

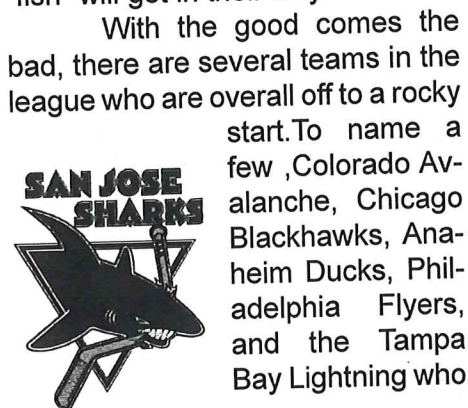
Breaking the Ice

An Overview of the Start to the 2008-2009 NHL Season



Hey hockey fans, the 2008-2009 NHL season is underway. Players have sharpened their skates and practiced all pre-season with

determination that perhaps this may be the year they hold the Stanley Cup. Many teams are off to a great start. In particular for the Eastern Conference the New York Rangers are going strong and the New Jersey Devils are not too far behind. Also, the Pittsburgh Penguins are trying to prove that this year won't be a repeat of last season and are working hard to prevent that. As for the Western Conference, the San Jose Sharks are showing that no "fish" will get in their way.



With the good comes the bad, there are several teams in the league who are overall off to a rocky start. To name a few, Colorado Avalanche, Chicago Blackhawks, Anaheim Ducks, Philadelphia Flyers, and the Tampa Bay Lightning who

By: Ariana Margetis

are striving for a few wins. In the eyes of many fans, some teams hope to get their act together and head to a better path ahead. For example, the Lightning who contain a great duo of Captain and center Vincent Lecavalier along with right winger Martin St. Louis, are determined to show head coach Barry Melrose that they will not have the team continue on the current streak such as this.

Let's focus on the key players who are making it on the list of league leaders. Head back to Pittsburgh for a moment, there's Evgeni Malkin who is one of the leaders in the league with twenty-two points. Also, Alex Auld of the Senators leads goalies with a GAA (goals against average) of 1.84. Another leader for goals is Thomas Vanek of

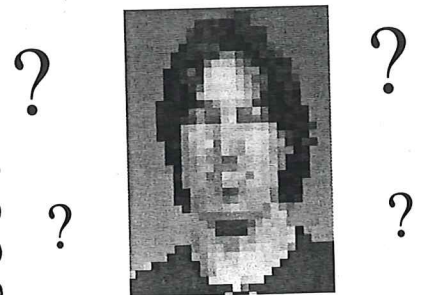


Above: Evgeni Malkin & Martin Brodeur

the Sabres, with twelve. Two larger stars to be on the look out for is Martin Brodeur, who is just wins away from Patrick Roy's record of five-hundred and fifty -one most career wins. Unfortunately this may be post-poned due to surgery on his elbow. This is keeping him out for about three to four months. Also, Nicklas Lidstrom is has career points not to shy of reaching of one-thousand. (As of Nov. 10th) Good luck to those players on achieving these milestones.

Cheer loud, play hard, and may the best team win.

★ Mystery Player ★



Maple Leafs

- Born on April 23, 1983.
- Birth place was Downey, CA.
- Position played is Center.
- He was drafted in 2001 by the New York Rangers.
- Now plays for the Toronto Maple Leafs.
- Received his fourth game misconduct.
- He was automatically suspended for three games.
- If issued misconduct once again during the next 41 games, he will automatically receive a four-game suspension.

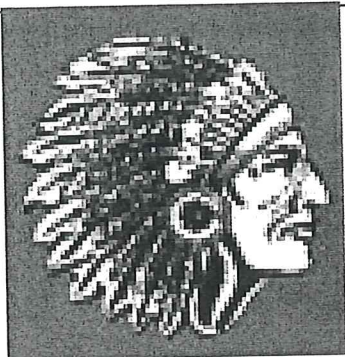
If you think you know the Mystery Player, please feel free to write into the Blue&Gray, but stay tuned for the answer in our next issue!

Tragedy for Rangers' Prospect



Alexei Cherepanov

In breaking NHL news, Rangers first round pick for the 2007 draft, Alexei Cherepanov, sadly passed away on Monday, October 13, 2008. He was just nineteen years old when he collapsed during a game in his home country of Russia. Cherepanov collapsed with just three minutes left in the third period, which is when his heart had stopped. Alexei was taken to the hospital and there he was pronounced dead. The cause of his death is still under investigation. On the day of his funeral, Cherepanov's coffin was brought from the arena, to the Omsk's Staro-Severnoye Cemetery, which is where he was buried. Thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends.



BLUE & GRAY SPORTS

Mr. Fagen Takes Over Hockey Program

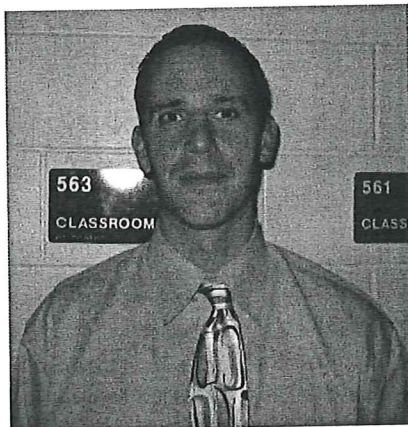
By: Matt Conte

The Double Life of Mr. Fagen Now Consists of History and Hockey

Eight years, two championships, and four kids after MHS hockey coach Tim Grable began coaching high school ice hockey he made a phone call to his a familiar face to inform him of the opening. The suggested replacement, Jim Fagen, was very excited to receive the news that he had a good chance of getting the job of Manasquan ice hockey head coach. Within the first week of school dropped off his resume and got approved for the job.

The team is already excited to have someone who they know through the school running the team. There are even students who claim they'd try out for hockey just because their beloved history teacher is now the head coach, but in all seriousness, Mr. Fagen is very qualified for the job.

Since his days as a first grader, Mr. and now Coach Fagen has been playing the sport. He played in high school on the first Manasquan varsity team ever in the 1996-97 season and then three years of goalie at Wagner College until he suffered a career ending injury to his shoulder. He's not just experienced in hockey, but also coaching in general, holding the head coach job for the Ocean Township



High School lacrosse team for the past two years and coaching lacrosse with various teams since 2002. He served as a volunteer assistant under the past two Manasquan hockey coaches, Kamaris

and Grable and has been helping coach hockey camps since he was a freshman in high school.

Fagen plans to make the team more regimented and to run stricter workouts under his leadership. He requires each player to go to the weight room a few times a week and get a form signed as proof.

Despite the fact that the team lost twelve players from last year and there wasn't much enthusiasm coming from the players going into this year, Fagen is excited to follow the successful Coach Grable. The feeling amongst the players is that their coach will now be a more approachable figure and have closer ties to the kids because, unlike Grable, he works at the school and already has a good relationship with most players.

"I think he had good on ice success and he kept up the Manasquan tradition and I'm very excited to be following him," Fagen said of his predecessor. Although Grable left the team with a favorable rapport with the players, parents and fans, Fagen says he is not worried about any pressure. There's not much to worry about anyway, seeing as the man was already admired by the team before he even got the job as coach.

Girls' Soccer Holds Together

By: Meghan Pignataro

With the season coming to an end, the Girls' soccer team can feel proud of a successful season. With a record of 10 wins, 8 losses and 1 tie, the girls survived a brutal schedule, played several tough games and put up a difficult fight

on the field. Their biggest accomplishment was reaching the quarterfinals of the state tournament, according to junior Laura Parker. They beat Cranford High School by a score of 3-0, with sophomore Shelby

Bellaran starting her first varsity game as goalie.

The win was hard fought for the girls. Leading scorer Elise Hemmer scored another goal, and played well with teammates Sarah Mahon and Parker. The three dominated the game on offense for the Warriors.

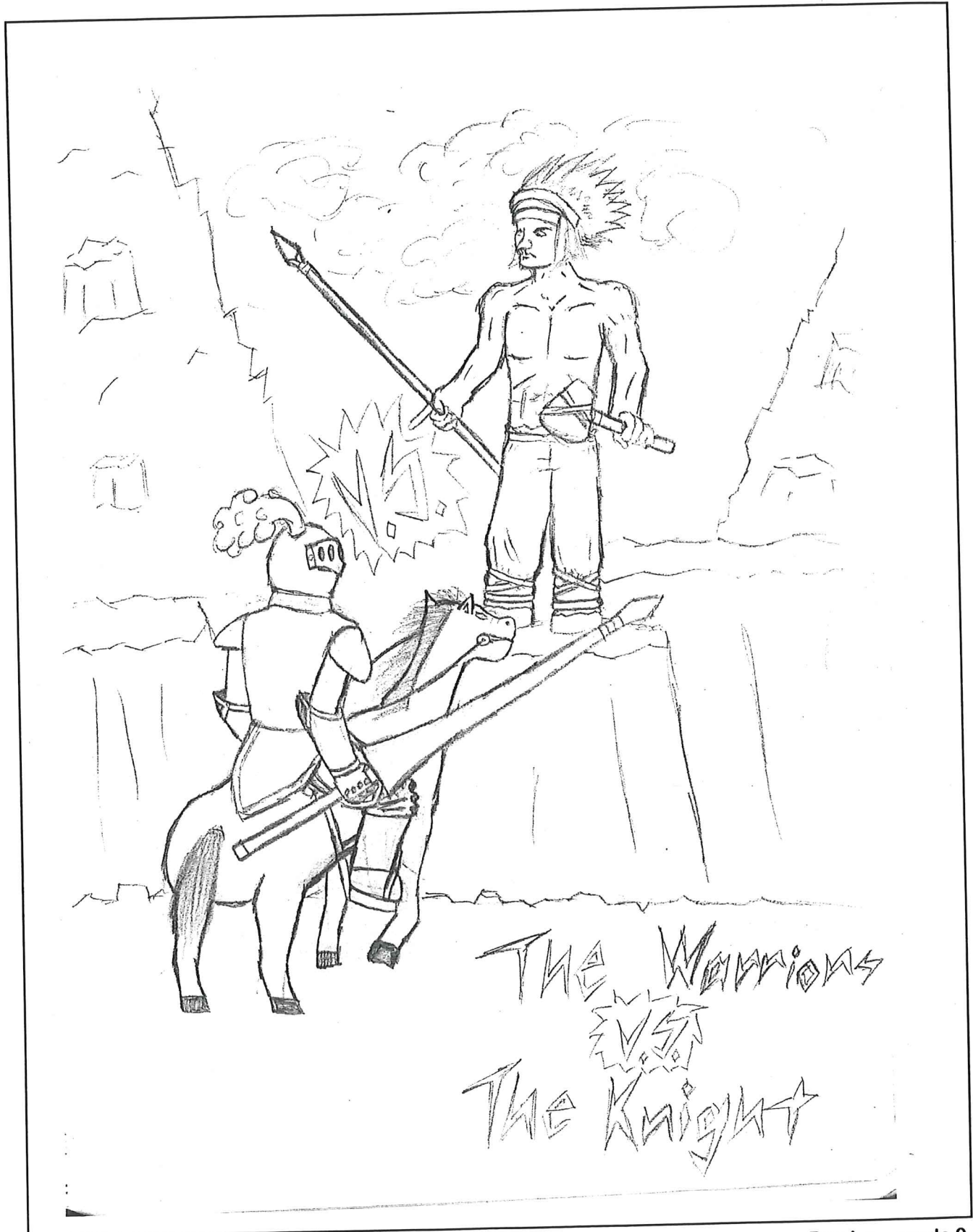
A few days later they faced top-seeded Arthur L. Johnson High School in the



Senior Sam McWilliams dribbles the ball aggressively down the field.

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GO SQUAN! BEAT WALL!





BLUE & GRAY SPORTS

Warriors Seek Return to Top



Strong Season Earns Top Rank Entering State Playoffs

The year for the Manasquan Warriors has had its ups and downs so far, with more ups than downs thankfully. The Warriors have overcome a rough first game against Ocean where they lost 14-0. They rebounded and won their next four games against tough opponents like Point Boro. The season started fairly shaky with the offense needing to find its groove after scoring only a combined 3 points in the first two games. After the intriguing win against Point Boro, the Warrior's offense erupted against Holmdel going for four touchdowns to prove that they knew how to score. In the game against Point Boro, star running back Lorenzo Venables ran for 100 of his 134 yards in the first half to power the Warrior's offense. On a key play with Manasquan up 3-0 late in the game, cornerback Nicci Balestrieri broke up a pass from Boro quarterback Shane O'Connor to receiver Ryan Malleck. This play was deep in Manasquan territory with Boro threatening to score and put them ahead but the excellent defense by Balestrieri put the momentum back in Manasquan's hands. While both defenses played solid, Manasquan's ball movement in the latter stages of the game ultimately provided them with the go-ahead score which would be all they needed. A 29 yard field goal by C.J. Davis in the fourth quarter gave the Warriors the lead for good as their defense shut down the Point Boro offense and sealed a key division victory for the Warriors.

