food rather than pizza and cheese fries. A customer could get several types of cheesesteaks. They also have sandwiches you could pick from. You can have your traditional pizza like cheese and pepperoni.

On the other hand, you can try a spicy (but not too spicy) Buffalo wing pizza. Friday nights after a football game, many people head over to Franks to get the slice that gives a little kick. However, don't be disappointed when they tell you that their all out for the night. The pizza is very popular in pies and slices as well.



MARIA PETRUZZI '10 / The Patriot

If you'd like a pie for you and your friends the average cost is about \$12.50. Or not feeling as hungry, you can get a slice for around \$2.00.

Not only does the food make you feel welcome, but their atmosphere as well. The workers greet you with a warm smile and welcome you into their restaurant. You will find many faces from our high school or around our town there.

The idea that this is your town and you feel a part of the community with friends and comforting food.

The pizzeria is located on a small strip mall on a busy road. After

one of the weekly football games or after school walk on over to Frank's and grab a bite to eat with friends or family.

On a Friday or Saturday night over twenty boxes of pizzas will be stacked on top of the ovens at Sal's pizza. This little building has become recognizable over many years.

Sal's Pizza; another "Ma and Pa" shop has the best pizza around our community. Many people like extra cheese or very little sauce. Looking for the just amount of each in each slice? Then order a large cheese pizza and you're set. As you

walk into this cozy restaurant you will find the cooks hard at work behind the glass window making multiple pizzas for take-out and for costumers dinning in. Hostesses are also hard at work taking orders on the phone and in person.

If you live near by, walk on over to Sal's or take a short drive and grab a slice and sit near the counter to watch the cooks making fresh pizza.

Sal's and Frank's have the same pizzeria menu such as garlic knots, strombolis, cheesesteaks, and of course some of the best pizza in South Jersey. The thing that makes it the best pizza is knowing that every weekend the cooks at both Frank's and Sal's put hard work into their food. They know they will always have returning and new costumers so their heart goes into their work to make everyone satisfied.

Our school is the main focus of our town. On the weekend students go to football games, and then go to Franks to socialize. The idea is that we focus on these restaurants just as much as our own school. Sal's pizza has been open since highschool in the 70's, showing that these landmarks grow with our residents and our community. I feel that they will always be apart of Washington Township.

Vera Bradley fills hallways

Maria Petruzzi '10

As students, freshman through seniors, walk down the hallways of WTHS, they find their eyes being glued to the bright colors and unique patterns of Vera Bradley.

This fall trend is not necessarily new; Vera Bradley's collections have been in stores since 2008. The collection is mostly sold in Hallmark stores or in her own outlets. The closest Vera Bradley location by WTHS with the most selection would be the Hallmark in the Deptford Mall. Her collections are only found in select hallmarks.

Bradley's collection started out as airport luggage bags for women, making them fashionable. Now the

variety has stretched from wallet to pet holders, to handbags and carryon's.

Around school you mostly see book bags. Girls use them to carry books and some even use them, as a handbag. They are made with cushion inside the fabric so when using them for a book bag they rest easily on your back and shoulder.

During the summer most girls buy the wristlet which can hook onto your keys to eliminate carrying around a purse in the heat. These wristlets are easier if you are just running to the store quickly and only need your money. There is also a slot for your identification on the front so you never forget it.

The main attractions to her accessories are the hand stitched



MARIA PETRUZZI '10 / THE PATRIOT

There are a variety of diferent designs from which to choose.

patterns with vibrant colors. I feel that every color combination expresses each girl's personality.

The combination of black and brown could be the more shy, laidback type. Rather than the bright

pink and yellow may be for the adventurous and outgoing type.

Although, Bradley's collection is on the expensive side, the material stays clean. If you use them often you will be get your money's worth.

Books

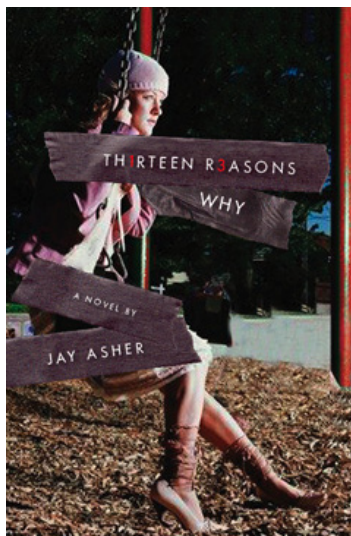
Thirteen proves lucky for first time author

Dianna Lombardo '10

Jay Asher's first published novel is climbing its way to the best sellers list with good reason. It tells the tale of Hannah, a girl who committed suicide, and Clay, one of thirteen people who receive her personally recorded audio cassette tapes explaining why she took her own life.

In *Thirteen Reasons Why*, Hannah explains why she committed suicide through a series of audio cassette tapes. These tapes were sent out to thirteen different people, calling them out as one of the reasons she's decided to take her life. The tapes travel from person to person listed on the tapes. They have to mail them to the next person on the mailing list, and if they don't, Hannah promises that the tapes will be sent to everyone in town and in her old high school.

Hannah was Clay's crush in high school. He was heartbroken when he heard the tragic news of her



Google Image

Asher conjures up all of your emotions when reading this hit. untimely death. Clay was shocked when he listened to the first tape and realized that he was one of the reasons she killed herself. Enclosed in the package of seven audiotapes is a map of the town they share. This

map has locations marked off with red stars and short introductions, instructing the listener to travel along town and go to the places that either made her or broke her.

