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# PLAYWICKIAN

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The Students' Newspaper of Neshaminy High School

## Class of 2013 athletes sign letters of intent



By Vinny Frazzetto  
*Sports Editors*

Senior year never fails to supply pressure and stress to high school students, and perhaps even more so for student athletes. Not only do they have to choose a school that has the major they want to take, but they also have to be a good fit for the students in their athletic needs.

On Feb. 6, the Neshaminy community saw some of their finest athletes commit their talents to schools at the next level, and solidify their future for the next four years.

Field hockey stand out Brittany Sheenan committed to Boston College, "I chose Boston College because of its amazing combination of top academics and high level athletics," Sheenan said. Sheenan finished second in the Suburban One League in both goals, with 31 and total points, with 73.

These tremendous statistical accomplishments earned her a spot on the SOL National Conference All-League first team. Sheenan also earned a spot on the Pennsylvania High School Field Hockey Coaches Association class AAA All-State first team.

While her days of playing field hockey in high school are over, Sheenan looks forward to playing in college, "It feels like such a relief to have signed with a college to play the sport I love. I am so lucky to have the chance to play on a team with the guidance of reputable coaches and such experienced teammates. I can't wait to start in the fall!" Sheenan said.

Two-sport athlete Justin Andrews could have played either football or baseball in college, but decided to focus on baseball. Andrews signed his letter of intent to Monmouth University.

On Wednesday Feb. 6, athletes of the senior class committed to their future colleges and universities.

Back (left to right): Justin Andrews, Monmouth University, Cody Minnig, Penn State Unniversity, Brittany Sheenan.

Boston College, Lauren Bernard, Longwood University

Front (left to right): Lauren Quense, Fordham University, Julia McGovern, Quinnipiac University, Diana LaPalombara,

St. Francis University, Austin Transue, Bloomsburg University

Photo / Jon Mettus

See **SPORTS:** *Signing day pg 9*

## Students put on outstanding musical

By Morgan Bond and  
Stephanie Harvey  
*Staff Writer and News Editor*

On Jan. 30, students dazzled everyone with their production of "Guys and Dolls" on the Neshaminy stage. The extra time and hard work students spent working during and after school in order to put the musical together showed in the outstanding performances.

Students from every grade joined together to bring this 1980 musical to life. Both the cast and the leads worked so hard even through all the hardship Neshaminy has experienced over the past two months to make "Guys and Dolls" a huge and wonderful success.

"Guys and Dolls" takes place in New York City, and is a story about forbidden love between a gambler, Sky Masterson and a missionary, Sarah

Brown. Masterson falls for the upright, moral Brown after Nathan Detroit bets him that he will not be able to take Brown to Cuba.

The Neshaminy production featured sophomore Sean Devonshire and freshman Forrest Filliano as the main role of Nathan Detroit while their costars Kaitlyn Jones, senior, and Emily Tolnay, junior, starred as Miss Adelaide. Other big roles were casted to senior, Zach Heinemann and senior, Josh Tull as Sky Masterson. Junior, Ali Ursow and junior, Samantha Fario played the role of Sarah Brown.

"Being in a high school musical is different. Everyone seemed to take things one step further when it came to being mature or having to memorize lines. Everything just seemed more organized," freshman Collin McCarthy said.

None of this success would have possible without the directors, Kristen Nichols, Mike Brown, Kristen Brown and Donna Henninger. Devonshire, sophomore, says "It's [so] intense at practices and the directors helped so much. I couldn't have asked for better directors."

## NEWS FLASH

The Student Assistance Team through the Friend Watch program seeks to help students who are struggling with issues including those relating to mental health and drug use.

Using the FriendWatch link on the Neshaminy High School web page, concerned friends can anonymously refer others to the Student Assistance Team.



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# School Lane Charter School purchases Eisenhower Elementary School building

By Michelle Borisov  
Staff Writer

The Neshaminy school board agreed to sell the old Eisenhower Elementary School on Woodbourne Rd. in Middletown Township to the School Lane Charter School for \$2.2 million. The money gained will be used for capital improvements, developments and repairs of Neshaminy facilities.

On Jan. 22, the school board voted (9-0) to sell the nearly 14-acre property of Eisenhower elementary school. Including the old school building and other structures to Azoth Reality Partners, L.P. of Horsham, which acted as a broker for the charter school system.

In June, Neshaminy granted School Lane a five year charter, but delays for finding a location pushed back the opening of the school. Now that Eisenhower Elementary has been bought, they have a site to begin operations within the school district.

The site is currently used by the district as a maintenance facility with an adult day care center operated by Delta Community supports. Delta closed in 1976 and were given the right of first refusal to buy the property, but according to an article in PhillyBurbs written by Christian Menno and school board president Richie Webb, they declined.

On Jan.15, the Neshaminy school board held a public hearing on School Lane Charter School’s request to merge with its operations in Bensalem to create a regional Charter school system to serve both Neshaminy and Bensalem district. SCLS is still awaiting word from both school districts on the request.

SCLS argued that combining the operations would cut administrative costs and improve education. Under the proposed plan, two separate boards of trustees would be fused into a single board with one office to oversee both systems. Though Neshaminy already approved the charter, School Lane Charter School is asking to expand it.

Neshaminy residents would have priority to attend the Charter school. An issue officials are concerned of is that if a regional system is formed, then Bensalem students would have equal priority to attend a charter school within Neshaminy’s borders.



The Neshaminy School Board sold the former Eisenhower Elementary School on Woodbourne Rd. to the School Lane Charter School on Jan. 2.  
Media Credit: www.schoollane.org

Neshaminy is still considering a charter application from MaST Charter School, which wants to operate a K-12 school focused on science and technology. MaST currently has a charter in Northeast Philadelphia. A few residents even urged the rest of the school board to accept the offer.

If approved, MaST would run a 600 student school, K-5 within the first year. Then, in about four years they would expand to a K-12 facility.

If a Charter school does open, it will provide a fascinating offer that many Neshaminy residents would be interested in. If already existing programs within the district are not what can push your children to thrive and be the best they can be, then a Charter school could be an amazing choice .

“It could be a very interesting option,” freshman Emily Murphy said.

# New cure for pancreatic cancer shows promise

By Julianne Miller  
Copy Editor

Pancreatic cancer kills nearly 30,000 people a year, being without a doubt one of the most deadly, unfortunate cancers scientists and doctors have ever attempted to treat.

Although there are numerous therapies, surgeries and radiations to remove this cancer, the risk of the treatment is still high because of the concerning side effects. Diabetes, lowered white blood cell count (which increases

the chance of further infection), and lack of enzymes, are highly common side effects. Total termination of the disease is not guaranteed.

However, a new study has developed a drug that “can be delivered safely in combination with accurately targeted radiation,” according to an online article via The University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center. This new development, Gemcitabine, is to be the most beneficial treatment thus far. This breakthrough cure is safer and lacks the

high-risk side effects that come along with other treatments.

Although the common side effects are not in response to Gemcitabine, it has side effects of its own such as nausea, vomiting, and excessive weight loss.

“More than 40 percent of patients were actually able to gain weight during the course of therapy,” Cornelius McGinn, assistant professor of radiation oncology at the University of Michigan said. “The new treatment option for pancreatic cancer shows early promise”.

“I think this new option is much needed and makes me feel so much better about the treatment because when my mom had pancreatic cancer, she just had one choice. She had lots of trips to the doctor and she had to deal with that being the only choice. This is definitely a good thing,” junior, Gabby Mannino.

Eager by the uplifting finding, a team of researchers are set to conduct a trial later this year, with the exact dates to be determined.

# North Korea threatens missile aggression against the U.S.

By Tim Cho  
Staff Writer

North Korea is a devastated communist country filled with suffering people and abusive rulers. Due to recent events, North Korea can now also be called a threat to the United States as well as its neighboring countries.

On April 12, 2012, North Korea’s missile test resulted in failure. The missile landed in the sea west of South Korea. The missile was meant as a tribute to the 100 year anniversary of the country’s founder, Kim Il Sung.

After the failure, the North Korean government vowed to continue their missile testing. But now, they are coming closer to their goal. South Korean officials have concluded that the Dec. 12 missile had the capability to travel 6,000 miles, able to strike the United States mainland, according to a CNN news article written by Paula Hancocks and Greg Botelho on Dec. 24.



Despite the UN’s opposition North Korea is continuing with missile tests and targeting the United States.  
Media Credit: McClatchy Tribune

This missile launch could genuinely be for space exploration, but the U.N. thinks otherwise. They believe that their tests are a way to improve their missile capabilities, and they do not want North Korea possessing powerful and effective missiles.

Chin Hee-Gwan, a North Korean expert at South Korea’s Inje University told the Associated Press that, ”He is a young yet powerful leader both domestically and internationally,” able to deal with issues in and out of his country.

Unlike his father Kim Jong Il, Kim Jong Un is confronting outside powers. He is defying the U.N.’s orders of not proceeding with their missile tests, and they cannot do anything yet.

But why do they continue with the tests even when the U.N. is trying to shut it down? Neshaminy freshman Sara Greenleaf said, “Because North Korea wants to do whatever it wants to do. They are an independent nation.” They do not have to follow the orders from the U.N., but if they don’t they will lose even more of the little support they are receiving as well as be even less trusted.

As of now, the U.N. is condemning the North Koreans for launching their Dec. 12 missile, and now they are proceeding to prepare for another missile test.

“They may want to appear threatening especially because they already have a limited nuclear capability, and then appear to be more reasonable when they ratchet back their rhetoric,” history teacher at Carl Sandburg Middle School, Bernard Fishman said. “Perhaps this is a ploy to get the UN to lift sanctions?”

