

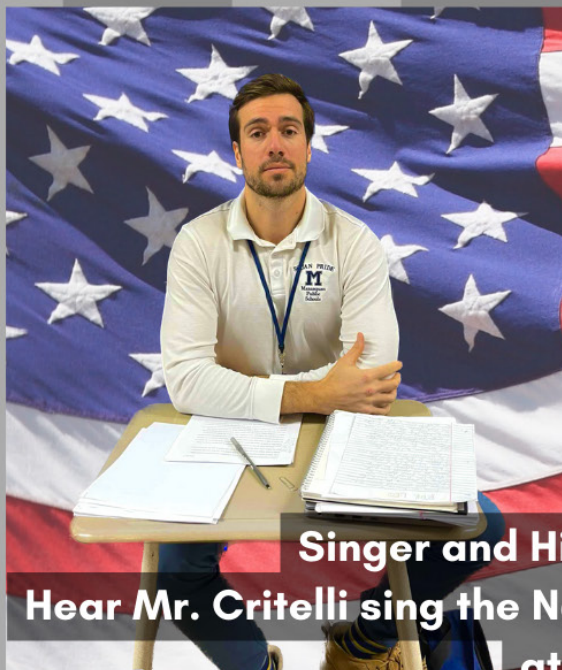
Manasquan High School

BLUE AND GRAY



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**BOYS BASKETBALL'S 3RD SHORE CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY IN 4 YEARS
CENTRAL JERSEY SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP COMES HOME
SECURES 1ST EVER GROUP 2 TITLE**





The Blue & Gray
Manasquan H.S.

2022-2023
Issue Four

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BOYS BASKETBALL: From Shore Conference Champs, to Sectional Champs, to STATE Champs

By: Lindsay Fuller

What is the best way to celebrate winning a high school state championship? How about plunging into the freezing cold ocean headfirst. This is exactly what the Manasquan boys' basketball team did after beating Caldwell in the NJSIAA Group 2 boys basketball state final becoming state champions.

On March 4th, around 9:30 pm, the boys' basketball team was welcomed home with a parade on Main Street Celebrating their amazing 62-29 win over Caldwell at the Jersey Mikes Arena in Piscataway. This was followed by their polar plunge into the ocean. It was the first time in MHS history that the boys brought home the Group 2 state championship. The boys have had an incredible season this year with a record of 28-4 and ending the season with 10 consecutive wins.

"It feels great," said sophomore guard Darius Adams, "It's only been done one time in Manasquan history."

During the state final, the Warriors had the lead the entire game, with leading scorers Darius Adams, followed by juniors Ryan Frauenheim and Alex Konov. Manasquan played amazing defense throughout the game in support of their strong offense. The Warriors put the game totally out of reach outscoring Caldwell, 24-6 in the third quarter.



Above: The Manasquan High School Boys Basketball team winning the state final.

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Here Comes Squan a Thon!

Night of fun activities- all for a great cause

By: Niky Li

One night only, Manasquan's 14th annual Squan-A-Thon is being held on March 31st, 2023! Each year, MHS students exemplify the Warrior Spirit by staying up all night to help put an end to cancer. Throughout the long night, they honor those who fight this ongoing battle of cancer and celebrate the many that have overcome this obstacle.

The students do not have to dance for all 12 hours, but they are not supposed to sit down. It is packed with fun activities, such as (in past years) inflatable obstacle course, games, slip n' slides, face painting, henna tattoos, hypnotist, magicians, DJ's, bands, dancing, Zumba, plus pasta, pizza, subs, taco bar, bagels, Italian ice, ice cream cakes, snacks, gifts, prizes and so much more.

Squan-A-Thon's mission is to provide financial and emotional assistance to local families affected by pediatric cancer or other serious illnesses. As of now, they are finalizing the schedule for the evening and working on the theme and shirts.

Spanish teacher Mrs. Griffith, also known as Maestra, is an advisor of Squan-A-Thon (along with Math teacher Mrs. Basaman). She supports the students in the committees and oversees the organization of events throughout the year to raise money. "We have already given away \$35,000 in September to local families in need," said Maestra.



Above: Students posing at Squan-A-Thon last year; Above (top): MHS students dance all night to raise money for pediatric cancer!



Jocelyn Fajardo, a n MHS junior, said, "I think Critelli singing is going to be a spectacular event. Some might even say more monumental than Rihanna singing in the Super Bowl. I have very high hopes."

Squan-A-Thon allows students to enjoy a fun and exciting night as well as leaving participants knowing that they made a change. We have limited knowledge to any of the surprises that could happen during the night. "There are surprises, but I am not going to tell you a single thing," said Maestra. If you want to know what will happen then donate and go see for yourself!

Left: Mr. Critelli looks forward to singing the National Anthem

Chase Hearon, who is on the dancer committee of Squan-A-Thon, takes part in choreographing the dances they do every hour, making sure all the dancers have their \$200 donation, and managing social media accounts. They are meeting every week to make sure everything is done by March 31st. "The biggest surprise is our theme! It is very unique this year and will be so much fun," said Chase.

The Academy of Finance Fashion Show... Coming soon!

BY: Teddy Campi

Gowns, Glamour, and a Sense of Community.

For the 18th year, the Academy of Finance is rolling out the red carpet once again for the annual Fashion Show on March 21st. Throughout their years at Manasquan High School, the seniors have worked hard in the Academy, and the AOF fashion show provides them an opportunity to be rewarded.

Mrs. Hoeler, one of the directors of the academy, expressed that the show is “important to make people aware that Manasquan has an Academy of Finance, as well as to provide scholarships for members”.

Runways, dances, and some really interesting clothing will all be on display this year. Although the Academy hasn’t revealed the theme for this year’s show, I was assured by Mrs. Hoeler that it won’t disappoint.

Alex Passes, a junior in the academy, gave a little bit of insight, stating that “a lot of teachers will be participating.” He also assured that there will be some formal and informal looks that people will be sporting on the runway.