Asher does a brilliant job telling the story in a dual narrative, alternating between Hannah's haunting words and Clay's confusing thoughts. It presents the dark side of teen life, including suicide, sex, drinking, rumors, absent minded adults and rude teenagers.

The novel is powerful and sadly can seem real. *Thirteen Reasons Why* shows how other people's actions create and destroy a person's life. It reveals how hard high school can be, the reactions and consequences of spreading rumors and the heartache and lasting effects of suicide on those left behind to deal with the loss of another.

Granted it is an easy, short read, it will keep you up all night desperate trying to understand the motivation of a desperate teen.

Another best-seller for Brown

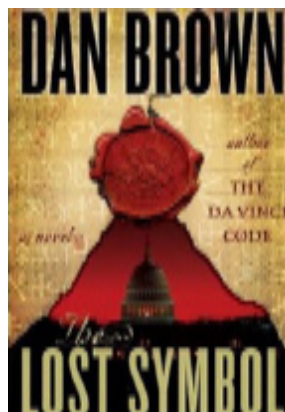
Luke Verrillo '10

Controversial author Dan Brown returns to the world of symbolism and conspiracy with this year's *The Lost Symbol*. Following the massive success from both *The Da Vinci Code* and *Angels and Demons*, Brown scores yet again with his latest novel.

When Professor Robert Langdon is lured to Washington D.C. under mysterious circumstances, readers are thrown into a high-octane story that unravels the truth behind the creation of our country and the Founding Fathers. Racing through the monuments and historical buildings of our nation's capital, Langdon finds himself running from CIA agents and crazed maniacs alike, deciphering an ancient map, getting closer to our nation's greatest secret with each clue. With no one to trust and the clock ticking, Langdon finds himself in his most daring adventure yet.

The third addition into the Robert Langdon series of books, this is the first of the trilogy to remain within the United States. For readers, this makes the story easier to get into. Whereas some may not know what the interior of the Louvre in Paris looks like, people can easily envision the Capitol Building and the Washington Monument—two main locations throughout the book. Readers' familiarity with history, such as George Washington and Isaac Newton, allow them better grasp of the story.

Though Brown uses some of the slower-paced moments of the book to educate the readers on matters of history and symbolism, the book never feels like a chore to read. There's always danger at every corner and a twist to accompany the end of each chapter, making the novel a relatively fast read—a plus for students with mounting piles of homework.



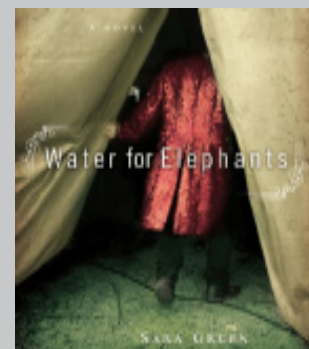
Yahoo Image

Esteemed author releases another top-seller.

Fans of Brown's work will not be disappointed and readers new to the author will be running to the bookstore after reading this novel. Fans of all genres will enjoy this, whether it be action and adventure, murder, or mystery. With a film already in the works, hurry and grab your own copy today.

BOOK CLUB NOVELS

Student Club



Water for Elephants By Sara Gruen

A veterinary student joins the circus and learns about love, trust, and how crazy circus life is.

Staff Club



The Middle Place By Kelly Corrigan

A daughter takes on the role of parent when both she and her father learn of a terrifying diagnosis.

Tech Talk

New Call of Duty Draws Crowds

Chris Bucci '10

If you own an XBOX 360, you must have heard about the new *Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2* that was just released.

Over the years *Call of Duty* has made numerous action-packed and fun games adolescence and older people love to play. The series dropped its historic focus, created a new cast of characters, and started taking the first-person shooter genre to new locales. Also, they pushing the limits of what military games can show in the first *Modern Warfare*. This game, now the second in the Modern Warfare series, has brought an extraordinary amount of hype, alone pre-orders are breaking selling records.

The addition of multiplayer modes and features, and the game's new Special Operations mode tacked on to what was already a great game. Everybody will have their eye on this game.

This game has been broken up into three main parts. For single-player fans, they have campaign mode, if you like co-op game play, you can play locally or online with the new Spec Ops mode. Finally, the multiplayer is back, and is one of the favorite new things. All three of these parts are completely different

experiences.

The single player experience is back in this game. The emphasis on the graphics is much stronger than the prior *Call of Duty* games. For instance, the terrain in the environments, weather effects, destructible objects, the visual, and just the overall feel that you are in a war.

The sound design has also improved. Many of the returning weapon have been re-recorded, there is more talking with your allies during levels, and realistic scenes. The campaign mode feels like an action movie.

"This game is definitely more realistic and has the best graphics I've ever seen" said John Kuruc '10.

At the same time, campaign mode has some minor issues. First of all, it is a little short.

"I was able to beat the campaign mode in the first day that I bought it." said Mike Bolton '10.

Also, the story telling isn't that great either. There isn't really any historic anchor and it could have used more specific direction or polish time to get right. The events fly by, story is told only through load screens or in-game chatter, and most people don't feel like reading the text. The story itself was an average one. The game also expects you to know the characters. The set of events aren't



CHRIS BALDWIN '10/The Patriot

really that believable.

The team play has improved in multiplayer mode. A new feature called Spec Ops improved the way people play. Spec Ops is a challenge mode that can be played single player, but designed around two-person team play. It is addictive and entertaining. The single player mode is an upgrade from the first COD. The Spec Ops will definitely be a draw to this game for most people. The graphics in multiplayer are much better than before. The effects and scenery have improved a lot. They

had a whole team focusing on the multiplayer mode and it shows.