Fishman also said, “We have the capability of striking back at a country even after we’ve been hit with a first strike (with nuclear missile submarines, for instance). This is exactly the doctrine that kept us and the Russians from World War III. It is called “MAD”, Mutually Assured Destruction. The real threat that we should be concerned about is if the North Koreans furnished a small nuclear device to any number of terrorist organizations.”

North Korea’s strongest ally, China, is in a difficult position. Dean Cheng, researcher at the Chinese Political and Security Affairs at the Heritage Foundation said, “What they have is a giant hammer. They could hurt North Korea by shutting down all economic relations and trade, but that would likely generate a large number of refugees, something the Chinese aren’t interested in.” If the U.N. takes action in stopping North Korea, China has no choice but to take part.

According to the Nuclear Threat Initiative, China has launched defensive missile program to intercept any incoming enemy missiles. “The Xinhua News Agency reported that the Chinese armed forces performed a land-based midcourse missile interception test.”

There is trouble stirring in the Korean peninsula, and no one knows exactly what may come of it. Whether it be space exploration, or preparing for nuclear warheads, the world is prepared to take immediate action against North Korea.



The Playwickian

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JROTC: Military program provides opportunity

“To Motivate Young People to Be Better Citizens,” that is the motto of the US Army JROTC program. Neshaminy used to have a JROTC program in the 1960’s and the 1970’s but was, however, withdrawn due to low enrollment of the Vietnam War. That was decades ago and the school board should re-implement JROTC at Neshaminy High School.



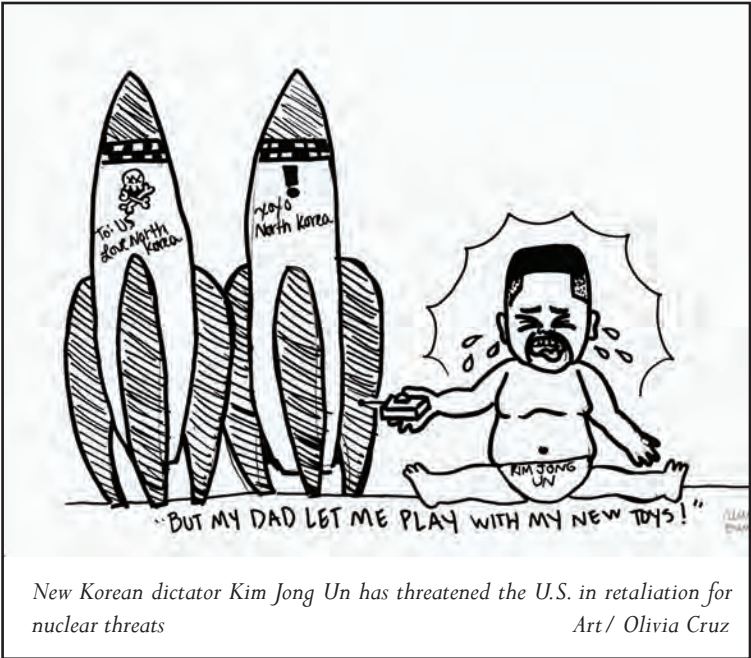
JROTC provides opportunity and scholarships to those looking into the military.  
*Media Credit: Wicomico Army JROTC*

The fact of the matter is people have been talking about JROTC at Neshaminy for years, whether it is a letter to the editor that was published in the Playwickian in 1973 or at a public board meeting in 2001. Neshaminy has always maintained a great relationship with the armed forces; recruiters can be seen in the hallways and at football games.

For those unfamiliar with JROTC, it would not only would it be a class, but would include after school activities. Students are not only taught leadership skills but are assigned them. Students are assigned ranks and will rise up through them according to how long they’ve been in the program. JROTC will also keep students in shape and give them a sense of purpose.

Even though the program was abandoned the Army should reexamine the high school and conduct a survey. After seeing that the student body would be more than willing to participate in this wonderful program, the school board and superintendent would then have the opportunity to decide whether or not to have army JROTC at Neshaminy.

There is the issue of finding someone to teach this class, but the Army assists in compensating the teacher therefore Neshaminy only has to pay part of the teacher’s salary. The Army provides each JROTC unit with uniforms and other instructional materials.



New Korean dictator Kim Jong Un has threatened the U.S. in retaliation for nuclear threats  
Art/ Olivia Cruz

Not only does JROTC promote physical fitness, but good morals. The creed of an Army JROTC cadet states that “I do not lie, cheat or steal and will always be accountable for my actions and deeds, and I will always practice good citizenship and patriotism.” The Army JROTC program has been teaching high school students good morals and keeping them in shape since its formation in 1916 with 6 units. It has now expanded to 1,645 schools in every single state in the United States and even overseas in United States territories for a total of 281,000 cadet’s total.

JROTC provides students interested in serving in the Army with an opportunity to better prepare themselves; both physically and mentally. However, participating in JROTC does not require you to join the Army after high school. Parents might argue that we shouldn’t encourage our children to join the Army, and go overseas to fight and possibly die for their country.

The Army JROTC program will benefit students greatly and should fit well in Neshaminy. Recruiters can be seen walking the halls at Neshaminy, the cafeteria and at Neshaminy football games talking to students about their future. The Army JROTC program should be re-established at Neshaminy High School, it will help students work toward a brighter future.

**Look At It Our Way is the unsigned editorial, which represents the view of the editorial board.**

Apple employment creates human rights issue

By Sara Keating  
Student Life Editor

For an ever-increasing number of people in our country, the newest Apple products such as the iPod Touch, iPhone and iPad represent innovation and advancement. More and more people are enjoying the benefits of access to the world with only the touch of a finger. As technology advances, the appetite for seemingly limitless



Apple is controversial for its use of cheap foreign labor.  
*Media Credit: McClatchy Tribune*

knowledge consumes customers at an accelerated rate. Ironically, this knowledge has a far greater price than the sticker tags on the boxes of which these products are purchased would indicate –

a price paid by the blood, sweat and tears of those who provide the physical labor in order to produce these products for our consumerist culture.

Over the past three years, there have been numerous suicides committed by Foxconn workers in China. Foxconn, Apple’s largest contract manufacturer, has more factories in China than any other country. Most of the suicides can be attributed to poor working conditions and meager wages; at a mere \$1.78 an hour, these wages are so low, they do not even qualify to have taxes withdrawn from them.

Many critics are of the belief that if the conditions were as bad as some say, workers at the various Foxconn factories would simply quit their jobs and search for another. However, it is not easy to find a job in China – a situation with which many Americans can empathize.

“It’s so boring, I can’t bear it anymore. Every day is like: I get off from work and I go to bed. I get up in the morning, and I go to work. It is my daily routine and I almost feel like an animal,” a Foxconn employee, who wishes to remain anonymous, told CNN.

This is not a situation that has gone unnoticed. With the alarming rate of suicides, Foxconn and Apple alike have both received a lot of media attention, especially with the implementation of nets on the outside of many buildings in order to prevent suicide.

“Since Apple’s audits are conducted with a much larger budget than our investigations, we are confident that Apple is already well-aware of the problems that we address... The real question remains whether or not they are willing to take the necessary actions to create changes,” the China Labor Watch reported. It is clear that Apple is aware of the cruel treatment of its workers yet little has been done to improve these standards. However, one question remains. If millions of people can

boycott a food product because of cruel treatment to animals, how many more people would stand up against the inhumane practices endured by Foxconn employees every day? The answer is appalling; few Apple enthusiasts and customers would ever sacrifice their technology in order to join the fight for the betterment of the lives of others. America will never see the boycott of “iProducts” because it requires too much sacrifice on the part of its citizens.

It would seem to be a lose-lose situation. As a customer, one does not want to pay the higher prices for Apple products that would accompany the installation of new working standards for the well-being of Foxconn workers in China. Yet with each purchase, these workers are being condemned to a life of unhappiness they cannot afford to escape. All it would take to give these humans a better life is a little unselfishness.

Published monthly, the student newspaper of Neshaminy High School is a public forum, with its student editorial board making all decisions concerning its contents. The student exercise of freedom of expression and press freedom is protected by PA Code Section 12.9 and the First Amendment to the Constitution. School officials exercise their right to Prior Review.

The Playwickian refers to the “Associated Press Stylebook” on matters of grammar, punctuation, spelling, style and usage. No anonymous sources will be accepted. Unsigned editorials express the views of the majority of the editorial board. Letters to the editors should not exceed 300 words. Letters must be signed and of appropriate subject matter. Guest opinions, 500 words or more, will be published as space allows.

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Awards

The publication has received recognition by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association in the following years - First Place: 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1986, 1989, 1990, 1992, 1993, 1994. Bronze Medalist: 2001. Silver Medalist: 1995, 2000, 2003, 2008. Gold Medalist: 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2012.

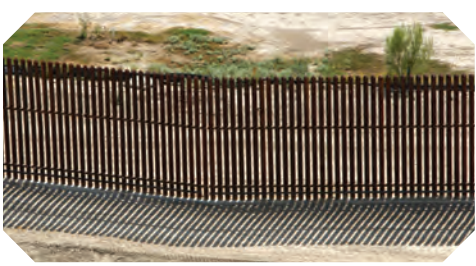
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# Crossfire

The political debate on immigration has been revived.



## Arrest illegal immigrants... or have policy of amnesty?

Immigration is an issue that has been a topic of discussion for years, dating back to the 20<sup>th</sup> century when there was a flooding of new and developing cultures through Ellis and Angel Islands, creating the melting pot that is our nation today. Our founding fathers laid out the foundation for the construction of who we are as an American people. However, with issues being able to be traced back to the recent rise in illegal immigration, issues that include our economy and growing crime rate, has influenced President Obama to issue a new plan for immigration reform. Our country is facing the overwhelming impacts of illegal immigration. Action needs to be taken.