The show being so embedded into the schools tradition, having run for 18 years,

always gives the Academy a moment to shine, and through proceeds from ticket sales and local business collaboration donating clothing, the Academy will be able to reward a few seniors with scholarships to commemorate their hard work and dedication.

Mrs. Hoeler expressed her enthusiasm, stating that it is a main purpose of the show to reward students who have given their all to the academy during their time at MHS.

Furthermore, Academy of Finance senior Lauren Jordan expressed her excitement: “Seniors work hard, and I’m excited that their hard work will pay off.”

Sharing excitement for the success of their peers is a commonality that rings throughout the AOF, and that sense of community is put in the spotlight (quite literally) each year when the Academy of Finance puts on the show.

As well as finding community in the academy, the fashion show also promotes reaching out past the school into the surrounding community. Finding sponsors from local businesses is crucial to the success of the show, and students



Above: Director of Academy of Finance Mr. Driscoll speaks at last year’s fashion show fundraiser

from the academy are able to make those connections.

The fashion show does so much good for recognizing the dedication of AOF students and inviting them to connect with each other and their community.

So, what are you waiting for! Make sure to stay on top of further updates, including what the theme this year will be, and make sure you buy tickets in advance. Come support an amazing event that will assure you all entertainment and will reward a few lucky seniors with an award for their achievements in the academy.

Below: The Academy of Finance logo, depicted on the wall outside Mr. Driscoll’s classroom.



Mamma Mia Coming Soon to MHS

By: Angelina George

Lights, camera, action! Get excited because it is almost show time for the Manasquan High School Drama Club to show off all their dancing, singing, and acting skills!

From March 23rd through the 25th MHS drama will see all their hard work come together in the form of the classic musical Mamma Mia. The plot of the musical is Donna (Logan Ridge), an independent hotel owner in the Greek islands, is preparing for her daughter’s wedding with the help of two old friends Rosie (Janelle Slovak) and Tanya (Bella Lopez). Meanwhile Sophie (Reese Hearon) is getting ready to marry Sky (Danny Colon) and devises a plan with the support of her two friends Lisa (Olivia Maes) and Ali (Deanna Schipani). She secretly invites three men, Sam Carmichael (Kieran McMenaman), Bill Austin (Jonathan Kane), and Harry Bright (Quinn Chapman) from her mother’s past in hope of meeting her real father and having him escort her down the aisle on her big day.

The past four months have been

filled with hard work, late nights, fundraising, organizing, and planning for the Drama Club. They began the operation in December by casting, and then straight to rehearsal to make all the magic happen.

“It’s definitely satisfying to see all of our hard work come together, putting together a show is a long grueling process. Staying here until 9pm some nights is a lot but it’s all worth it in the end,” explained

senior Kieran McMenaman, who has been involved with the Drama Club since his freshman year. The process began by Ms. Schilla teaching the music and Ms. Galano teaching all of the choreography; then began the challenge of putting it all together.

Ms. Galano, the dance teacher here at MHS, talked about the teamwork from all off the adults involved: “Ms. Schilla, Ms. Badami, and I have all spent lots of time working with these kids. Combining everyone’s wonderful ideas just creates for so much success!”

Although this is far from the first show ever performed here at MHS, the cast and director believe that it will be the best show ever shown on the Jack Nicholson stage. The cast will be accompanied by a nine-person professional pit orchestra to play with the students, and Broadway media projections.

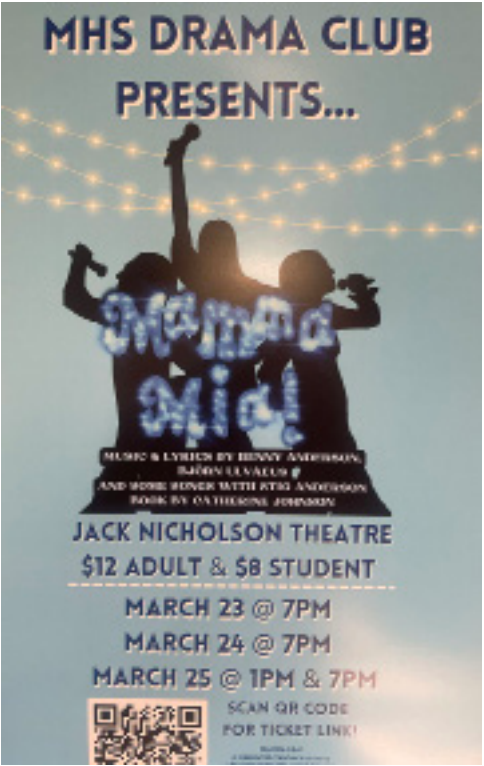


“Lots of fundraising has been done in the past year to raise money for a new microphone system, and Broadway media projections. It could not have been done without the help of the alumni, school, parents, and kids,” stated Ms. Schilla, the director of the musical.

Putting a musical together is about piecing together a bunch of moving parts, and the MHS Drama club seems to have no trouble when it comes to teamwork!

Senior Bella Lopez commented on the teamwork that must take place in order to have a successful show, “Teamwork is vital. We all need to be able to work with each other or else nothing will work. Everyone must be on the same page energy and commitment wise. It is crucial for us to remember that we are all working towards the same goal.”

The Drama Club’s big production of Mama Mia is simply a can’t miss event, so make sure to buy your tickets, and be prepared to be mesmerized by a show stopping performance!



Six New Members Inducted to MHS Academic Hall of Fame

By: Lily Hendricks



Manasquan High School Academic Hall of Fame recognizes MHS alumni who have shown outstanding success and creative work in their field. It awards graduates who have made amazing accomplishments, service, commitment, and dedication in their work. They were honored for their careers that began with their education at MHS.

This year MHS has inducted six new alumni into the Academic Hall of Fame. Each nominee must have graduated from MHS at least 20 years before they are nominated. Each alumnus who has been inducted would have their name engraved on a plaque and their biography will be added to the Hall of Fame Display.

The six alumni who were inducted this year are Dr. Charles Tassini, David Thompson, Michael Broderick, Mi-

chael Leslie, Alan Cordts and Kimberly Hollister.