This game has improved a lot since the first modern warfare. The multiplayer has gotten a lot better and so have the graphics and effects. The new features, especially Spec Ops are solid. Everything in this game has improved.

The only downfalls are the length of the campaign mode and the story line of it.

Overall I think this game is one of the best games of recent time and is a definite buy.

Nintendo releases sequel to popular game

Jessica Clark '13

The Kingdom Hearts series recently released a new installment for the Nintendo DS called Kingdom Hearts 358/2 Days. This new game is supposed to be an interquel that takes place between the already very popular Kingdom Hearts and Kingdom Hearts II. The game focuses on the daily life of Roxas, who is a reoccurring character in the "Kingdom Hearts" series. If you didn't have any prior knowledge of this series, "Kingdom Hearts" is an action role-playing game series that features characters from well known Disney movies and

characters created by Square. The game Kingdom Hearts follows the story of a 14 year old boy named Sora, that was chosen to wield a sword-like weapon called

"Kingom Hearts is a fantastic game for anyone to play"

a Keyblade. This Keyblade can battle the darkness that lives in the world of Kingdom Hearts. Sora is accompanied by his two friends, Riku and Kairi. He is also joined by Donald and Goofy on his journey to defeat the darkness.

The main villain in the story

is Ansem who is bent on finding power and knowledge to create dark beings called the Heartless. The Heartless are the main enemies featured during game play. The game is made up of different levels that are referred to as "worlds" and some of the worlds are taken from different Disney films.

However, the game for the Nintendo DS doesn't focus on Sora and his adventures but rather Roxas who is a Nobody of Sora and part of Organization XIII. Organization XIII is a powerful group of Nobodies that were used as an enemy organization in the other Kingdom Hearts games. In

this Kingdom Hearts 358/2 Days, you see many familiar characters including the Nobodies that make up Organization XIII. For example, Axel plus a new character is also introduced in this game called Xion. Like many Kingdom Hearts fans I am excited over the new game and can't wait to play it. One student commented that "Kingdom Hearts is a fantastic game for anyone to play."

The "Kingdom Hearts" series has been a good one. It has a lot of reputation to live up to. I hope that Kingdom Hearts 358/2 Days lives up to the greatness of the Kingdom Hearts series.

Arts&Entertainment

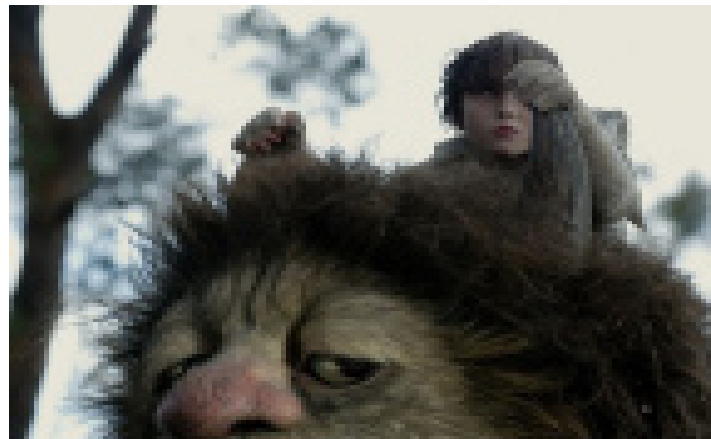
Classic book brought to the big screen

Jessica McFadden '10

Spike Jonze brought an old favorite to the big screen after forty-six years of it sitting on children's bookshelves.

Almost all of us know the book, *Where the Wild Things Are*, by Maurice Sendak. Of course, none of us students were alive when it was published, but it's been a bedtime favorite for many years. This tantalizing tale made all little boys and girls *want* to be sent to their rooms with no dinner, just so that they could go on an adventure away from their parents, their siblings, and trouble in general!

Released in 1963, the book tells about a young boy who has a very active imagination. Young Max is extremely rambunctious around his house, and as a result, is sent to his room without dinner. While sitting in solitude, Max's imagination gets the best of him. He envisions a whole world up, right there in his bedroom, along with a few terrifying creatures! Max takes charge over the creatures, and soon becomes their king. After only being there for a little while, Max gets homesick and decides he



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Max goes on adventures with the "wild things".

wants his old life back. He returns home, and finds that his mother had saved him dinner, and even kept it warm!

Now, in 2009, forty-six years later, Spike Jonze made this very short children story into a big screen hit. But it is definitely not for kids.

Max Records plays young Max, who dons his white (or at least, it starts out white!) wolf costume, throughout his adventures. Unlike in the book, Max acts disrespectfully toward his mother, and when she attempts to punish him, he runs

away. Max comes across a small boat tied up on the side of the lake, and climbs in, ready for any way to get away from home. After days at sea, he spots seagulls, giving away that he was near land. Docking his boat, Max then scaled the cliffs and wandered through woods, toward the smoke that he'd spotted from the top of the cliffs.

When he finally gets to where the fire is coming from, he sees massive creatures stomping around, arguing. After watching them for awhile, Max follows the example of

the monsters, and begins to interact with them. After showing what he can do, the creatures find it fitting to make him 'King of the Wild Things'! Shortly after their party, another creature, K.W., appears, and is introduced.

Max feels that the monsters could have closer, friendlier relationships, so he promises that his 'kingdom' will be free of chaos and bad things. When he fails to keep that promise, the monsters start to realize that Max isn't a real king. Chaos arises, and the wild things feel the tension looming in the air. When Max finally realizes that all of this 'power' is too much, he decides he wants to go home.