By Corey LaQuay  
Copy Editor

On Friday, Jan. 30, Obama gave a speech to the students and teachers of Del Sol High School in Las Vegas, Nevada. He addressed the nation about issues surrounding immigration and discussed his plans for reform. This plan includes strengthening enforcement around borders, allow those who are here illegally to gain citizenship, and modernize the system. One of the major issues surrounding immigration is the effect this has the American economy. Since the year 2000, illegal immigration across borders has significantly decreased by almost 80 percent. However, the population that is here now is being paid under the counter. Not only is this a burden to the families of those workers, but it also affects competing businesses who are unable to compete with larger companies that pay their workers less than minimum wage. This all contributes to the monopoly of companies who cut corners by hiring these immigrants and paying less than minimum in order to increase profits. These companies have an advantage over those that play by the rules.

Because these people are not American citizens, they are not required to pay taxes to the state. They are living in the shadows and are not having to pay a cent to the government. People who reside here illegally are also uninsured, meaning that they are usually unable to pay for healthcare as well as other insured services. This drives up our national debt and could potentially put companies out of business if we allow for more visas or green cards to be given to illegal immigrants.

Crime rate has been a trending issue in most recent years, and many point fingers to the number of immigrants with a criminal record who are being permitted to cross the border with very limited background checks. Law enforcement has been the center of attention in order to keep these people out. In the last 25 years, we have spent over \$187 billion on border security operations. This includes the cost of putting up 700 miles worth of fencing and cracking down on these people using motion detectors and armed guards. Our focus on keeping people out is not working now, and it won't be able to withstand the flooding of immigration caused by the new reform plan.

This brings us to the major question, "What kind of effect this will have on the future trends of immigration to America?" Because we are planning to offer citizenship to the nearly 11 million immigrants that reside here currently, will this influence others on the opposite side of the border to make the move to the US? Yes.

Families come to the states in order to find work, or to have more opportunity in a nation whose basic principles are centered upon freedom and the basic rights given to every citizen. This is an open invitation to all those who wish to have these "certain unalienable rights endowed by their creator." This has been the story since our very beginning when we began as immigrants coming to a new nation. There is a point when we need to step back and look at the effects it has on our country; economically, politically, and criminally.

For people arriving to this country, America may seem like a utopia. Many immigrants come to this nation for a new and better life. With President Obama's recent immigration reform plan, there is a hot debate on whether this plan will resolve this issue or inspire more illegal immigration. This reform plan will help crack down on the illegal immigrants creating crime in this country. It is giving those crossing our borders legally, a chance to become members of society, and a new chance to become citizens.



By Emily Scott  
Copy Editor

"Now is the time", Obama repeatedly stated in his empowering Jan. 29 speech in Las Vegas. It is the time for immigration reform in the United States. His proposal has four basic parts: Continuing to strengthen border security, cracking down on employers hiring undocumented workers, "earned" citizenship, and streamlining legal immigration. The most controversial part of this plan would be the "earned" citizenship. "Deporting 11 million immigrants is just not practical," Obama stated in his speech. Instead, this will give immigrants a chance to gain legal citizenship. By passing background checks, paying taxes, and "going to the back of the line," they will be able to live in this country legally. Cracking down on the illegal criminals is the most important part of this reform. The immigrants living here who are not criminals have come for a new chance at life. Most of them are not causing trouble and are contributing members to their community. They did come here illegally, but they are now a part of this nation. It is now their time to come out of the shadows and become real citizens of the United States.

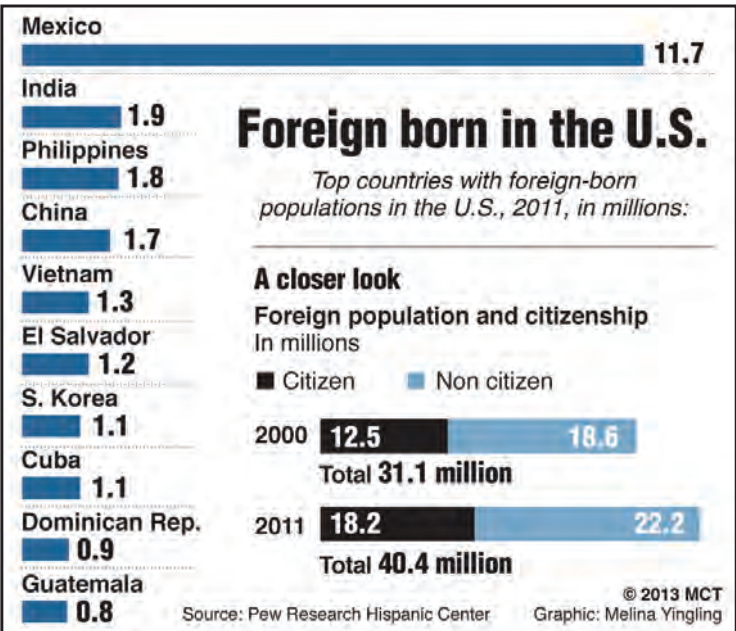
Allowing these immigrants to become citizens will not cause more illegal immigration, because the people who will come to this country are traveling here to work hard as productive members of society. Isn't that what our ancestors came here for- a new chance at life? How can we allow these human beings to be hiding in the shadows as if they don't exist?

This reform isn't just about exposing these undocumented inhabitants. "We should seize the opportunity to create an immigration system that serves the interest of our economy, our businesses, and society," U.S. Chamber of Commerce President Tom Donohue said. It is about the brilliant students – the people of our future – who want to come to this nation for a better education, but have a tough time coming here. These people are similar to the creators of Instagram and Intel, students who came here and stayed here as Obama pointed out in his speech.

The plan will help bring the legal immigration system into the 21st century. People, who are already citizens, should not have to wait years for their family to be allowed into this country. With Obama's reform, this

will improve the issue for these divided families. Foreign students should be able to pursue careers in the science and technology fields. If they succeed they will help create the American businesses of the future which will surely help improve our economy.

"We define ourselves as a nation of immigrants. That's who we are, in our bones", Obama said. Before we became the nation we are today, our forefathers were in a similar position, waiting to embark on a journey for a new time. Allowing these immigrants to become citizens will not hurt this nation, but support it. By managing immigration, it will allow the hardworking members to gain citizenship, while protecting the country from criminals. They will help strengthen the middle class, improve the economy, and become the future leaders of America.



The number of immigrants in the nation from Mexico has soared, making illegal immigration a hot-button topic. Media Credit: McClatchy Tribune

## American internet lagging behind foreign competition

Alex Shulski  
Staff Writer

Internet is something that is used all the time whether it's used to watch videos, send emails, or maybe to play games. It's almost impossible to just ignore it. As a result of this, America has begun to 'cheat'



A lack of competition in the U.S. has let our internet fall behind.

people out of the speedy, affordable internet they deserve.

America has a big problem with competition between companies. You can see the result of little to no competition today because one out of three households doesn't have internet connections at home. A poll taken says that most people who don't have internet chose not to get it because it wasn't affordable. Also, Companies don't have to improve their internet speeds much either, due to little competition. About 90 percent of all internet sales are made by either Comcast

or Verizon in America, giving them little to no reason to upgrade speeds or prices. "The internet speed in America has dropped from 13<sup>th</sup> place to 12<sup>th</sup> place this year," a person on average said. "It's still shadowed by South Korea."

America also doesn't have fantastic speeds either. Downloading and uploading, the two most commonly used functions of the internet are much, much slower than that of other countries. According to a poll taken by NewAmerica.net, "in Tokyo, the leading internet connection costs \$26.85 and its downloading speed is 200 Mbps. and its uploading speed is also 200 Mbps. compared to New York for an

average household which receives only 15 Mbps. for downloading, or 0.78 Mbps. for uploading. That's about 15 times as slow!

It's clear that we in America absolutely need more competition between internet companies in order to advance as a whole. If our speeds and prices are so disproportional, we diffidently have a problem on our hands. If America starts to become more hi-tech, we need to advance our internet as well. Nowadays we find that internet is often used for work or schoolw so without it functioning properly and making us mad when it freezes; we have no way to compete with anybody.







# “Love is a promise, love is a souvenir, once given, never forgotten. Never let it disappear.”

-John Lennon

## Matt Cruz - Stay Strong!

### ~ Love Neshaminy High School

Gina Tracey,  
You're the best friend that everyone wishes they had. Patina is real.

Dear Maggie White,  
You a lank, but you my homie doe.  
-Dark Knight

Dear Vinny,  
You look adorable when you sleep. Now take down your blinds. -Dark Knight

Dear DiCicco,  
Your mustache tickles my fancy.  
-Love, Dan

Dear Badgers,  
DYNAMITE GAL DYNAMITE GAL  
DYNAMITE GAL DYNAMITE GAL  
DYNAMITE GAL DYNAMITE GAL  
-Beth

Dear Joe,  
“An orange peanut, for me? Well I accept you.” -Love, Bethany

Mr. Leigh,  
Thank you for being so great.

Brianna Spause  
Loving, sweet, smart, generous, #1 granddaughter. -Love ya, Mom-Mom

You may only be one person in the world, but you are the world to me.  
-Mike Oppmann

You and I, no matter the weather  
My heart feels heavy, but light as a feather  
My love for you, has no measure  
But I'm sure, I'll love you forever,  
I love you Stephanie Jeronis.  
Love always, Matt Santilla

Dakota Montgomery is so cute. I love you baby so much! -Love, Briana

Roses are red, violets they are blue, that's how obvious my love is for you. You're amazing in every way even how you say “hey.” Ur special to me and it's clear for everyone to see that you belong with me, when I take ur hand in mine I soar to could nine. I love you Briana -Dakota

4th Period – You're my favorite (:  
-Ms. Drake

Erin Ormsby!  
I love you and I'm proud of you.  
-Love your Anti- Valentine :)

Miranda Cento!  
Since I can't give you chocolates I'll give you this. -Love, ASM

Dear Wolfy,  
SLURRRRP SLURRRRP -Love Jamie M

Dear Ryan,  
Hold me, like you did by the lake on Naboo  
-Love Scott

Ryan Crescenzo, marry me please? (:  
-Brittany Fantini

Roses are red.  
Violets are blue.  
Cassie, I know you're my cousin.  
But I want to go to prom with you.  
PRAHM?!