The next game would also prove to be a test for the Warriors as they finally exploded on offense, scoring four touchdowns against Holmdel. Quarterback Mike LaSala settled down with his offense and began to make good throws allowing Manasquan many scoring opportunities. The key play of the game was a touchdown-saving tackle made by linebacker Dan Kerrigan and gave Manasquan back the momentum on both sides of the game. Coach Pete Cahill told the Asbury Park Press, "That was a huge play." Manasquan raced to a victory as they improved their record to 2-1. After the Holmdel

game, the Warriors focused their attention on Pinelands, who would not be an easy task. Dan Kerrigan returned a 40 yard interception for a touchdown as the Warriors defense continued to pressure and confuse the Pinelands offense. Manasquan cruised to another victory, 28-7, as their offense improved and continued to gel together as a unit. Coach Cahill commented on his team's success to the Asbury Park Press. "We stressed all week that we had to control the line of scrimmage." said Cahill. "That's what we did, and that was why we had success. Football isn't brain surgery." In addition to dominating the line of scrimmage, running back Lorenzo Venables ran for 128 yards and two touchdowns on 22 carries.

Wide receiver Chaz Bush also caught a 54 yard touchdown pass from LaSala as the Warriors moved the ball very consistently on the Pinelands defense.

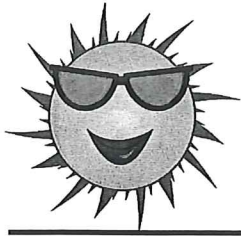
With the success against Holmdel and Pinelands, the Warriors looked forward to a bigger challenge against the up and coming Barnegat team. Running back Lorenzo Venables once again provided the spark for the Manasquan offense as he rushed for 173 yards and 2 touchdowns against the Barnegat defense. A stout Warriors defense shut down Barnegat's offense as they allowed only 13 points and 240 yards of total offense. The Squan defense has been the integral part of the team this year, confusing opponents on offense as well as providing Squan's own offense good field position in order to score points. The Warriors have recently accomplished their fifth straight victory of the season defeating the St. John Vianney Lancers with a score of 31-14. Mike LaSala threw for his season high of two-hundred and thirty-seven yards and threw three touchdown

passes. C.J. Davis successfully completed a twenty-three yard field goal, which gave Squan a 10-0 lead in half time. Also, making great contributions for the Warriors were receivers Bryan Nadrowski and Chaz Bush. Nadrowski, caught a forty-five yard pass

continued on next page



Top: Quarterback Mike LaSala rolls out, looking to throw long; Middle: Warriors burst through the banner and onto the field; Bottom: Senior Dan Kerrigan (No.20) leads the defense, along with James Stovall (No.31)



HOROSCOPES!



By: Meghan Pignataro



March 21 - April 20

Success is becoming a major priority for you this month. It is important that you settle down and focus on what you want to accomplish. You may face some difficulty along the way, but don't give up, it'll all pay off in the end.



Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

This month you are filled with creative ideas and your energetic personality is rubbing off on others. Plan something fun, whether it's with your friends or family, and you'll be sure to have a good time.



April 21 - May 21

Things aren't looking positive on the relationship front for you this month. There's a lot of negative energy floating around between you and another person in your life. Try to clear the air while you still can or you may be faced with some difficult decisions.



Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You may be feeling a bit lost or confused this month. Whether you're dwelling on something from the past or feeling out of place, take some time to yourself and relax a bit. Do something that will make you smile, and things will soon be back to normal for you!



May 22 - June 21

Great fortune may be right around the corner and you don't even realize it. Take advantage of this by trying something new and you just might stumble upon the right corner.



Nov. 23 - Dec. 22

This month you're full of surprises! Your spontaneous behavior has your life being more exciting than ever before. Leave it up to your imagination to plan something fun around the 28th, you and your creative ideas will be the talk of the month!



June 22 - July 22

This month you should focus on spending some quality time with your family. Help out a family member and show them that you care. If you play your cards right, some of the family members you are nice to could help you later on with a problem that may be coming your way.



Dec. 23 - Jan. 20

In the beginning of the month, you're not having the best of luck. You may feel like a storm cloud is above your head, but don't let this bother you. Give it some time, and the clouds will disappear and the sun will shine brighter than ever.



July 23 - August 21

Now that you're back to school, things may be a bit overwhelming for you at first. This month you're very busy, so as long as you stay focused, things will soon feel normal to you again.



Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

Are you up for a change? This month you want to break away from your daily habits and do something new. Spice up your hair-do, buy some new stylish clothes, or even go to a restaurant you haven't been to. Doing something different will make this month much better for you.



Aug. 22 - Sept. 23

All eyes are on you this month! You are the center of attention and loving it. Many of your friends are turning to you for advice, and you're more than willing to help them in any way. Your enthusiasm is being admired and is very contagious!



Feb. 20 - March 20

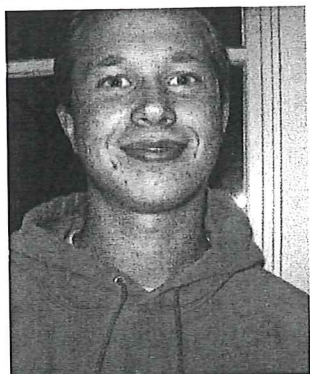
This month you should focus more about your health. If you are getting into bad eating habits, it's not too late to stop them. If you're lacking in exercise, you don't necessarily have to go to the gym, but you can do something active with your friends, and it'll make it much easier for you.

Senior Birthdays in September!

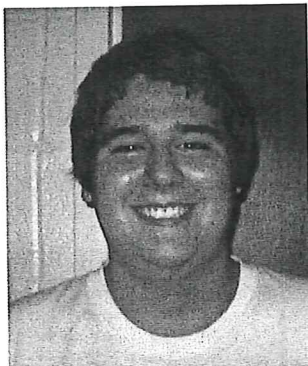
By: Cait Dapson, Sue Molyneaux, and Allie Hagins



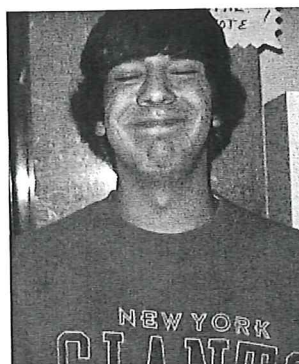
Heather Mendel
9/21



Joshua Lopez
9/1



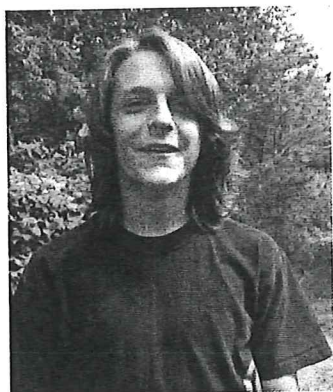
Danny Smith
9/1



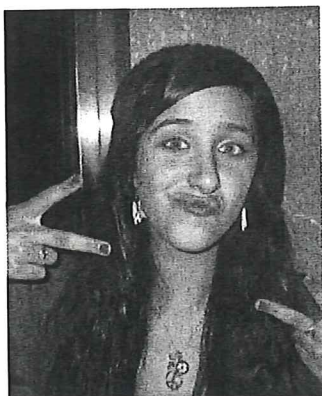
Michael Varrone
9/4



Melissa Voskian
9/5



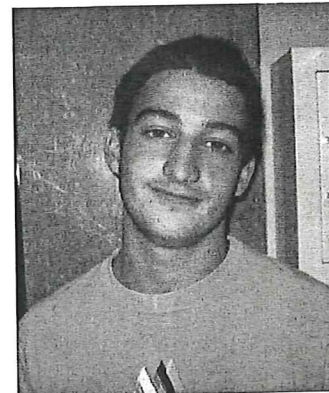
Zachary Jakupko
9/7



Rose Veilleux
9/10



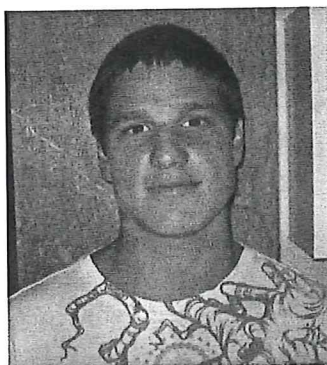
Elise Hemmer
9/17



Matthew Kenderian
9/21



Brendan Sullivan
9/21



Mickey Donofrio
9/26



Molly Brown
9/27



Devon Golding
9/30

TV's most anticipated series return this fall with more drama than ever

By: Liz Marotta

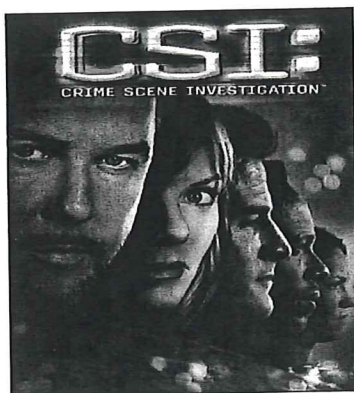
Gossip Girl

We last left our over privileged social-ites with something we never see. Blair Waldorf being stood up? And by Chuck Bass none the less. Well, it is his style after all. Serena and Dan breaking up? Well, maybe that one was a little more predictable. What with Serena finding herself lying about lying. Nate's world was falling apart with the arrest of his junkie dad. Rufus Humphrey was on the road again trying to be a 20-something rock star. Jenny is finally becoming her own person instead of Queen Bee Blair's shadow. Now that the highly anticipated second season has finally arrived, everyone is talking thanks to Gossip Girl. What's the latest? After spending the summer the only way Manhattan prince's and princess's do, in the Hamptons, scandal has managed to creep its way into their lives once again. Serena has been lying low, missing Dan, of course. Chuck has been doing the exact opposite in his efforts to forget



what he did to Blair. Blair, having gotten on that helicopter to Italy, thinking Chuck would meet her there, comes to the Hamptons from a vacation-from her vacation to catch up with BFF Serena, and of course

to mercilessly torture Chuck, especially with her new boy toy. Dan is taking the route we thought only Chuck Bass would take, ruthlessly preying upon any girl he see's, in an attempt to not think about Serena. Pretty boy Nate is finding a way to forget the shame his father has put to his name by having a relationship with an older woman. An older, married woman that is. Who also happens to be Blair's boy toy's mother? Oh yeah and she is a "duchess" because naturally Blair's boy toy is an English Lord. With the summer over, they are now back at the evil world of high school which makes their dramas even more vivid. Who's going to stab who in the back? And who's getting revenge? You'll have to watch to find out.



As it enters its ninth, and most anticipated season, one of the most popular shows on television, CSI: Crime Scene Investigation returns. We left our indestructible team in a moment of terror as one member was shot. All summer, viewers were unaware as to whether or not Warrick Brown would live or die. In the season opener on October 9, CSI as religious viewers knew it, changed forever. Warrick Brown died within

the first minute of the show. The team in tears, and beyond angry, take the case into their own hands to find who was responsible for Brown's death. Unable to fall for some stupidly plotted fake evidence by the Undersheriff Jeffery McKeen, the team finds him guilty of the murder of Warrick Brown. The rest of the season is due to be interesting with the return of Sara Sidle, helping pick up the slack with the loss of Warrick; and how the team copes with out him.

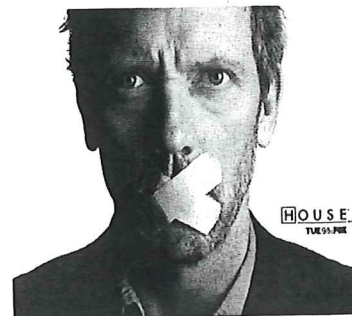


one tree hill

On its 6th season, One Tree Hill still doesn't fail to entertain. It's first four seasons, follow our main characters through high school; we have now jumped 4 years to after college.

Last season we see everyone working on their careers and moving back to Tree Hill. And yes, we mean everyone. Lucas, Peyton, Brooke, Nathan, Haley, Mouth, Skills, they are all in Tree Hill as though it were high school all over again. All summer, girls have waited to see who Lucas proposes to. Well, it's Peyton obviously. Everyone knew since the very beginning of the show, that Peyton and Lucas were going to wind up together. They are in Vegas, all giddy and secretly planning how and when they want to get married. Brooke's mother is harassing her, claiming that her fashion line is only half hers. Someone breaks into the store as Brooke is closing and beats her senseless. Literally, the normally glowing, gorgeous, fun Brooke looks like an abuse victim. Nathan and Haley are living the married-with-kid life. Nathan is working on getting his game back, and coaching the Raven's basketball team. Haley is working on her music again. Adorable 5-year-old Jamie tags along to basketball practice with his dad. Mouth finally takes the job in Omaha as a sports newscaster, along with his girlfriend and Brooke's old assistant Milliecent. Skills is incidentally dating Nathan's mother, Deb secretly. Dan, Nathan and Lucas's father is hit by a car, and appears to be in the hospital but we find out he is in the home of evil

continued next column



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Rude, whiny, miserable, bossy, nosy, and above all brilliant, Dr. House is back to saving lives; and ruining them. As we enter the show's fifth season we see Dr. House in a state we have never seen him

in: despair. Wilson is grieving over the death of Amber, and because of the circumstances in which it happened, Wilson can't bear to have House in his life anymore. If House loses Wilson, he loses all his friends. So House desperately does anything he can in his manipulative and diabolical power to regain Wilson back as a friend; even using his new Private Investigator friend to find out what Wilson has been doing without him.