This movie is true to Sendak's children's original in few ways, but it is also different. The original book was only a few pages long, while the movie was over an hour.

This movie is definitely not for small children. Children around me in the theater often said to their parents 'but that wasn't in the book!' There is more aggression than needed in the film than needed in a children's movie, in my opinion. Seeing this movie draws out laughs, and maybe even a few tears at different times!

Jackson's legacy continues

Luke Verrillo '10

Though the King of Pop may be gone, Michael Jackson's legacy will live on forever. A prominent figure in pop culture for four decades, Jackson's name has become synonymous with music.

However, it seems that now, months after his death, his fame is still reaching new heights.

"I never listened to his music before he died," Leah Power '10 said. "My friend was a big fan so he got me to start listening to it after his [Jackson's] death and I really liked it. I have all his songs on my iPod now."

A few hours after the announcement of his untimely death on June 25, sales of Jackson's songs skyrocketed on Apple's iTunes Music Store, indicating his enormous posthumous success. Nine of the artist's albums were within the store's Top 10, fourteen in the Top 20, sixteen in the Top 40, and twenty-one in the top 100.

It appears that the King of Pop, despite his death, will continue to hold onto the crown.

"This is It," Jackson's last single, was released to the world at midnight on October 12 exclusively through the artist's webpage MichaelJackson.com. Though the song received mixed reviews from critics and audiences alike, it still topped international music charts.

"I love the new song," avid fan Megan Montgomery '10 states. "He sounded so good at fifty years old. It was like listening to a track off of *Thriller*."

Accompanying the release of the new song is *This is It*, a film documenting the final rehearsals of Jackson's cancelled concert tour, which was initially scheduled to be performed over the summer, only weeks after his death.

Movie sources such as Fandango.com & E!Online.com report that the film's advanced ticket sales are significantly higher than last year's *Hannah Montana & Miley Cyrus: The Best of Both Worlds Concert*, the current highest grossing concert film in history.

"The DJ played "Billie Jean" at our homecoming dance and everyone was dancing,"



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Michael Jackson was always a hit when it came to live performances

Janel Eldridge '12 recalls. "I'm not a huge fan, but clearly everyone else who was around me is."

Michael Jackson is still a force to be reckoned with in the musical world.

His songs continue to dominate charts and radio playlists. His face is still plastered all over news channels and film screens. With his fame and influence forever climbing, long live the king.

New cast joins in drama

Julia Hahn '10

The latest season of One Tree Hill is a big adjustment for fans of the show to get used to.

One Tree Hill is a drama series on the CW that follows the lives of several friends who live in the small town of Tree Hill, North Carolina. However, in this season, the series has lost two of its main characters Lucas Scott (Chad Micheal Murray) and Peyton Sawyer (Hilarie Burton). The two actors left the show because the last season was supposed to be the show's last, but it received such high ratings, that the producers decided to continue with it.

But Burton and Murray chose not to continue with the show. The show continued none the less and the first episode explained that Peyton and Lucas had left the town to travel across country. To replace the spots that Peyton and Lucas left, several new characters were added. Nathan Scott's (James Lafferty) sports agent Clay Dawson (Robert Buckley), Haley Scott's (Bethany Joy Galeotti) sister Quinn James (Shantel VanSaten) and Brooke Davis' (Sophia Bush) love interest Julian (Austin Nicholas) have become regular

characters on the show. Buck VanSaten's characters have formed a love interest fairly quickly, but it cannot seem to capture the spark that held the attention of fans like that of Murray's and Burton's.

The show has also brought back Rachel (Daneel Harris) as the new wife of Nathan's father Dan (Paul Johansson). With the absence of two very popular characters, the show is trying very hard to make up for the presence, but is not yet succeeding.

The romance of Quinn and Clay has developed too quickly to be readily accepted and too many questions are being brought up without being answered. The audience has still not gotten a clear answer as to why Quinn has left her husband, or the circumstances surrounding Dan's new found fame on his self-help television show.

"The new season just can't capture what Peyton and Lucas brought to the show," comments Chelsea Earley '10. "The plot lines were always a little over the top, but



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Tree Hill gets some new residents.

it seems more obvious now with Peyton and Lucas gone."

New plot lines have emerged, such as a woman claiming that Nathan is the father of her child, and a party hard starlet coming between Brooke and Julian. The biggest problem the show has now is just finding a way to make up for the fact that they lost two of its main characters that it had for the last six seasons.

So far, the show has not gotten back to the place it was last season, but perhaps the fans just need a little more time to adjust to the new swing of things.

Race no longer amazing

Andrew Gerber '13

The Amazing Race, a show on CBS which is on every Sunday night at 8:00 PM, is now about halfway through its fifteenth season and almost on its 7th year on TV.

For those who haven't seen it, the show is a race around the world split into legs, punctuated by rest periods for each team of two. Players "check in" at the pit stops, or ending points, and the slowest team is eliminated from the race. The winning team in the end wins a grand prize of \$1 million.

Considering the fact that the show has been on so long and that it usually gets around 2.5 million viewers per show, it's really a surprise that more people haven't caught on to the craze yet.

But with the show going to repeat destinations, and performing old tasks from previous episodes, some fans wonder if this season will be as interesting as others. In the most recent episode, (November 8th) teams had to perform a task from a previous season. They had to perform the backbreaking task of unrolling

Going to repeat destinations, and performing old tasks from previous episodes, has fans wondering if this season will be as interesting.

hundreds of bales of hay in order to find one of only seven hidden flags, which they had to show at the pit stop in order to check in. This task

however, took on a whole different light than it did in the last season it was in. While in the previous season this task seemed to take several hours to complete the teams in this season were all able to complete it in one or two hours. Despite this fact, teams in this season aren't really much stronger or smarter than teams in

previous seasons.