-Peter (your cousin)

Ertan Capar is my lover forever! <3 Hit me up babes! -Love your secret admirer

Graphic/ Josh Einbinder-Schatz

Sage Iskra,  
You are the best person in the world & I love you!

-Love LOLJK  
Happy Valentine's Day Dan!  
I LOVE YOU BUNCHES! You're perfect.  
Best boyfriend, EVER! -LOVE, Kelli <3

A Good Man is Hard to Find – go find yourself some good country people?

Casey,  
Our lesbian love will never end. Your face is great. Ahrarar <3 -Love LL.

Thank you so much Doll and DB for always helping out. I could not make it without your help. Much Hugs -Mrs. T

DYNAMITE GAL DYNAMITE GAL  
DYNAMITE GAL DYNAMITE GAL  
DYNAMITE GAL DYNAMITE GAL  
DYNAMITE GAL

To Huber & the Playwickian Staff  
Thanks a great year full of cinnamon challenge moments! I love all of you weirdos. xoxo Brianna

Dear Lydia,  
You're the coolest, cutest, sweetest girlfriend ever. -Love, Mike

I love you Tiffany Rae McMahon. You mean the world to me. Stay golden beautiful.

To my Newspaper ladies,  
Thanks for dealing with my reign of terror. You guys are hawt. -Dictator Brielle

Beauty is pain, our friendships true,  
I was wondering if you'd be my boo.  
-To Ariella

Happy Valentines Day, Kareem! I'm so glad that we're spending our second one together :) Only infinity more to go! I hope I make you as happy as you make me. I love you baby, forever and always. 11-11-11 <3 -Love, Juliet

Dear Haley Paul,  
You're the most beautiful girl in the whole world. -Love, Matt Hoelzle <3

Abby Bedesem,  
You are the love of my life, my one and only!  
-Daulton Fox

Ben Stern!  
You're the best fake boyfriend! <3  
-Love Court <3

Hey LL!  
I love you Brielle! You've been my best since freshman year. Forever & always -Casey

Maddie! You are my bestest friend I love you baby girl (: -Love Brienne

To my 4th period AP/AE 12 – ssshhh you are my favorite

Marissa Slaven,  
You are my octopus, always giving a hand.  
#crazy -Love, Ricky Lucas

Horchheimer and B holes gone wild tonight at “the tooth”... be there or nah?

Sarah,  
You are my polished rock -Love, Joe

Greg Yeager,  
I always admire your gray sweat suit from across the room in stat class.

Codi,  
I get a kick out of you. -John

Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around every once in a while, you could miss it.  
-Ferris

Evan Reinhart,  
I may never understand you and you may never understand me but that's just the way the world turns. -Your friend, John Thomas

To the Playwickian staff,  
Thank you for all that you do each year.  
-Anonymous

Pete, Kyle, Brandon, Vinny, Ricky, Zach, Ziggy, Dom, Matt, Codi, Sarah, Fran, Gretch, Kylie, Hannah and Kirsten; thanks for an awesome four years. -Love, John

Dear Badgers,  
DYNAMITE GAL DYNAMITE GAL  
DYNAMITE GAL DYNAMITE GAL  
DYNAMITE GAL DYNAMITE GAL  
-Caroline

Roro,  
I love you. Will you be mine?  
-Love, your secret admirer

Still missing you, Jenna Taylia

Vicky, You're my best friend and I love you! We're getting married someday!  
-From Andrew

Happy Valentines day Sunflower! I love you!

Hey Megan!  
You da bomb! You are the best!  
-Love, Ryan Erney

Dear Miya,  
My heart burns for you like a thousand suns.  
-Be Mine, Reed

To my 1<sup>st</sup> period A.P. Psychology class...  
You are lovely & you make me happy when skies are gray...  
So bring back the sunshine! <3 Mrs. Markey

4<sup>th</sup> period lunch:  
N O M N O M N O M N O M ;  
MEEEEEEEATBALL; NOM NOM;  
REUBENS & FRIES; NOM; LIGHTS  
OUT; NOM; FILL'ER UP!; GOSSIP KING'  
D.L.; YEAH YA DID; NOM NOM NOM  
NOM NOM!

Jake Kramer,  
You are the derivative to my function. Every time you speak en francaise, my heart soars. If life's a party, then you're the party pro. When it comes to my love for you, the limit f (<3) does not exist. -Ta am! toujours

To my Nesh fockey loves,  
Clear eyes, full hearts... you're all trolls.  
Happy V-day ladies!

To Andrew,  
Roses are red, violets are blue, I'm bad at poems... Yea. Happy Valentines Day!  
-Amanda Grace

Thank you Styles for making me egg on toast every morning -boo, London

2nd Period – You're my favorite (:  
-Ms. Drake

Tyler Lewandowski,  
Your style makes me smile, marry me? Prom? -xox Secret Admirer

Hambone!

Shnukums,  
Thankz for always being there for me. You're the bestest, love you.  
-Sam Fario

Dear Soph,  
Hey Sophieeee! I love the stuff we notice & laugh about. Love ya sug!  
-Sister  
Dear Sean,  
You're my best friend & boyfriend. I love you. 102311 forever & always. Xo  
-Love, Leanya

Dearest Darrel,  
Your cripple DJ skills will never live up to mine. -Brianna Spause

I have a big crush on Ryan Mongillio. He is so cute <3

To Anita Moore,  
I love you. I'll do anything for an A...  
-From, Jerry Morris

5th Period – You're our favorite (:  
-Ms. D + Mrs. T

Mike Cassell is a sexy beast! But Josh is sexier by a lot. Hi Maddy Mac.

Hey Albright, Will told me to say he loves you. Yes, that Will.  
-Love, Rob

Matt Miller,  
Your style is impeccable. We wish we were you.  
-Love SWUG xoxo

Hailey is the cutest girl ever and I love her so much -Devon DiCeasare

Dan Johnson,  
I love the way you scratch my ear Crimson Chin forever. -Love, Jessie

To my 3rd period AP AE 12 – ssshhh you are my favorite

Bryanna Spouse,  
As you type this, know I lahve yew. Totally worth \$1 -xo Kier

Dear Amanda Wintz,  
I LOVE YOU! You have been my best friend for 3 years!

Hey Sora, I'm single. -Riku

Why are there mannequin legs in the window?

Jo McMahon  
We have been friends for 3 years and you know everything about me. Prom. <3

Dear Dave Adler,  
Keep doin' what you're doing champ.  
-Love, Malloree Mason

Brendan,  
Your cookies entice me. I can dress up as Nicholas Cage if you want me to.... Be mine -Love, Lauren

Devin,  
Your majestic figure inspires me to go far in life or something. -Heart Illya

Matt Hoelzle,  
I love you so much, you are the perfect boyfriend! -Love, Haley

Dear Em Bedesem  
Your luscious twerking skills made me fall in love with you. I have a lock of your hair saved in my binder. Prom?  
-xo, someone special (;

To my 6th period AE Honors 12 – ssshhh you are my favorite

Dear Darell,  
We love you! You're an awesome actor.  
-From, Drama Class Period 6

8th Period – You're my favorite (:  
-Ms. Drake

The English Department is the best!

To our friends at Woods:  
Thank you for giving us an opportunity to play games, paint nails and laugh. You brighten our day  
-Your friends from NHS Interact

To our Reading Olympions,  
We're looking forward to a blue ribbon year (or a lot of laughter)! -D&L

Interact Club – You make the world a better place (: -Drake

Crucible Company –  
Still thinking about your wonderful performance! Δ

Bug,  
It's hard to believe you're a teenager!  
-Love ya, Ant

Dear Sol,  
Love me! -Lovve,  
Eridan Ampora

Dear Senora Jennings,  
You are awesome!  
Even if you can't say some words! -A student

Dear Caroline,  
Your furniture looks good from your front lawn. -Love Dark Knight

Kurloz,  
You're my best friend! You calm me down. Even if you're mute, I hear you out!  
-Mituna

To Elizabeth from James.  
We always have great conversations. You tell what I need to hear, instead of what I want to. You're the best (:

Rob Clark, Card last year, love line this year. Movin' up in the world. -Love, KK

Erika Walter  
It's been two spectacular months lets add another 2. I hope you will always feel the same as I do.  
-James Tuttle

Victor  
We're my favorite interracial couple. You da the bomb.com -Caroline (Gingerbread)

Dear Kyle,  
When you look at me I shake and tremble. Please love me?

Amelia Possenriede,  
I love you more than anything, be my valentine? -Yours forever, Cam Jansen

Roses are red, violets are blue. Briana Koller will you be my valentine?

Dear Brooke;  
I love you no matter what!  
-Love Christian

Dear Briana Koller,  
I fell deep for you. You don't know me but I love you and you know that you will always be in my heart forever.  
-Anonymous

Dear Brooke Diamond,  
I love you bestie. You're my other valentine!  
Love, Briana

1st Period – You're our favorite (:  
-Ms. D + Mrs. T

Brooke I have to tell you something. I am so deeply in love with you.

