A New Era Begins

Helina Dawit
News Editor

Now that Dr. Ruck has retired, we welcome a new principal to Harrison High School. The Husky Herald sat down recently with Dr. Steven Siciliano to learn a little more about the man, and his experiences in his new position.

HH: Where did you go to high school?
Dr. Siciliano: I attended East Islip High School on Long Island.

HH: How do you think high school has changed since then?
Dr. Siciliano: At the time I graduated high school, I don’t think there was a big emphasis on inclusiveness, like we have here. At times it was very sink-or-swim, and there was a different attitude towards bullying at that time. We treated each other differently then, and mean-spiritedness was part of the deal. We’re more attentive to climate now, perhaps due in large part to technology... so I think I would have loved to have gone to Harrison.

HH: Who was your favorite teacher?
Dr. Siciliano: I had a Social Studies teacher named Mr. Len Costello. He had a really big impact on me; he got me into thinking that maybe I could be a Social Studies teacher.

HH: Did you play any sports in high school?
Dr. Siciliano: I did. I used to be co-captain of my varsity soccer team.

HH: What is your favorite thing to do?
Dr. Siciliano: I love playing with my two kids. I have an 11-year old and an 8-year old, both boys. They take up a lot of my time.

HH: Do they look more like you or your wife?
Dr. Siciliano: I’ve been told they’re mine.

HH: What are your favorite books?
Dr. Siciliano: I tend to go back to inspiring things, and the book that I am fond of and return to often is “The Book of Ecclesiastes,” and podcasts. I like listening to podcasts.

HH: What are your favorite movies?
Dr. Siciliano: I like silly comedies, usually anything with Vince Vaughn in it, as he’s pretty funny. Wedding Crashers I thought was funny. Be Cool! I thought was hysterical. I’m now at the stage where I’m watching a lot of movies again with my kids.

HH: What are your favorite shows?
Dr. Siciliano: This is where I’m going to show my age. I like current events, so I watch a lot of MSNBC, political talk shows, and the Sunday morning talk shows. I also really like, “This is where I’m at.”

HH: How long have you been a principal?
Dr. Siciliano: Probably from Dr. Ruck, when he said to me, “You’ve done good work so far, don’t mess it up.”

HH: What is the best advice you’ve ever received?
Dr. Siciliano: Probably from Dr. Ruck, when he said to me, “You’ve done good work so far, don’t mess it up.”

HH: What is the best advice you’ve received recently?
Dr. Siciliano: The position gives you the responsibility of taking care of everybody. And that’s really what you’re trying to do, you’re trying to work collectively and use, I guess, the authority invested in the position to make better outcomes for everyone, and that’s a responsibility.

HH: What is the position you’re going to be in?
Dr. Siciliano: I am going to be an assistant principal in his district. A year after that, he appointed me as the Principal of the Sagamore Middle School.

HH: What is your goal for this coming year?
Dr. Siciliano: You learn that there is so much people are doing that needs to be honored and celebrated. You don’t come in and try to change everything. The key is just take your time and see the good things that are happening, and to work to make sure that those things continue. And you listen to students, teachers, parents, discussing what we think we can do better. You have that discussion, make plans, and go after achieving them. These jobs are about serving people, it’s not so much about giving directions.

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Dr. Siciliano: I was called to active duty after 9/11. I was in the National Guard and I was called into the Army. They sent us up to West Point. At the time it was pretty frightening, nobody really knew what was going to happen next... just a very, very tense time.

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The new school year always brings change and lots of it. As many people are aware, here at Harrison High School we have a new Assistant Principal, Mrs. Griffo. Before moving up to the high school she taught seventh grade math at the middle school and then went on to eighth grade math along with this year’s seniors. She was willing to sit down with the Husky Herald to discuss some of the things that she will be doing for our school. Here’s the inside scoop on being Assistant Principal.

Husky Herald: How do you feel about being up at the high school now?

Mrs. Griffo: I’m excited! It’s a big change but I’ve been enjoying it. Working in summer school was the peak of my interest. In high school one of my social studies teachers told me that I should teach math but I never thought about it until college. When I first got into teaching, I thought I would be teaching high school math, but I just had to work my way up.

Husky Herald: Was the transformation from being a math teacher to an assistant principal difficult for you or did you find it easy?

Mrs. Griffo: The amount of learning here is incredible. Being an assistant principal is very new and sometimes really hard. I have so much to learn and I’m still getting used to all of it. I just keep thinking that if I hang on then it will get easier, and that goes for all of the students as well. I left my comfort zone of being a math teacher and now I’m in a new world with new routines. I know I can handle it, but I need to get used to it all first.

Husky Herald: How long have you been teaching in the Harrison Central School District?

Mrs. Griffo: Fifteen years.

Husky Herald: What did you do before working at Harrison?

Mrs. Griffo: I was teaching in Connecticut, but it was a far commute so this is much closer and easier for me.

Husky Herald: If you could have any job that didn’t involve teaching, what would it be?

Mrs. Griffo: CSI Detective Griffo! Last year I was a detective for Halloween and I wore my hat and badge.

Husky Herald: What are your main goals for the school in terms of change?

Mrs. Griffo: I like to think of my changes as gradual. I don’t want to rush into anything too fast. Take the dress code, for example. I do not plan on banning yoga pants, leggings, or anything of the sort. That never came up – it was all just a rumor. To be honest, some things will be challenging. I want to continue to help support and push students toward what they are capable of. Sometimes we can’t see it when we are in it, and that’s okay. I never saw all my possibilities in high school but I pushed myself and I want to help students and teachers to do the same. I want them to find what they love and love what they do. If everyone could come up to me and say “I found what I love and love what I do”, that would be amazing. I’m not expecting that right away, but that’s the goal. This isn’t a job for me; it’s who I am and what I do and I love it.

Husky Herald: Is there anything else that you would like the students to know about you?

Mrs. Griffo: I think that sometimes students see adults and think that it is easy to get where they are, but I worked really hard to put myself through school. I went to Columbia for grad school and I’m proud of that. It took a while for me to do it but I paid my way and I’m proud of that too. I think that anything is possible, but you have to work for it. When you find a goal, go after it and stick with it. Within reason, if you believe that you can get there, you eventually will.

Fun Fact: Mrs. Griffo went to Preston Elementary School for a brief period of time, her father went to Purchase, her daughter went to Parsons and her son is currently at Harrison Avenue.)

Mrs. Griffo greets students in The Den. Courtesy of Sam Stein
Debate Team Off to a Great Start

Clarissa Karantos
Managing Editor

Merely two months into the school year, the Harrison High School Debate Team has already climbed its way to the top. Students who are part of this nationally-recognized team meet every week with advisor Mr. Hertzig to conduct research on their topics, participate in practice rounds, form their cases, and prepare for competition. Through this determination, preparation, and endless effort, the team has definitely left its mark.

This September, students on the debate team traveled to Dallas, Texas to compete at Greenhill School and returned home with many titles and achievements. Senior Danny Debois competed in the Greenhill School’s championship debate tournament and ranked second in the nation; he received the recognition of top speaker as well. At the Greenhill Round Robin, where sixteen of the top debaters in the country competed, Danny was once again awarded the honor of top speaker and placed second in the final round. Danny also competed against 103 other national debaters in the Greenhill Classic. He was recognized as the top seed and top speaker after six preliminary rounds, and placed second overall after winning his double-octofinal, quarterfinal, and semifinal rounds. Through his constant effort and achievements, Danny has been able to hold onto his prestigious ranking as the number one Lincoln-Douglas debater in the country. The trip was also successful for sophomore Ella Eisinger who proved her potential by winning many titles and nominations as well. Meanwhile sophomores Ella Eisinger and Kathryn Kenny put their skills to the test in competition at Yale. Both students were awarded impressive honors—Ella placed ninth in the junior varsity division and both went through to elimination rounds, with Kathryn as one of the top fifty debaters and Ella scoring the recognition of top seed.

The debate team’s work ethic, dedication, and collaborative spirit have proved to be successful after its competitions in Texas and at Yale, giving only a glimpse of what’s to come. The students on the debate team consistently work together to improve their own skills as well as to help their teammates thrive. With their continuing efforts and practices, they are off to an amazing start!

Peach Out With ROTOY

Ben Rubin
Staff Writer

One of the most important rites of passage for incoming ninth graders is choosing which clubs to participate in. A longtime favorite club here at Harrison High School is ROTOY, which stands for “Reaching Out To Our Youth”. The club, led by social worker Michael Iorio, allows high school students to visit M. Klein Middle School and elementary schools like Parsons or Preston to tutor students and help them with their homework. Held every Tuesday and Thursdays, ROTOY is an eight-week commitment, meaning that members are required to attend for eight consecutive weeks.

This reporter was advised to join ROTOY by his older brother, who was a member when he attended Harrison High School. “ROTOY does a great thing for the community by tutoring, and it’s also great on college applications,” says Alex Rubin, now a junior at SUNY New Paltz. He believes that helping kids with tutoring expresses the kind of leadership skills that colleges are really looking for. More importantly, this club creates great relationships between students at the lower schools and the high school. Ninth grader and ROTOY member Adam Alger agrees, saying “I wanted to join a club this year and I knew that ROTOY was the one for me because of the great relationships with the students that I would be doing for these kids.” Another freshman involved in ROTOY is Thomas Gresham, who says “We hope this club will encourage students in LMK to join when they are in ninth grade. I believe that this club is a great way for students to share their knowledge with younger kids in other schools.”

Mark Woodard, principal of Parsons, says “This club is something that the kids really look up to, something they are excited to do. Many of these kids have developed relationships and friendships with the students who have tutored them through ROTOY before and now really enjoy spending time with them.” This reporter can vouch that ROTOY volunteers really look forward to spending time with these kids too. ROTOY even allows members the possibility to offer private tutoring of their own in the future—and another perk of joining the club.

This reporter believes that this club is something all students in the high school can and should participate in; when it comes to helping others, ROTOY is one of the best clubs around.

Mock Trial:
Are you interested in law? Do you believe in justice? If so, the Mock Trial team is your perfect match. In this club, students take on the roles of attorneys and witnesses for specific cases. They work together as a team and prepare to compete in Mock Trial Competition in New York. While the students imitate how a real trial would play out, they are critiqued by New York State judges. “I love Mock Trial because it gives me a real world experience unlike any other activity I’ve done, and it helps prepare me for what I’m looking forward to doing in the future,” says senior Brittany Wolfe. Students meet every week to prepare for their competitions.