Dr.'s Chase, Cameron, Foreman, and Cuddy are still around along with House's fairly new team of Dr.'s Thirteen, Taub, and Kutner. Of course the show follows the characters' personal battles and difficulties, but strange and completely unheard of medical problems arise, and are solved and cured by the brilliant minds.

one tree hill

Nanny Carrie, who has become obsessed with Jamie and plans on kidnapping him so he can be "her son."



THE MUSIC CORNER

All you need to know about Artists,
Albums, Tours, and More!

By: Ariana Margetis



Top 10 Albums*:



1. *Viva La Vida or Death And All His Friends*
Coldplay
2. *Good Girl Gone Bad: Reloaded*
Rihanna
3. *The Recession*
Young Jeezy
4. *We Sing, We Dance, We Steal Things.*
Jason Mraz
5. *The Block*
New Kids on the Block
6. *Sleep Through The Static*
Jack Johnson
7. *Swan Songs*
Hollywood Undead
8. *Lax*
The Game
9. *Tha Carter III*
Lil' Wayne
10. *In Between Dreams*
Jack Johnson

Back on 'the Block'

A blast from the past, New Kids on the Block, are back together for the first time since the early 90's. Their tour will be kicking off on September 30th in Uncasville, Connecticut and ending on February 5, 2009 in Duesseldorf, Delaware.



Also Kid Rock is going on tour who had everyone singing "All Summer Long" with his rock/country beats and will begin his tour on October 3rd in St. Augustine, Florida. Those who viewed the MTV Video Music Awards (VMA's) could have seen him perform his hit single "All Summer Long" with rapper Lil' Wayne, giving an amazing performance.

Lastly, a tour to look out for is that of West London Native and newcomer to the US, Estelle. This Hip-hop/ R&B artist came to the scene with her smash hit "American Boy" featuring Kanye West and has made it official to be heading out on tour on October 3rd in Baltimore, Maryland.

Remember to keep in mind these upcoming tours and artists with the power to give music fans what they want to hear. For more information visit: www.rhapsody.com, www.vh1.com, and www.mtv.com.

What's Hot!



The current music scene is very hot. If you are driving down the street and listening to your radio, you may hear top tracks from artists like The Jonas Brothers, Lil' Wayne, and Katy Perry.

The Jonas Brothers song *A Little Bit Longer* was number one on its first week of record sales. Popular songs from this album are "Burnin' Up", "A Little Bit Longer", and "Lovebug". One song that means a lot to the fans as well as the

youngest JoBro, Nick, is "A Little Bit Longer". This song was written by Nick in only ten minutes and explains his struggles with diabetes. The song really hits home and proves that even though they are famous teens living the good life, they still have rough times that can bring them down, but make them want to go on regardless.

Another artist blasting through the speakers right now is rapper Lil' Wayne, with his hit album *Tha Carter III*. Wayne's tracks include "Got

Money" featuring T-Pain, "A Milli," and "Lollipop." With his catchy rhymes and incredible beats you will never get sick of these songs.

Katy Perry whose album "One of the Boys" that came out June 17, 2008 and had several hits being played all summer long. An extremely popular one is "I Kissed a Girl", which had it's repetitive lyrics getting stuck in everyone's head, and "Hot N' Cold", which is very appealing to any music fan.

in other musical news...

Hey Britney fans, she's back again!! It has been reported that Ms. Spears will be releasing her new album on her birthday, December 2nd. Her new album is titled *Circus*, which gets it's name from the events in her life. On Friday, September 26th, her first single "Womanizer" will be making its official debut on the radio.



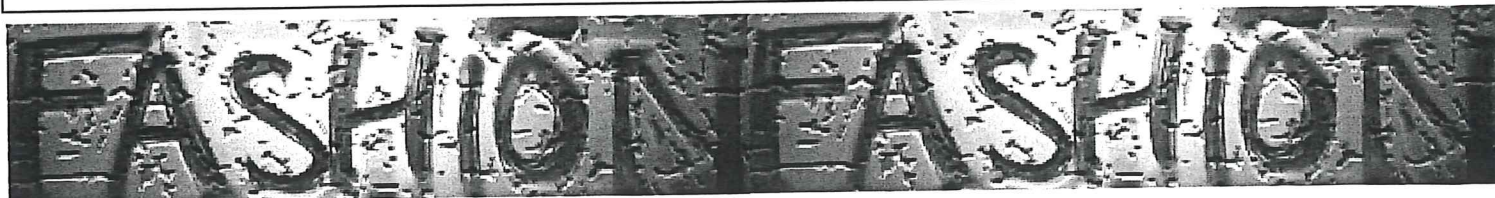
It has also been reported that Taylor Swift will be releasing her new sophomore album titled *Fearless* on November 11th. Taylor wrote

every song on the album as well as co-produced it. All of her songs are about boys and personal stories that she can't wait for everyone to hear. Her songs are ones that anyone can personally relate to. Currently playing on the radio and internet is her popular new single "Love Story".



Some Popular Artists (as of 10/1/08)

1. Lil' Wayne
2. T.I.
3. Britney Spears
4. Rihanna
5. Chris Brown



A How to guide to trends and styles that's as easy as 1, 2, 3

Ready to step out this fall with a fashion forward look and a fantastic style?

Well here's your guide. We've got not only fall's hottest new fashion, but also tips to incorporate your favorite summer trends into autumn.

Transitioning from summer to fall can be easy with these tricks:

- ☐ Take feminine printed dresses and add a long cardigan, thin belt, and opaque tights.
- ☐ Don't be afraid to layer, pair a long sleeve top with your favorite tank top.
- ☐ And don't forget shorts always look cute with slouchy boots and a long sleeved top.

Want to look feminine and flirty without going overboard? No problem, just try adding small details like flats with bow detailing or tops that tie into a bow in the front. Or maybe you want to be girly with an edge. Pair a cute skirt or dress with sneakers like Converse or a pair of slip-ons like Vans. Dressing up a plain tee and jeans is simple. Just add some bright accessories that really pop and cute flats or boots.

By: Sam Matthews

What's Hot this Fall?

Slouchy Boots can make any outfit- wear with skinny jeans, leggings, tights, and skirts or dresses.

Boyfriend's Cardigan should be a style staple for you this fall because it looks great with everything and is easy to throw on.

High-waisted Skirts are the epitome of chic this fall looking great with flats or tights and boots.

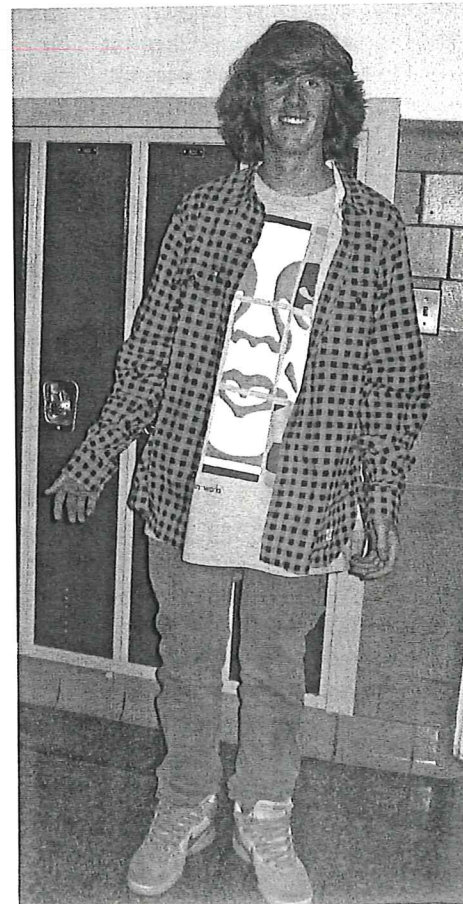
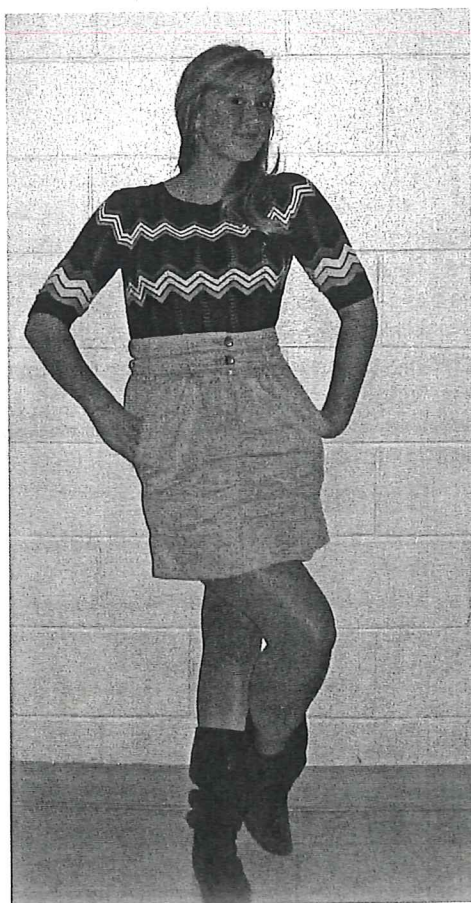
Purple is the primary color of the season, so make sure you add something purple to your wardrobe.

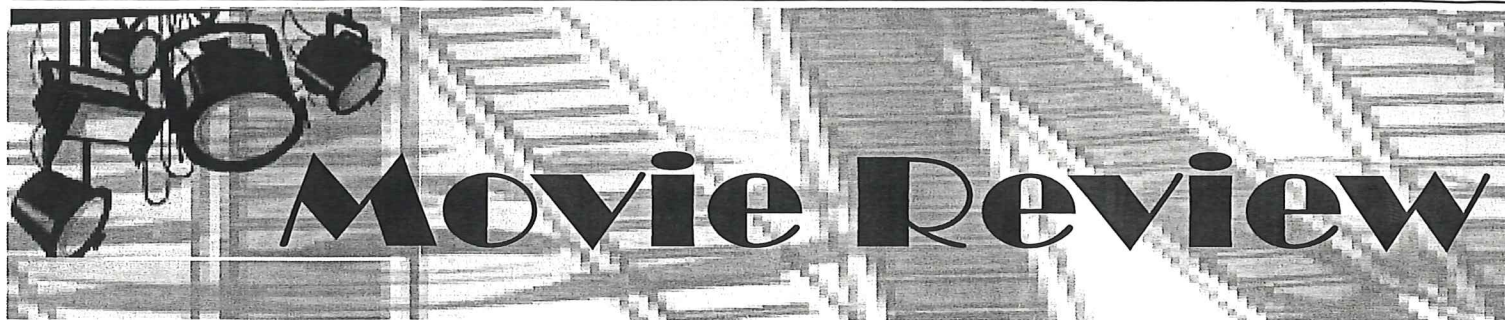
Runway Ready!!

Students Turn Heads In the Halls

By: Julia McGuire

If you are wondering what the latest trends are, there are two people to rely on. Kyle Woodward and Sophia Weston express their unique style each and every day. Kyle can be described as the typical skater with a twist. His eccentric colored shirts and flannels make him stand out. As seen in the photo to the right, Kyle displays this by wearing a bright blue flannel with a matching light blue graphic tee. Sophia also has a style of her own. She says that she buys most of her clothes from thrift stores. In the photo to the left, she is wearing black slouched boots and a hi-wasted skirt with a knitted sweater. Like the Fall Fashion Trends Tips, Sophia balances her outfit by piecing a simple but flashy top with her skirt and making it casual with her slouched boots. Both Sophia and Kyle have a knack for pairing their wardrobes. They take the latest trends and mix it up. You never know what to expect or the next styles they will bring to the school.





Movie Review

THE DARK KNIGHT SHINES BRIGHT

Latest Batman Film A Summer Hit, Record Setter

Many would agree with me when I say, *The Dark Knight* is by far the best Batman film ever made. Honestly, I'm not that big of a fan of superhero movies because mostly the movies I have seen are too unbelievably fake for me to actually stay focused. Although I plead guilty when I say that, I was mesmerized for the lengthy time of two hours and thirty two minutes of *The Dark Knight*. The tremendous acting by Heath Ledger and Christian Bale, and thrilling scenes throughout Gotham City, kept my eyes glued to the screen.