I really think season 15 has potential to be a memorable season. Drama has been rampant during this race, even if the television impressions we get from the show are probably made to seem more climactic than the dramatic events which actually happened.

During leg 6, in the United Arab Emirates, team Mika and Canaan were pushed out of the race because of Mika's intense fear of water. Mika and Canaan were given a two minute time limit to go down the slide, and when Mika still refused, Flight Time and Big Easy got ahead and crushed their seemingly inevitable fate of being in last place.

Even if you haven't been watching for the whole season, I strongly advise you to get hooked to the Amazing Race. Watching The Amazing Race on CBS on Sunday evenings is a great way to end your weekend.

Powerhouse energizes Philly

Shacarra Almon 10'

As usual this year Powerhouse hit the Wachovia center on its metropolitan tour. With much awaited anticipation, tickets sold fast and locals packed in.

Promoted by Power 99 FM, a popular tri-state area radio station, Powerhouse is a huge concert known for its "banging" R&B and Hip-Hop music. It has the hottest artists and music all in one room, and as usual, surprise guests are always expected. This year the our Philadelphia concert was held on October 23, at the Wachovia Center.

The star-studded line-up included Jay-Z, Mario, Keri Hilson, Jadakiss, Trey Songz, N.E.R.D, Jeremih, Pleasure P and Day 26.

This year's leading artist for the tour was "The King of Rap", otherwise known as Jay-Z. He has sold 30 million albums in the United States alone and received several Grammy Awards for his musical work. With his newly released album Blueprint III, many fans are excited to hear his chart-topping singles "Death of the Auto Tune" featuring Rihanna, and "Empire State of Mind" featuring Alicia Keys.

"I was very disappointed. I go every year and this year was the same as last year. The only thing I really like was Meek Mills and of course Trey Songs. He is so Bangin!" said Charna Cottman '10.

Meek Mills, a local Philadelphia rapper hyped the crowd with some of his famous singles such as "Flamers", "In My Bag", and "You Gotta Girlfriend".

There were many surprise guests such as Beenie Sigal and Memphis Bleek, who are previous artists of Jay-Z's record label Roc-A-Fella Records.

"The concert was awesome! I enjoyed almost every act-especially Jadakiss! I had never seen him in person and I am a big fan of him and his group D-Block!" said Hillary Simone 10'.

The sold out concert has a couple more cities to hit before the tour is over.

New show captivates audience

Weston Eldridge '10

Have you ever wondered what would happen if the whole world blacked out at the same time?

The new ABC hit series *FlashForward* explains exactly that. On Oct. 6, a mysterious event caused everyone on the planet to simultaneously lose consciousness for exactly 137 seconds.

Providing action within the first ten minutes of the show's existence, mayhem erupts during the blackout. In a special-effects sequence, planes crash, cars overturn, and buses disappear into large bodies of water. While unconscious, people see what appear to be visions of their lives approximately six years in the future.

Future.

This mystical term has the world in a state of paranoia. As they wonder if their "global FlashForwards" will come true. Can they prevent the future? In mass uncertainty, a team of Los Angeles FBI agents take on the task of investigating what happened, why, and whether it will happen again. The investigation is spear-headed

by Agent Mark Benford (Joseph Fiennes). In his *FlashForward*, he saw the results of six months of investigation that he had done on the event. His team uses the mosaic he created in his *FlashForward* to recreate the investigation.

The mosaic along with billions of other *FlashForwards* creates a sense of mystery, suspicion, and adventure. Watching the show, I find myself glued to the television, anxiously awaiting every lead, or obstacle impeding the investigation. Along with the investigation, the potential for character-development intrigues and sustains a high interest level among the viewers. Seeing the characters today and six months from now shows the viewer that some drastic changes are going to happen to these characters.

The drastic changes range from marital problems to life or death scenarios. For instance, Benford and his wife Olivia (Sonya Walger) experience problems because in their *Flash Forwards* they weren't together. With their marriage going so well, they are unable to figure out why they saw what they saw. Olivia



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A group of FBI agents take on the task of figuring out why every person blacked out for exactly 137 seconds.

sees herself with another man in their house with who she later comes in contact with. As the season goes on, the stakes get higher and the investigation is pressed for time. In terms of life or death, those who didn't experience a *FlashForward* are left with the harsh rational that they will not be alive in six months time. Agent Benford's partner, Demetri Noh (John Cho) is among those who didn't experience a *FlashForward* during the blackout. As each day goes by, Noh becomes more anxious and

terrified with the knowledge that his life will be short-lived.

Creators Brannon Braga and David S. Goyer incorporated drama into the show by giving each character in the show their own unique story, which becomes more complicated as the season goes on.

The show is successful in involving the viewer with each character's story. The drama and suspense incorporated into the characters' lives keep the viewer coming back for more.

Paranormal thrills despite low budget

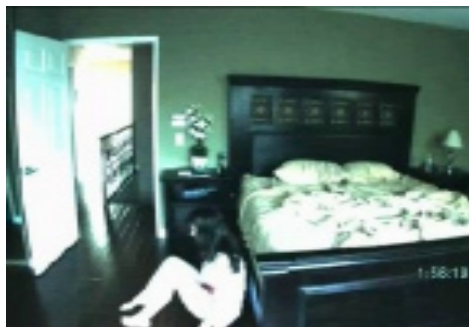
Sarah Kurtz '10

I have never seen a movie before that literally sent chills up and down my spine, until now. *Paranormal Activity* was one of the most thrilling, exhilarating, spine tingling movie that I have ever come across. The movie was able to pry up emotions and instill fear into each and every single bone in my body. I was terrified down to the very last second of the film.