Kimberly Hollister, Class of 1988 alumni, has achieved a BSE, MSE and PhD in systems engineering from University of California. She is Dean of Feliciano School of Business at Montclair State University. Hollister was a lecturer at Wharton School of Business at University of Pennsylvania from 1998 to 1999. She won the Moore School Council Award from the University of Pennsylvania. She was also one of New Jersey's best 50 Women in Business Honorees in 2016 from NjBiz.

Alan Cordts is from the Class of 1964 has a degree in electrical engineering from Brown University. Cordts served in the US army from 1970-1972 and got his MD from Boston University School of Medicine. He also

worked on Native American Reservations in Arizona and Oklahoma.

Michael Broderick, class of 1986, served in the US Marine Corps until 1990. After serving he went into acting and had over 50 credited acting performances including appearances in "NCIS", "Criminal Minds", and "True Detectives". He was also a Veterans in Media and Entertainment Board Member and a Gallant Few Boards member.

Michael Leslie who graduated in 1969 was the first African American to star in a MHS theatrical, "The King and I". He graduated from Rutgers University and Cornell Law School but decided to go into theater and performed in regional theaters, on Broadway, and throughout Europe. He has performed in concerts in Carnegie Hall, Royal Albert Hall, and London. He has been nominated for Denver Post Ovation Award for Best Supporting Actor and Best Featured Actor in a Musical or Revue in Chicago. He was also the first African American to play Judge Turpin in a major

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Below: (pictured from left to right) Kimberly Hollister, Alan Cordts, Michael Broderick, David Thompson and John Tassini.



Warrior Band Marches With Pride

By: Sydnie Chek



Above: Senior Quinn Feeney leads Manasquan's Warrior Band in the 50th annual Belmar/Lake Como St. Patrick's Day parade.

The Manasquan High School Band lined up early, wearing blue and gray, on a beautiful Sunday morning to march in the 50th annual Belmar/Lake Como St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Many people from all over the state stood out on the curb to watch the parade go by on Sunday, March 5th. "We are projecting a number of 150,000 to 200,000 attendees this year," Grand Marshal Eugene Joseph "Chip" Cavanaugh told the Coast Star.

This is one of the first St. Patrick's Day parades of the year in New Jersey. More than 200

groups participate in this annual parade and Manasquan Band gets to be one of them.

Sophomore Leonardo Reyes was very excited to march in this year's parade, playing the tuba. He marched last year for the first time and really enjoyed it.

Band director, Mr. Weimken said, "We march in parades often, so we do not need to do much to prepare." They memorized and practiced their songs on the days leading up to the parade.

They played the songs "Louie Louie" and "In the Stone."

Parade day is an exciting

day for many in Belmar and Lake Como. Sophomore saxophonist Molly Bennett says, "I like seeing the people out in the crowd supporting the band." She joined the band last year as a freshman to express her love for music.

The band was led by Quinn Feeney this year. Quinn is a senior and has marched in the parade all four years since he was a freshman.

"[The band] really brings a sense of pride to our sports teams++ and school community. Especially in a big parade like the St. Patrick's Day one," said Quinn. "We get compliments from people all over the sending districts about how awesome it is to still have people representing Squan in the parades. It really just adds a nice sense of town pride when we do it and especially when we're recognized for doing it."

The marching band will also be marching in the Manasquan Memorial Day Parade later in the year and the concert band will be performing in the spring concert along with the choir on Wednesday, May 3rd. Come and support your fellow Manasquan students!

Below: The banner carried in front of the band during the parade.



Studying in the Starlab



Above: Students in the Astronomy class in front of the StarLab.

Mrs. McHugh brings innovative approach to learning

By: Isabella Lopez

Back in the beginning of March, the astronomy class taught by Mrs. McHugh traveled the galaxy inside their very own school. In the StarLab dome, we can explore a vast realm of information, including astronomy. But the learning is not limited to the stars, you can also study geology, and physical geography. With



StarLab, the class was better able to see and understand the material taught in class, in a fun and otherworldly way.

On the first day, students explored the StarLab and looked at different constellations, stars, and planets that usually can't be seen, because of the light pollution we have living so close to New York. At first, students were looking to identify different stars we see in constellations, and noticed how everything rotates depending on where you are looking.

The way StarLab works is this: students see an image-projecting projector inside the inflatable dome that is light-tight. Apart from the locations where the images are present, cylinders made of opaque film are utilized to project images. To be able to operate the dome you have to be certified, as the projector and cylinders need to be handled with the utmost care.

Throughout the course of three days, students traveled inside the dome to chart stars, identify constellations and learn about

continued on next page

Students Shine at FBLA Conference

Business Teachers Mrs. Holer and Mrs. Koenig brought students to the Future Business Leaders of America competition, held in Atlantic City the week of March 6-8. They were so proud to announce the success of MHS students Madeline Johnson, Luke Roy and Taylor Hamarich. Luke earned a top-ten finish on a test of accounting skills, while Taylor and Maddie impressed in their presentations and interviews. Great job by these future business-world superstars!

Pictured above (from left to right): Mrs. Holer, junior Maddy Johnson, senior Taylor Hamarich, junior Luke Roy and Mrs. Koenig



Starlab

continued from previous page

the otherwise unknown. It's an experience that only McHugh's students enjoy, and for senior Isabella Lopez it was a very full circle moment as she took biology freshman year, only seeing the dome from the outside. Now, being able to be inside, was awesome!

For another student, senior Natalie Gallagher, it was equally cool. She said, "I liked it. I learned a lot and felt like I was able to understand everything that Mrs. McHugh was teaching us a lot better than in class!"



Overall, this was a wonderful experience that got Mrs. McHugh's class out of the usual routine of school, and allowed them to work and study a bit differently in the StarLab.

Academic Hall of Fame

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production of Sweeney Todd.

David Thompson, class of 1968, got his bachelor's degree for environmental design and master's degree of architecture from Texas A&M. In 1974, he joined RTKL Associates as a designer and in 1993 retired as a senior vice president and board member. In 2002, he received the Urban Medal for notable contributions to architecture and became a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and Outstanding Alumnus of Texas A&M's College of Architecture.