Italian Club:
Do you like learning about different cultures? Do you enjoy traveling to new places? Then take a trip to Italy by joining the Italian club. Enjoy the native entertainment, dine in the traditional cuisine, and immerse yourself in the language. Students who are members of the Italian club explore Italian history and learn about the country’s unique culture and the traditional everyday life of its people. Students also plan various trips for a more in-depth understanding of the Italian society and have the chance to experience their own heritage as well. If you’re interested, stop by the Italian club to plan your next trip!

This is just a glimpse of the numerous clubs that are in HHS. There are many more, such as Art Club, Footlight Players, Literary Magazine, R.E.E.P. (Rescue Earth’s Environmental Future), and Students for World Health. So go ahead; join a club. There is sure to be one that fits you perfectly, and you’ll enjoy the experience.
Getting To Know Our SRO

Alevia Puccio  Staff Writer

In this past year, Harrison has a new School Resource Officer: Richard Abbate. Officer Abbate graduated from Harrison High School, where he admits that he wasn’t a perfect student. “I would get into trouble from time to time,” he said, “which is why I now realize all of the important advantages that are available at the high school.”

Officer Abbate knew from the time he was in second grade that he wanted to become a police officer. “I wanted to be able to stick up for others that can’t stick up for themselves,” he said. “I wanted to make the community safer.”

When I was a teen, a few officers made a positive impact on me and I wanted the opportunity to do the same. I made many mistakes along the way and I know how it feels to be an underdog. Now I consider myself to be a very successful person with a great career, a wonderful family, and a lot to look forward to. I can achieve this, then it’s possible for others to do the same, no matter what they’re going through.”

After high school, Officer Abbate went to St. Thomas Aquinas College and then completed additional courses at SUNY Rockland.

“I wasn’t until I was much older that I realized the importance a police officer’s impact can make, the lives I can change and the good I can do,” he explained.

Before becoming an SRO, he took a week long training course in Rochester, learning all sorts of relevant topics. A School Resource Officer’s job is to make the school safer, including checking the safety of all exits and entrances, and assuring that security is aware of who comes in and out of the building. His daily routine at HHS involves consulting with students and teachers about problems, following up on crimes in and out of school that might involve the high school’s students, and investigating any crime-related reports that happen within and outside of the school. It’s a big responsibility.

“In making sure the school stays secure, I work closely with administration and security here,” he said, “and I take pride in being proactive and present in regards to student concerns.”

Is being an SRO different from being a police officer? “I’m still a cop, but I’m working in the capacity of being an SRO. When I was on patrol division, I didn’t have to think about anything more than people walking by and shoplifting and that kind of stuff. Now I get to work with students on a daily basis.”

The role of SRO planet is to make the school safer, including the security of the building, and to assist students in understanding what is and isn’t a crime. “I talk to the students about what’s and isn’t a crime, following up on what is and isn’t a crime,” he said. The formal invention of DST is credited to William Willett, who came up with the idea to move the clocks an hour forward in the summer to benefit from the longer daylight hours. In 1905, his original idea was to move the clock about twenty minutes forward each Sunday in April and to switch back the same amount in September.

DST was first enforced in Germany during World War II to save fuel for the war effort during April 1916. The British and many other nations quickly mimicked this idea. During WWII, DST was first recognized as an energy-saving aspect. President Roosevelt put year-round DST into place in the U.S. from February 1942 to September 1945; this resulted in the creation of different time zones, such as Eastern Time, the “Central Time Zone,” and the “Pacific War Time.” After August 1945, the time zones were labeled “Peace Time” after the surrender of the Japanese.

Throughout the years, DST has been extended for certain periods of time to accommodate to specific circumstances; for example, many complained that the dark mornings in the winter were putting the lives of school children in danger. Furthermore, the Uniform Time Act was enacted in 1966 to stop confusion regarding the schedules for public transportation during DST. Currently, more than 70 countries use some form of DST; the current schedule has been used since 2007 and follows the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Nowadays, most U.S. states implement DST, except for Hawaii and most of Arizona.

The History of Falling Back

Isabella Prado and Katie Kramer  Staff Writers

Daylight Savings Time (DST) has caused a recurring debate in many countries for the last hundred years or so, especially in the United Kingdom and in America. According to the website Time and Date.com, the earliest form of DST was used when ancient civilizations would adjust their clocks based on the sun. The formal invention of DST is credited to William Willett, who came up with the idea to move the clocks an hour forward in the summer to benefit from the longer daylight hours. In 1905, his original idea was to move the clock about twenty minutes forward each Sunday in April and to switch back the same amount in September.

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Feeding Families

Brian Barry  Staff Writer

This November 28, people are excited to celebrate Thanksgiving. This means some time off, big meals, and family gatherings. A lot of people cook for their families first, then go and volunteer at shelters to feed the homeless and needy people, those who don’t have a home or family to eat with or be comforted by. Harrison is a community with a lot to give and so many members of its community volunteer at shelters, including POTS (Part of the Urban Service) in New York City. On Thanksgiving, such places are packed with people who come for the meal, and full of volunteers. To help, people donate canned food, whole turkeys, potatoes, gravy and other foods. Or people serve the food at the shelter directly to the many people who attend.

According to the website New York Cares, there are several opportunities to volunteer in the Westchester and NYC areas. Rye’s Resurrection Church does a food drive every year that goes to POTS for their big Thanksgiving dinner. The Yorkville Community Pantry, located on 8 East 109th Street in New York City, will offer dinner for the homeless on Thanksgiving. They are also running a Turkey drive for the large event that ends on Wednesday, November 20. The Food Bank of New York, 252 West 116th Street, offers a virtual food drive online to raise money for their cause.

Have a happy and healthy Thanksgiving from the staff of The Husky Herald!
Dress Code and School Rules

Along with the incoming freshman class, the high school is also gaining a new principal, assistant principal, and athletic director; the most talked-about change, though, has been the increased enforcement of school rules like the dress code. There have been many rumors about the school banning articles of clothing like yoga pants and leggings. Some of the upperclassmen have said that they are now prohibited from wearing things that were accepted by the dress code last year. "I think that the rules about the dress code have gotten a little too strict. There has been more pressure for me in deciding what to wear," says sophomore Caroline Lauro. Another sophomore, Allison Karantzis, says that while she has not personally had any issues with the dress code, she has heard horror stories from some of her peers. "I’m not sure if what I hear is the truth or just rumors," Allison confesses. "I can see where the school is coming from on some of the things they’re doing. There are many students that honestly don’t dress appropriately for school."

Another rule that is being more strictly enforced this year is the rule that students are only allowed to be in the library or the student union during their free periods or lunches. This year there are even teachers stationed near the lunch room entrances to make sure that students are only going where they are supposed to. Many students feel that they should be able to walk around freely and are annoyed that teachers will not let them go to places like the vending machines or the library. "I don’t feel that the teachers patrolling the hallway are necessary," Franca says. "We should be able to walk around the whole campus, both inside and outside. Most students are responsible enough to know not to disturb classes by causing too much noise."

It is true that the main reason for the ban on free roaming across the school is the concern about disturbing classes—there have been many cases of noisy students in the hallways disrupting lessons. The administration also wants to make sure that students are not cutting class. However, that doesn’t mean that the teachers patrolling the hallways are only there for academic purposes. They are also meant to make sure that there are no fights going on in the halls so that all students are safe. As for the dress code, most of the rumors that have been circulating are false. Mrs. Grillo has confirmed that leggings and yoga pants are not being banned, and there are no plans to ban them either. The dress code exists to make sure that students wear appropriate clothing; while some students believe that changing fashions render many of the banned items on the dress code archaic, it stands that most of the time when students are called out for what they are wearing, there is a valid reason.

The New “Student Union”

Alyssa Muto  
Staff Writer

The new school year has finally begun, and with a new school year comes many changes. Changes this year vary from new teachers and principals to the new cafeteria, or “Student Union” as it is now referred to. Over the summer a huge amount of time, money and thought went into the remodeling of the cafeteria— an effort that, in the minds of many, paid off. The cafeteria was transformed from a place with bland, colorless walls and tables to a colorful and inviting atmosphere with couches, new tables, and eight flat-screen high-definition televisions.

“It’s a lot more inviting than an ordinary school cafeteria and has a much nicer appearance,” says sophomore Sydney Woolf.

Along with its new appearance, the new Student Union will eventually be open until later hours, providing students with a location at which they can study and hang out if they have to remain on campus after the library closes at 4 o’clock.

“I think it’s an enjoyable space for students to go to at any hour up until 10 p.m. and a good opportunity to hang out, relax and do homework in the comfort of your own school,” says sophomore Jasmine Tucker. Many agree with Jasmine’s words, but some question whether or not keeping the cafeteria open later during the week is a good idea. If students are staying on school grounds after hours, there will have to be faculty on duty as well. "Students usually prefer to hang out outside of school, so it may create more of a hassle for the faculty to stay later," says sophomore Maisy Gelfert.

However, it is not the Student Union’s improved appearance or later hours but its promise of a new smoothie bar that is fueling chatter throughout the school. It has been said that the new Student Union will include a smoothie bar, but actions speak louder than words and students have yet to see signs of this promised addition. Fortunately, the Husky Herald had the opportunity to meet with M. Mastrota and discuss the plans for the Student Union.

“We are still working to get the smoothie bar and coffee bar in; it is estimated that it will be open in about six to eight weeks. The idea of the new design is to update the space so students have a place that is enjoyable for not only eating lunch, but getting work done and engaging with friends. More changes can be expected in the near future,” Mastrota reveals.

Since it has been confirmed that a smoothie bar will be put into the cafeteria and smoothies will be made daily, many are excited over having drinks adjusted to their personal likes.

“Personally, I feel the smoothie bar will be huge hit, considering most upperclassmen are sent out to retrieve smoothies and coffee for those who can’t leave campus and will now no longer have to do so,” says sophomore Kallie Murabito.

The faculty has worked hard to make the new Student Union a free environment for students to enjoy, and for the most part everyone seems to be fond of and appreciative towards the modern-styled cafeteria. For that, we thank the faculty and look forward to a new school year with a welcoming Student Union!

Bidding Goodbye to Mike Castellano

Custodian Mike Castellano is retiring after 29 years in the Harrison school district. He is best known for his upbeat humor, his office jokes, his love of animals and classic rock music, and his collection of versions of Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol and related memorabilia.