The movie is based in San Diego during the month of September, 2006. During the first parts of the film, the plot is explained to us. There have been noises going on in the house while the couple, Micha and Katie, are sleeping which Katie believes to be a ghost or demon following her from house to house since she was eight.

Micha buys a camera to shoot them through the course of the movie to prove that something's going on at night while they sleep. Micha is skeptical, but Katie is convincing enough that after the first two nights, the viewers will truly believe that something is in the house. Micha is witty and adds some completely necessary comic relief.

The documentary style camera shots made it all the more scary. Katie calls a psychic to come



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Katie of *Paranormal* has been followed by a demon since she was eight years old.

and assist them at their house so they can try and figure out what is haunting them. The psychic tells them that there is an energy in the house, and running from it will not solve their problem. They just need to try and live as normal as possible without provoking it.

While Katie takes this advice as seriously as possible, Micha takes it a little less serious and borrows a "Ouija board" (a board with letters on it that is used to communicate with the dead or unknown). Each time the movie screen became dark as the camera turned to night

vision, everyone in the theatre gasped in terror, knowing that we were going to witness something supernatural happen. Night after night got scarier and more bizarre. As the couple experiences unexplained wind, dark shadows, and even an experiment which will have you never look at baby powder the same again.

By night three I was watching the horror flick through my fingers, and crying on occasion. I literally had moments where I forgot to breathe. Around night 18 the psychic was called back by Katie, but when the psychic entered the house he had something that looked like a panic attack and said he must leave immediately and that he could not help them. By night twenty I was convinced it could not get any worse, until night twenty-one had arrived. Night twenty-one was by far the scariest of all the nights, and just as abruptly as it had started, the movie was over.

While I uncovered my face taking a final look at the screen I noticed something unusual, no credits. Did this mean it was real? No film crew or special effects? As it turns out, this was just to add more of a creepy affect. The movie infact does have a director and screen play writer, Oren Peli. The movie was said to have had a budget of only around 10,000, but made millions in profit.

Sports

Girls x-country goes distance

Taylor Perkins '11

With a team of hard working, ambitious runners, coach Mrs. Rhonda Patterson is very excited about the 2009 season. Although the girls Cross Country team lost 4 out of the top 7 runners last year due to graduation, the loss did not affect the team's phenomenal performance this season.

Seniors Lauren Lacovara and Allie Volpe, Junior Amanda Nelson, sophomore Sara Strucko, and freshmen Ashley Fath, Kelly Laible, and Brook Liberto now make up the top 7 for the girls Cross Country team.

At the beginning of the season Coach Patterson did not know what to expect from the remaining runners. But by the end of the season she was very surprised by the performance of the team.

"I was pleasantly surprised by first time runner sophomore Dina Lacone, and freshmen Ashley Fath, Kelly Laible, and Brooke Liberto, who joined the squad this year", said Patterson.

The team was very successful this season competing in many competitions. The girls placed eighth in South Jersey Shootout, 13th in the Shore Coaches Meet, 5th in South Jersey Open and 3rd in the Gloucester County Meet.

Freshman Dina Lacone '12 did exceptionally well this season. She competed in the same competitions, ranking very high. Lacone placed 13th in the Shore Country Meet, 3rd in the South Jersey Open, 2nd in the Gloucester County Meet, and 1st in South Jersey Sophomore race. Because of her phenomenal performance she qualified herself to be a Wild Card in the Meet of Champions.

The girls worked very hard this season. All of the girls ranked high in the competitions, and their hard work was shown through how they performed in the competitions.

Cross Country

Boys triumph in county meet

Weston Eldridge '10

Wrapping up a rewarding season, the Boys Varsity Cross Country team earned the title Gloucester County champions with a 3-2 record.

"Our best accomplishment this year was winning the county meet," said Adam Krauss '10.

It was a solid first year for Mr. Rich Bostwick who took over for Mr. Bill Albertson. Coaching winter and spring track, Bostwick was a well-deserving recipient of the position.

"Albertson was a good coach, but having Bostwick as our head coach works out great because we work with him all year now instead of just during winter and spring track," said Tom Gallagher '10.

The team performed well for Bostwick on both team and individual levels. Number one runner Anthony Dentino '11 qualified

for the Individual State Meet as well as the Meet of Champions.

"I really wish we had qualified as a team, but it is still nice to make it and I'm glad the work I put in during the off-season paid off," said Dentino.

Success in cross country comes from hours upon hours of hard work. A typical week of practice for the team consisted of work-outs twice a week on the track, distance runs of 45 to 60 minutes twice a week, and on Fridays a 30 minute easy work-out to prepare for Saturday races.

Leading the way during practices were captains Krauss and Dentino.

"As a captian, I organized the summer practices and during the season Krauss and I tried to lead the team as best as possible," said Dentino, "We also tried to set a good example for our teammates, especially the underclassman."



photo courtesy of Mrs. Rhonda Patterson

Coach Rhonda Patterson and her 2010 team posing for a quick photo before a meet.

Patterson was very proud of the team, she said, "I am looking forward to working with them throughout the school year, and into the summer, and returning next year with the same enthusiasm and determination to improved the team."

The girls cross-country team has something positive to look back on, and now know that they can do even better next season.