Dr. Charles Tassini, class of 1926, was a doctor of dental surgery from the University of Pennsylvania. During World War II he served in the US Navy as part of the US Naval Construction Battalion. Afterward, he operated a dental practice in Manasquan and served on the Manasquan Planning board from 1964 to 1981. The Dr. Charles Tassini Wildlife Park was also dedicated to him in 1986. Dr. Tassini died in 1986 so his grandson, John Tassini accepted the award.

Choir For All

By MJ Murray

The Treble and Tenor/Bass choirs were started by Mrs. Schille, the choir teacher at Manasquan High School, to let students that could not be enrolled in the class have the amazing experience of singing in a choir. Rather than a typical class, students are invited to lunch! Many students want to do choir, but academics or other electives take up that space, so this new lunch opportunity can let students participate in concerts and other fun activities the choir performs in.

Concert Choir is a class at Manasquan High School that performs two major concerts per year. Outside of these two concerts, the choir have also performed in many different events, such as the Pastosa Tree Lighting and at a mass at Holy Trinity Church in Manasquan. They also go on a field trip to participate in Music in The Parks,

hosted in amusement parks like Dorney Park, where they compete for trophies. Last year, the choir got a rating of a 90 and won two trophies.

The Tenor/Bass (abbreviated TB) choir is a choir for people with lower voices that meets at lunch on D days in room 566. The first meeting was held on February 21st of 2023. The Treble choir, which is for Soprano and Alto voices, is a choir for people with a higher range of singing. This choir meets at lunch, but instead of D days, they meet on A days. Their first meeting was on February 22nd, 2023. The schedules that were laid out

in an email to prospective

members of these choirs detailed the subsequent rehearsals leading up to the Spring Concert, where the choirs will perform a song onstage.

Paige Petruzio, a freshman who is a member of the Treble choir, commented that “the thing I like most about the choir is the environment.” She further described the environment, saying “it’s super relaxed and just fun to be involved in.” Paige plans on joining Concert Choir as an elective next year.

Mrs. Schille is known for being an encouraging and wel-

coming teacher and this creates an environment where people are not judged. Another benefit of the two choirs is being able to learn from such an amazing teacher without having to worry about being graded. It also lets students learn more about music, like reading notes and learning some aspects of music theory.

Any student can join, even if they have no past musical experience. The only requirement that students need to meet is a willingness to learn and to sing!

As Mrs. Schille said in an email she sent to prospective choir members “Let your voice be heard, do something out of your comfort zone, and be a part of something that was fun in 5th grade which I PROMISE you is more fun now in high school than you can imagine.”

TB CHORALE

Do you like to sing?
Come join the new Tenor and Bass choir during lunch!

Where: Room 566
When: Lunch on D days

Starting February 21st
See Miss Schille for questions!

Above: Poster for TB Choir

Treble Chorus

Do you like to sing?
Come join the new Soprano and Alto choir during lunch!

Where: Room 566
When: Lunch on A days

Starting February 22nd
See Miss Schille for questions!

Below: Poster for Treble Chorus



Washed Up Whales

By: Ainselsey Price

Since December, twenty-three whales have washed up dead along the east coast of the United States, from New York to Virginia. Between New York and New Jersey alone, there have been a total of thirteen whales that have washed up dead.

But what grabbed local news is the female Humpback Whale that showed up near the Manasquan Inlet.

On February 13th, the 35-foot humpback whale came ashore with several wounds presumed to be from a ship, but it is unknown if it was pre or post-mortem, according to officials. The advocacy organization, Gotham Whale, identified the female whale as “NYC 0298”. Researchers stated that the whale was recorded feeding just a month earlier only 30 miles off shore from where it was spotted floating.

Soon after, word spread through the community about the whale through posts on Instagram, Facebook, and other social media.

Many people were crowding the beach to try and get a look at the magnificent creature and unfortunate event. Officials cleared the area around the whale and successfully took it from the water and onto the beach. From there, they loaded it onto a flatbed truck where it would be taken to get examined.

Most of the controversy around these tragic events is the causes of death. Why are the whales even washing up in the first



place? Many people have their theories and suspicions: climate change, change in boat patterns, offshore wind farms, the apocalypse, or just overall coincidences. However, no definitive cause has been found.

While writing this article, another whale perished, washing-up in the surf near Seaside early in the morning on March 1.

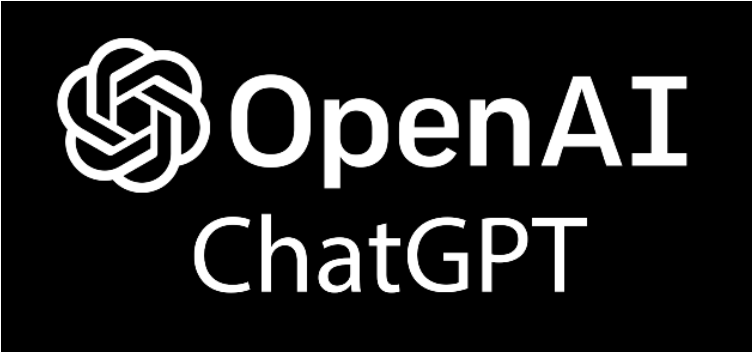
The New York Times reports, “Sixteen of the whales stranded in the last three months have been humpbacks.” This is not the first time that the coast has had an “unusual mortality event.”

In 2017 there was a huge spike in the deaths of humpback, right, and minke whales. Since then, the NOAA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has proposed a 10-knot speed limit for all boats bigger than 35ft.

Despite all of the controversy surrounding these accidents, it is still important to be in the know and be educated on what’s going on, especially in this community. People can believe what they want to believe but it is no doubt tragic and unnerving. The coast should not have this many deaths in such a short time. Hopefully, scientists and officials can understand and control what is causing the whales to come up, but until then, watch out for them.

Top: A mother humpback swimming with her calf. Middle: A female humpback getting lifted onto a truck in Manasquan. Bottom: A washed up whale on Lido Beach, N.Y.