Mike had these parting jokes to offer the students: Why was the cookie crying? Because its mother was a wafer so long. A Zen Buddhist goes into Central Park and says to a hot dog vendor, “Make me one with everything.” He then noticed that the hot dog was meat on one side, and just bread filler on the other, so he said, “It’s hard to make both ends meet.”

Mike and his humor will be missed at the high school. The staff of the Husky Herald wishes him a happy and healthy retirement ahead as he moves down to Florida.

The Den, before the busy school day. Courtesy of Samantha Stein
Resources for Students Discovering Their Sexuality

Holina Dauw
News Editor

High school is difficult for everyone, but it can be especially difficult for students who are first discovering their sexuality. Being gay, straight, lesbian, transgender, or bisexual is your sexuality, not your identity. Still, when it is something hidden, it can feel like a burden. In truth, it is anything but that. How you feel about someone and who you like is completely natural and not something about which to be ashamed. Sometimes the hardest thing is to find someone to talk to about it — this article will help inform you about available resources.

At Harrison High School, there are guidance counselors, social workers, psychologists, after-school clubs and teachers that are here to listen or discuss such matters.

The G.S.A. is a club that meets every Monday from 10:15. The Gay-Straight Alliance is a student-run club. This year’s presidents are senior Sarah Curtis and sophomore El- iot Fuentet; the teacher advisors are Ms. Milne and Mr. Gunnell. This club provides a judgment-free, accepting, fun environment. It is a great place for all students to talk to each other and show their support with only one rule: what is talked about in that room doesn’t leave that room.

Harrison High School also has a number of social workers, psychologists, and counselors. At the beginning of high school, you are assigned one of six counselors: Ms. Checco, Mrs. DiFulco, Mrs. Heyen, Mrs. Katzenberg, Mrs. Grammas, or Ms. Leong, but you are by no means exclusive to that counselor. If you find it easier talking to another of the counselors, or to Dr. Miller, then feel free to explore that option. They are not only to help you excel as a student, but also as a helpful sounding board should you wish to talk about personal things, and they can be found in the Counseling suite of offices. As for teachers, most if not all are there to listen and help in any way they possibly can.

While some students go ing to guidance to talk, others enjoy talking to one of the school’s psychologists or social workers. The two psychologists are Dr. Manning and Dr. Kerwin (D-205); the school’s social workers are Mrs. McCarthy (D-109), Mr. Iorio and Mr. Gold.

“Everyone, each and every one of us, needs and deserves a place where there is no judgment, where there are no preconceived notions, where there is no pressure to ‘be’ anyone or anything other than what you feel,” said Mr. Iorio. “I would encourage students to look for a place to feel safe and respected. We are all here to help.”

“Social workers and the support team in HHS are often seen as valuable resources to come and talk about issues that may affect the high school, community, or the students themselves,” said Mr. Gold. “Often times the support team can help connect students to resources both in and outside of the school.”

Though it may seem like you spend your whole life in school, you don’t, so for times when these in-school resources aren’t available, here are some additional helpful resources available through your smartphone or computer connection.

Qust is a free mobile app that displays events from this day in LGBTQ history. It’s a fun app to have and it is interesting to see and read events that likely are not getting mentioned in the mainstream media.

The QTA Mobile App is a free online magazine for the LGBTQ community, friends, and supporters. According to the publisher, “this app is a comprehensive source for breaking news on politics, arts, entertainment, and issues that affect you and your friends.” It’s another fun app to have, and it shows how much support the community really does have.

Gaybordhood is another free app that helps you locate gay-friendly businesses across the country in over 1500 business categories. Though these places are growing in number daily, this app can be a great way to “support the businesses that support YOU.”

Revel & Riot is an organization with a free website/app to promote LGBTQ rights, awareness and equality through new media, graphics, writing, and products on the internet. This site is a favorite of many HHS students, as it features specific resources, an online merchandise shop, and blog posts comprised of pictures and words.

EveryQ is the free, self-proclaimed LGBTQ Social Directory. Once you get the app, you create a profile (you can use Facebook to do that) and become part of “an all-inclusive LGBTQ Q-list; featuring groups, clubs, organizations and businesses.”

Of course this is not a comprehensive list; there are many more resources out there, but this is a good list for starters. Nobody should feel like they have nobody to talk to and nowhere to turn, especially in this highly interconnected world. Remember this: you are loved; you are welcomed; you are supported.

NYC Marathon Returns to Form

Andrew Carton
Staff Writer

On November 3, after a two-year absence, a record 50,740 runners finally had the chance to take their place at the starting line on the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge for the ING NYC Marathon. Our own Dr. Christopher Miller was among those to endure the grueling 26.2-mile trek through the five boroughs that has been run annually since 1970.

Although the pomp and circumstance surrounding this year’s race mirrored that of years past, the 2013 NYC Marathon also had a unique significance; it served as a symbol of our resilience and determination. The marathon marked the first major international race of that distance in the United States since the tragedy of the Boston bombing, and the first marathon to be run in NYC since Superstorm Sandy. In recognition, victims, heroes, and first responders from both Boston and New York were honored at the start of the NYC Marathon.

According to the New York Road Runners, the event’s website, marathon director and CEO/President of NYRR, Mary Wittenberg, exuberantly proclaimed, “Today we are honored to run for New York, [and] the Boston.”

In response to the Boston bombings, increased security measures were ever present. New York City Police, in conjunction with Homeland Security and the FBI, implemented stringent security protocol including thorough bag checks, restricted access to the course, and family reunion staging areas removed from the finish line. As a result, runners and spectators alike felt comfortable throughout the day’s event.

In the words of our own Dr. Miller, “There was certainly a pronounced level of security this year. However, once the race started, I was solely focused on the excitement of running alongside 50,000 people and some two million onlookers.”

Despite the heightened security measures, the race was business as usual for the world’s most elite runners, who finished the race in blistering sub-two and a half hour times. Defending his title from two years ago, Kenyan Geoffrey Mutai won the race with a time of 2:08:24 (a little more than three minutes off his previous record-setting time), while his countrywoman, Priscah Jeptoo, led all women with a winning time of 2:25:07. The top American finishers were Ryan Vail in thirteenth place, with a time of 2:13:25, and Adriana Nelson, also in thirteenth place, crossing the finish line in 2:13:55.

With this year’s NYC Marathon in the books, the Kenyans’ continued dominance (nine of the past 19 male champions have been Kenyan) had many wondering what contributes to the Kenyans’ success. Although nobody truly knows, there are several theories.

Running in Kenya is a favorite pastime, much like baseball in America. Young children often run from village to village, and with the success of Kenyan long distance runners, Kenyan youths have been provided with role models to emulate. In addition, the increased prize money available to elite runners has inspired young Kenyans to run with the hope of a better future.

Whether competing for prize money, or just to satisfy one’s personal “bucket list,” the New York City Marathon reaffirmed our collective resilience and was a testament to the endurance of all who ran.

As Dr. Miller claimed, “The NYC Marathon is truly an international event; an indication of tremendous human spirit. After learning other languages and seeing the décor of various nationalities throughout the race, it became clear to me that everyone had a story, a struggle, or a personal goal. In my opinion, the NYC Marathon is the best event that athletics has to offer.”

This race is certain to continue for countless years to come.
Newtown Will Not Be Forgotten

Allie Coonin
Staff Writer

On December 14, 2013, we will remember the anniversary of the school shooting that killed 20 students and six teachers one year ago. All around the country, schools will be honoring those lives that were tragically ended that day with a moment of silence. Some will even go so far as to scrub personal topics, and had always told

some argue that there was not enough action taken by the school control, and left students both physically and

he was the kind of kid that would do anything for them, even if they were hurting. Some Americans were disappointed in the lack of action taken by the federal and state governments, as it seems that the necessity of passing stricter gun laws has become less urgent.

While many Americans were saddened by the tragedy in Newtown, some believe that the problem was not the general availability of guns to the public, but the fact that guns can easily be placed in the wrong hands. This belief began to rise when it became known that the Newtown shooter, Adam Lanza, had Sensory Integration Disorder (a condition where someone may find certain aspects of their environment unbearable, characterized by acting out in response to light, sound or physical contact). In most areas of the country, anyone asked about the shooting may have a different opinion.

"I think that the gun just got into the wrong hands," said Freshman Olivia Ferraro. "There are still plenty of responsible gun owners, and this event is just an isolated case." However, many also believe that firearms are too accessible to the general public, specifically to people with mental illnesses.

As the year mark of the Newtown Tragedy arrives, students and teachers all around the high school are taking the opportunity to reflect on their own lives. School boards have had to decide how to react; police officers were positioned in the schools in Harrison's own district for a short period following the event. Many wonder should teachers hold guns in order to protect their students? "Although I feel that action must be taken, I do believe that teachers holding guns is the answer," said Mrs. Rubano, a global history teacher.

Decisions regarding school safety are still being made throughout the nation.

Freshman Olivia Ferraro said, "As a result of this, I appreciate the fact that we have a safe school environment here."

"I think kids should know right from wrong at that age and they should know not to do that," said Junior Scott Nielsen. "I feel badly for the victims and their families and I hope that community can get back on its feet and recover."

This horrific event should not only serve as a reason for sorrow, but students should also take away a deeper lesson from it. Students should realize how deeply that action can affect a person, and do their best to adopt a more caring attitude toward others. If students came together and made it a point to do something positive, even as small a gesture as a smile in the hallway, any school could become a happier and healthier environment. In that kind of environment, it would seem less likely that such horrible events might occur.

Sources say that Reyes may have been bullied, or left to feel as though he didn’t fit into any clique or categorization, due to the fact that some students admitted that they had no idea who Jose Reyes was. Many believe he masked his internal conflict by faking a smile, providing reason as to why no one suspected Reyes to be capable of such an attack. "I think kids should know right from wrong at that age and they should know not to do that," said junior Scott Nielsen. "I feel badly for the victims and their families and I hope that community can get back on its feet and recover."

This horrific event should not only serve as a reason for sorrow, but students should also take away a deeper lesson from it. Students should realize how deeply that action can affect a person, and do their best to adopt a more caring attitude toward others. If students came together and made it a point to do something positive, even as small a gesture as a smile in the hallway, any school could become a happier and healthier environment. In that kind of environment, it would seem less likely that such horrible events might occur.

"I lost power for nine days and it was very inconvenient," said Sam Schmaler. "We had to wait on lines for hours to get gas and most of the roads were closed, but I was still really lucky that I didn't get any actual damage like other people near us."