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Proving themselves worthy during practice, Dentino, Chris Bucci '10, Dan Gresh '11, Krauss, Shawn Reeve '10, and Randy Smith '12 were awarded the six starting slots.

Even though they each ran for their own time, they were still able to work together as a team.

"Most of the time we had a solid pack with a few guys that ran together on varsity," said Gresh.

With a captain, Dentino, returning next year, the team's leadership role looks to be filled for the 2010-11 season.

Dentino hopes to repeat as county champions next season and to both individually and as a team qualify for the Meet of Champions.

"We have a lot of underclassmen who we really think can step up and fill the shoes of our graduating seniors," said Dentino.

Luzinski finds new life after baseball

Kevin Whitehead '10

Greg Luzinski has found a new meaning to grilling in a Philadelphia ballpark. Not so much the jeering of fans, but a barbecue oriented restaurant named Bull's BBQ.

The former star left fielder for the Philadelphia Phillies, Nicknamed "The Bull", Luzinski has established a new life after baseball.

"I've always been a barbecue guy," said Luzinski who loves to cook at home. "I continually use the grill. The weather never stopped us."

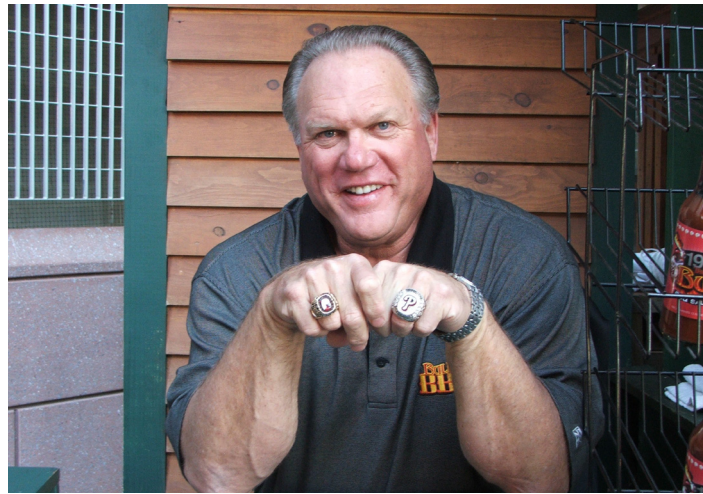
Prior to the inaugural season of Citizens Bank Park in 2004, Luzinski had talked about being the "goodwill guy" and sharing his homemade recipes that would offer a new variety of food besides the regular beer and hot dog combination.

This eventually led to the creation of Bull's BBQ.

"It was kind of a joint venture between the Phillies and ourselves. It worked out for both of us," Luzinski said.

Phillies executives and Luzinski united to bring one of the best menus any ballpark has to offer throughout Major League Baseball. It was named the Best Ballpark Food in the first Annual Food Network Awards in 2007. Clearly, it does not disappoint.

"The whole idea of this ballpark was supposed to be fan friendly. I mean, it is one of the best stadiums, if not the best stadium in



KEVIN WHITEHEAD '10/The Patriot

Luzinski (displaying his championship rings) has found a new niche with his restaurant in Citizens Bank Park.

baseball," Luzinski said. Luzinski is fan friendly himself.

At Bull's BBQ, Phillies fans have the opportunity to meet and greet with a Phillies legend who hit 223 home runs as a Phillie. He ranks fifth behind Hall of Fame third baseman Mike Schmidt, Del Ennis, Pat Burrell, and Chuck Klein.

Luzinski, who usually hit third in front of Schmidt, created a power combination for the Phillies. This great combination helped the Phillies win their first World Championship in 1980.

The fans surely don't forget any of his years in Philadelphia and are grateful for the convenient opportunity to meet a legend of Luzinski's caliber.

"The fans are great," Luzinski

said. "For me it's a little bit different. People come up to me [who] have watched me and bring their kids out. [Fans say,] 'This was the Ryan Howard when I watched baseball,'" Luzinski said.

The fans aren't the only ones enjoying BBQ. Luzinski has the chance to give back to the fans as well. Along with his dazzling recipes, The Bull enjoys the unique interactions with fans.

"They all have a different story. There's always something new," Luzinski said.

Even though Luzinski played for the White Sox from 1981 to 1984, he stresses that his heart remains in South Philadelphia.

"There are a lot of enthusiastic fans that do come by and thank

me for the years I've played here. The fans have always treated me outstanding," Luzinski said.

Despite his strong connections with the Phillies and its fan base, he parted ways after the 1980 World Championship and signed with the Chicago White Sox. He hit 84 home runs for the south side Sox. He retired with the Sox and hung up his spikes after the 1984 season.

"I didn't feel I could play up to my standards and retired. [My knee] was a major injury, but I had to work through it," The Bull said.

In the old era of baseball, that's how they played the game. There was no letting up in the pursuit of victory and no time for nonsense.

"I just tried to do my job everyday and give 100 percent and whether I went 0-4 or 4-4, you have to stay even keeled because there are a lot of highs and lows in baseball," Luzinski said.

"I grew up in an era where you're not supposed to talk to the opposition. Now you see guys talking around batting practice. We were fined by the umpire if we were caught doing that."

As a former professional athlete, Luzinski has made a name for himself through his success on the diamond and now for his restaurant.

The Bull continues to enjoy his time in Philadelphia.

"Just making [the fans] happy and seeing the smiles... That's what it's all about," Luzinski said.