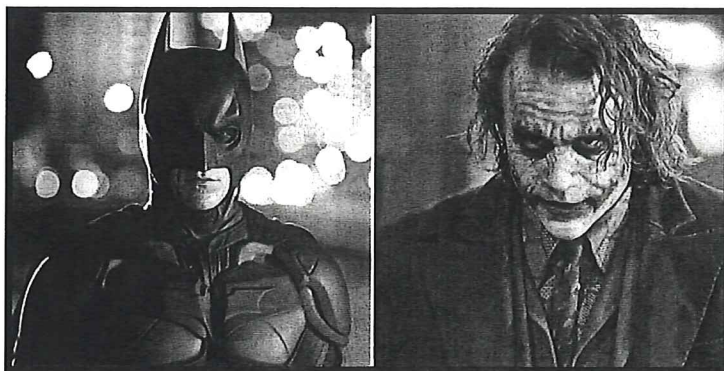
Returning as Batman,

By: Meghan Pignataro

Christian Bale plays the role of Bruce Wayne, a billionaire who fights to protect Gotham City from criminals. While most know him as a billionaire, his secret identity is what the city

idolizes. With his daring stunts, and dangerous encounters, Bale does a spectacular job playing the role of this famous superhero.

Although, I must say



that Heath Ledger's character The Joker is what blew me away completely. Along with being a huge Ledger fan, I found his last acting role was by far his best. *The New York Times* review stated that, "He's just a clown in black velvet, but he's also some kind of masterpiece." Ledger's phenomenal acting ability was amazing throughout the entire film; his bizarre, murderous character keeps you laughing, yet nervous from start to finish.

The sudden and tragic accidental drug overdose that

Continued on next page

Under the Radar, Diamond in the Rough

The Rocker Hits Home

By: Tucker Brendle



For some people, dry humor might leave you thirsty. But to viewers who enjoy their humor dry, *The Rocker* adds plenty of juice to the picture.

The Rocker was much more than a showcase for girl-magnet young actor Teddy Geiger. Rather than being a silly, shallow teenage story, it is strangely entertaining. To the surprise of many, this movie is an unusual and awkward comedy, a feel good family story, and a catchy musical.

Robert "Fish" Fishman, played by Rainn Wilson, was a drummer in an 80's rock band (Vesuvius) who was viciously thrown out. Fish was the heart and soul of the band, and music was his passion. Well, twenty years later Fish finds himself in a high school band (A.D.D) with

the potential to rise all the way to the top of the music world.

A.D.D is led by cynical lead singer Curtis (Teddy Geiger) who battles through his childhood without a father figure in his life. Despite his inner turmoil, he grows up to be every girl's obsession.

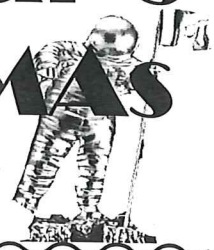
Other members of the band consist of Matt (Josh Gad) and Amelia (Emma Stone), Matt is the ideal nerd who plays piano and does delusional dances on the side. Matt is the source of the movie's dry humor with his personality, but overall he is absolutely hilarious.

Amelia is the punk bass guitarist who secretly loves Curtis. And finally with old and wild drummer Fish

Continued on next page

Britney Spears This Year's Triple Threat at the VMAs

By: Maria Culver and Ariana Margetis



On September 9, the 2008 VMA Awards were held at Paramount Studios in Hollywood. Britney Spears snagged three awards for the very first time for best female video, best pop video and video of the year. "To my fans, this is for you, Thank you so much," Spears stated after receiving her awards. Awards that followed the infamous pop star were also Chris Brown for best male video, Lil' Wayne for best hip hop video and Tokio Hotel for best new artist.

Many people have their own opinions of Britney winning all three awards. Some students also had their views from the award night. Senior Paula DiSalvo said, "I was Proud of her! I really wanted to see Brit Brit perform as well." Lauren disagreed on the situation. "I thought it was made for people to change their opinions about her, she didn't deserve them."

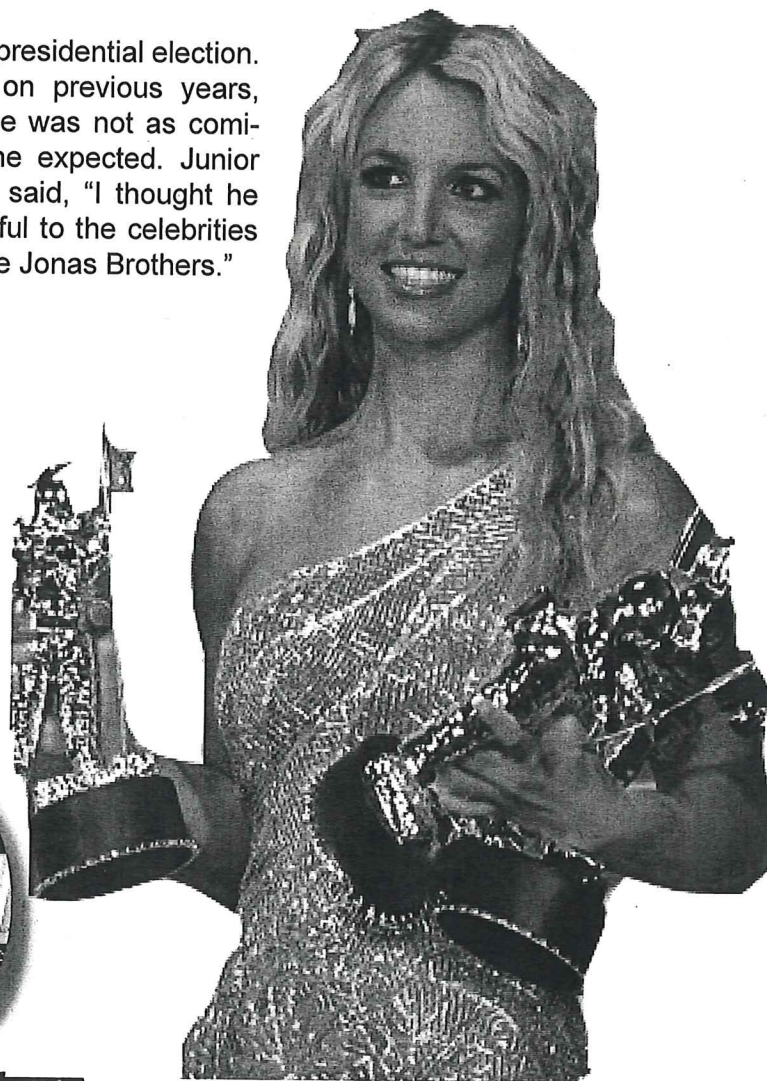
Audiences were blown away by performances from Rihanna, Jonas Brothers, Lil Wayne, Kid Rock and many other talented artists.

Audiences were not only making a roar about the excitement of the nominations, but had a negative reaction with the controversial topics brought up by this year's British comedian and host, Russell Brand. He brought up subjects such as purity rings worn by The Jonas Brothers and also making influential comments concerning

the upcoming presidential election. Looking back on previous years, his performance was not as comical as everyone expected. Junior Lauren Zayatz said, "I thought he was disrespectful to the celebrities especially to the Jonas Brothers."

"I was proud of her! I really wanted to see Brit Brit perform as well."

**-MHS senior
Paula DiSalvo**



Girls Love Them, Guys Wish They Were Them

The Jonas Brothers Return Home to New Jersey

By: Ariana Margetis

The brothers that are loved by millions of girls across the country (including myself) and are making headlines everywhere, returned home to New Jersey for an unforgettable show on August 16th at the PNC Bank Arts Center. The boys, who are originally from Wyckoff, New Jersey, made their way to Holmdel as part of their Burnin' Up Tour.

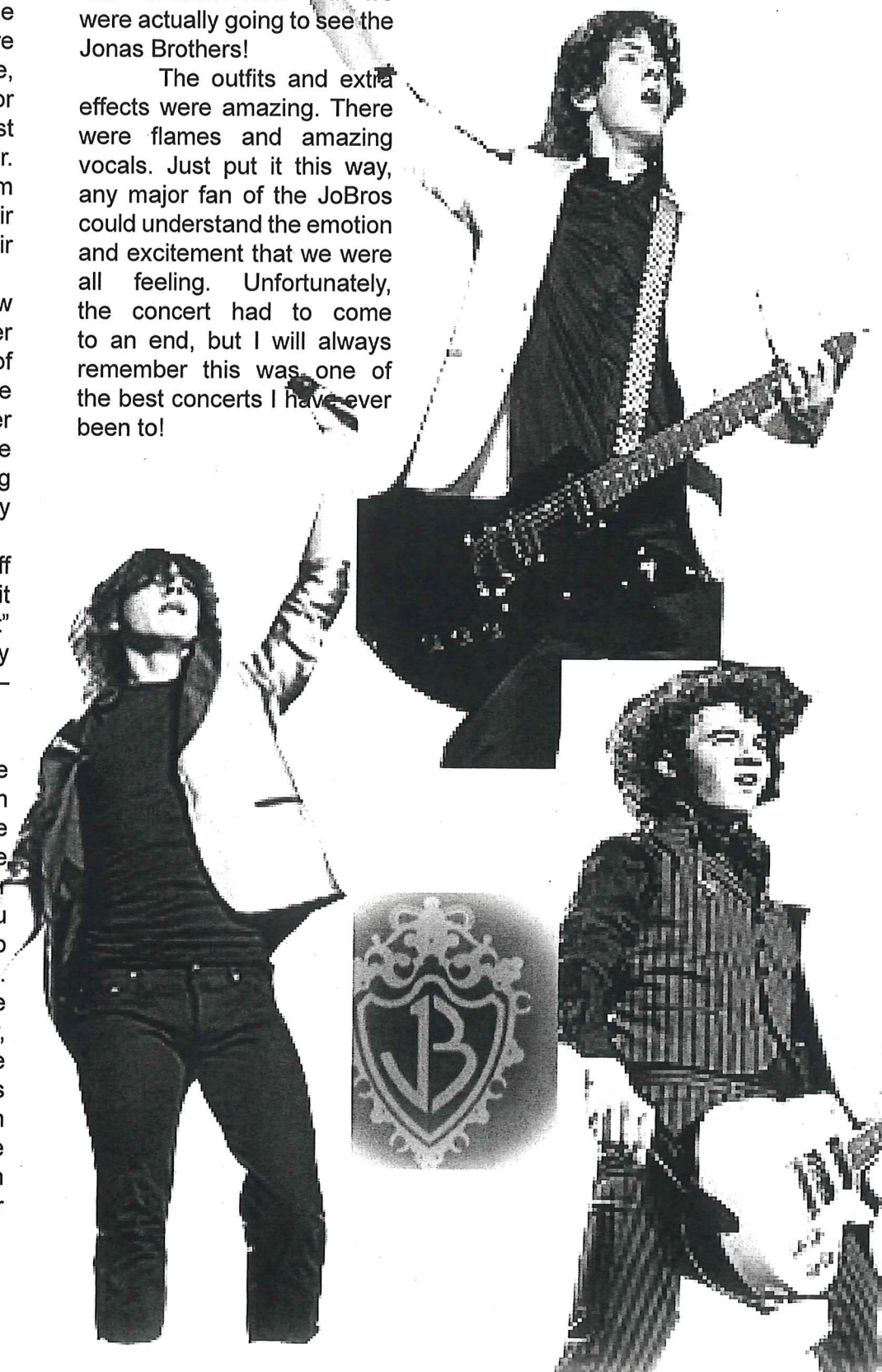
This particular show featured opening performer Demi Lovato, while the rest of their shows headline with The Veronicas. PNC Bank Art Center was crowded and seats were filled of diehard fans supporting the boys who make us Jersey Girls proud!

The concert kicked off with Demi Lovato performing hit singles such as "Don't Forget" and a song of from the Disney Channel movie *Camp Rock*—"This is Me".

As part of their tour the boys were supporting going green and helped Chevy advertise their new Tahoe Hybrid. There was a contest to create a poster about what green means to you including the Jonas Brothers, to win the opportunity of a lifetime. The winner would receive premiere parking for the show, front row seats, and OMG—the chance to meet the JoBros as well! The line was around the lawn in front of the judging table. Once settled in our seats, it dawned on my friend and I as well as other

star-stricken fans that we were actually going to see the Jonas Brothers!

The outfits and extra effects were amazing. There were flames and amazing vocals. Just put it this way, any major fan of the JoBros could understand the emotion and excitement that we were all feeling. Unfortunately, the concert had to come to an end, but I will always remember this was one of the best concerts I have ever been to!



* Election 2008 * Election 2008 *



Seniors Rock the Vote



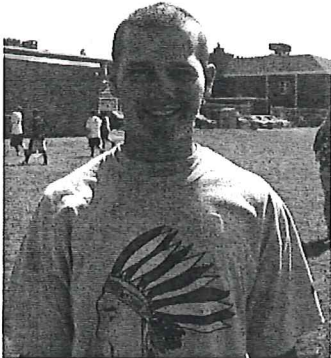
MHS Students Let Their Voices Be Heard!