According to Miranda Leitsinger, writer for NBC News, residents of Breezy Point, New York, were hit very hard by last year's storm. The rebuilding of the area continues. Some residents in partially repaired homes, including those who remained in houses of relatives or in temporary apartments. Most of the issues that remain are due to problems with insurance or government aid in which people are still awaiting necessary resources to rebuild their damaged homes.

"We got a generator after the storm so that we are prepared for other power outages in the future," said Jack Hochman. "It was so annoying not having electricity for over a week. Now I know I won't have to go through it again."

Although Harrison did not encounter any horrible destruction, almost everyone in the town was negatively affected. Some suffered from the lack of business, people were unable to work for a while, and closed roads caused many to be stuck in their homes for several days.

Several Harrison residents donated their time and money to charities that assisted those in need after the storm.
Syrian chemical weapons will be transported for destruction outside its territory to ensure their destruction in the ‘safest and soonest manner’, and no later than June 30, 2014.”

The conflict in Syria will continues on, but this investigation appears to be doing what it set out to do. For now, citizens of the world are waiting to see what will happen in the months ahead.

Typhoon Haiyan Destroys Central Philippines

Typhoon Haiyan destroyed central Philippines when giant waves and winds of up to 235 miles per hour slammed into the region on Friday, November 8. According to NBC News, The National Disaster Agency has confirmed that there are 1,774 deaths, with 2,784 other people confirmed injured. However, authorities and emergency officials said that there has been no contact with many hard-hit areas, and they estimated that when the final tally is known, 10,000 or more will have died from the typhoon.

After the huge destruction from the typhoon on Friday, a new tropical storm named Zoraida made landfall on Monday, in southeastern Philip- pines. Although it was much less se- vere than a typhoon, the storm trav- eled northeast through the already devastated islands. The storm added to the damage and left even more cit- izens without shelter, food, electricity, medical help, and clean water.

Sophomore Katie Murabito says, “I can’t imagine what it’s like to be in a natural disaster like this. Seeing it on the news makes me sympathize for all the victims of the storm and it makes me thankful for everything I have—from a house to even clean wa- ter. You never think that you won’t be able to find clean water to drink so we end up taking it for granted.”

Thousands of survivors swarmed the airport in Tacloban, the province hardest hit by the typhoon on Tuesday, November 8, trying to flee the country before tropical storm Zoraida added to the previous de-

Malala inspires girls the world over

On October 9, 2012, Malala Yousafzai was riding the bus home from school in the Swat Valley in Pakistan when a Taliban gunman climbed aboard, shot her in the head, and escaped. Doctors fought to save her life, performing many sur- geries to remove the bullet from her head and putting in a titanium plate to cover the hole. She was unresponsive for three days following the surgery, but her near-death experience ended in a mi- raculous recovery. Now, one year later, the 16-year-old advocate for education has been nominated for a possi- ble Nobel Peace Prize. Her new memoir I Am Malala re- tells both the incident and her ensuing global fame, all in the time span of one year.

Malala’s goal since her recovery has been to campaign for education and rights for girls in areas where their religion prevents them from learning. After the Taliban shooting, committed as an act of for girls in schools, Malala returned to school to show that Taliban rule would not impact her education. Many Paki- nani girls hoped that she would win the Nobel Peace Prize in order to raise awareness of the importance of female education. With a huge out- pouring of support from many world inter- nations, a charity known as Malala’s Fund was even created to help girls all over the world.

Yet despite the good that it has brought, Malala’s fame has come with a price. Since her movement toward education rights has begun, she has received nu- merous death threats from the Pakistani Taliban. In a report on WSBTV22, Taliban spokesperson Shahidullah Shahid said she was targeted for her use of propaganda against the Taliban.

If there is any opportunity we can target, she would be on our hit list again,” Shahid said. “The Taliban are not opposed to girls’ education, if it’s within the ambit of Shariah and Islamic education, but they could not support anti-Islamic agendas and Westernized education systems.”

The Taliban itself has destroyed over 170 schools between 2007 and 2009 alone, according to CNN. When asked what would happen if an agent of the Taliban came to Malala, she stated, “Tell him how important educa- tion is, and that I even want educa- tion for your children as well, that’s what I want you to tell them, now do what you want.”

We remember how the illiter- ate women in our neighborhood gave- their jewelry to the Taliban and sac- rificed their sons, brothers and hus- band to fight against Pakistan’s army because all they could understand was that the fight was for Islam,” said Pukhra Gul, 16, a tenth grader at the Swat Girls Model School. Malala’s book and charity have impacted many girls all over the world that are longing for an education. Now the spreading of her story is inspiring these girls to help their own communities.

“It’s a miracle and inspiring,” said sophomores Sam Schmier and Emily Dupoff. “We hope she can im- prove many people’s lives.”

For the better part of the past year, Syria has been involved in a deadly civil war that has claimed lives of many rebels, soldiers, and innocent bystanders. According to Yahoo, the United Nations has estimated that more than 100,000 people have been killed in this civil war. Of that total, chemical weapons killed 1,429 people and 426 of those were children. These numbers will continue to rise, though the world community has stepped in to prevent any further deaths from chemical weapons. As the months advance, we shall see if Syria complies with these international mandates. As the death toll was rising, along with the fear of a vast amount of chemical weapons being stockpiled, President Obama tried to gain political and national support for some kind of tactical strike against Syria. While the President was trying to get Congress- sional support for this possible military intervention, the international commu- nity changed the playing field. Russia, a country that supports the Assad Re- gime, stepped in and called for treaty between Syria and the United States. Over the weekend of September 14- 15, U.S. and Syrian officials came to an agreement to stave off any U.S. at- tack on Syria in exchange for a global watchdog commission to inspect and disarm all of Syria’s chemical weap- ons.

According to Yahoo, Presi- dent Assad first stated that he could not confirm or deny the existence of chemical weapons. Since then, the “Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons” (OPCW) has confirmed their existence. According to a BBC news report, the 41-mem- ber OPCW confirmed last month that it had plans in place to destroy all Syria’s declared chemical weapons production facilities, ahead of a No- vember 1 deadline. Syrian declared chemical weapons facilities will un- dergo sequenced destruction from December 15 to March 15, according to a risk-based criterion.

The plan provides a clear road- map to be followed. It sets important milestones to be adhered to by cer- tain dates. The next phase will be the most challenging: the verification and transport of the chemical weapons to a site where they will be destroyed.

A recent 41-member OPCW executive council meeting in The Hague did not detail where the weap- ons would be destroyed, following Al- bania’s decision this past week to reject the U.S. request for it to host the destruction of the arsenal on its soil. France and Belgium have been named as possible alternative loca- tions for destroying Syria’s estimated 1,000 tons of chemical arms. Norway has pledged to send a civilian cargo ship and a navy frigate to Syrian ports to pick up the weapons and carry them elsewhere for destruction.

“I think it was a good idea to come up with an agreement,” said junior Chris Garrittano, “because now we don’t have to attack them and risk people’s lives. We really don’t need to get involved in any more conflicts.”

A statement on the OPCW web- site declared that, under the plan, “Syrian chemical weapons will be transported for destruction outside its territory to ensure their destruction in the ‘safest and soonest manner’, and no later than June 30, 2014.”

The conflict in Syria will continu- es on, but this investigation appears to be doing what it set out to do. For now, citizens of the world are waiting to see what will happen in the months ahead.
In Memoriam: Mr. Keith W. Johnson (1962-2013)

Brittany Wolfe
News Editor

"If you’re a teacher, you’ve gotta make it interesting."

These were the encouraging words of former Harrison High School English teacher Mr. Keith W. Johnson. A man who changed the lives of the students he taught. Mr. Johnson is a teacher who will forever hold a legacy when it comes to the learning experience of his students. He was an English teacher not necessarily for the sake of being one, but because he enjoyed seeing his students thrive and retain a thoughtful learning experience.

The "Johnson experience" included a variety of comical and relevant stories about how the content he taught in class related to his own real-world experiences. This allowed students to apply what they learned in class to their own experiences, so they could develop a better understanding of why the things they learned in English were so important in everyday life. Not only was Mr. Johnson devoted to helping students as an English teacher, he also offered his time and words of wisdom in guiding students through other issues, especially with the college application process. Mr. Johnson was the "go-to source" for college essay guidance and SAT/ACT preparation. He eased the fears that many of his students had about the test that would allegedly decide their fate and success in life. He reassured you that there are ways to defeat the monster of a test and to escape its tricky ways.

It was just a few weeks before the test date when I began working with Mr. Johnson in preparation for the June ACT. I frantically entered his classroom before the start of his second period class and asked to set up a time to meet and begin preparing. His warm smile immediately eased my nerves and anxieties; from that moment on, I had high expectations and even higher hopes. Each time we met, he taught me test strategies that not only the notable Princeton Review book could teach me. The month that followed was hectic, meeting each week to discuss yet another grammar rule and strategy for the reading section, but as strange as it sounds, I looked forward to these sessions. I looked forward to hearing his endless stories of how he’d witnessed students “beating the test,” and I was confident that I would be yet another success story.

Mr. Johnson didn’t disappoint me. He made the information relevant and simple and instilled in me a sense of hope that gave me the courage that I needed in order to ace the ACT. The nerves that had consumed me when I took those first steps into D-128 just a few weeks prior were quickly alleviated. He did his job and exceeded what I had asked of him. He was more than just an English teacher to his students—he was a friend. D-128 will truly never be the same; there will forever be that void, a sense that something and someone is missing.

One of Mr. Johnson’s former students, Dan Wolfe, reminisced about his junior year with Mr. Johnson: “He was meant to teach; I never had a teacher more dedicated than he was. He not only taught you the ‘curriculum,’ he taught you about life. He truly put his students before himself. I didn’t know anybody who didn’t like him.”

Mr. Johnson was an avid fisherman and also a gourmet cook. He was adviser to the “Followers of God” club at the high school. He is survived by his wife, Lauren, and his daughter, Meaghan. Mr. Johnson holds a close place in the hearts of his students and fellow faculty and will forever maintain a strong legacy at Harrison High School.

Remembering Mrs. O’Neil

Rose Stokoe
Staff Writer

On July 10, Harrison High School suffered a great loss. Mrs. Geraldine O’Neil, long time English teacher at the high school, passed away from cancer after a five year battle.