A Robot Wrote Your Essay?!



By: Jacquelyn Stewart & Lukas Nordell

When students have trouble writing an essay, many wish there was a way for someone else to just do it for them. But now, there is a way—artificial intelligence—and it breaks all codes of academic integrity.

As artificial intelligence (AI) becomes more mainstream and available to the public, students, artists, journalists, and sound designers have used it to their advantage. In many ways, AI can replicate the arts and skills of many experienced professionals, while at the same time undermining the special abilities of these people.

The simple process of giving an AI a prompt and sitting back as it fulfills your request is extremely tempting but does present its obstacles.

One of these AI programs called ChatGPT, which only came out in November, has become a topic of discussion at Manasquan High School. Though it is not a big issue, it has potential to grow as multiple teachers have already run into cases where students are using ChatGPT or other AI programs to complete assignments.

Anyone can use AI to create an image based on their request, and anyone can replicate the voice of celebrities with the help of AI, but faking an essay

“ChatGPT is a better writer than I am. Whoever this ChatGPT guy is, he’s good,” said MHS history teacher Mr. Critelli.

Recently, there have been a few cases of ChatGPT at MHS including one of Mrs. Virok’s classes. Her class was completing an in-class essay and although she thought she had blocked everything except for Canvas, one of her students found a way around it.

“Even had I not seen the student going to ChatGPT, I would have been able to identify that the student had not written the essay themselves,” said history & French teacher Mrs. Virok. “Their writing referred to many aspects of the topic that we had not discussed in class, so immediately I knew it had to have been generated.”

Although the program was able to produce the essay for the student, it was not perfect. The one thing students don’t consider before submitting their request to ChatGPT is the

specific directions by teachers. Some essays may require the student to take evidence from the document provided, but students will leave out that part, producing a well-written essay that does not include the requirements of the teacher.

Although there are endless reasons as to why ChatGPT should be prohibited in everyday education, some argue that it might help to strengthen writing abilities if used correctly.

MHS Principal Mr. Goodall thinks so.

“Rather than trying to ignore or avoid the potential threat that ChatGPT brings, schools should embrace and learn to utilize the positives of AI programs,” he said.

No one wants to see students cutting corners, but the world we live in today embraces the use of advanced technologies and ChatGPT is no different.

BELOW: Left: Junior Billy Cosgrove says “It’s Dangerous!”; Center: junior Declan Murphy says, “I saw it on TikTok but Mr. Critelli told me not to use it.”; Right: junior Will Burns says, “I’ve experimented with AI and I think it’s the future of learning.”; Not pictured, junior Finn Dougherty says “It’s for the people!”



The Red Carpet Rundown

By Jess Mackown

The 65th Grammy Awards happened on February 5th, 2023. It was a huge success for many artists and the performances were amazing. Artists wore their most glamorous get-ups and never failed to capture the eyes of millions of viewers.

Harry Styles showed up in a rainbow harlequin jumpsuit designed by French fashion brand EgonLab. The outfit was compared to the children’s book “Rainbow Fish” during the award ceremony, however, he later changed into a black and white jacket with tan overalls and a silver tunic under his suit jacket. For his performance, Harry wore a custom silver sequin-embroidered T-shirt and sequin-fringed trousers by Gucci on stage. He performed his hit song ‘As It Was’ beautifully, and won Album of the Year for his album *Harry’s House*.

Adele looked amazing in a velvet gown from Louis Vuitton. The burgundy dress was composed of a dramatic ruffled silk collar and was paired with a dazzling diamond cluster of earrings. Her glam was stunning with a signature cat-eye and side swept, old-Hollywood inspired curls. She was joined by her boyfriend Rich Paul during the show, but she did not go onto the red carpet. Her gown was designed by Louis Vuitton’s creative director Nicolas Ghesquiere. Even though she did not attend the red carpet she won best dressed for the Grammys. She then won Best Pop Solo Performance for her song ‘Easy On Me’.

Lizzo was nominated for a lot of awards at the Grammys this year, so she showed off on the red carpet a theatrical cape that was custom made by Dolce and Gabbana. The beautiful



cape had a bright orange design and was grasping the floor. It had floral appliqués, but underneath the cape was a floor length dress that was fitted to her shape. She wore an orange flower in her hair with makeup to match her outfit. She won Record of the Year for her song ‘About Damn Time’.

Beyoncé had nine nominations for the Grammys so, she dressed to impress. She was the most nominated artist this year and was “fashionably late” to the red carpet that night. She wore a mixed metallic Gucci gown with a long silver skirt. Her cascading ruffles fell in line with a disco vibe she has been promoting for her album *Renaissance*. She went on to winning four Grammys that night and now holds the most Grammy wins ever: currently a total thirty-two. Continuing with her dress it, she had a sculptural off-the-shoulder dress by Balmain with a golden armor like bodice underneath with a circular headpiece.

Steve Lacy was nominated for his song ‘Bad Habit’ for the Grammys. He dressed in an all-black Saint Laurent look by Anthony Vaccarello. In this outfit he took home the trophy for Best Progressive R&B Album for Gemini Rights, making this his first ever win. Wearing a blazer with matching pants on the carpet he walked in with black shades and a sparkling brooch that matched the white tips of his boots.

The red carpet was an amazing sight to see. Hopefully in the future we get to see what these artists wear for other major events and red carpets!

Pictured from top to bottom: Harry Styles; Adele; Lizzo; Beyoncé; Steve Lacy

Disaster Strikes!

Earthquake Devastates Syria and Turkey



Many buildings in a Turkish city are seen demolished, turned to piles of rubble.

On February 6th, a major earthquake, which registered at 7.8 on the official magnitude scale, struck south-eastern Turkey, near the Syrian border. On this dark day in world history, more than 52,000 people were killed due to the devastating effects of the earthquake. Destroying just about everything it touched, the damage costs are expected to exceed \$100 billion.