By: Cait Dapson

Allie Hagins

Sue Molyneaux

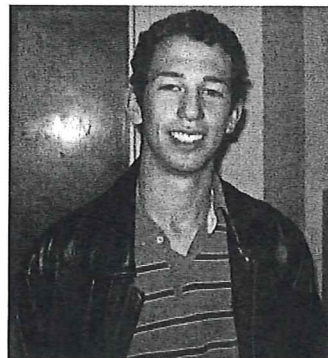
The 2009 Presidential Election was a close race between McCain and Obama. After many years of learning and hearing of the past elections, some members of the class of 2009 finally reached the voting age, and looked forward to finally letting their voices be heard in the election on November 4th. The Blue and Gray interviewed people who were taking advantage of their newly gained right to vote, and students discussed their thoughts on the candidates.



Bryan Nadrowski...

McCain

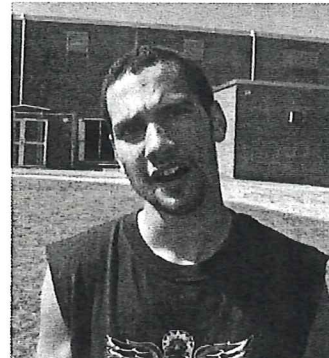
"He defended our country in war."



Jonas Colmer...

McCain

"He believes more in foreign policy and that is what we need for the economy."



Eric Leonard...

Obama

"I don't know, McCain is too old, he'll die in office."



Jill Burgy...

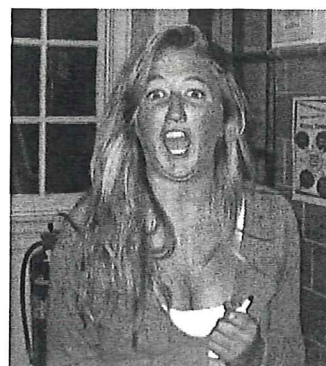
Obama

"He would give our country a new start. I feel McCain's past with war would carry into office and reflect on our country."

Sarah Colmer...

McCain

"He has more realistic economic policies."



Sue Molyneaux...

Obama

"Because he is eliminating all nuclear weapons and taxes for senior citizens. Love you G-ma!"



ELECTION '08

The Blue & Gray staff weigh in on the outcome of a historic moment in our nation's history



John Pavia - senior

My reaction towards the election is that President-elect Barack Obama was the right choice for the job over Senator John McCain. Obama presents an image of change that our country is looking for in these times of peril. His speeches are heartfelt and captivating with regards towards helping the American people. Obama seems to be more in touch with the younger American demographic and the future of our country. His views and opinions are positive and dedicated to the middle class of America which is the backbone of this great country.

Obama most importantly is dedicated towards helping the people and the country; he is bold and thorough with his statements and actions which is something this country has needed for a long time. Obama's attributes as a speaker and positive leader gives us a reflection of a former great leader of this country, John F. Kennedy. Both had a desire to better the country, and I believe Barack Obama was the clear choice for the 44th President of the United States and he will definitely help shape the U.S. into the great country it should be again.

Kaitlin

McGuinness - senior

This has been a historical election in more ways than one. There has been much talk about the fact that we are now living in a "post-racial" society now that a black man has been elected to the office of president. However, this theory of a "post-racial" society is a little

happen despite the barrier of racism.

The president should be the best and brightest our country has to offer, and the selection should be based on the merit of a person and nothing else. The historical ramifications of Obama's campaign were discussed, and some people certainly

grandparents, and did not have the "black experience" that many disenfranchised African-Americans in this country have had. However, he faced the same barriers of perception as those who are "blacker" than Obama, and still managed to succeed. Whether or not he is "black enough," the same racism was directed towards him as to someone who grew up in much different circumstances merely because of his appearance, and it is a wonderful strike against racism that he was elected anyway. It is a reflection on the conception of race in this country that when Obama is titled "African-American," he really does hail from Africa a generation ago, and does not merely denote that he fails to pass society's brown paper bag test.

The opposite view is those who did not discuss race and treated it as if it did not exist. This is equally ridiculous, as race does exist in our society, and we should treasure our differences in this "melting pot" as well as our similarities. Those who would label mere discussion of race "racist" are those who make the separations, and are perhaps the bigoted ones.

When Obama started his campaign, comedian Jon Stewart joked that if he won, it would be impossible to tell that it was supposed to be the future in movies with black presidents. Well, this is the future, and we are here.



dubious. There are still races, and there is still racism. We have not yet evolved as a society to such a point that race is irrelevant, but we have taken an important step towards establishing equality. The fact that Barack Obama was able to become president despite the presence of racism is what is the encouraging thing.

Some say that this unprecedented step indicates that an African-American can achieve anything in this society. However, it has always been the case that African-Americans were not inherently incapable of achievement, and this was clear to any right-thinking person. A black man always could reach the highest office in the land, and the triumph in this case is that it was able to

held their private prejudices, but the campaign was largely "post-racial" in the sense that it was not a point of focus in the election. In measuring the merit of a candidate, race is irrelevant, and it is heartening that for the most part it was treated this way in the presidential race.

Of course, the discussion of race was not completely absent from the campaign, and it was on opposite ends of the spectrum. On the one hand, there was some discussion of whether he was "black" enough, and on the other hand, there was a focus on being properly "politically correct." Obama is more accurately bi-racial, as he is half-Kenyan on his father's side and his Caucasian mother hails from Kansas. He was raised in Hawaii by his white

* Election 2008 * Election 2008 *

When the Media Goes Too Far!

Liberal Media Obviously Favors Democratic Party

By: Nicole Casey

"Sex, drugs, and Rock and Roll" is not a quote that most people would relate to the Presidential election, right? Well, thanks to the news media, this has become a main theme of the upcoming election. Twenty-something year-old D.W.s, teen pregnancy, and extramarital affairs, at this point it seems that the media has no boundaries.

On August 29, 2008 Presidential hopeful John McCain announced that forty-four year old Governor of Alaska and mother of five, Sarah Palin, would be his running mate. Instantly, the overpoweringly liberal news media began to bash this Pro-life, religious, and devout hockey mom.

Within thirty-six hours of McCain's groundbreaking announcement, media personnel and bloggers from the Daily Kos had "uncovered" a "Palin secret": Palin's fifth child, Trig, a five month old baby boy with Down syndrome, was actually born to Palin's seventeen year old daughter.

That Monday, the McCain/Palin campaign released a statement explaining that their seventeen year-old daughter, Bristol, is currently five months pregnant and intends to marry the father and raise the child.

"Our beautiful daughter Bristol came to us with news that as parents we knew would make her grow up faster than we had ever planned," said the statement, "We're proud of Bristol's decision to have her baby and even prouder to become grandparents. As Bristol faces the responsibilities of adulthood, she knows she has our unconditional love and support."

If one does the math correctly, they would see that it is

IMPOSSIBLE for Bristol to be the mother of Trig.

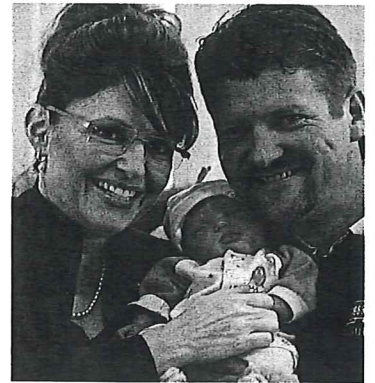
One would think that after being caught in such a ridiculous situation the media would back off and begin to triple check their sources. Well, one would be wrong.

Less than a week after the "Trig Scandal" the media was ready to fire again. This time their target was none other than caring husband and father: Todd Palin. This time the "breaking news" was really good though... if it actually was breaking news. Todd Palin got busted driving while under the influence of alcohol! Sounds like they really got 'em this time right? Too bad this DWI was over twenty years ago!

If a husband's single drunk driving incident from when he was still in college is relevant to a Vice President's credentials twenty years later, wouldn't a President's use of illegal narcotics be even more than relevant?

No one seems to remember that former Democratic President, Bill Clinton admitted to using marijuana. Good thing he "never inhaled." And what about Democratic presidential nominee, Barry Obama, and his self-admitted cocaine use? Wait a minute, who is Barry Obama? That's right, that is the name Barack went by in school...something we are only just learning about. Why did the all-to-helpful media not bring this superfluous information to our attention months ago?

Hmmm, maybe because the word Democrat is attached to his name? Just a thought.



Did the Media Have the Right to Declare a Vice Presidential Hopeful A Neglectful Mother?

Sarah Palin: Behind the "Lipstick"

By: Nicole Casey

If you have turned on the TV in the past month or two you probably have realized that it has been hard to escape the name SARAH PALIN. On August 29, 2008 Presidential hopeful John McCain shocked both the Democrat and Republican parties when he nominated Sarah Palin as his running mate.

Palin, governor of Alaska, was a surprising choice for running mate for many obvious reasons. Who would have ever thought the next Vice President would be a hockey mom from Alaska?!

Governor Palin made history on December 4, 2006 when she took office as the first woman to hold the position of governor. During her first term Palin's administration passed two important pieces of legislation, including an overhaul of Alaska's ethics laws.

Sarah Palin moved to Alaska with her family in 1964. Palin then went on to receive a B.A. of Science in Journalism from the University of Idaho.

Later in August of 1988, Sarah married high school boyfriend,

Todd Palin, and they had five children. On September 11, 2007, Palin's eighteen year old son, Track, enlisted in the United States army.

From 1992 until 1996, Sarah Palin served on the Wasilla, Alaska city council. In 1996 Palin won her first term as mayor of Wasilla and went on to serve two full terms before becoming governor.

Prior to taking office, Governor Palin served on many boards and commissions throughout Alaska. Although she has spent most of her life in the political limelight, she is basically your average 'hockey mom.' She is active in her family life, serving as a sports team mom, coaching basketball and volunteering on the PTA to help make her kids' public education better. When she is not busy signing important bills and taking care of her family, she also runs marathons.

Palin is a active member of the National Riffle Association and enjoys hunting, fishing, and Alaskan history.

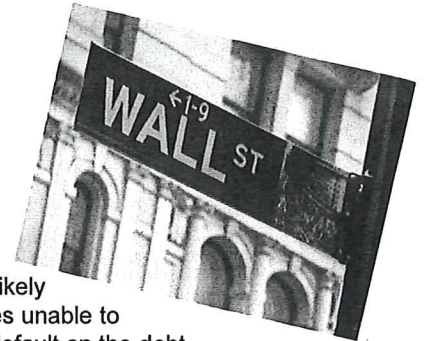


* Election 2008 * Election 2008

The Really New Deal

Financial Crisis Hits Hard, Hard Road Ahead for Obama

By: Kaitlin McGuinness



This election has been historic in more ways than one, and will continue to have historic ramifications. As president, Barack Obama will be faced with the daunting prospect of addressing the serious economic downturn the country is facing.

For a while it was unclear even to the country's top financial analysts and politicians whether America was facing a recession or not, right up until the onset of the crisis situation on "Black Monday," September 14, with the start of bank failures and liquidity problems. As recently as September 15th, Senator John McCain stated "the fundamentals of our economy are strong," and when asked on September 21st whether America was in a recession he replied "Sure. Technically, I don't know." Political economists and heads of companies like AIG who ran the company into the ground and needed to be bailed out by the nation didn't see this coming or take steps to prevent it. The causes of this crisis are complex and diverse, and one of the first undertakings of the new president will be to respond to the perilous predicament the nation is in, and take important steps to heal the economy and make important decisions to prevent this from happening again.

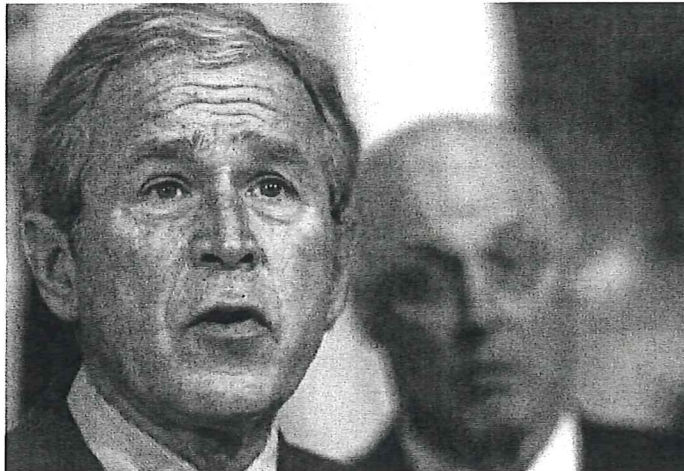
A main reason for the current financial trouble is one that many high school students are familiar with: high oil prices. Expensive oil means expensive gasoline for cars, as well as expensive petroleum for food production. World-wide food production is very dependent on petroleum, and rising prices of production means higher food prices, which cause inflation. American families have experienced this inflation in the raised price of staples like milk, eggs, flour and bread. In June, it was reported that the total cost of groceries had gone up 6% since January. When necessary grocery costs rise, other unnecessary spending goes down such as the purchasing of cars, computers and movie tickets. This discretionary spending is what drives the American economy, and the decline is one of the causes of recession. The new president will be the leader of the free world, and will be faced with the ramifications of this economic unrest that has affected the rest of the world, and the world-wide oil crisis.