“Mrs. O’Neil was one of the best teachers I’ve ever had,” said junior Emily DiSilvestro. “She was just nice and listening to her tell stories was always the highlight of the class.”

Mrs. O’Neil, coming from a large family of seven sisters, did always have the most interesting stories to share with her classes. Mrs. O’Neil’s love for her family was known by anyone who had the pleasure of meeting her. She would tell countless stories about her husband of forty years, Jack, or about the wonderful three children they had together (John, Kelly, and Ryan). It wasn’t hard to figure out that Mrs. O’Neil loved her family dearly.

Mrs. O’Neil loved mostly everything, except maybe planes. She loved every student that walked into her class, even the ones who made it difficult and that’s something that can’t be said about most teachers.

It seems that everyone comes to that same conclusion when they think of the late Mrs. O’Neil. She treated everyone like they were special.” It’s great to meet people in life who are like Mrs. O’Neil, people who truly are happy because they get to do what they love. Mrs. O’Neil shared her love of literature with her English and Creative Writing classes for years. Even the students who didn’t share Mrs. O’Neil’s enthusiasm for English could appreciate her classes.

“Creative Writing was the highlight of my day most of the time,” said junior Kat Ensign. “She was funny and smart and listening to her tell stories was always the highlight of the class.”

Mrs. O’Neil was taken from us far too soon, but her spirit won’t be forgotten by students or by her colleagues.

Mr. Johnson. Courtesy of Yearbook

Mr. Johnson was always the highlight of the class.”

Mr. Johnson. Courtesy of Yearbook

Mrs. O’Neil. Courtesy of Yearbook

Ms. Wolfe. Courtesy of Yearbook

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Cafe A-109: A Treat For Us All

Andrew Carton

Merely a month into the school year, students wander aimlessly through the halls on a typical Thursday, met by the aroma of freshly baked brownies. Just by smelling them, students recognize that a favorite Harrison High School staple continues for yet another year-the weekly tradition of Cafe A-109 brownies.

Every other Friday morning, as the bell rings for second period, an impenetrable line forms in front of room A-109, down the hall from the Black Box Theater and the HPAC. Although Cafe A-109 had to be switched from weekly to every other week (in part due to such a high demand), the students and faculty running it churn out a stunning 22 boxes of brownies each café. In this instance, Harrison High School students of all grades and social circles come together for a common cause: to purchase and to enjoy the precious bites of an A-109 brownie.

Armed with passes and single dollar bills, hungry students wait patiently outside room A-109, a few students entering at a time. Once inside, the aroma of freshly baked goods (in particular, brownies of course) is certainly overwhelming. There are two lines for one’s purchases in Café A-109: an express line for students purchasing a single brownie and a supplementary line for students purchasing multiple brownies or other goods such as iced tea or muffins.

From 8 until 10:30, friends, peers, and even teachers beg others to purchase an A-109 brownie for them. Whether in a classroom or in the hallway returning (sometimes late) to a class, eating an A-109 brownie on Fridays remains a constant tradition in a school frequently undergoing change.

When asked about Café A-109 brownies, the entire school is in clear agreement.

Sophomore Jack Witte declares, “They are by far the best brownies around. There is truly something about them, something that I can’t place, that makes them so great.”

Beyond the smell and the taste of these A-109 brownies, it is essential to understand the process that goes into organizing this café every other week. Café A-109 is run by the faculty, staff, and students in the FASE program, a program dedicated to assisting special needs students in becoming independent and continuing to develop life skills.

Through the preparation and maintenance of Café A-109, the students in the FASE program immerse themselves in hands-on social activities, reinforcing life skills such as cooking, money-management, organization, socialization, set up, and clean up. Students of the FASE program help in shopping for supplies, preparing the baked goods, running the café, and in coordinating other tasks such as allowing the appropriate number of people to enter at a time. By periodically rotating stations throughout the café, each member of the FASE program is exposed to these various activities, fostering development that the café helps to encourage.

After talking about Café A109 with the faculty of the FASE program, it is clearly evident that this event maintains a much deeper significance for the students in the program.

Ms. McNamara, one of the faculty members of the FASE program, said, “Throughout the day, our students have a great deal of pride in what they have done.”

After covering the cost of ingredients and cooking supplies, proceeds raised by this café go toward providing the FASE students with a pizza party during midterm and final weeks, a much-deserved repayment for their consistently energetic service.

This is where you, the students of HHS, come in to help.

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So, next time you go to Café A-109 to purchase a brownie, make sure to recognize and appreciate everyone who works there. It’s not just about the brownies.

5pMinus Benefit Concert

Ariel Coonin

At Harrison High School, we are a community of dedicated students with a passion for helping others. When there is a good cause at hand, hundreds of dedicated students are always able to band together to lend a hand. There’s a new cause at hand and you can get involved.

Every year approximately 50 to 60 children are diagnosed at birth with Cri du Chat, also known as 5pminus Syndrome, and although this statistic seems small, it is very important. Typically when scientists and doctors are dealing with a genetic defect so rare, it seems to fall to the bottom of their priority lists, so fewer study the syndrome and less information is provided through research.

Harrison High School students recognize that even a rare genetic defect like this one does not fall under the radar. Parents of children that have been diagnosed need to be informed on what they can do to help their children reach their highest potential in life. With the proper therapy, these children can and will live long and happy lives.

This syndrome hits close to home because one of our very own teachers, Mrs. Moore of the English Language Arts department, has a daughter that was recently diagnosed this past year. She and her husband were shocked to learn that their little girl was affected in Westchester are far greater than those in other parts of the country. It is their goal, and now ours, to raise awareness and funding for all families in need through the Five P Minus Organization.

The Five P Minus Organization was created for the sole purpose of helping to educate and spread information about Cri du Chat. It is a nonprofit organization and this means that donations are extremely important. This is where you, the students of HHS, come in to help.

We will be holding a benefit concert in our own HPAC on Friday, November 22, 2013, to raise money and spread information about Cri du Chat. If you’re talent-ed, this could be something great with which to get involved. Even if your talents are not suited for this type of show, you can still get involved. Students will be able to showcase their talents on stage, while other students can help in other ways. One way would be by just attending the event and donating – tickets are $5 for students and $10 for adults. Others can help by donating food for the performers – they need to keep their energy up for their performances.

There are also going to be $10 T-shirts being sold – buy one for yourself and a friend because all proceeds go to the foundation. The most important thing you can do is spread awareness!

The benefit concert is a combined event with students from Mamaroneck High School, which is fun because it gives students a chance to mix and mingle with students from another school. However, it is not just limited to high school students. Bring friends and family and anyone else that might enjoy a concert from some of our talented students while assisting a great foundation.

With your help, the concert will be sure to raise a lot of money and draw attention to a small, but important foundation. Just a little help from our school can go a long way; so don’t be shy about getting involved. Remember the date is Friday, November 22, 2013 – come support the cause and have fun!
Caroline DeCarlo
Staff Writer

This article is the first in a new recurring Husky Herald column, The Most Interesting Student at Harrison High School. This inaugural article focuses on freshman Grant Muller, who has recently written his first novel.

The Husky Herald interviewed him about the happenings in his book and Grant was generous enough to give detailed responses about what will be in the novel.

Husky Herald (HH): What is the novel about and what's the title?

Grant Muller (GM): The novel is a fantasy take on what happens after we die. It’s centered around a seventeen-year-old girl named Peyton that gets into a life-ending car accident and wakes up in a different world that I created and fueled from my imagination. The title has changed several times during the project but the current working title is “Entopia”, which is the name of the place where the story occurs.

HH: How did you get your idea to write this novel?

GM: When I was ten, I would write stories all the time. I usually ended up writing a chapter and then ditching the idea for a new one I came up with. I was eleven when I started working with the concept of death and what happens after it. I really think this idea was inspired by me actually wanting to know the answer. Since there is no proven answer, I decided to combine the concept idea with my love of fantasy, fiction and writing to create the book.

HH: How long did it take you to write this novel?

GM: I started when I was eleven, so a little over three years.

HH: What is the biggest struggle that stood in your way?

GM: Definitely writer’s block. Most people don’t understand it because it’s impossible to know about if you have only written a maximum of a few pages. I knew how I wanted it to begin and end but other than that I had no plan or outline when I wrote it. I just wrote what I thought of in that moment. It was definitely hard. At times, I had no ideas and at other times I couldn’t find the words to express them. That’s the main reason it took so long—well, that and the fact that I had to develop my writer’s craft.

HH: Do you think you will write a sequel or another novel?

GM: This book is the first of a trilogy.

HH: Was it difficult to juggle school work and this novel all together?

GM: It was difficult but not that difficult because I wrote the majority of it during middle school, when things weren’t that hard. It was still a little difficult; I had to juggle a lot of things. It forced me to learn how to manage my time properly and helped with my organization skills.

HH: What audience will read your novel?

GM: The intended audience for this book is anyone from ages ten to 110.

HH: Where is this novel going to be sold?

GM: It will first be sold online and how well it does from there will affect where else it can go.

HH: When is the novel coming out?

GM: The Kickstarter campaign is being launched soon and after that finishes, the book will come out a little bit after.

HH: For those who don’t know, what is Kickstarter?

GM: Kickstarter is a crowdfunding platform where people can put their projects, products and ideas to raise money. People give money to projects they want to support and see happen in return for rewards/contributions. It starts as small as one dollar and goes up from there, so anyone can support.

HH: When is the Kickstarter going up and what will the money be used for?

GM: It’s going up soon. The video is made and we just have to put a few last finishing touches on it. As for the money, it will be used for marketing, a book cover, print copies and a number of other technologies and fees that go along with publication.

Grant shared that the novel will be coming out for purchase very soon so be sure to look for it!

Sophomore Wins Sweepstakes

Caroline DeCarlo
Staff Writer

For as long as people have been exposed to marketing, lavish sweepstakes and contests have been a way of drawing attention to a business. Thousands of people are announced as the winners of these sweepstakes and contests every day, but most wonder who those people are and why they haven’t met one. Wonder no more. On October 28, 2013, Isabella Caltabiano, a sophomore here at HHS, became one of those lucky people.

Cody Simpson is a 16-year-old Australian musician, dancer, singer, and author. He began his career at 12-years-old by posting his original songs and covers, like “I’m Yours” by Jason Mraz, on YouTube. Shawn Campbell, a famous record producer who has signed names such as Jay-Z, found Cody’s videos and became set to record his debut single, “HYYH” which featured the famous rapper Flo Rida. Simpson went on to release three extended play albums, and two studio albums. He has since headlined four tours and was featured in Justin Bieber’s recent world tour. Cody’s sister, Alli Simpson, is also a model and a teen icon, well known for her modeling for the shoe brand, ‘Pastry’.