Since this day, researchers have been trying to figure out what caused this massive natural disaster. Earth's crust is made up of separate bits, called plates, which sit alongside each other. These plates are always attempting to move but are stopped by the friction of rubbing against the plates that surround it. But when the pressure builds until one plate slips free across another, the surface of the Earth moves, creating an earthquake. This quake was caused by the Arabian plate, which moved in the northern direction against the Anatolian plate.

Even the survivors of this disastrous earthquake were left in shambles. Over 100,000 people were injured, and many lost everything when their homes were demolished. In the days after the event, many survivors have returned to

the wreckage of their houses to search the rubble for their valuables. Countless Turkish families who lost their life savings and precious gold in the disaster will be left homeless. In Turkey and other Middle Eastern countries, storing gold in a home is more trusted than depositing cash in a bank. The nation's residents buy gold to protect themselves from inflation and the decline



Five men are seen cleaning debris left from the earthquake in Turkey.

By: Austin Griffith

of the Turkish currency of lira in recent years. Now, many have none left. "No one believes in the state. They believe in gold," said a Turkish contractor clearing rubble after the quake.

A month after the earthquake, rescue and recovery efforts continue. In total, around 8,000 people were rescued from the rubble. One man, Mustafa Avci, was rescued from the wreckage after 261 hours, almost 11 days. Just before the quake, Avci's wife gave birth, and he was able to meet his 12-day-old daughter, Almile, in the hospital where he was being treated after his rescue. "How is my mother and everyone?" was Avci's first question on a phone call with his friend after his rescue.

Although the devastating earthquake that hit Turkey and Syria damaged so many innocent lives, it is important to remember the heartwarming stories that are crucial to the healing process.

The Academy Awards

By: Cristian Jose

Sunday, March 12th was the 95th Academy Awards, also known as the Oscars. It's the biggest day for actors and filmmakers as they come together to celebrate their hard work and win some awards.

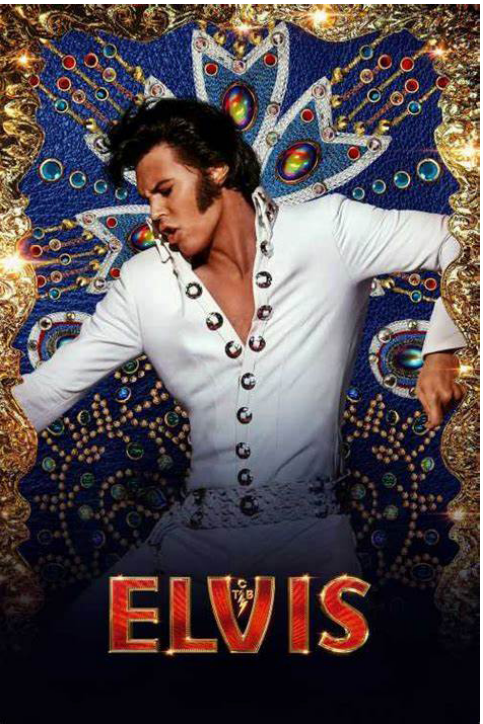
For the most part it usually goes according to plan, except for last year when Chris Rock got slapped in the face by Will Smith. Or, in 2017 when La La Land was announced as winner of Best Picture, but it was a mix up and Moonlight actually won the award.

Even with everything that happens it's still nice to see a great movie or actor win and get a time to shine, and this year was no different.



Above: A Picture of an Academy Award.

The movie that cleaned up pretty good this year was *Everything Everywhere All at Once*, which took 7 out of the 12 nominations it received, including Best Original Screenplay, Best Director, Best Film Editing, Best



Actress, Best Supporting Actor, and Best Supporting Actress. It was also the first time all three winners were nominated. Most importantly, it also won Best Picture. The movie is definitely something unique and it's not really a surprise they won a lot of awards.

Where there was a lot of tension was the Best Actor category, mainly between Austin Butler for *Elvis* and Brenden Frazer for *The Whale*. Both were great performances in challenging roles, and both did an amazing job. As much as I personally wanted Austin Butler to win the Oscar, it went to Brenden Frazer.

Many people hoped he would win since this is his big comeback story after years of not working in Hollywood due to producers rejecting him so it makes sense he would win. The movie wouldn't have felt nearly as good without Frazer.

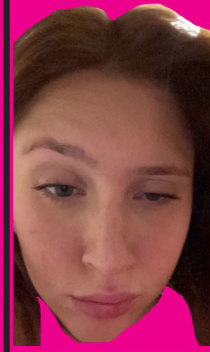
Other category winners are *Top Gun Maverick* for best sound, *All Quiet on the Western Front* for best cinematography, *Avatar: The Way of Water* for best Visual Effects and Guillermo del Toro's *Pinocchio* for best animated feature.

Good thing this year went without any interruption since the show was three and a half hours long. After all the complaints they got from people last year when it went even longer, they cut out some categories.

Jimmy Kimmel, the host, even joked, "don't complain how long the show is." This year was definitely one of the better Academy Awards.

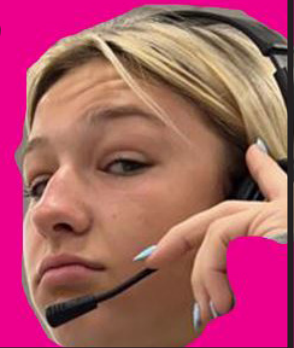
Above and below: posters for two of the year's best movies: *ELVIS* and *EEAAO*.





Morgan and Kiki Want to Know!

Junior Prom Edition



Rylie Eldridge: I'm not going to prom with anyone as of right now and I did not get a dress yet, but this is my first prom and I am excited!



Mae Stoll: I am going to prom with Jackson Herman. My dress is blue with flowers and I am going to wear my hair down and curled!



Kyle Cap: I have no idea who I am going to prom with, hopefully I will find someone soon. I want them to play Party Rock Anthem.



Luke Roy: I am taking Danielle Beatie from communications. I also can't wait to do the whip and nae nae on the dance floor.



Elena Weinseimer: I am going to prom with Brody Muly! My dress is navy blue and I'm most excited to get dressed up and wear heels!



Austin Griffith (Bottom): I have no clue who I am going with but I'm excited to hangout with my friends!