The other main cause of the financial turmoil is the subprime mortgage crisis. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac have become familiar names over the past few weeks, but not why they failed and needed to be bailed out by the federal government. The main reason is that these government-sponsored enterprises have steadily encouraged a practice of sub-prime mortgages over the past few years, which meant giving mortgages to candidates who have a high risk of default. These candidates had low credit ratings due to low earning power or previous defaults, criminal records, debt or bankruptcy experience, took on

these mortgages, and it was likely that they would find themselves unable to pay in the future and have to default on the debt.

The big companies who awarded these mortgage loans were not very concerned about the risk of default because if they eventually had to seize the home they would end up with a house that has increased in value and as well as having all the payments made up until that point. The candidates often took on these mortgages under the assumption that if a time came when they were unable to make payments they could just sell the house which would probably have increased in value and pay their debt and end with a profit.

The outcome, however, was far different from these predictions. Buyers who had been enticed with "pay nothing down" guarantees and low interest rates were slammed when the companies switched their adjustable rate mortgage to a much higher rate. These people were left unable to make their payments and with houses which had decreased in value to below the amount on the original mortgage, and were therefore unable to refinance their high-interest mortgages. There is also no form of government aid for people facing this drastic scenario of being made homeless and penniless because it is such a new and alarmingly growing problem.



President George Bush made the bailout announcement flanked by Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson

These foreclosures and defaults were much more numerous than the companies anticipated and therefore flooded the market with available houses dropping housing prices. These large companies had bundled these risky loans into seemingly attractive investment packages, which failed with the massive defaults. These unsafe business practices led to a "meltdown" in the mortgage industry, and this with the decreased value of houses resulted in enormous debt for the lender companies. Banks and companies began to go under in 2006, and in September of 2008 Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac did the same.

The failure of these major banks and other companies like Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, AIG, Lehman Brothers, Wachovia, and Washington Mutual would have devastating repercussions on American economy, as has been reflected in the severe downturn stock market. However, it was own risky and predatory actions of these companies that resulted in their own downfall. These companies profited greatly from these risky practices, and fought government regulation while they were benefiting, claiming that it frustrated the capitalist process. The Bush administration has long been a supporter of a "free market," meaning not encumbering companies and banks with regulations and allowing the capitalist system to run its course. When this course ran

continued on page 25

Students Tackle Issues in the World

The Blue & Gray
Editorials

New Drug Testing Policy Crosses Line Between Home and School

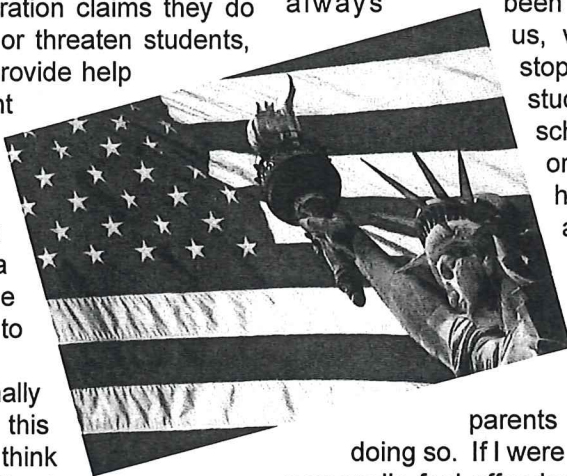
By: Allie Hagins

As you all know, Random Drug Testing has arrived at Manasquan High School and is in effect for the 2008 – 2009 school year. However, many people are questioning why Random Drug Testing has come to our school. While many rumors have spread, one is actually true. The administration claims they do not want to catch or threaten students, they just want to provide help for those who might need it. The Drug & Alcohol survey that students took back in 2006 has had a large impact on the school's decision to begin testing.

I personally do not agree with this policy. In fact, I think Random Drug Testing is wrong for our school.

There are several reasons why Random Drug Testing will only bring negative results to our school and even our community. For example, on holidays and breaks from school, students know for a fact they will not be getting drug tested. An epidemic of binge-drinking over these breaks and holidays might take place. Also, it is more than likely that students will try desperately to find ways around the testing. For example, students might attempt to detoxify themselves by drinking excessive amounts of water or any other drinks that they think will cleanse them. This could be devastating to our young and healthy bodies.

However, most importantly, this Random Drug Testing is a major invasion of every student's privacy. What we do on weekends is completely our business and our business only! It is not the school's responsibility to keep track of what we do on our own time. Our parents have always



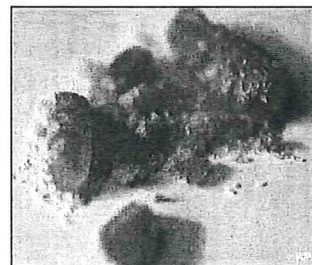
been responsible for us, why should that stop now? Unless a student comes into school, intoxicated or high, the school has no right to take action. When we are off school grounds, we can make our own choices, unless our parents prohibit us from doing so. If I were a parent, I would personally feel offended that the school thinks I am doing an insufficient job. Manasquan High School's responsibility is to educate us only, not to raise us. That is why we go to school, to learn, not to feel like our personal lives are being invaded. No exceptions!

Overall, the school's motives and intentions are good, but this Random Drug Testing is the wrong way to approach it. As Patricia Kinghorn, a Manasquan resident recently asked, "Why should this high school have fewer rights than any other school?"

Manasquan High School teaches us that America is all about freedom? So I ask, why is ours being taken away?

New Drug Poses Danger For Students

By: Jenn Olesky



Remember little Mikey from the Life cereal commercials? And the urban legend that spread about his death, from mixing pop rocks and soda, which made his stomach explode? Eventually that story was proven untrue, but these little pieces of candy now pose a new threat to America's children.

A new drug known as Strawberry Quick swarmed through the hallways of Arkansas schools early this year. This new form of crystal meth has a strawberry flavor with bright pink coloring. It looks similar to the pop rocks candy. Not only is there strawberry, but other flavors too, like chocolate, grape, and peanut butter.

With Halloween just around the corner, special agent Todd V. Coleman of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security advises parents to instruct their children not to accept candy that looks like this, even from a friend. Anything suspicious should be presented to a teacher, principal, or parent.

Students unaware ingest this drug thinking that it is candy and are being rushed off to the hospital in critical condition. As the new school year gets under way, Strawberry Quick (a.k.a. Strawberry Meth) has been reported in several states such as Missouri, California, and Texas and is quickly spreading through the U.S. Police say this drug is aimed at young children and poses a serious threat to their health.

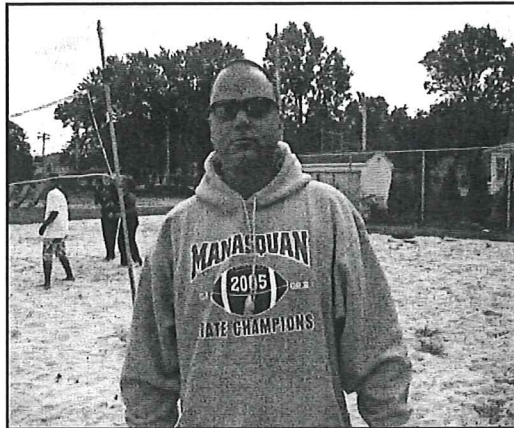
Mr. Hyland's Gym Class Gets "Real Gully" with Beach Volleyball

Students psyched to be first to play on new "Manasquan Beach"

By: Maria Culver & Tucker Brendle

On Wednesday October 8th, 2008 history was made when Mr. Hyland proved himself to be a pioneer of gym teaching when he initiated the first game of beach volleyball at MHS. "I couldn't stand staring at that sand box anymore and not using it, so I wanted to use it for something worthwhile," said Mr. Hyland.

In response to the first game Mr. Hyland said "the class energy was phenomenal." One of the lucky participants to partake



to break ground on this beach volleyball court" said Mctighe.

Mr. Hyland seemed proud to be the first gym teacher to have his class play beach volleyball in the new sand box. "He is paving the way for other gym teachers to think outside of the box," said Mctighe.

Mr. Hyland has not just been busy with beach volleyball, but has been brain storming other new ideas for his gym classes also. "As a matter of fact tomorrow we



Above: Mr. Hyland rockin' his shades in the sand box; left and right: action scenes from the exciting beach volleyball debut, as Ryland Mctighe spikes his way to victory; below: Mr. Hyland's "lucky" class looks satisfied after the game.



in the momentous occasion was star spiker Ryland Mctighe. When Ryland was asked how he felt about being part of the game he stated "it feels incredible to be an athlete participating in this event, and we get real gully!"

Ryland felt that his 5th period classmates and himself were honored to be part of this tremendous event. "It's a true privilege for the Brielle Trail Blazers



are riding our bikes on the bike path" said Mr. Hyland.

Mr Hyland's creativity and enthusiasm are the reasons his students feel lucky to receive their schedule in the beginning of year and see "Mr. Hyland" on it. Right away they know they are in for one adventurous year. "I'm so glad I'm lucky enough to have Mr. Hyland as my gym teacher, words cannot describe!" Mctighe said.

Environmental Club Wants Your Help!

By: Cait Dapson

Did you know that every month we throw away enough glass bottles to fill up an entire skyscraper? Or that every hour an estimated 25,000 plastic bottles are thrown away, half of this going straight to the landfill? These plastic bottles take

500 years to decompose. Manasquan High School's Environmental Club looks to reach out to students and preach the importance of recycling. The club, led by Science teachers Mr. Glenn and Mr. Wasnesky, has placed new blue recycling bins all around the school. They want students, faculty and administration to know that objects like plastic bags, glass containers, plastic bottles, and paper pose a huge threat to society these days. But we can take steps to minimize the threat. Plastic bags are commonly littered, but there are great alternative uses to them. Start using reusable grocery bags provided by food stores, or if you still use plastic bags, make use of plastic bag drop off boxes at most grocery stores. Taking

Do your part!

- Recycle paper. Use front and back sides of paper.
- Plant some trees! Add native plants to your home garden.
- Recycle plastic bottles and save plenty of room in landfills.
- Pick up a few reusable bags from your local grocery store. These bags are 100% recyclable, strong, resistant to corrosion, hypoallergenic, nontoxic, washable, and water repellant.
- If you do use plastic bags, drop them off at any local drop-off box.
- Avoid disposable dishes.
- Store food in re-usable containers.
- Conserve electricity. Turn off lights, TV, or other appliances when not in use.
- Donate used items to charity or even local thrift shops.
- Carpool! Take a walk or ride your bike.
- Recycle batteries, motor oil, or paint.

a few seconds of your day to recycle, reduce, or reuse can make a huge impact on our environment. It's not much effort; together we can make a difference.

MHS Students Walk for Possibilities



MHS students, including members of National Honor Society and Key Club, volunteered their time on Sunday, September 21 at CBA High School. The walk raised money and awareness to benefit children with Down's Syndrome. English teacher and NHS adviser Ms. Mills accompanied the students for "a fun day filled with good vibes."

Mr. Holmes and Ms. Kooklin Come to MHS

By: Kate Ferraro



This new math teacher not only knows his algebra, but is a former professional athlete as well.

That new math teacher is Mr. Holmes, who now teaches Algebra I here at MHS.

Although this is his first year at MHS, he has been teaching for four years at Pequannock High School where he also coached JV Boys ice hockey and Varsity girls soccer.

Mr. Holmes attended Toms River North and received his undergrad at Ryder University. Now he is beginning to get his masters at TCNJ.

Mr. Holmes started college as a Chemistry Major. While in college, he became a math tutor for remedial math college students, which soon led to tutoring High School students in the area. After tutoring math, his love for math made him switch majors. He graduated with a double major in Math and Secondary Med.

Also, Mr. Holmes' "really cool" math teacher from his Junior year in high school inspired him to teach math. His name is Mr. Grill. He taught Algebra II Trig. Mr. Holmes expressed what an excellent teacher Mr. Grill was. Mr. Holmes models after Mr. Grill.

During high school, Mr. Holmes played soccer, ice hockey, and roller hockey. He explained he was more into sports than school work.

Also, last year, Mr. Holmes played professional in line hockey (PHIA) for the New Jersey Minute Men of Morristown. He unfortunately had to quit because of the traveling distance.

Mr. Holmes described his early impressions of MHS as "so far, so good." He likes the block scheduling. It's different than what he is coming from, but the change makes his day "fly by." He went from normally teaching five periods a day to only three periods a day. In addition to the schedule change, this is Mr. Holmes first time teaching freshman.