I love you with my entire heart. You are my other half and I honestly will always love you until breath and life ends Trevor. -Love Diana Bravo, True Love

Julia – I love you so much. I wish you loved me back. -Your secret admirer

Amanda Wharton,  
You make English class a grand old time. “Fos Ro Doh!” -From James

Christian,  
And I remember that fight,  
Everything was slipping out of our hands. Braced myself for the “Goodbye”  
You surprised me, said “I’ll never leave you alone” – TS  
Mine? -J

Dear Dakota Montgomery,  
I love you so much, will you be my valentine? -Love, Briana

Dillan DeCaro,  
You are my best friend and the love of my life. Thank you for making all of my dreams come true. I was and always will be, enchanted to meet you.  
-Love Always and Forever, Ashley

I LOVE MY KIDS IN THE FCS MAJOR!  
-Mrs. Macauley

Dear Cait,  
I don't even know where to begin. In a week it'll be a year for us and its been an amazing year. You're the best thing that's ever happened to me and asking you out was the best thing I've ever done. You make me the happiest guy in the world baby; you're perfect <3 -Love, Tom

Virginia Anselmy,  
Thanks for letting me put my drink in your locker. -Love, Anna Banana

Dear Mrs. Markey,  
Are you a conditioned stimulus, cuz you're making me drool. -Love, Steve

Follow me on INSTAGRAM @PANTHERKING

Dear Kelli Simpson,  
You're my best friend ever and you were the first person I called when she died. You are my rock and I love you like a sister. Happy Valentines Day!

Fortune cookies for Valentines Day! Ily  
-<3 Lydia

Dear Emma Leibowitz, -Love Miya

The Game – Love, Brian John Martin  
  
Miya Syvyk is the most beautiful person on the entire planet. She is my Ukrainian -Love, Emma

Molly MacDonald,  
You are beautiful and perfect and I love you. -xo Dan Johnson

I LOVE MY NUTRITION KIDS!  
-Mrs. Macauley

Dear Scott Egan,  
You are beautiful.  
-From Mark Kruike

Dear Ryan Eisenacher, I wanna swim with you on the lakes of Naboo.

John;  
Every time I think of you my heart races like an Integra -Love, Sam

I love you and miss you so much!  
Happy Valentines day.  
To Juliet -Love, Maria Zeigler

Heart to Heart Hand to Hand Me + You Will always be friends Till the end.

Dear Mark,  
I love you. That's my secret, no hearts or pretty drawings. No poems or cryptic messages. Just I love you. -Liz

Lauren Creamer  
“You got your hands up, you're rocking in my truck.” -Love Snackaroo

Dear Zeus, I love the way you click when you spin. -Love, The Sweatshop

Melissa! Happy V-day. I'm so glad to have a friend like you. Love you! -Juliet

Dear Paige Walsh,  
From Martha Corey to Macbeth, you've always taken away my breath. I can't think of another rhyme, would you like to go out some time? -Love Derek Cvetkovic

Dear Chocolate and Mocha,  
HI THE PERIOD DREAM TEAM!  
-Love Caramel and Vanilla

Hey! Hope you are reading this! You are super sweet and very kind toward me, you are also hilarious! -Nina Macelko

I LOVE YOU KaKes, -Love, Chris

Dear Chris,  
You smell and we aren't friends cause you're a stag. I love you. -Kahley

Mr. DiCicco,  
You are my dresden. -From, Josh

Dear Ashley Smith  
Sup homes? -Love always, Anna Marie

To Mrs. Wikinson  
You are the bee's knees  
-Love, Josh

You are everything I could ask for and more, I love you Glory so much  
-From: Isaiah Flores

Dear Jack Haines,  
You are the love of our lives. We stalk you from a not-so-creepy distance. Please don't file a restraining order.  
-Love Katie, Jillian & Maddie

ASHLEY TITLER  
I watch you dance. Yoga pants are nice.

Mr. August,  
Cats are cool, I love cats, cats love you, alias.

Bailey McHugh,  
You're always on my mind, I think of you all the time and I'd like to get to know you. So will you go out with me? -Hashim Pratt

Dear Mr. Houseman,  
The Protestant Reformation was caused by and extraordinarily intricate interplay of factors.

DiCocoa, No dang cat. No dang cradle. Now tell me about the rabbits. -Andrew Wright

Dear Hope,  
You wear the pants. I love you.  
Love, Matt

Moaz Moazzam,  
My love for you is greater than you could imagine. -From Anonymous

Amanda Grace, You are the most beautiful, sweetest girl I've ever know. -From Andrew

Christian, You're so cute and I wuv you so much! -Love Panda baby

Loved you yesterday. Love you still always have always will -Anonymous

Mr. August,  
My cat ran away to live with aliens, thanks for dealing with this. -Spiderman

Happy Valentines to Trevor Newman and Chris Mongillo. We miss you guys.  
-Anonymous

John,  
I've deduced from my dilated pupils and elevated pulse that I love you. -Sherlock

To Everyone,  
You're hot. Every single one of you. Seriously. All of you. -Jack Harkness

True love usually comes once a lifetime. I'm glad it was with you. -Anonymous

To Castiel, You're a baby in a trench coat. But it's alright. I dig it. -From Dan

Everybody go to Late Night With Howler! Friday, February 15th in the art gallery from 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Nic Cage, I will always love you, John me too ::) -Vri8ka

D- Dirty Money.  
Whether completing the square of Quadratic formulating you're #n-o - Your favorite.

Roses are red, violets are Blue. You're an idiot, but I love you. -Karkat

To Angela Dillon,  
To the girl whose beauty is present in all seasons I tell you why you are beautiful, here are the reasons:

Your beauty extends into the heavens, it goes on forever and never lessens. Even when the clouds heighten you are here and the world brightens. You are like a fruit that constantly ripens. Your beauty continues to grow no matter what happens.

You make everything else appear hollow. Where ever you are loveliness is sure to follow. You shine so bright you case you own shadow. A beauty that others would love to borrow. But try as they might your beauty they will never catch because something like you they could never match. Your beauty seems to increase with every breathe It tests the limits my imagination can stretch. It makes me question if what I am seeing is real I only know it is true by the way that I feel. Your beauty is so vast it can't be concealed There is no hiding it, your beauty is always revealed.

The power of your beauty is the world's greatest gift The heaviest boulder it could easily lift. A girl this perfect I never knew All that changed the moment I met you. Heaven on Earth I was not aware Until I met a girl that was crafted with such care. You would be the answer to a prayer If someone asked for something rare with beauty to spare. If I had a choice I would choose this girl over air or air can't compare to a girl not found elsewhere.

-Love, Aaron Alexander

## ~Huber~

It takes a special person to reign in 20 teenagers. Thank you for all you do for us, there can only be one T. Money\$\$  
<3 2012-13 Playwickian Staff



# Horchheimer creating an exciting learning environment

By **Tiffany McMahon**  
*Circulation Editor*

Eric Horchheimer is a joyful, captivating man who can take a class of bored kids and turn it into a room full of engaging education. In his high school days, he participated in track and cross country. He wasn’t much of an activity

person. After graduating, he went to Bucks County Community College for two years and finished his studies at Indiana University of Pennsylvania for his Bachelor’s in Secondary education with a minor in Geology. He then went onto Holy Family University to earn his Masters of Secondary Education.

He has always loved science-even

though at times he did find it challenging. He used to do observations at Carl Sandburg Middle School with Connie Welkie and Caroline Booz. He realized while working in these settings that he really enjoyed helping students. He finds it very rewarding for students and teachers when learning occurs. After student teaching at Carl Sandburg he began subbing at Neshaminy High School and now is on his fourteenth year of being a full time teacher at the high school.

“I really enjoy the interactions I have with my students. Class discussions as a part of learning help to facilitate retention – and allow me to explore otherwise uncovered material. Usually, we can learn about three different topics that relate to whatever is being discussed in class; but, that is usually due to a student asking a leading question. It’s the spontaneous part

of the classroom experience that really shapes the lesson,” Horchheimer said.

“Mr. Horchheimer is such a noodle,” senior Kelsey Fuller said, “He’s really fun and interactive and makes it more interesting to learn.” Not only does he give the information needed for the lesson but he does it in a positive energetic way that doesn’t make kids want to doze off in class.

“I look forward to his class every day. He can brighten my mood.” Senior, Paige Walsh said. Great memories are made every day in Eric’s classroom, when asked his most memorable moment he said, “Every year has its most memorable moments. It’s hard to just pick one.”

Horchheimer is a wonderful teacher. He provides his students with so much knowledge in an enjoyable manner.

## Spanish and French National Honor Society Induction

Felicitaciones a los miembros de 2013  
de la Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica:

Javier Barrios  
Samantha Browning  
Morgan Carroll  
Sopiko Darschiashvili  
John Gallagher  
Julie Gomez  
Daniel Gritsyuk  
Jeffrey Hackett  
Zachary Heinemann  
Janice Joseph  
Alyson Kinney  
Anna Luff  
Delaney Kusters  
Michael Lehrich  
Devon Mazzanti  
Samantha O’Donnell  
Dhaval Patel  
Rachel Rotteveel  
Julia Staub  
Elizabeth Tchagalidze  
Victoria Vogt  
Gregory Yeager

Félicitations aux membres de la Société  
Honoraire de Français de 2013

Carly Bianco  
Lisa Carpenter  
Jen Harasim  
Rachael Kass  
Sara Keating  
Taeck Kim  
Annie Kopera  
Jake Kramer  
Kelly Larson  
Patrick Lentz  
Valerie Lynn  
Melanie Matyi  
Jon Mettus  
Corinne Nelson  
Elise Reardon  
Juliette Rihl  
Natalie Smolin  
Elizabeth Tchagalidze  
Lidia Tkach  
Lauren Wilson  
Lauren Zacharias  
Deanna Zaro



Eric Horchheimer balances teaching with his witty humor. Photo/Brielle Ballantine

# Howler

**My Final Goodbye**  
~Jessica Bussmann

This isn’t easy,  
It’s been far too long  
But now I must say goodbye to you

All the plans in my head that will never  
come true  
All the time wasted, waiting for you to  
come through.