Casey Bennett (Top): I hope Austin has a great time!



Terence Marks (Left): I am taking Kiki Dap to prom and I'm gonna do the notti bop! I am very excited to dance!

Noah Mammeri (middle): My prom date is Caitlin Falkowski and I'm gonna do the floss on the dance floor. I can't wait to get turnt!

Brendan Mills (right): I am bringing Hope Masonius to prom and a song I would request is Jordan Belfort!

Girls Wrap Up Successful Swim Season

By: Julia Fahy

This season the girls worked together and put in all their effort to make a great season. They remained undefeated until Sectional Finals against Princeton.

Although they were unable to defeat Princeton, they tried their best and were extremely proud. “Our Sectional Final vs. Princeton was my favorite meet; the energy was really good, and it was our fastest race of the season by far despite the loss,” says senior Caroline Finigan.

Before that meet, the girls were in the Monmouth County Swimming Championship at the Neptune Aquatic center. They managed to finish strong in the first place giving them the Monmouth Title.

“At the Monmouth County Championships meet we were really close to Trinity but ended up winning the entire meet,” says Caroline.

This was a huge step forward for the girls. Summer Sakowicz told the Coast star, “It was an



The girls celebrate their place as the best at the Shore

amazing finish, everyone swam so well with personal bests, it was awesom. As a senior I couldn't be happier.”

The girls are satisfied with themselves and their teammates. “I'm really happy with this season and I'm proud of everyone. I think we gave it our all and stayed positive,” said senior Bennet DeVincens.

Below: Senior Caroline Height in action; Right: The girls winning the Monmouth County title



Not only do the girls make sure they do their best at meets but they also have fun. “It feels like a family, and I love the atmosphere that's created at meets,” says Sophomore Mad-dy Ireland.

Coach Craig Murin has been the girl's swim coach for the past 25 years. He is extremely proud of the girls and plays an important role in creating a successful swim season for them and ensuring the girls are the best they can be. “My biggest hope is to make the kids better swimmers and to love the sport as much as I do,” he said.

Overall it was a great season for the girls and they are all looking forward to the next.



Sectional Champs Turned State Champs

*continued
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page 2*

The road to becoming State Champions was one for the books as the team won the Shore Conference title against Ranney. For the past 4 years, the team has made it to the Shore Conference finals. They have brought home the trophy 3 out of those 4 times which is a huge accomplishment. The team went undefeated in both the Shore Conference Tournament as well as the NJSIAA Tournament.

The Warriors entered the Shore Conference Tournament as the number 1 seed and had to beat Southern, Rumson-Fair Haven, Raritan, and finally Ranney to become Shore Conference champs. But they did not stop there. This team knew they could reach their goal of a state championship.



Above: Players celbrating on the bench as the clock winds down



Above: Sophmores Darius Adams (#1) and Griffin Linstra (#12) go up to get the rebound.



Above: The Manasquan High School Boys Basketball team wins the Shore Conference Tournament

They entered the NJSIAA Group 2 tournament as the number 2 seed. They faced Monmouth, Roselle, Raritan, South River, Middle Township, and then Caldwell all ending in victorious wins for Squan.

While ending their high school basketball careers on

a good note, 7 seniors will be graduating this year. Jhamier Howard, Matt Porazzo, Jack Dettlinger, Mike Flanagan, Jake Heilos, Quinn Peters, and Tom Schnurr. They are leaving the team in good hands.

“I think we will be very good next year. We have a lot of returning guys and some guys on JV who could help us” Junior Ryan Frauenheim said.

While concluding the memorable 2022-2023 season, the boys' basketball team is in high hopes that they can bring home that state championship next year for a back-to-back repeat.



WARRIOR SPORTS

Boys Bowlers Win Division Title

By: Casey Bennett

The lane is ready, and the team sits and waits as the ball spins toward the pins - for a strike! This is only some feelings of anticipation and excitement coming from the Manasquan Bowling Team. With the whole team being focused and talented at their craft, they won the division title while going up against the best contenders in the county.

Senior Charlie Mawn, being an outstanding in his academics, also carries a talent of being amazing at bowling. Charlie captained the bowling team to a first place finish in the Central A Division. Their final record showed out a terrific 14-1.

On February 16th, the team finished 1st place in their division. They earned a spot in the Shore Conference Tournament but sadly did not compete their best that day with several starters missing.

For the season, Charlie believed that the team worked together wonderfully. "We performed very well, we worked very well together like we always do. We pick each other up when things don't go well. I'm very happy on the season outcome," Charlie mentioned.

As for most players on the team, most started bowling in middle school when they first joined bowling for a team. As for Charlie he began bowling in 5th grade. When questioned about his passion for the game, Charlie said, "100%. I have passion bowling. Freshmen year, after my first match I got bumped up to varsity, and that pressure made me feel



Above (top): Sophomore Ryan Rose lines up his shot; (above) Junior Zach Friedmen gets ready to roll a strike!

addicted. I wanted to be better and continue playing," he said.

But Charlie isn't the only one who got invested and addicted to the game of bowling, and developed talent too. Junior Zach Friedman checks the box.

When Zach started he was only in the 7th grade, but quickly performing really well for his age group. When mentioned if he had a passion for his game Zach explained, "I don't really have a passion for the game, but I do enjoy playing. It's fun for me. I don't plan on playing in college so I can't really say I'm in love with it."

As for his opinion on the coach, Manasquan Chemistry Teacher Mr. Glenn, Zach believed that Mr. Glenn is an amazing coach who leads the team well and helps everyone with their game. "The coaches are amazing; they know how to coach and have experience with the sport," Zach mentioned. With the season at an end and seniors on their way to bigger things, the final question is, how will the team do next season? Most of team thinks they will continue to excel.

Zach had simple and easy answer to keep us all on our toes, "I think we will be really good next season and probably will dominate".

WARRIOR SPORTS

The Hot-Shots of Hockey at MHS

By: Finley Nielsen



The Manasquan Hockey Team glided through their season, with some stone-cold victories.