Seventeen Magazine recently offered a sweepstakes to promote the shoe brand Pastry, which features Cody Simpson and his sister, Alli, as two of their spokespeople. The winner of the sweepstakes was set to receive $20,000 worth of prizes, all of which was paid for by the hosts of the sweepstakes. On November 24-December 1, the winner will embark on a paid flight to the Gold Coast of Australia, Simpson’s hometown, with Alli Simpson personally calling them before the flight. Once there, the winner will receive spending money, tickets to one of Cody’s shows, and an opportunity to meet backstage at that show.

To enter the contest, fans were required to answer the question, "Why do you love Cody Simpson?” in 100 characters or less. Isabella has been a dedicated fan of Cody for several years, already having met him some 15 times prior to winning the contest.

Lindsey Goldberg, a sophomore here at HHS said, “I’m happy a real fan won the contest and not just a random person who entered. She deserves it.”
Vanilla or Chocolate? Chocolate
Secret Obsession? Crossfit
Siblings? 3
Midnight Snack? Ice cream
Favorite book? *The Great Gatsby*
Favorite holiday? Thanksgiving
Least favorite subject? Math
Best part of being a teacher? Kids
Worst part of being a teacher? Getting up early
Hidden talent? I used to work in a deli and I was quick.
 Desired super power? Flying
Catch phrase? Don’t have one
Favorite color? Green
Lucky Number? 27
Favorite vacation spot? Ibiza
Favorite animal? Lion
Favorite season? Fall
Do you like rollercoasters? No
Waffles or pancakes? Waffles
Favorite day of the week? Saturday
Teacher BFF? The LOTE Department
Birthday month? June
Favorite band/musician? El sueño de la Muñequita
Something your students wouldn’t know about you? I like to cook

Vanilla or Chocolate? Vanilla
Secret Obsession? Shoes!
Siblings? One brother – he’s a math teacher.
Midnight Snack? Vanilla Ice Cream
Favorite book? *Don Quixote*
Favorite holiday? Christmas
Least favorite subject? I think school is great all-around!
Best part of being a teacher? Students
Worst part of being a teacher? Waking up when it’s still dark outside
Hidden talent? Baking
 Desired super power? Flying
Catch phrase? “Don’t hate, participate!”
Favorite color? Purple but also red.
Lucky Number? 7
Favorite vacation spot? Costa Rica
Favorite animal? Llama
Favorite season? Winter
Do you like rollercoasters? Yes! I went on Kingda Ka twice in a row.
Waffles or pancakes? Pancakes
Favorite day of the week? Friday
Teacher BFF? My LOTE peeps
Birthday month? June
Favorite band/musician? Bruce Springsteen
Something your students wouldn’t know about you? I’m a really big hockey fan
This November Catching Fire, the sequel to The Hunger Games movie, is expected to hit theaters. The tickets went on presale October 25, and many are anxious to see what the trio’s next appearance on the big screen will be as successful as its first.

“I’m so excited to see all three actors again in the new movie,” said sophomore Alyssa Muto. “I think that Catching Fire can compare!”

Less than two years have passed since the release of the first movie, which inspired crowds of thousands to watch outside of theatres on opening day, desperate to be amongst the first to view it. People across the nation even jeopardized their sleep by staying up until midnight for the premiere of the phenomenon, which stars teen sensations Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson and Liam Hemsworth. Audiences are looking forward to seeing if the trio’s next appearance on the big screen will be as successful as its first.

“I’m excited to see what they have in store for them, but only time can tell how the new movie will do.”

Breaking Bad starred Bryan Cranston as Walter White, a high school chemistry teacher turned pow- er-hungry meth dealer who resorted to selling drugs to provide for his family after he was diagnosed with cancer. Alongside Cranston starred Aaron Paul as Jesse Pinkman, a young burn-out and Walt’s partner; Anna Gunn as Skyler White, Walt’s heavily conflicted wife; and Dean Norris, DEA agent and Walt’s brother-in-law. Initially an innocent man, Walt truly was disgusted by his actions and only wanted to provide support for his family; however, the longer he stayed in the game, the darker he became.

When asked about Breaking Bad as a whole, senior Walt Bruzza- no said, “Breaking Bad started off as a great show and only got better. It became more and more intense as each season progressed, and it’s fun to go back to the beginning to see how different Walt’s prob- lems and con- flicts were.”

What truly made Breaking Bad so special was its ability to create such strong char- acter develop- ment. Through- out its five intricately-wo- ven seasons, no character re- mains the same person that they once were: the most important change is that of the dynamic between Walter and Jesse. Jesse, a broken individual looking for a father figure, sought out paternal qualities in Walter but time and time again Walt exploited Jesse for his own personal gain. As painful as it was to watch Jesse constantly used like that, there were always hints of Walt’s actual approval and care for Jesse planted throughout the series. They showed the au- dience that al- though Walt’s monstrous ac- tions could nev- er be redeemed, s o m e w h e r e deep down he had at least some humanity left. The pair’s rela- tionship re- mained one of the most inter- esting and emo- tional aspects of Breaking Bad, which made it all the more satisfying when their drama was resolved in the end.

Breaking Bad showed the world what very little television series suc-ceed in doing: it provided a fitting ending that gave closure to many of the show’s most important plot points. Of course some people will find dis- satisfaction with the ending to the se- ries, but rarely will one come across a Breaking Bad viewer who wouldn’t recommend the show. In an industry that thrives on drawing out success- ful shows for monetary reasons (most recently Showtime’s Dexter), Vince Gilligan and the staff of writers came to the intelligent decision to end the show on a high note after five sea- sons. In years to come Breaking Bad will retain a strong legacy rather than be remembered as a series that should’ve ended four seasons ago.

“I’m sad to see one of my favor- ite television shows end. Shows like Breaking Bad only come once in a while,” said senior Zack Rian.

Although we’re all mourning the loss of one of television’s greatest se- ries, this isn’t the end of the Breaking Bad universe. In the years to come, expect to see a spin-off starring none other than the snarky, devious lawyer Saul Goodman. Details are yet to be revealed as it’s in its very early stag- es of development, but one can only hope that it will maintain the legacy of Breaking Bad.

Hunger Games Sequel Is Catching Fire

Jasmine Tucker

This November Catching Fire, the sequel to The Hunger Games movie, is expected to hit theaters. This move was driven by the success of the phenomenon, which stars teen sensations Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson and Liam Hemsworth. Audiences are looking forward to seeing if the trio’s next appearance on the big screen will be as successful as its first.

“Breaking Bad was so special was its ability to create such strong character development. Throughout its five intricately-woven seasons, no character remains the same person that they once were: the most important change is that of the dynamic between Walter and Jesse. Jesse, a broken individual looking for a father figure, sought out paternal qualities in Walter but time and time again Walt exploited Jesse for his own personal gain. As painful as it was to watch Jesse constantly used like that, there were always hints of Walt’s actual approval and care for Jesse planted throughout the series. They showed the audience that although Walt’s monstrous actions could never be redeemed, somewhere deep down he had at least some humanity left. The pair’s relationship remained one of the most interesting and emotional aspects of Breaking Bad, which made it all the more satisfying when their drama was resolved in the end.

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Netflix: The Future of Television

Sydney Woolf

The future of television is com- ing sooner than expected. With Netflix adding more and more shows and movies, it is the instant website, watching actual television is becom- ing a thing of the past. Netflix is avail- able for streaming on iPhones, iPads, laptops, and almost any other piece of technology you can think of.

“Netflix is probably one of the most amazing inventions ever created. I can watch any show almost anywhere I want,” says sophomore Jasmine Tucker.

This allows Netflix to watch取 movies and shows to a whole new level. With isn’t even needed to use the Netflix app on smartphones, so your 3G can handle it anywhere you go. By now, you might be asking: what is all the hype is about these Netflix shows and movies? Consider- ing Netflix has shows and movies for all ages, it’s no wonder this company has been so successful. By showing the classics like The Breakfast Club and Ferris Bueller’s Day Off, older people are able to relive their glory days and enjoy Netflix as much as the younger crowd.

“I use Netflix all of the time. It’s a great place for me to catch up on TV shows or watch some that I didn’t watch when they were on TV,” says sophomore Alyssa Muto. Some popular shows for teens are One Tree Hill, which follows a group of adolescents through their trials and tribulations of life, and Friday Night Lights, a show about competitive football and teen- age drama in Texas.

While Netflix has some awesome perks, there are also plenty of downsides, which can make people frustrated with the system. There are tons of movies and shows to watch, but most aren’t really that popular.

“Netflix is great, but it’s missing some classic shows and movies that I’m sure most people would love to watch,” says sophomore Chris Hicks. Some common shows that people want include Boy Meets World and Drake and Josh. Also, there are some shows that are Netflix-only, such as House of Cards and Orange is the New Black. A lot of people who don’t have Netflix are pretty frustrated with missing out on shows like these, consider- ing House of Cards is a three- time Emmy winner.

Overall, Netflix is definitely worth the $7.99 a month. There are plenty of shows to watch, as well as tons of movies. The quality is great and who wouldn’t want to be able to binge on entertainment right at the palm of their hand? Even if what you want isn’t on there, you’ll definitely find something worth watching.
Kendall Lefkowitz

Since the conception of my career as a foodie, I have learned to seek out places that make one specially, and make it well. Sure, restaurants that offer the whole kitchen sink may suit the needs of some picky eaters, but it is without doubt that such great selection is created at the cost of food quality and tradition. In a previous review of a favorite Mexican joint, “Coyote Flaco,” I praised the ability of the restaurant to stay true to the roots of their cooking. Furthermore, I expressed my disdain for the commercialization of tradition-ally cultural dishes such as the modernization of the burrito with the Chipotle restaurant chain. My philosophy on culinary exploration is quite simple: I want the real deal, not some chain restaurant phony.

Among foods that have been taken over by predatory commercial firms is the famed chicken wing. Sure, a sporting event at Buffalo Wild Wings can serve as a reasonable way to spend a weekend night. However, I find it insulting that many consider their wings to be delicious or even worse, authentic. Come on people, please realize how outlandish such a claim is. When I want wings, there is only one place I can get myself to go: JT Straws.