I have always known, but now I must act,  
I cannot waste time on someone who  
doesn’t feel back.  
It’s not a clean break  
Of this I am sure

You’re still special to me,  
Anyone can see.  
With one final hug, everything’s done.  
Goodbye to you, I thought you were the  
one.

~Drawing/Alison Thompson  
~Edits/Brielle Ballantine

**I Remember**  
~ Sarah Dawson

Heavy were the lids of my eyes as they opened,  
The colors of sherbet painted across the morning sky.  
Coolness wraps around me,  
as I bob gently in the water;  
This pool I remember.  
The blue hue in the tiles.  
The rusty diving board.  
With a fading will my eyes begin to close.  
But before I doze off,  
I remember.  
I remember my burning lungs and rugged breath  
before the dark closed over me.  
As I awake from the lull of my dreams,  
The sweet gold and pink heavens catch my eye.  
Under the skies, lies a buoyant figure in the clear waters of my pool.  
I clutch to the wall, chocking on air;  
The face of the figure of the body is my son.  
Thoughts flood through my head until  
I remember.  
I remember the pledge.  
The pledge shortly made after his wife’s diagnosis.  
His plan was to run,  
Run where ever his feet and heart took him  
For her,  
and for himself.  
I dream of her.  
I remember her last smile,  
The smile,  
before her heart rate went flat on the monitor.  
I remember our runs through the city,  
the park,  
where ever we pleased.  
I remember my feet and their desire to carry me away.  
Through the parking lot,  
down a countless number of streets.  
I remember finding the white picket fence,  
opening the gate,  
Entering the calmest place in the middle of the storm.  
The gentle rocks of my parent’s pool,  
By the house that built me,  
that built my life.  
I remember.

*“Beginnings are usually scary and  
endings are usually sad, but it’s every-  
thing in between that makes it all worth  
living.”*  
~Anonymous

**Not Just Memories**  
~Erin Coyle

I remember  
Not a broken box  
But a pool of memories  
Of times old and forgotten

Not a yellowing photo  
But the heat of that summer  
Her floral dress and crinkled smile

Not a worn baseball  
But my first ball game  
My dad’s rare, proud grin

Not a dusty pair of glasses  
But her sparkling green eyes  
And a mothers warm touch

I remember  
Not just memories  
No, I remember life

### Howler Literary Magazine Staff

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Don’t wait too long! Submit your work to: [neshaminyhowler@gmail.com](mailto:neshaminyhowler@gmail.com)



Super Bowl XLVII: Hall of fame linebacker retires a champion

By Tom Sottnick  
Archivist

With brothers Jim and John Harabaugh coaching against each other, and future hall of fame middle linebacker Ray Lewis playing in his last NFL game many assumed that Super Bowl XLVII would be a great one. This year’s super bowl in New Orleans went down to the wire.

The Baltimore Ravens started out fast and after a 13 yard touchdown pass from Joe Flacco to Anquan Boldin the Ravens led seven to nothing. San Francisco came back and before the closing minutes of the first quarter scored on a 36 yard field goal from David Akers and after the first quarter Baltimore led seven to three.

No one thought that the Ravens would dominate the next quarter like they did. Joe Flacco added two more touchdown passes a one yarder to Dennis Pitta, and a 56 yard strike to Jacoby Jones which gave the Ravens a 21 to three lead. Colin Kaepernick and the Forty Niners offense struggled and were only able to score on a 27 yard David Akers field goal.

Accolades continue piling up for two-sport junior



By Reed Hennessy  
Sports Editor

Starting at Point Guard, Junior and Captain Megan Schafer leads the Lady ’Skins each and every game while playing like a teammate and sharing the ball. With a combination of speed, athleticism and an unselfish attitude with the ball, she is near impossible to defend on the court.

“For being such a gifted athlete and student Megan is a very humble down to earth person,” said Head Coach Joe Lally. Averaging nine and a half points, seven point one assists and six point two assists per game Schafer is both a leader and team player.

To simply put it, Schafer practices like her team is in second, but plays like they’re in first. “With all her talents she continues to work very

hard on a daily basis to improve her game,” said Lally. All around, the Lady ’Skins basketball team is a dominate force spearheaded by Schafer on and off the hardwood.

As a captain, Schafer is an amazing leader and as the point guard Schafer displays her ability to survey the court quickly and giving her team the opportunity to put points on the board. Schafer leads by example both on and off the court.

“Personally, I had high expectations on our team just knowing that we were a young team last year, so this year we had a lot of experience,” said Schafer. Schafer has certainly proved herself this year, bringing Neshaminy to first place.

Not only excelling in basketball, Schafer has also been named the 2012 High School Soccer Player of the Year by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. “I just thought it was crazy that I actually got recognized for it and that coaches nominated me for it,” said Schafer. Coached by Rachel Clemens the 2012 Southeastern Pennsylvania Coach of the Year.

Schafer has been an offensive force since her first year at the high school and it is not changed since. Schafer has accounted for 50 of the goals scored by the ’Skins this past season with a team leading record of 27 goals and 23 assists.



After going undefeated in the Suburban One League National Division, and finishing third in the District 1 class AAA; the Skins would advance to the state quarterfinals. Schafer proved to be a key player in this game, especially when she converted a penalty kick that put the Skins on the scoreboard.

Schafer’s ability to survey the field quickly as well as, if not better than, her opponent’s which allows to her show off her individual ability of scoring, and her un-selfish attitude with the ball as well. Her speed, combined with her ability to control the ball absolutely destroys any opposition in her way. On top of this; Schafer is able to muscle her way into goals in the box.

If she is beat, which doesn’t happen often, she is relentless in getting the ball back. This is just Schafer’s junior year; senior year should prove to be even better. Accomplishing what a senior couldn’t even imagine, what is in store for next year will prove to be incredible.

Basketball is just one of the many sports she plays in which she excels.  
*Photo/ Josh Einbinder- Schatz*

After half time San Francisco was down 21 to six. After the first play in the second half they were down 28 to six as Jacoby Jones made another big play returning the kick 108 yards for the touchdown. “I thought it was over after Jones took that kick back,” said Junior Tim Span. After all hope seemed lost for the Forty Niners the game was suspended for 34 minutes due to a power. This swung the momentum in San Francisco’s favor as they went on to score 17 unanswered points.

Colin Kaepernick threw a 31 touchdown pass to Crabtree, Frank Gore ran it in from six yards, and David Akers nailed a 34 yard field goal as the Niners closed the gap to a five point deficit. The Ravens had a successful drive that yielded them a field goal as rookie kicker Justin Tucker hit from 19 yards away to make it an eight point game.

San Francisco’s offense stayed hot as Colin Kaepernick scored on a 15 yard rushing touchdown. But the Niners couldn’t convert and they gave the ball back to the Ravens down by two. Baltimore then had another good drive and after a made 38 yard field goal from Justin Tucker went up by a score of 34 to 29.

The 49ers drove the ball down and inside two minutes had a first and goal with the ball on the five yard line. Three straight plays failed to yield San Francisco a single yard and on fourth down they went for the win. It was perhaps the most controversial call of the game.

49ers head coach Jim Harabaugh was furious at the official for what he believed to be a holding call on Michael Crabtree on the Forty Niners final play of the drive. Win the ball Baltimore ran out the clock and won Super bowl XLVII.

Joe Flacco was named MVP as he threw for 287 yards on 22 Of 33 passing with three touchdowns and no interceptions. With the linebacker Ray Lewis was able to retire as a champion, quarterback Joe Flacco silenced some of his critics, and Coach John Harabaugh finally won the Super Bowl after coming short each of the last five seasons.

Signing Day:Continued from page 1

Andrews has yet to play baseball in his senior year, but the ceiling is high for this college bound athlete. In his junior year, Andrews batted .356 with 16 runs batted in and a .431 on base percentage. He shows patience and effective play both as a position player and a pitcher.

Star softball pitcher Lauren Quense committed to Fordham University, “I picked Fordham because of its academic reputation, its location cause it’s in the Bronx and I fell in love with the campus; they have a really good softball team with great coaches & players.” Quense also has yet to play her senior season thus far, but as always, expectations are high for the Neshaminy girls.

In addition to Quense, two other star softball players signed their letters of intent on Wednesday. Diana LaPalombara committed to St. Francis University and Julia McGovern to Quinnipiac University.

“First time on campus I felt at home; everyone was very welcoming and inviting. Going into pre-med. will be a lot, let alone playing softball at a D1 level. The school is very accommodative when it comes to their student athletes,” LaPalombara said on her choice. “I couldn’t pass up on a school that seems perfect for me, where I can develop as a student and a person,” She added.

As for McGovern’s commitment, “I chose Quinnipiac, because they offer everything that I am considering going into, it’s also a beautiful campus and I really like my coach. They also showed a lot of interest in me so I knew that they actually wanted me to play there.”

All three players earned recognition from the Pennsylvania Softball Coaches Association, each of them making it onto the All-SOL team. The players will look to improve last year’s stellar season and hopefully advance to the PIAA State championships this year.

Captain of the boys’ soccer team, Austin Transue signed his letter of intent to Bloomsburg University, “I picked Bloom because it was the right fit for me. It wasnt too far away, it was the perfect size, and it has my major,” he said on his decision. Transue was one of many playmakers on the boys’ team this year, earning a spot on the 2012 Suburban One All League Boys’ Soccer first team.