The team finished the regular season 10-10-1. With a roster of twenty-one in total featuring highlight players like

James Farinacci, Justin Lopes, Connor Kelly, Dylan Vowter and Tommy Reynolds.

The Hockey team is a co-ed time with Point Pleasant Beach high school. This is not the only team that Manasquan and Pt. Beach share, they also team up on the boys and girls swim teams, and the gymnastic team.

The team is a mixed roster, with different grade levels contributing to the all-around team chemistry. Dylan Vowter, who is a sophomore and starting right wing man, commented on his favorite part of the team. "My favorite part about the team is how close we are with each other," he said.

Coach Irace does not give up on the team which may not seem like a score, but a mental one. "I don't worry when we get down, and I don't think they do either," Coach Irace told the Coast Star when asked about their game on February 1st. "When we get down, we find another gear to get it back. You have seen it all year when we give up a goal, we get it back quickly. There is no quit."

Coach Irace has instilled a personality in them that will last a lifetime. Winning is not everything, but for the hockey team, winning is something that they do best.



On February 6th the team faced Howell in a key game. The Haenchen Cup quarterfinal tournament game took place at Jersey Shore Arena.

The two teams had their game faces on, but the Howell Rebels were not going to go down without a fight. Manasquan had beaten Howell once before, but the Rebels made it a lot tougher on Manasquan the second time around.

It took overtime, but a Brendan Shaughnessy goal with 2:51 left made the 4-3 difference. The Warriors had earned the key victory in front of a packed crowd.

"I saw the opportunity and I ripped it. I did not really know what happened after that. I did not see the puck go in. I just saw the back of the net move. That was probably the greatest hockey goal I ever scored in my life," Brendan said.

Although they lost in the semifinals, Irace said "It is awesome for our program. Manasquan had so many years of success before Covid and last year we were in a tough division, and I thought we competed well." Irace felt the Warriors were in the right spot to battle for a division title this season after being moved. "We got in a division where I thought we could compete every game," said Irace. "I am excited for the boys."

The Warriors have gotten into a team philosophy this season. Their motto is Shoulder 2 Shoulder, and the team has stood together and improved throughout the season.

"We come together every game, we warm up hard, we play hard. We pick up the guys left and right. It is great to see the effort. The chemistry is here, we practice hard, and it comes out in the game," said Tommy Reynolds.

"Tommy is our lifeline," said Grant Smith, who is a senior. "It would not have happened without him. He is there when we need him most. He makes big stops when we need them."

"They are a very tight knit group," said Irace, who is in his second year as coach. "We lost five of our first six games, but these guys kept grinding. They are a hard-working bunch."

Even if the season did not end directly in the team's favor, their hard work and determination paid off.



Above: James Farinacci

WARRIOR SPORTS

Girls' Basketball Team Wraps Up A Great Season

By: Ronnie Whille



With every new season comes a new challenge. For Manasquan High School's Girls Basketball team, the challenge was having only one returning starter from last year. This required many players to step up and take on new responsibilities. "It was more about fitting into new roles," said Coach Lisa Kukoda.

Sophomore Olivia Shaughnessy, a starter this year, said, "Losing 4 of our 5 starters from last year, we had to push ourselves everyday as a team and individually. New roles made for each person. It was a big responsibility, but we did it together which improved our relationship."



Above: Olivia Shaughnessy shooting a three-pointer.

One of sophomore Shannon Heine's favorite things about the team are the relationships they all have on and off the court, how they are all friends outside of basketball.

The team had many wins to be proud of this year such as the buzzer-beater game against Shawnee and the game against St. Rose. Shaughnessy said, "Right from the start we set the tone for the game and finished strong." They lost to St. Rose the first time, but they came back stronger and more motivated. After a game against Wall junior McKenna Karlson, a starter, told the Coast Star "Once we start playing off each other



WARRIOR SPORTS

Wrestlers Work to Match Last Year's Success

By: Cameron Longergan

After an incredible season that was the best in Mansquan Wrestling history, the team lost some outstanding seniors and suffered some injuries that limited them this year. Still, an overall decent 2022-2023 season for Manasquan wrestling ended with a 12-12 record, as they finished third in the division.

Despite some disappointment with the overall season, some pretty impressive performances from skilled wrestlers were the highlights.

Three wrestlers made us at Manasquan proud by making it to the Region 6 Tournament in Atlantic City, an achievement Manasquan has not had for a while. Senior Torey Falkenburg wrapped up his career progressing past the first round into the quarterfinals, where he gave an incredible effort wrestling against Nikko Rucci. That amazing effort got him to the semifinals where he gave it his best. After the

semifinals he had competed in a match for 3rd place but lost, and finished in 4th place in the end, making lots proud back home. This is the last year Falkenburg will wrestle for Squan, and he surely left an imprint before he leaves, representing the Warriors at the tournament and finishing the season with a record of 23-6.

Alongside Falkenburg were two other great wrestlers. Sophomore Michael O'Connor and junior Noah Mammeri were consistent top performers for Squan Wrestling.

In Districts, O'Connor made a great effort and won his first round, and kept it going throughout the quarterfinals but unfortunately did not move on. O'Connor finished the season with a 24-4 record.

Mammeri also made a great effort and won his first round but did not move on. Mammeri finished the season with a 22-6 record.

Great work from all!



continued from previous page

that is when everything comes together for us."

Their record for this year was 22-7. They made it to tournaments like the WOBM Christmas Tournament Finals, the Shore Conference Semi-Finals, and the sectional finals. Manchester was obliterated by the girl's team in the Shore Conference Tournament First Round 81-26. They put up a good fight in the NJSIAA Final Round for the Central Jersey Group 2 but lost 52-30. "Camden Catholic was just a really great team win with contributions from everyone" Coach Kukoda said, "This was a really fun group to be able to coach, great energy, hardworking, and there is a lot to look forward to next year."

Even though the beginning was a challenge, the girls pushed through and came together. "We started off kind of rough, but as the season went on, we grew as a team. I think we could have accomplished more than we did. Overall, it was a good year," said Heine. The future looks bright for this team.



Warrior

Sports

Winter