The term “hole in the wall” is too often used to describe any restaurant that isn’t owned by a large corporate chain. However, the backstreet, windowless location of JT Straws makes it all too easy to miss on a drive-by. Make no mistake: this backstreet, windowless location of JT Straws has it covered with their “Thai Peanut sauce.” The list goes on and on.

So next time you feel the craving for chicken wings, don’t let the popular appeal of Buffalo Wild Wings drag you in. A trip to JT Straws will not only satisfy your need for the spicy crunch of a wing, but will reshape how you look at the bar and grill classic.

Ninja Serves Up Unique Experience

Kendall Lefkowitz

Hidden in the streets of the West Village is the restaurant Ninja, a thrilling dining experience with a surprise waiting around every corner. When you first enter the restaurant, you only see a hostess and an elevator. She then sends you on your way. When you step in, you don’t know if you are going up or down. When you finally get out, you are greeted by none other than a ninja. This ninja sends you off on your own to navigate through a dark maze. As you do, you don’t know whether a Ninja is going to pop out or not, until the very end. It’s a dead end, with no exit in sight, but then a ninja jumps out to scare you, and then guide you to your table. Throughout your meal, you experience all types of ninja surprises, including swords coming through a grate in the wall, ninjas jumping into the room behind you, and even a ninja magician that comes to your table while you await your food. The food itself arrives with a show, from being set on fire to being presented in a mystery box appetizer. It seems ordinary, until glowing lights surround it, and steam starts rolling out. When opened, it presents edamame. The whole atmosphere of the restaurant is great, from the décor of a feeling that you are underground, hidden in rock, to the amazing presentation of the food.

The food is pretty good. They give you a hearty meal that you might be unable to finish (but get it wrapped and take it home). There’s a huge variety of choices, from steak to sushi to chicken and everything in-between.

Since it is a Japanese restaurant, you can also order any traditional Japanese dishes. They also have a very cool dessert menu, ranging from a ninja star dessert to just plain old ice cream. The Ninja star dessert transforms a real ninja star into a chocolate cake in the shape of a star. With a surprise around every corner, Ninja is sure to be a great dining experience, one you won’t soon forget. If you come for a birthday, they will give you a Japanese water balloon on a string or, if you’re lucky, a plastic ninja star!
Cross Country’s “Hot and Dangerous” Season

Kyle Lefkowitz

Running. Just running. Members of the Cross Country team realize that running for “fun” is torturous for most, but under the leadership of Mr. Bennett and Ms. Janssen, Harrison’s program is dispelling the notion that running is pure evil. Having to run hundreds of miles during a season is certainly very challenging, but Harrison XC is able to keep going by keeping things positive. Its two mottos are “Hot and Dangerous” and “Gotta Burn to Learn.” Unlike most sports, cross-country is all about individual performance. This makes it all the more challenging, and more rewarding for the athletes.

This year’s team is relatively young, with 11 freshmen on the 30 member team. Although some might see this as a detriment due to lack of experience, Coach Bennett sees it differently. “The greatest benefit of having a young team is being involved in their long term growth as athletes and people. As the coach, I have an opportunity to encourage a solid work ethic and healthy mindset among the athletes.”

Cross country is incredibly different than most sports at the school, being that you are truly competing against yourself. Coach Janssen loves the individual aspect of the sport because, “it requires every member of the team to have their own individual drive to be better, and it goes beyond ‘winning.’ I don’t think that sort of mindset exists in any other sport.” Whole cross country runners may only see teammates cheering them on once or twice during a race, it is the encouragement and support from their peers that allows each runner to finish the races.

Both the boys’ and girls’ varsity teams have always been known to be fierce competitors, the Varsity girls team also placed fourth at Leagues and is emerging as a force to be reckoned with. Led by junior Catherine Rocchi, and senior Kyle Lefkowitz, the girls’ team may be lacking in members, (with only 8 girls) but they are certainly not lacking in talent. Almost every race has brought a new first place finisher within the team, meaning that the girls have used their teammates as motivation to make themselves run faster. Almost 50% of the team will graduate at the end of this year (three girls), but the legacy they have left behind will motivate the returning runners to achieve even more than previously imagined.

With sectionals coming up on November 1st, the team will look to capitalize on its determination and hard work to end the season on a high note. If they bring the same positive attitude and competitiveness that has helped them throughout the season, there is no doubt that the Cross Country team will end the season “Hot and Dangerous.”
**Girls’ Soccer Kicks It Up A Notch**

Zack Smolov Staff Writer

The Harrison High School girls’ varsity soccer team entered the season with aspirations for a league championship and a section title. The combination of a solid core of returning players and a new group of talented freshmen made these goals very realistic. Senior captains Paige Brabant, Rula Samad, Evann Specht, and Sarah Mazza have all been members of the team since they were underclassmen, giving them the chemistry and experience necessary to lead the team. According to the captains, “We all have a wealth of experience when it comes to varsity soccer. For years we’ve been playing together—we just have to play more as a team this year and focus on our goals for the season.”

Each season begins with a team trip to Lake George, so that the players can bond and get to know each other better. These couple of days also serves as their preseason; the team finally gets to compete after a “two-a-days” and conditioning practices. Despite their senior leadership, the Huskies started their season with a disappointing 0-4 record. Their opening game resulted in a 1-0 loss against Albertus Magnus due to a lack of communication and readiness. A team member admitted, “The first game of the season is always rough because we never have enough time to schedule games during the preseason. While we’re not unprepared, we’re not mentally ready.” The cama-raderie amongst the players was not the problem, and neither was a lack of preparation. The problem, according to junior Marielle Sheck, was a lack of intensity. She said “We’re just playing sloppily and presenting ourselves in a way that makes us seem unimmitad- ing and unaggressive.”

As the season progressed, the Huskies started piling on the wins. Even though their unfortunate start was not a great testimonial of their team’s talent, better play became evident over their next five games. The team reached a 4-7 record, with key wins over Port Chester, New Rochelle, and White Plains. “It was important to fi-nally get those first few wins under our belt,” said captain Evann Specht. “We knew that if we got some momentum then we’d be able to win some games and prove to ourselves that we are a good team.”

While these games were integral to the success of their season, the team’s main goal was to get to sectionals and win a section title. The Huskies knew that they had to turn the playoffs because they had won the obligatory four games; however, they were not sure if they would play a weak team or a strong one. Wins against Blind Brook and Rye neck helped the Huskies to break the losses of winning in the seasons.

The team ended their season with a win against Byram Hills, which was a “two-a-days” and conditioning practice. The Byram game was one of the best games we have played together. Byram Hills is a great team and a win against them made people really take notice.”

Although the team started the game off strong in the non-conference schedule, their first league game was filled with controversy; The Horace Greeley team had two boys that were members of the team. “Playing against the boys was not only scary but dan- gerous,” Sophomore Valerie Sprovieri says. “I was so afraid of getting hurt I couldn’t play my game.” After Harrison easily took the first two games of the match, the Greeley coach brought the tes-tosterone in to play. Despite the opposition’s clear advantage, the Huskies pulled out their fourth win on the season in the hard-fought game.

The Huskies regular season ended with a huge four-set win against Fox Lane in the team’s “Dig Laven-ders” game, an event which raised money for rare cancer research. This win brought their team’s record to 8-9 and although they would lose in the Sectionals to Yonkers 9-9 was still a vast improvement from last year’s disappointing 2-14 record. The volleyball team hopes to capitalize on this year’s improvements, and hopefully it will carry its success into next year!

**Improvements for Varsity Volleyball**

Rose Stokoe Staff Writer

As soon as last season ended, the Harrison Varsity volleyball team was eager for this one to begin. Last year was disappointing for everyone involved with the team, having suffered fourteen crushing losses and only two wins. None of the girls were eager to repeat these results this year, so when open gym started up in March the team was ready to improve.

The team came into this year with some huge looming questions. Who was going to be the libero? Who was going to play in the back row? And most importantly, who was going to be the setter? Each person volunteered to move from middle blocker to setter for his/her season. During tryouts, Huskies newcomer Miho Iwasa was the clear choice for this season’s second set- ter, as she had an amazing serve and clear natural setting talent.

This year sophomore Valerie Serna moved up to the varsity team to become the libero: the team’s defensive specialist. Although the libero is small in stature, other teams have quickly realized she is not only a great passer but also a very intimidating back row attacker. Demi Spanos be- came the first 8th grader to ever make the varsity team this year. Spanos is learning on the job, “and quickly,” Serna said coming a force to be reckoned with on the court. Seniors captains Zoe Rhe-ingold and Maddie Bilbrey had been practicing in a pothole of positions in the early stages of the season, and have found their respective spots as right side hitter and defensive specialist.

This season started off with a bang, with big wins against Scarsdale B and Byram Hills. Senior Maddie Bil- brey saw the victory against Byram Hills as a particularly important one. “The Byram game was one of the best games we have played together. Byram Hills is a great team and a win against them made people really take notice.”

Although the team started the game off strong in the non-conference schedule, their first league game was filled with controversy; The Horace Greeley team had two boys that were members of the team. “Playing against the boys was not only scary but dangerous,” Sophomore Valerie Sprovieri says. “I was so afraid of getting hurt I couldn’t play my game.” After Harrison easily took the first two games of the match, the Greeley coach brought the test-osterone in to play. Despite the opposition’s clear advantage, the Huskies pulled out their fourth win on the season in the hard-fought game.

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**Girls’ Tennis Causes a Racket**

Sydney Mueller Staff Writer

This year the Girls’ Varsity Tennis Team has undergone two serious changes to its program: the installation of new coach Justin Loeb and the filling of six open spots. These fac- tors have forced the players to learn new strategies if they wish to make it far. The Huskies ended this year with a 1-5 record and forced to play a play-in game against Nyack. A valiant effort resulted in a 2-0 Huskies victory with goals scored by Erin Nelson and Eri-ca LaManna.

While they displayed great heart, talent, and performance, the Harrison High School Girls Soccer team ended their season with a 3-1 loss to Panas High School. Although the 2013-2014 season is over, there is still great hope for the 2014-2015 season. Even with the loss of seven graduating seniors, the remaining core group of sophomores and juniors will be ready to take on the task of over-coming the challenges next season will bring, focusing on the perpetual goal of bringing a sectional title back to Harrison.
The 2013 field hockey season began with big expectations for everybody involved with the team. In mid-August, over 30 "frocky" athletes came back to school early to try out for the team. After a week, the teams were split and members were determined. With only three returning varsity team members, nobody was sure how well the team would perform. Practices were very intense, and each player had very expectations for themselves.