The most recent addition to the bunch was another standout two-sport athlete, Cody Minnig. He signed his letter of intent to Penn State University. Minnig, much like Transue, earned recognition as an honorable mention on the Suburban One All-League Boys’ Soccer team.

Minnig has earned many accolades as a sprinter and a long-jumper, even manning the 4x100 team that shattered the Neshaminy record with a time of 42.15 seconds.

Some of Neshaminy’s finest athletes solidified their futures in the past week, and only time will tell how their collegiate careers will pan out. As for right now, however, some of the stresses of senior year are alleviated for a few athletes, “I feel that I have been rewarded for the hard work I have out in since a little girl. Later in life, I can say that I was one of the eight kids who signed with a D1 college.” Diana LaPalombara said.

Congratulations to the girls’ basketball team

The girls beat Pennsbury 44-33, on feb. 8, winning the 2013 SOL National Conference title.

Go ’Skins



# Bowling teams roll into Eastern Regionals

By Vinny Frazzetto  
Sports Editor

The Neshaminy bowling teams had equally impressive regular seasons, with the girls’ team owning a record of 44-10, while the boys’ team finished with a record of 34-20. Although the teams’ regular season have ended, the girls’ team earned a trip to the Eastern Regionals for the first time in Coach Gale Donohue’s three year tenure. Three individual bowlers also earned a trip. Girls’ team captain, Amy Campbell, owes the success of the team being motivated, “Our success this year is definitely because of our major



Senior Captain Amy Campbell is a representation of the hard work put forward by the 'Skins.  
Photo/ Josh Einbinder-Schatz

determination to bowl well and win our matches, but not only do we bowl to win, we bowl to have fun,” Campbell said. The success of the girls’ team this season has been attributed to the meshing of bowlers as a unit, “There is a selfless cohesion between the bowlers; they focus on the team as a whole,” Donohue said. The ‘Skins team is led by senior Amy Campbell, with an average of 170 and a game high score of 212, as well as senior Lauren Creamer, “the power-bowler” so dubbed by Donohue, with an average of 145. The team is also led by sophomore Kaeli McMaster with a 171 average, and sophomore Becah Edleman with an average of 168.

Though the season is coming to a close, it is far from over. The girls will tackle the Eastern Regional tournament, “This is my first year going, and I’d really like to win it,” Donohue said. As for the boys, they will finish in fourth place in the SOL National Conference. Additionally they earned a trip to the Eastern Regionals as a team, with having five individuals qualifying. Second year Coach Anthony Vizzini enjoys the company and fortitude his team displays. “I’m impressed by their ability to fight back when behind and how much they learned over the year and years,” Vizzini said. He added, “Sometimes I wonder who the coach is.” The team is led by strong leadership of assistant captains senior Bill Calvert and junior Devon Williams, as well as

from Captain Cody Costantini. While the team goes to these bowlers for leadership, there are many underclassmen that also helped carry the team into the Eastern Regionals. Sophomore Dave Moffit, with a 201 average and a game high score of 290 and sophomore Holden Tisone, with 196 average have aided the team throughout the season. While the team performs well individually, Coach Vizzini attributes the success of the team to “Team bonding and brotherhood; the team sees itself as a group of brothers, not just teammates. They work with one another, help and coach each other.” With the season all but over, the Neshaminy bowling teams will look to go out with a bang and perform to the best of their abilities. The bowlers look to win the Eastern Regionals and take down rival, and bowling powerhouse, Pennsbury.



Senior Joe Falkowski follows through on his roll in a game against the Pennsbury Falcons.  
Photo/ Josh Einbinder-Schatz

## Conference realignment shakes up NCAA landscape

By Josh Einbinder-Schatz  
Photo/Graphics Editor

When talking about college athletics, all of the money lies in football. It’s that money, and lucrative television deals, that have led to the numerous conference switches in college athletics, since 2010. Louisville, Maryland, Missouri, Notre Dame, Pitt, Syracuse, and West Virginia are only a small handful of the programs that are switching conferences. Since April 15, 2010, when the University of South Dakota became the first school to announce a conference change, over 120 schools have announced similar moves to new conferences. As of now, there are no signs of this realignment period being over. DePaul, Georgetown, Marquette, Providence, Seton Hall, St. John’s, and Villanova are the schools that make up ‘The Catholic Seven.’ The Catholic Seven announced on December 14, 2012, that they would be breaking away from the Big East Conference to form their own conference, undoubtedly the most dramatic move in this most recent conference realignment period. “It’s confusing because I don’t know what teams are in what conferences anymore. I don’t know what conferences exist, and some schools in certain conferences don’t make sense geographically,” said senior Matt Pierson. These sentiments have been echoed by many, mainly in regards to the Big East -- once, regularly the best conference for college basketball every year -- whose future is still unknown, and has new members as far west as Houston. When looking at the benefits of conference realignment, it is important to consider things from three, main viewpoints: the university, the student athletes, and the fans. As with many other things, there are winners and losers. Some schools will benefit financially, make more money, and elevate their athletic programs, while other schools will be left out, making the same or even less money, and their athletic programs remaining flat. For college basketball, two of the biggest winners have been Butler University and Virginia Commonwealth University, both of whom

moved into the Atlantic 10 Conference, from the Horizon League and the Colonial Athletic Association, respectively. During the 2010 season, Butler reached the national championship game, and during 2011 both teams made the final four, with Butler reaching the national championship game for the second consecutive year. With the move, both schools will be making more money, while also improving the levels of their programs by competing at a higher level. For college football, one of the biggest winners was University of Nebraska. By switching into the Big Ten Conference, they not only add prestige to their program, but also will make much more money from their new conference. Nebraska has competed in bowl games for four straight seasons, and the program is seemingly still on the rise. Those hurt most by conference realignment are the schools that are in the lower level conferences, that had teams leave. The large majority of schools that switched conferences, switched to a better conference. They also were, for the most part, one of the premier teams in their old conference. This hurts the rest of the conference because the level of competition has been lowered and the schools will likely be making less money off of their athletic programs. As of now, the NCAA landscape is becoming a little more clear to navigate, and conference realignment has slowed down a lot since starting almost three years ago. Once the Catholic Seven announce their final plans, that’s sure to bring about another small rush of schools switching conferences, and it will be even clearer then, who the true winners and losers of conference realignment are.



Media Credit: MCTCampus

## Boys’ basketball team suffers winless season

By Tom Sottnick  
Archivist

It’s been a tough year for the Neshaminy ‘Skins boys’ varsity basketball team. The ‘Skins are still looking for a win as they approach the latter part of the season as Neshaminy is in last place in the National Conference with an overall record of no wins and 18 losses, and a conference record of no wins and 21 losses. Last year was a rare season for Neshaminy. They had a losing record and failed to make the postseason and this year new challenges have presented themselves. The ‘Skins came into this year having lost a lot of talented and experienced players such guards Ryan Arcidiacno, and Tyler Katz. With some of the newer players not being able to step up the team has suffered this season. The ‘Skins have struggled on both sides of the ball this year only averaging 36 points per game, and giving up an average of 60 points per game. Neshaminy has been beat seven times this year by 30 or more points: 72 to 40 against Boys Latin Charter School, 67 to 24 against Plymouth Whitemarsh, 59 TO



Junior Jaylen Pickett beats the defense on a fast break on route to a layup in a loss to the Bensalem Owls, 67-48.  
Photo/ Josh Einbinder-Schatz

24 against Harry S. Truman, twice against Abington 56 to 22 on the road and 77 to 38 at home, 65 to 35 against Pennsbury, and 68 to 28 against Bensalem. There may be a few bright spots this season for the ‘Skins. Many underclassmen are getting plenty of experience with only four seniors on the team this year. Junior Jaylen Pickett leads the team in scoring averaging 9.7 points per game, and has scored more than 14 points five times this season including a season high 19 against William Tennet. The boys basketball team is five games away from closing a season that they would like to forget. “The fact that we haven’t won a game yet isn’t stopping us from playing as hard as we can play,” senior Mark Leonhauser said. During those five games it will be interesting to see how some of the underclassmen perform with nearly a full season of varsity experience, and if the Redskins can try and gather some momentum for next year by winning a few games and having their younger players try to continue to develop their skills.



# Society’s new love for the nerd lifestyle

By Brianna Spause  
Special Features Editor

Media portrayal plays an incredibly strong role in affecting the opinions and actions of its viewers. Instead of encouraging violence and other bad behaviors, TBS and CBS have teamed up to take a new spin on entertainment – drawing a positive light into the world of intelligence, and essentially making it cool to carry the title of a ‘nerd’.

2013 has changed the face of the common ‘nerd’, with new episodes of shows such as “The Big Bang Theory” and “King of the Nerds” every week. The media attention brought towards these groups of highly intelligent characters has shed a positive light on a previously mocked culture of intelligence.

The “Big Bang Theory” follows a socially awkward group of scientists and their female counterparts through their day-to-day routine. The hour long sitcom, unlike any other comedy out currently has proved to be a huge hit, rolling into their sixth season and has reached the landmark of 20 million viewers for the first time on Jan. 10.

“King of the Nerds” is an up-and-coming game show that aired on Jan. 17. “Revenge of the Nerd’s” stars Robert Carradine and Curtis Armstrong developed an unscripted competition in which eleven contestants will compete in “Nerd-offs” – to determined who will leave, and who will continue on in “Nerdvana.”



11 Nerds compete for \$10,000 and to see who is “King of the Nerds” on a new television show on TBS. Courtesy/ tbs.com

Closely related to the impact “Revenge of the Nerds” had upon its release in 1984, the combination of these two shows have lifted the negative stigma closely associated with being a ‘nerd’. This can be related to the comedy element these shows bring.