Another addition to the MHS staff is Ms. Kooklin. Ms. Kooklin teaches Spanish levels I and II.

Although this is her first year at MHS, she previously taught in Pennsylvania. After deciding to move to New Jersey, she had to get New Jersey teacher certified. After completing her certification last year, she taught in Jackson filling in for a sick teacher for half of the school year, and spent the second half of the year at Howell High School for a teacher on maternity leave. Ms. Kooklin said the main difference between the previous schools she taught at and MHS is the size. She compared its small size to Rumson Fair Haven, where she attended High School. She is "comfortable with the small size of the school." Also, she said our school has a lot of positive school spirit.

During high school, at Rumson Fair Haven, Ms. Kooklin played field hockey and was the President of the International Club. Her favorite subject was Spanish with Senora Wenger.

During high school, she spent her Spring break, all 4 years in the Dominican Republic helping at a facility that was both a school shelter and orphanage. Working in the Dominican Republic sparked her Spanish interest. Ms. Kooklin "wanted to be able to speak to the Dominicans," which led to her interest in the language. While learning Spanish, she fell in love with it.

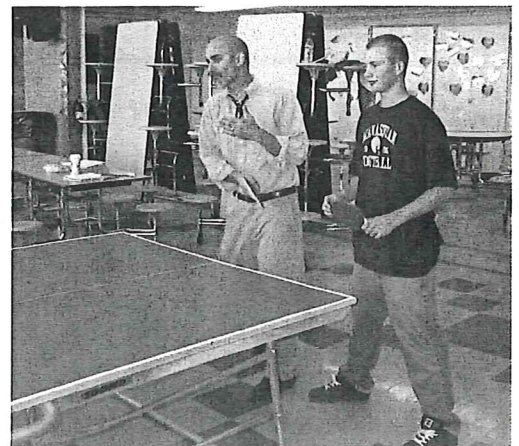
Ms. Kooklin attended West Chester University in Pennsylvania, where she studied abroad in both Guadalajara, Mexico, and Madrid, Spain.

So far, Ms. Kooklin has all positive early impressions of MHS. She likes the block scheduling, small size, and tight community. She loves her schedule and the kids. She mostly teaches the basis of the language, starting with the verbs and nouns trying to show how the language works.



Ping Pong Club Returns to Action

Led by the fearless smasher Mr. Harvey, the Ping Pong Club is back for another year of action, competition, and laughs. At the first session, Mr. Harvey and senior Josh Lopez battled seniors Kyle Woodward and junior Matt Vadas.



New Teachers Join MHS Staff

Mr. Bilodeau Joins the MHS Staff



Mr. Bilodeau is not only an addition to the Special Education Department, but also the new varsity boy's basketball coach. You can find him in Algebra Concepts, Geometry or Algebra II class as the in-class support teacher.

A graduate of Georgian Court University, he always wanted to be a teacher.

"There is a tremendous amount of tradition and history here. We show a lot of pride," Mr. Bilodeau said when asked what his favorite thing about MHS was.

Manasquan isn't the first school he's worked at. He was a teacher at Toms River North High School, as well as Manchester High School. "The relationships between students and teachers are one of my favorite things about teaching" he stated.

Welcome, Mr. Bilodeau.

By: Maria Culver

Ms. Duch is back at MHS!



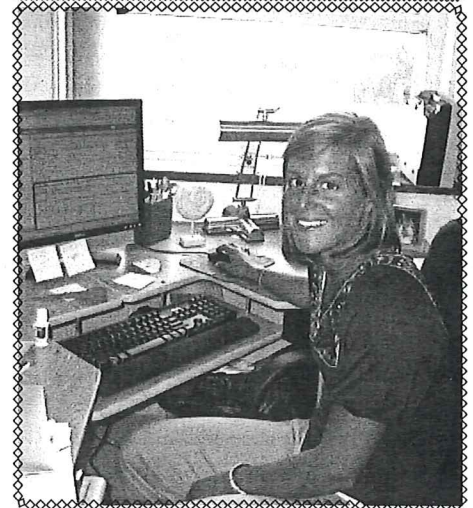
This new teacher is not a totally unfamiliar face. After working last spring as a maternity leave replacement, Ms. Duch has joined the MHS staff as a full time Phys. Ed. teacher this year.

Typically, you can find her teaching one of her gym classes, or a Health class. She lives in Belmar, but previously lived in Summit and attended Summit High School. She stated Summit is a lot like Manasquan.

Ms. Duch has not only worked at Manasquan High School, but also she was employed at Monmouth Regional. Her positive attitude and friendly personality make it a pleasure for any student to have her as a teacher.

Welcome back, Ms. Duch!

Ms. Gilbert, a new member to the Guidance family



With Mr. McCarthy now director of the guidance department, Ms. Gilbert has taken over his place as the guidance counselor for grades ten, eleven and twelve. While attending Lafayette College for her undergrad and later The College of New Jersey for her masters, Ms. Gilbert was never sure that she wanted to be a counselor.

"Working with the students and getting to know them is one of my favorite things about being a counselor" she stated. She previously worked as a counselor at Nottingham High in Hamilton. When attending high school at Lawrenceville High, she enjoyed studying English, which she later majored in.

You can find her in her office down at guidance, whether it's to discuss your future college plans or to just to say hello.

Mrs. Basaman Returns to MHS

Former Manasquan High School student Mrs. Basaman has returned to her roots and is now a math teacher here at MHS.

"I'm a people person, I love the interaction with students, I really love what I do," says Basaman about

her teaching career.

With a major in Biology, she graduated from Boston College. While in college Mrs. Basaman had no interest in being a teacher, but was involved in pre-med and pre-law. Based on her love of math in high school,

however, she later decided to become a teacher.

Before coming to Manasquan she taught at East Side High School in Patterson and also South Amboy High School. Welcome home!



Halloween Takes over Manasquan High School

Robots, Cowboys, and Superheros Walk the Halls of MHS

It is not every day you walk through Manasquan High School and see a Transformer towering over students, mummies limping through the halls, or the Super Crew flying in to save the day. Then again, every day is not Halloween.

On Friday, October 31, MHS enjoyed another year of festive celebrations filled with holiday spirit. Pleased with the day's proceedings, Principal Coppola happily remarked, "The costumes

were great- the students and staff really got into the spirit of Halloween."

At the beginning of the day the school was alive with excitement. Instead of meeting friends at their locker before the first bell, zombies and mummies would be met by Bert and Ernie or Bananas in Pajamas.

Midway through first period, students who costumed-up were called down to the auditorium. A great deal of competition filled the theatre, especially with many determined to be crowned this year's winners. Those who were victorious in categories such as scariest, best group, most original and funniest would receive cold hard cash.

Soon student council seniors went through the crowd and sent each section of students up to the stage, where they paraded past the hosts and then past the judges.

The judges included Ms. Pollack, Ms. Patel, Mrs. Kackos, Ms. Cossa, Mrs.

Mangan, and Mr. Hannah. They filled the first row carefully scouting for potential winners.

Meanwhile, the rest of the students and faculty sat in their classrooms and watched, as baseball players, politicians, and a Mr. Bramely imposter strutted their stuff on the stage. Seniors Pat Gallagher and Matt Conte, emceed the entire show... with Matt, memorably dressed in only a speedo!

He was not the only Michael Phelps look-alike, though. Fellow senior Kurt Jordan dressed as the Olympic hero, too.

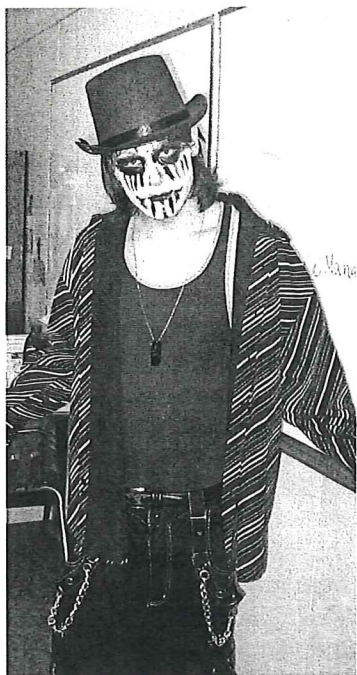
As for the contests, juniors Neal Sterling and Noelle Lee Turner, dressed as the exercise duo from "Norbit," stretched their way to the title of funniest. Together, they danced to "In The Ayer" doing a hilarious "shake-your-booty-dance" on stage that got everyone laughing.

"After winning, I felt like getting some cash in my pocket, it was fun!" said Noelle. "Neal and I have to

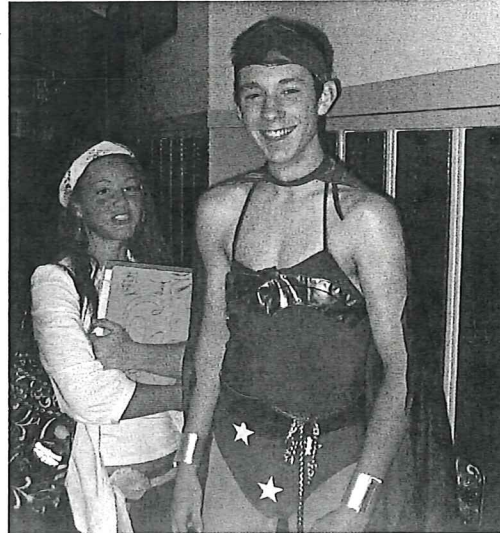
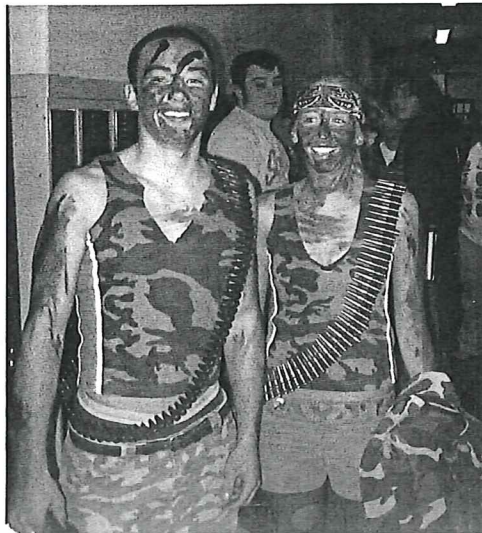
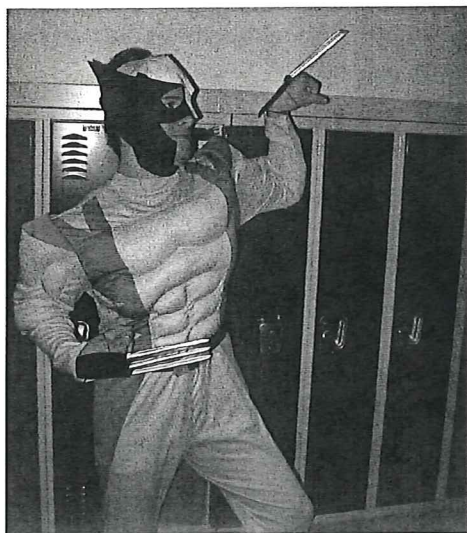
split \$25, but we haven't gotten the money yet."

The most original was won by senior Melissa Voskian, who dressed as Poison Ivy. However, junior Henry Soto believed he should have won. "I do not think Poison Ivy was original, I should have won as Papa Smurf!" he explained.

And last but not least, junior Mike Lougi stomped his way to scariest in a huge, genuine Transformer



Clockwise from top: Unknown mummy; Dan Heaney as Supergirl with Sam Dietrich; Bryan Colligan and Lauren Smith ready for battle; Harry Heisler as Wolverine; and junior Chris Mendel looks simply frightening.



A LIFE CHANGING EXPERIENCE

Instead of preparing for finals and getting ready for the summer, four girls from Manasquan High School were preparing for something more challenging and life changing: The Women's Career Institute.

Seniors Katie Coleman, Paige Foley, Genna Rutka and Shannon Ehrola were nominated to attend the Women's Career Institute at Rutgers University this past June. From the 16th to the 19th these four seniors experienced a four day adventure learning about different career paths women have chosen in life.

When they received the nomination letters, each individual said they were happy and surprised. "I was excited to be chosen," stated Paige. Without even hesitating a moment, they each replied "Yes!" and were excited to go. Even though they had the added stress of taking finals early, it was worth it.

All four girls were nominated for a special reason. "I think the main reason I was nominated was because I take honors classes, get good grades, and I am a nice person," said Shannon. "I was nominated because I'm amazing," Genna said with a smile across her face.

All kidding aside, each girl was

By: Sue Molyneaux

impacted by the institute. In their own way, each girl had a different outlook on life after all of their learning in those four days. According to Katie, "It opened up a lot of opportunities and jobs I would never be interested in. This institute definitely made me think more about what I want to do when I grow up."