At the beginning of the season, the girls were focused on being as successful as possible while having fun at the same time. "Field hockey has been very fun so far this year," said Emily Coash. "We have the opportunity to challenge ourselves in new ways to reach our athletic goals as well as to pick up a new position."

Going into their first game, the Varsity players defeated the always talented Byram Hills squad by a score of 5-3. The girls played with great intensity and finally came together as a team. Defenders Julie Robertson, Elisa Arcara, Taylor Kelly and Emma LaBarbara worked cohesively and made goalie Christina DeCarlo's job much easier. DeCarlo, a sophomore, proved that when the ball does get past the defense, she will do anything in her power not to let in to the goal. The midfielders and defenders worked together to move the ball down the field and scored many goals for the Huskies. Senior Michele DeLeo, who tended the net last year for the team, returned this year as an offensive player. Although picking up a new position is always difficult, DeLeo proved that she is incredibly valuable to the team, no matter what position she is playing.

The first game for the JV team was on Tuesday, September 17. They played an intense game against Valhalla, and defeated their turf by winning 1-0. This result was very impressive, considering that the team had only been together on the field in a game setting once before.

On the field, each player showed the great lengths they will go to win. Defenders Jess Petrucci, Izzy Dario, Jasmine Tucker and Catie DiRe started strong, helping lead the team and making the lives of the offenders easier by always having their backs. Sophie Mittman, a freshman attacker, did a great job of sending the ball down the field and shooting on goal with the help of the other offenders, Sam Gilbert and Bella Tosto. Midfielders Sammy O'Reilly, Ryann Fitzgerald and Adriana Iolascon helped control the flow of the game, acting as mediators between the defenders and attackers. Freshman goalie Miwa Goble is new at her position, but has shown some incredible skills early in the season. She only let in one goal in the first five games!

"I love field hockey and all of the people playing this year!" said sophomore player, Gabby Garcia. The girls created an incredibly strong bond with each other early in the year, a bond that only grew stronger as the season progressed. This bond also helped foster the success of the team, which was able to pick up a number 9 seed in the Sectional tournament.

Unfortunately, the team was defeated by Brewster 3-0 in the first round of the playoffs this ending their season. Although this season is over, the combination of varsity players returning and promising JV team moving up to varsity will bring even more success to next year’s team.

Boys’ Soccer Builds on Last Year’s Success

Trent Lefkowitz

After a surprising run to the Sectional playoffs last year, the Harrison Boys Varsity Soccer team came back this year looking to build upon such a promising result. However, after losing both senior captains from last year’s team, this year’s squad faced a difficult time duplicating the success. Although the Huskies struggled through the year with a 4-12 record, those four wins were still enough to guarantee a spot in the Sectional playoffs. Sadly, the late-season improvements were not enough for the Huskies, and they fell to Sleepy Hollow by a score of 2-0 in their out-bracket Sectional game.

According to senior captain Zack Rian, this season was particularly difficult for the soccer program. "We graduated eight starters and 16 team members overall from last year’s team, so the beginning of this year was incredibly difficult for us." Any team would be decimated by losing almost 90% of its team members, but it was borderline catastrophic for soccer. Soccer is a sport where the players must anticipate the motion of their teammates in order to move the ball down the field, so it took a long time for the team to chemistry come together. However, once the younger players began recognizing their roles and became playing together as a team, everybody became more successful. Rian echoed these sentiments, saying, "our youth and lack of varsity experience hurt in the beginning of the season, but by the end our underclassmen began showing flashes of brilliance."

Although this year did not bring the success the soccer team had hoped for, next year is looking promising for the Huskies. Sophomore Alex Heinrichs, Kent Takada, and Jonathan Crozier had great amounts of success during the season, and juniors Christian Saavedra, Luis Guimares, and Matt Druckman will be called upon to lead the team. Hopefully, the team will be able to reach their high potential, and bring back the strong tradition of Harrison soccer.

Cheerleading Gets Ready for Winter Season

Alexis Puccio

A new year means new varsity cheerleaders, and lots of questions to be answered. Lauren Ryan, sophomore varsity cheerleader, was asked if the cheer camp had helped the team improve. "Cheer camp helps us bond as a team, because we spend every minute together, even when we’re not doing cheerleading," she said.

"I love this time for my friends and family, and it’s a big part of my life," said freshman Serena Girardi, "and I enjoy doing it."

Still, many worry that cheerleading can take up most of one’s social life. Junior Jillian Roos took part in the summer practice program.

"Practice in the summer was somewhat irritating because of the lack of people who came, due to the frequent vacations people take during the summer," Jillian said. "But practicing during the summer for football season is much needed."

Some students at the high school still don’t realize that cheerleading is a sport. It is, and it requires a lot of time and hard work.

"It’s very offensive when people say cheerleading isn’t a sport because everyone on the teams works really hard and puts in a lot of dedication," said sophomore Victoria Golino. "Besides, you can get serious injuries in cheer. It’s upsetting to be told that everything we work for is basically considered a joke by some people."

"Last year’s seniors are now in college, and there are new members on the team. Juniors Jillian Roos and Gabriella Barile are two new varsity cheerleaders. Both Roos and Barile recognize that they will need to replace some incredibly talented cheerleaders from last year’s team, but they are up to the task."

"Every alumnus from last year left a very positive impression on the team,” said Gabriella Barile. "It has motivated us to fill their shoes. Their leadership has pushed us and inspired us to work hard this year and to go into this year with confidence. I think both of our coaches, Rosa and tumbling coach Kamisi, do a great job of providing advice. We’re so talented and they’re always so eager to give us feedback on what to fix. Their advice is very helpful and provides us with the ability to be the most successful."

This year’s squad is looking forward to competing and having great success.
Long Season for the Huskies

Trent Lefkowitz
Sports Editor

Although the Huskies were obviously disappointed that their dreams of winning all the way through to the state tournament in Syracuse had been dashed by a loss the previous week, that loss actually made them more motivated to play well against the hated Rye Garnets. Senior defensive end Brandon Merluccio said, “Since we knew we weren't in the playoffs all we had left that could define our season was the Rye game. There have been years when Harrison has gone to the state championship game, but were considered unsuccessfull because they lost to Rye.” This motivation, coupled with the passing of Coach Troilo’s father and former athletic director Art Troilo Sr. in September, set the stage for a classic showdown—and the teams did not disappoint.

The Huskies started strong in the first half, driving the ball consistently down the field against the vaunted Rye defense and neutralizing Rye star junior quarterback Andrew Livingston in the end zone for six, but Jake Marino's sack of Andrew Livingston in the end zone two plays later gave Harrison the first two points of the game. Sadly, the Huskies could not hold onto their lead, and a 7-yard touchdown run by Rye running back Conor Murphy put the Garnets up for good, making the final score 8-2.

Although the Huskies did not win the Rye game or reach the playoffs this year, a 6-3 record is not too bad for a team that played such a difficult schedule. Hopefully the team can come back from this year’s struggles to become stronger than ever next year, returning to the powerhouse it has been in the past few years.

Harrison Loses A Legend

Steven Vendola
Staff Writer

It is incredibly tough when a community loses a hometown hero that has had a huge impact on the youth and people of the town, while asking for nothing back in return. Only a special kind of person can fit this remarkable description of community hero, Arthur Troilo Sr. was that kind of person.

Arthur Troilo Sr. played football at Harrison from 1947-1950. As a tough-nosed freshman he wanted to play center, and was given the number 99 for his jersey. Later on Troilo switched to playing tackle and fullback, positions in which he thrived and would go on to play in college. Though he is remembered for his football prowess in particular, Troilo Sr. was a five sport athlete in high school: along with football he also played baseball, basketball, track, and golf. In fact, according to his son Arthur Troilo Jr., one of the most memorable records that Troilo Sr. set was in track. “While competing in track, he set the school record for long jump. He held it for about 59 years until Claudio Dell Carpin broke it just a couple of years ago.”

After playing throughout high school, Troilo continued his football career as a part of the Syracuse Orange. He played tackleback and defense and also punted the ball; during his sophomore year he even got to play in the Orange Bowl. He also played with Jim Brown, a member of the Football Hall of Fame.

Alongside his very successful career as a football player, Troilo also had an outstanding career as a coach at Harrison High School. As a coach, his record was 66-23-3. One of his most memorable seasons was as a coach in 1973. In 1973, the teachers’ union went on strike just as the football season was about to begin, meaning there would be no football. Although they had already practiced for three weeks in the summer, the players’ season was about to end before it even started. Luckily for them, however, one man stepped up and decided to go against the strike. That man was Arthur Troilo Sr. He took the season on despite being the only coach on the team, which some alumni helped him to lead. The Huskies went 9-0 that season. They didn’t lose a single game, even though the odds were against them even playing schools, the Huskies returned to the field. The third quarter also ended scoreless, but the Huskies were driving down the field and looking to put up the first points of the game. A goal-line fumble negated their opportunity to score six, but Jake Marino’s sack of Andrew Livingston in the end zone two plays later gave Harrison the first two points of the game. Sadly, the Huskies could not hold onto their lead, and a 7-yard touchdown run by Rye running back Conor Murphy put the Garnets up for good, making the final score 8-2.

Although the Huskies did not win the Rye game or reach the playoffs this year, a 6-3 record is not too bad for a team that played such a difficult schedule. Hopefully the team can come back from this year’s struggles to become stronger than ever next year, returning to the powerhouse it has been in the past few years.

Arthur Troilo Sr. was devoted to making his community better and did that through his career as a coach and athletic director at Harrison High School. Though he is mostly remembered for his amazing careers both playing and coaching football, he was not just devoted to sports. Troilo was also devoted to our country, which he protected by serving in the Navy. When asked what kind of man his father was, Arthur Troilo Jr. said, “He was a gentleman.”

Sadly on September 2nd, 2013, Arthur Troilo Sr. passed away at eighty one years old. As a football player, serviceman, athletic director and father, Troilo Sr. accomplished so much in his life. He was a father not only to his kids, but to all of his players. Harrison didn’t just lose a coach; it lost a father who cared so much about his community and the people in it. When asked why his father would be remembered, Arthur Troilo Jr. said, “As an athlete, he played three sports in the spring which included baseball, golf and track. People usually didn’t play three sports then but he did. He wanted to compete but even as he was competing he treated everyone with respect and dignity.”