“It completely alters the original stereotype of being a nerd and replaces it with a familiar and more entertaining twist on the nerdy personality,” Junior James Tuttle said.

The entertainment value found through iconic movie references and hard facts adds a humanistic quality once missing from the portrayal of intelligence. Today’s ‘nerds’ are more relatable to mass audiences as opposed to their portrayal in the past. Times have shifted from “Family Matters’s” Steve Erkel, clad in bow tie and suspenders, to a more socially adapted group. Audiences loved Erkel, but no one wanted to be Erkel.

“The Big Bang Theory” portrays successful, intelligent men and women, who still find the time to socialize. According to the cover of the 5<sup>th</sup> season box set, “Smart is the new sexy.”

“King of the Nerds” contestants, quirky as they may be, also have an air of establishment about them. Jobs range from Planetary Protection Engineer to professional gamer, and many others in between. The addition of women to these programs also helps to deviate from the pre-established stereotype. The opening cast of the Nerds was an equal distribution of both men and women in order to create a fair opportunity for both sexes.

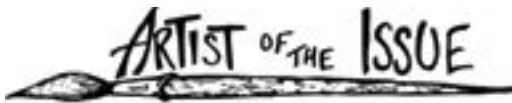
“The Big Bang Theory” sheds a positive light on intelligence. In the past, kids have been bullied for trying in school, but the new type of ‘nerd’ has made it acceptable to care about grades and friends without being confined to the old stereotype,” Sophomore Carly Curran said.

In an academic world, intelligence has always been an extremely important quality. In the social world however, now is the prime time to be a ‘nerd’.

“King of the Nerds” takes a gentle approach to the traditional reality show setting. Contestants are urged to reveal themselves to the camera, while avoiding the cattiness typically associated with the nature of the show.

The tides have changed, and 2013 has brought about the shift from a culture that cuts down intelligence to one that accepts, and utilizes their strengths. It is a great accomplishment to shift the ideals and agendas of a critical society, but thanks to shows like these outrageously funny shows – it has become cool to be a ‘nerd’.

# Graphic Design artist pursuing her passion



By Ashley Titler  
Entertainment and Circulation Editor

Senior Stephanie Jeronis has been interested in art and graphic design since she was a young child.

“I used to design birthday cards for family and friends on the computer,” Jeronis said, “at the time I didn’t even know that was considered Graphic Design.”

This interest in creating art and graphics grew with Jeronis over the years. It led to Jeronis creating posters, logos, business cards and even

T-shirts. Her favorite part about Graphic Design is using Photoshop for image manipulation and editing photos.

Jeronis took her interest more seriously when she began taking Graphic Design I her freshman year of high school and continued taking higher levels of Graphic Design during the rest of her high school career. Throughout the time Jeronis has spent at the high school her interest has transformed into a passion.

When beginning to consider her options as to where she wanted to attend college and what could potentially follow for her after graduating college, she chose to follow her passion. Jeronis reached the conclusion that she wanted to go to school for Graphic Design prior

to graduating.

Jeronis applied to Antonelli Institute, a school for students majoring in Graphic Design and photography. She started off her senior year with a call from Antonelli Institute congratulating her on her acceptance to the school.

After college Jeronis is not positive on the exact career she wishes to pursue but she knows she will definitely be pursuing something involving graphic design. “Graphic Design is a diverse industry where there are many opportunities and always a need for designers,” Jeronis stated.

Jeronis has taken her passion for Graphic Design and is taking the necessary steps to make it a profession.



Senior Stephanie Jeronis is a Graphic Design artist who will be studying the art at Antonelli Institute in the fall. Photo / Ashley Titler

# Hip City Veg: New hangout for hungry hipsters

By Brianna Spause  
Special Features Editor

Hip City Veg has done it. The small, quick-service restaurant has made the appeal to meat-eaters, vegans, and everyone in between. Their 100% plant-based menu offers a healthy alternative to fast food classics without suffering in the taste department.

Located on North 18th Street in Philadelphia’s Rittenhouse Square, Hip City Veg has been offering a deceptively all-vegan menu since they opened their doors in April of 2012.

Critics praise the restaurant’s ability to replicate the taste of classic meat favorites.

“Hip City Veg is always packed but the wait is worth it. An item like the Crispy HipCity Ranch sandwich tastes so much like actual chicken, you can forget it’s not. Self-described as “100% plant-based” foods, it’s hard to believe such a thing was even possible,” Danny Baron said in a Jan. 31 *The Couch Sessions* article.

Fast and friendly service, paired with a hearty, healthy meal make Hip

City Veg stand out amongst the crowd of fast food restaurants that plague the city. Their downfall comes in the small seating features of the restaurant. Approximately eight people can sit down comfortably; which is a mere fraction of the volume of customers bustling in and out.

Customers commonly find themselves taking the short walk to Rittenhouse Square Park to enjoy their meal in the peace of the park. The close location to the park cancels out the disappointing seating arrangements.

“I’m totally smitten with what owner Nicole Marquis and chef Lauren Hooks have done with the space, concept, packaging and food. Clean, smart design gives off a modern gleam, and the “fast food” satisfies on all levels, offering up the salty/fatty/sweet flavors that the human body craves, with a leaner and greener take,” vegetarian food critic Kelly Philips said in an April 2012 *Living on the Vedge* article.

Alongside healthy choices, Hip City Veg takes steps to supporting the environment. All packaging is 100%

compostable, as are leftovers at the end of the night. All deliveries are made by bicycle and the more daring unicycle.

“Getting better starts with what we put in our bodies; it extends to whether we live a life according to our principles,” Marquis reveals in their “Philosophy.”

Vegan or not, this unique restaurant is worth the trip down to the city, for a healthy and satisfying meal experience. The curious, and the conservative are welcome.



Hip City Veg is pulling in hungry, curious customers from around the Greater Philadelphia area with their 100% plant-based menu and trendy layout. The restaurant creates an appeal from Vegans, to meat eaters and everyone in between. Photo / Brianna Spause



# Breaking Up is Hard to Do

Formerly separated bands have been reuniting and coming out of retirement, just in time for Valentine's Day with new albums and performances all around the music-genre spectrum.

## Fall Out Boy officially out of retirement

By Gillian McGoldrick  
Entertainment Editor



Fall Out Boy burning old vinyls symbolically about how they are going to be changing routes with their new and upcoming album, "Save Rock and Roll"

Photo / FallOutBoyRock.com

The hiatus and courageous solo careers are over: Fall Out Boy has reformed to tour with their new album "Save Rock and Roll." This alternative rock band originating from Wilmette, Illinois and forming in 2001 has reestablished after their three-year break of different bands and solo careers.

"When we were kids the only thing that got us through most days was music. It's why we started Fall Out Boy in the first place. This isn't a reunion because we never broke up. We needed to plug back in and make some music that matters to us," the band wrote on their website to break the news to all of their fans. This sent their fan base into tears of excitement for this newly rested and freshly

tuned band. The band will be visiting the Electric Factory in Philadelphia on May 30.

According to MTV, the reason for their retirement was to save them from "basking in the glory days," and "do our best 2003 impersonation." Stump, Pete Wentz, Andy Hurley and Joe Trohman finished off their reformation post with, "The future of Fall Out Boy starts now. Save rock and roll..."

## Postal Service: Reunited and it feels so good

By Gillian McGoldrick  
Entertainment Editor

The Postal Service, an electropop duo by the names of Ben Gibbard and Jimmy Tamborello have come out of hiatus to tour and to re-issue a brand new anniversary addition of their platinum record "Give Up" from 2003. The two friends were never out of the music scene completely: Gibbard as vocalist for Death Cab for Cutie and Tamborello as producer of Dntel. This album will include some rarities, including two new songs featuring Jenny Lewis, with confirmation from her representative. The band announced the twelve-date tour on their official website, with some of the venues including the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival, the Primavera Sound Festival in Barcelona, and Sasquatch! Music Festival in Washington throughout the year.



Courtesy / mctcampus.com

"TO KNOW WHEN TO GO AWAY  
& WHEN TO COME CLOSER  
IS THE KEY TO ANY LASTING  
RELATIONSHIP."

- Doménico Cieri Estrada

## Fleetwood Mac 'Rumor' Tour coming to Philly



Courtesy / mctcampus.com

By Ashley Titler  
Entertainment and Circulation Editor

After a three year break Fleetwood Mac is going back on tour starting April 4. The band wanted to get back together for a tour last year but Stevie Nicks refused saying she needed more time for her solo album "In Your Dreams." Nicks also thought it was appropriate for Fleetwood Mac to wait another year to tour because then there would be a three year break since the last time they performed together. Nicks believed, with reassurance from the bands manager that waiting three years to go back on tour would help to draw a bigger crowd for tickets sales because it has been a longer window of time since the band has been together.

## Destiny's Child's Super Bowl reunion

By Ashley Titler  
Entertainment and Circulation Editor

Destiny's Child reunited during the halftime show at the Superbowl. Despite Michelle Williams denying the groups reunion during the Superbowl halftime show there was too much indication showing otherwise.

Destiny's Child had released a new single the Tuesday before the Superbowl. Also, Beyonce Knowles would not deny the Destiny's Child reunion and Williams had no other plans for Superbowl Sunday.

Williams and Kelly Roland joined Knowles in singing two of the groups' famous hits "Bootylicious" and "Independent Woman" following by performing Knowles song "Single Ladies" with her. The Superbowl halftime show is the first live performance Destiny's Child has given since 2006, just a year after the group split.

Knowles is talking about a possible world tour for herself, but as of right now there is no definite proof on whether or not Williams and Roland will be joining her.



Courtesy / mctcampus.com