Other than taking classes and sitting through long seminars, the girls had a good time. The seminars were about careers paths that woman had chosen. They socialized with girls from all over the state and hung out with their groups. "It was a lot of fun, and I enjoyed meeting new people," expressed Katie.

The girls also experienced college life and living on campus for a few days. "We got to live in a college environment," said Paige.

The girls experienced a life-changing opportunity, and should be more than proud they were nominated to attend. "It will look so good in a college application," stated Genna. They

definitely have an advantage towards their future because they already know what comes next.

"It opened up a lot of opportunities and jobs I would never be interested in...it made me think more about what I want to do when I grow up."

-Katie Coleman



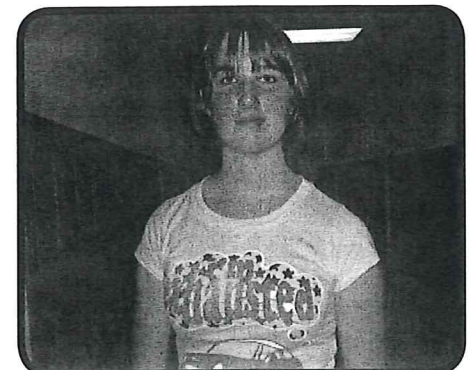
Paige Foley



Genna Rutka



Katie Coleman



Shannon Ehrola

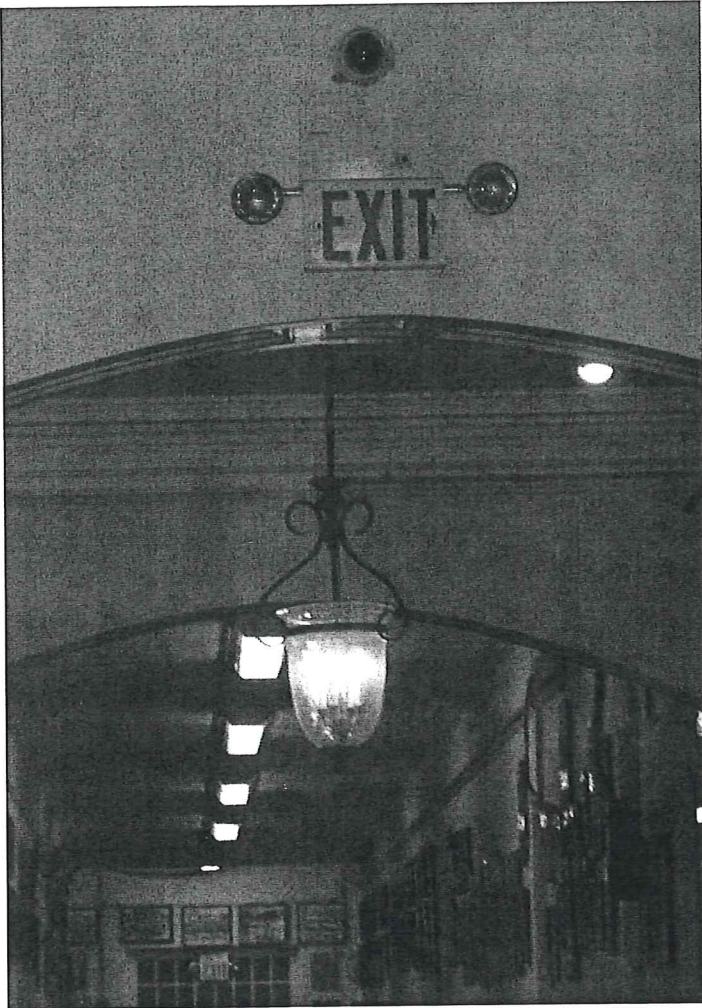
Support Our Troops!

Sophomores Shane McCoy and Kara Dibble are collecting items needed for our soldiers in Iraq. Please contribute!

Twin size sheets, pillowcases, blankets,
men's underwear, socks and pajamas
shampoo, razors, Q-tips, baby wipes, and lotion

Big Change Comes to Manasquan High School

By: Ariana Margetis



One security camera has been placed above the exit sign in Center Hall.

This year a big change has come to Manasquan High School. Thirty-one security cameras have been installed in various locations, both in the halls as well as outside the building.

According to Principal Coppola, the purpose for the cameras is to make our school safer. "We want to keep the students safe and secure," stated Mr. Coppola. "I feel it will make people feel safe inside the building, and vandalism incidents will decrease."

The memorable bomb threats that caused the school to be evacuated last year played a role in the decision. With the cameras recording the comings and goings of students in the hallways, a repeat of those incidents should be avoided. In the event of another incident, the cameras should help identify the person responsible.

Purchasing security cameras was first set in motion by Mr. Coppola's predecessor, former MHS principal Mr.

McCormack. When Mr. Coppola took over as principal, it was discussed amongst the administration and they decided to go forth with the policy.

If you are wondering how often the cameras will be viewed, the administrators have a plan for that, too. According to Mr. Coppola, the tape will be periodically examined, and can also be viewed anytime the administration feels it is necessary. From a computer, administrators can access any of the camera angles, showing who is in each hallway, entering a bathroom, or coming into the building.

As students and staff we should be aware of the changes that have hit the home of the Big Blue. The cameras are not a secret, and nobody is watching our every move. They are just a precaution. "The security camera situation has been mentioned during class meetings," added Mr. Coppola, "and signs will be posted in the building making people aware of their surroundings."

It's a Shame

Security Cameras Come to Manasquan

By: Kaitlin McGuinness

Nestled in numerous corners of our school this year is something new: security cameras. Frequent interruptions in school proceedings last year due to bomb threat evacuations and school lockdowns caused a chain of events that has culminated in Manasquan students being kept under the constant and watchful eyes of 31 new security cameras.

The motion-activated cameras record school activity, an unobtrusive but

enormously significant change to our school setting.

It is an unfortunate state of affairs that the environment at Manasquan is deemed so dire that that students' privacy is considered less important than the need for supervision. Frequent interruptions in school proceedings last year due to evacuations and lockdowns caused a chain of events that has culminated in Manasquan

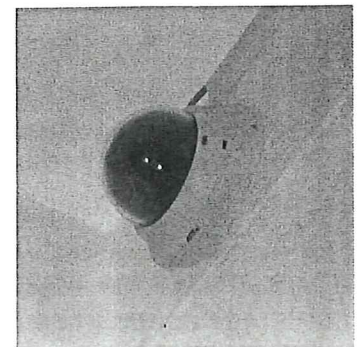
students being constantly kept under the watchful eyes of 31 new security cameras.

Mr. Coppola stated that the function of the cameras is for the safety of the students. Treks through the snow, long hours of confinement in the elementary school, sessions on sweltering bleachers and hanging in limbo in locked-down classrooms are all aggravations the school body has experienced in the past interrupting normal school activity and greatly frustrating all involved..

The absurd events have resulted in security cameras, something that we never had call for before in our school. Manasquan is a rational place and a wonderful school

to attend, and it is a great shame that a small amount of senselessness on the part of a select few has come to this end result.

Big Brother is watching:
security cameras come to
the halls of MHS



A Single Smile, a Helping Hand

Sophomore Sophia Ganguzza Steps Up to Help Her School

\$30,000. Who would think a fifteen year old sophomore from Manasquan High School could raise so much money? But recently, that is exactly what Belmar's Sophia Ganguzza accomplished.

Shocked and disturbed by the tragic deaths of students last spring, Sophia couldn't just sit back, watching this happen. She took action.

Sophia organized the "Hold On" benefit, held on Sunday, October 12th, 2008. There were raffles, giveaways, entertainment, and speeches. The funfilled day at Sunsets in Neptune featured great food, popular music, pretty views of the Belmar marina, and lots of laughs.

The purpose of the benefit was to raise awaretss of the state's 24 hour teen helpline, called 2ND Floor.

The 2ND Floor Youth Helpline is run by 180 Turning Lives Around, a Monmouth County nonprofit agency that aids victims of domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault and incest. The 24-hour hotline offers teens a chance to share their feelings and worries anonymously, without fear that their parents will be notified.

The most meaningful part of the day was the advice given by Mrs. Clark. She told the crowd that its okay to express your feelings, and that there is always an atterantive, and be aware that there is

**By: Kate Ferraro
and
Julia McGuire**

someone out there to help. The audience respected Mrs. Clarks courageous speech and cheered enthusiastically when she was finished.

Afterwards, Mrs. Clark told the Blue & Gray that she was thankful and



Along with her smile, Sophia brings compassion, motivation and determination

appreciative to all who had attended the event. She added that it would not have been such a great success without everyone's support and contributions.

A 2ND Floor helpline representative also spoke.

Sophia was drawn to 2NDFloor because it offers teens chances to share their feelings and worries anonymously, without being judged. She was introduced to the hotline by her mother, Andrea Ganguzza, who had volunteered previously.

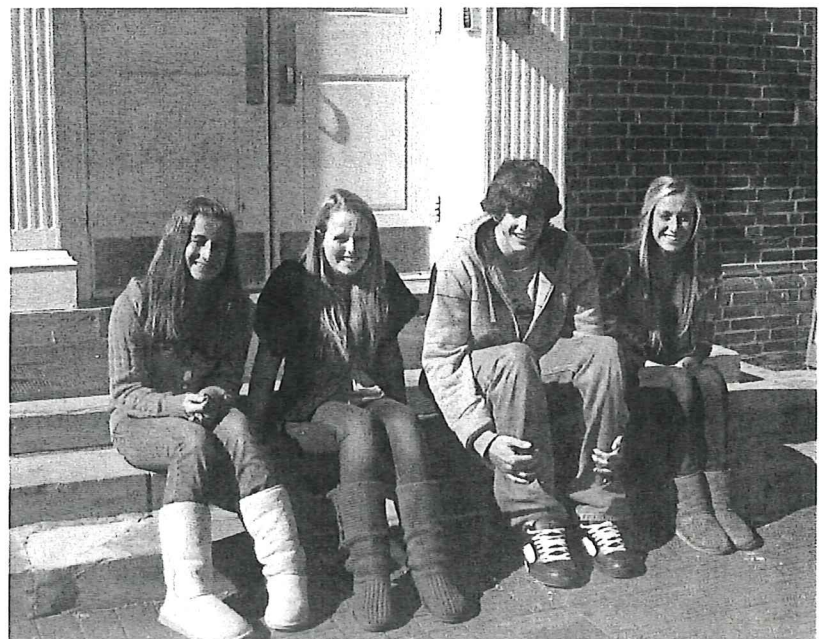
Because of Sophia's actions, Nicole Romaine, the director of development for 2ND Floor's parent group, said she expects the number of calls received will increase in the months ahead. Sophia said that the helpline receives around 7,000 calls each month.

Between April and August of this year, two Manasquan High school students along with a recent graduate of the school were killed by trains in apparent suicides. Sophia was worried and thought of herself being in the shoes of many students here who were close friends with the boys.

The total funds raised were given to 2ND Floor with donations to the boys scholarship funds.

September Students of the Month

The votes are in and the following students are the winners! Freshman Jeanine Balestrieri, sophomore Erica Rabinovich, junior Zach Rogers and senior Ursula Librizzi were recognized for their strong academic performance during the first month of the school year. They were honored by Principal Coppolla with a breakfast at the Manasquan Elks Club on Wednesday morning, October 22.





The Blue & Gray
Manasquan High School
167 Broad Street
Manasquan, NJ 08736

Principal:
Mr. Rick Coppola

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ART

Squan Artists Show their Talents

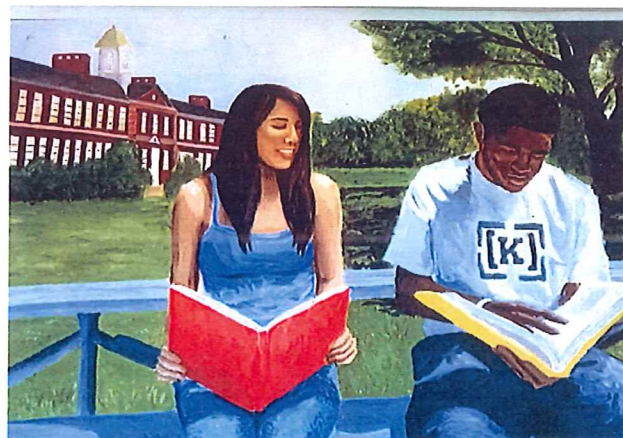


Presidential Election 2008

Sophomore Brielle
Bijoux depicts the
candidates



AP Artists Dedicate Mural to Squan Public Library



The talents of junior Larissa Eteson, senior Chloe Anselmo and MHS graduate Matt Marquez are on display at the Manasquan Public Library. Their mural, celebrating the diversity and tradition of our school, was donated to the library where it now hangs outside the entrance. AP Art teacher Mrs. Monaghan praised the work of her students, stating "I'm just so proud of them."