Committed athletes look to future

Chris Lawrence

Baseball



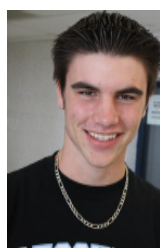
USP

University of the Sciences in Philadelphia

"It has good academics, a good pharmacy program. I went to a showcase and they wanted me to play for them."

Adam Warburton

Baseball



Richard Stockton College of New Jersey

"They have a great environmental science program. Plus I'll start as a freshman."

Kim Krauss- Elon College- Communications. "They have a really nice campus down there."

Janine Valerio- Marshall- Law and Business- "Expect to have a good experience with the soccer team."

Laura Rose- Rutgers University- Nursing- "I like that its a big school and that Lisa's going there."

Lisa Patrone- Rutgers University- Nursing- "Had the coach for futures and I like her coaching style and Laura's going."

Matt Lopez- La Salle- Criminal Justice "Love the coach and the programs really on the rise."

Nick Favatella- Rutgers University- Pharmacy- "I'm going to work



KEITH MARR '10/The Patriot

Ice Hockey enjoying early success

Maria Brasco '10
Written as of 11/24/09

To fill the void of the '09 seniors, this year's seniors and a select group of underclassmen received a chance to shine and help bring TWP Ice Hockey to a superior level.

Senior captain Jon Rey, along with fellow assistant captains, Louis DeAngelo '10, Ryan Carr '10, and Eddie Sarin '11 are excited to lead the team through as many wins as possible.

"Our team this year is real close. We all get along really well and have fun while playing the game we love," said DeAngelo. "I think our team has a lot of potential and we're all looking forward to the Clearview game."

Twp. Ice Hockey is 11-1-1, and building the momentum to hopefully defeat Clearview Regional High School on Dec. 18. In the past, numerous fans pour into the stands to see this game. However, the 2010 seniors have made a commitment to be present at all the games, big or small.



MARIA BRASCO '10/The Patriot

Captain Jon Rey and assistants, Louie DeAngelo, Ryan Carr, and Eddie Sarin are anticipating a great season.

"It really gets me pumped when I see my senior class chanting and going nuts for us, a huge crowd is something we've never really had [in the past]," said Carr.

The team has been working hard to give the fans something to cheer for. Leading scorers, DeAngelo, Sarin, and John Smith '12 are anticipating

dancing their way around defenders and ripping the puck into the net.

Goalies Brandon Cusamano and Mike Stover '10 seem up to the challenge, and with their skilled teammates in front of them, they are confident the pressure will not be on them.

In addition to returning players,

Twp has collected a new player who might just bring some fresh charisma to the team. Ryan Marker '12, a former student from Gloucester Catholic.

"Ryan is really good and we're expecting a lot from him [this season]. Some people would think cause he hasn't been around us that long, the team chemistry wouldn't be there. But Ry really fits in." DeAngelo said.

Twp Ice Hockey has some unfinished business. Heading for the league champions, the team is preparing to dominate in playoffs and hopefully win the championship.

"We are so ready for playoffs and want to take home a championship," Carr said, "All the seniors want to win and leave a great tradition to be passed on."

Washington Twp. Ice Hockey is a phenomenon sweeping across students here at WTHS.

With big games upcoming, the stands should be roaring with spirited fans and the players couldn't be more driven to bring home a championship.

Pro Football

NFL unfolds, answers offseason questions

Weston Eldridge '10

Question marks filled the air during the offseason leading to the 2009-10 NFL season.

Was the trade of Denver Broncos franchise quarterback the right move?

Will Tom Brady return to his record-setting form after missing all of last season?

How much will Michael Vick be used?

Will Terrell Owens mesh with the Buffalo Bills?

On Sept. 10, it was finally time to answer some questions. Behind Ben Roethlisberger's 363 yard passing performance, the Super Bowl XLIII Champion Pittsburgh Steelers edged out a tight 13-10 victory over the Tennessee Titans in front of 65,100 at Heinz field.

Exciting plays filled Week 1 action.

With less than 30 seconds left in the game, the Bengals clung to a 12-7 lead. After



was deflected, Brandon Stokley came up with the football on his way to an 87 yard game-winning touchdown. This miraculous play was a foreshadowing of the success of the Broncos season so far, posting a 6-3 record and leading the AFC West.

So far the Cutler for Orton trade has worked out for the best. As of now, the Broncos gamble to get rid of their.

Orton has played above his expectations in throwing for 11 touchdowns with only four interceptions and a passer rating of 88.2. As for Cutler, he has been inconsistent. Including four interceptions in his first game.

After throwing for a record-setting 50 touchdowns in the 2007-08 season, Tom Brady battled through season-ending knee surgery in the offseason.

He is starting to return to old form.

Week six, he threw for 380 yards and six

touchdowns. The four time Super Bowl champ is getting the feel back and continues to lead his team, as he has consistently done in his illustrious ten year career.

The past couple of years have been inconsistent for Michael Vick. Dealing with off the field issues, Vick has been away from football for two years.

Andy Reid and the Philadelphia Eagles were one of the few teams that believed in giving Vick a second chance. He has had limited playing time since Vick is still getting his feet wet. Vick has had limited playing time even in the Wildcat formation.

However, for Terrell Owens, that's usually not the case. If he had his way, he would be incorporated in every play.

The Bills were well aware of his drama when they signed the superstar to a one-year 6.5 million dollar deal. However, even with a slow start for Owens, the T.O. show has been rather quiet.

Through the first 11 weeks, my top teams are the Indianapolis Colts, New Orleans Saints, Minnesota Vikings, Broncos, and the Bengals.