

Hopewell Hi-Lites

1215 Longvue Avenue, Aliquippa, PA 15001

Keeping Hopewell's Halls Safe

BY: LAUREN TRIMBER



High School Principal Michael Allison, Hopewell Township Police Chief Brian Uhrmacher, Beaver Police Canine Officer Jeffrey Wijnen-Reims, Hopewell Township Officer James Lewis, and K-9 Officer Czar

When classroom doors are shut and everyone is ordered out of the hallway, nearly every student knows a drug check is taking place. Police officers, accompanied by dogs, patrol the hallways, scanning lockers.

In his effort to keep Hopewell students safe, Mr. Allison has continued a practice his predecessor established. He explained, "I've been a principal here for 16 years, and

they've come all 16. They're typically brought in when we can arrange a visit with different canine officers. Some years it's five times and other years it's only once or twice. A while ago, Hopewell had its own dog, so there were more drug checks then." He decides when to ask for a visit, but the amount and time of the checks are up to the police officers, depending on when they are available.

In the 16 years Mr. Allison has been at Hopewell High School, a few students have been found with drugs. "Those students have been prosecuted," Mr. Allison said. "I also think our student body knows it could happen at any time and therefore creates some hesitancy for students bringing drugs into school. Especially because if there's residual aroma on a jacket, the dogs can smell that even if it's from the night before."

Recently, one of the biggest questions surrounding the dogs is why they were not announced during their last check. As it turns out, the dogs haven't been announced during their last few visits. "We found that if they bring three dogs, they can do a pretty efficient scan of the building in 15 minutes, so we don't think it's necessary to disrupt the whole school by informing each individual. Plus, it essentially creates more of a surprise for kids who are hiding drugs," Mr. Allison said. However, he stressed

that Hopewell does not put students in danger. "Obviously, we're taking safety precautions because we place staff in the hallway and don't let students near the dogs."

With the success of the drug checks, Mr. Allison suggests that any school that does not already bring in dogs consider doing it. He appreciates all the officers who take the time to keep Hopewell's halls safe.

Mr. Allison is proud of the program, and he also disproved one misconception. When the dogs find something, they do not bark. On the contrary, they sit quietly awaiting the officer.

Thank you to the administration and the officers for keeping Hopewell's halls safe.

Mock Trial Makes History

BY: RACHAEL KRIGER

There were cheers, tears, and hugs all around the Beaver County Court House on February 9th when the Hopewell High School Mock Trial team won their trial and learned they would move on to the playoffs. It was the first time in Hopewell history, and they happily enjoyed their success. However, on February 17th, they were eliminated in a very close matchup against Quigley Catholic High School.

The sudden playoff elimination did not discourage the members of the team, who will have all but one of their members next

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Swing Batter, Batter, Swing!

BY: RACHAEL KRIGER

Senior Zeph Kraus has had the same goals throughout this baseball career: "Take it one game at a time and give 110% on the field." Zeph has been playing baseball for Hopewell since first grade and is currently an outfielder and pitcher.

Zeph, although not yet elected a team captain, considers himself a leader on the team. "Being a leader means leading by example and being willing to do the jobs that are hard and that nobody else wants to do. I do believe we have a team full of leaders." Zeph also credits his other seniors including Austin Meuser, Kyle Everette, Christian Piroli, Collin McElhaney, Christian Mallick, Patrick Speciale, and Daniel Kopycinski as also being big name leaders on their team, with their years of experience.

The team is also led by third-year Head Coach Mike Shuleski. He agrees with Zeph that the team is full of leaders. "The most important role for the success of the team is how they develop as leaders. Every team has leaders, typically seniors, but not every team has good leaders." Good leaders are what is needed for a team in a section with tough opponents such as Blackhawk.

Hopewell, as well as other section teams have a severe disadvantage in that there are three relatively unknown teams joining their section; those teams are Beaver, Ellwood City, and New Castle. However, Hopewell has

an advantage in another way, as Shuleski says that "every team that remains in our section from last year lost their top pitcher." Also to Shuleski's surprise, a new face and a former face have emerged on the team with a likely prospect in making the varsity squad. Sophomore Anthony Bonavita and freshman Mitch Heranic are two players Shuleski says he could see making the varsity team.



Photo courtesy of the Beaver County Times

It is the play and emergence of the two young players that influence Shuleski's "next man up" policy. "We are going to need a catcher to step up and earn the position. Senior Pete Kopar, Junior Tony Sutey, and freshman Mitch Heranic are all in the running. By the time we return from our spring trip, I'm hoping one of them will have distanced themselves from the others."

Peter Kopar says that going into the competition is definitely a challenge. "Tony and Mitch are both excellent baseball players and great athletes. For me, the hardest part about competing for a position is

trying to compete against myself," says Kopar. The baseball season starts in March, so look out for Hopewell's team this year!

Boys Tennis

BY: MARY-JANE HOUSTON

The Hopewell boy's tennis team is predicted to do well this year and with the entire season ahead of them they are continuing to work hard in practice. The boys practice at the YMCA or the gym inside the junior high because of the snow during the winter season.

Their season official starts on March 2 and as long as there is not snow on the ground the upcoming matches will be played outside. Senior Jacob Kiss says that the cold makes him run out of breath quicker.

The Varsity players' biggest competitor is Sewickley Academy. With their pre-match rituals and 7 vasitry player including Jacob Kiss, Anthony Bove, Eli Loncar, Jimmy Lutz, Alex Piefer, Tony Derose, and Miles Collins they have a chance against the Sewickley Academy team.



Hopewell Cheerleading

BY: LAUREN TRIMBER

This year, the Hopewell cheerleading team swept into Hershey for the PIAA Championship for the first time since 2012. The championship was split into divisions, with Hopewell's team falling into the middle one. Ten teams competed within that division, and Hopewell's team made it to the semifinals.

Kristina Celeste, a three-year member, talked about the trip. "The best moment I had in Hershey was when all of the teams danced and sang together as we were waiting for the results. There was a bit of anxiety, but it completely left as soon as the whole stadium danced together."

Although the team will be



Photo by Mrs. Critchlow

losing two seniors, Courtney Doyle and Brittany Colangelo, Kristina is optimistic about next season. "With all of the talent, motivation, and enthusiasm that has been displayed from last year, I can only expect the same next year," she said.

If the cheerleaders continue to use the teamwork they displayed this season, *they will reach their potential*. Congratulations to Hopewell's cheerleading team for their success both here and in Hershey!

Not Fit or Cross Fit?

BY: DONALD MASON

Do you think you have what it takes to be a cross fit trainer? Cross fit is an upcoming sport or workout that is a mixture of multiple things. Cross fit requires strength, speed, agility, and ninja like ability's. You also have to have the strength and will power to push yourself through the toughest times during the workout.

Many cross fit trainers and trainees go into a professional league called grid league. Grid league

is a relay based event that has a mixture of things to participate in. The grid league is time based, but you must pace yourself at the same time. The contest contains gymnast rings, deadlifts, agility, and ropes. There is one pro league in most major cities in the United States.

For those interested prices range from 50-80 dollars a week to even be in the gym. The price with a trainer is 90-140 dollars all depending on the level of training and there are four cross fit gyms in

the city of Pittsburgh. After months of training and having those after workout sores. You could become part of your city cross fit grid league.

"You can't climb the ladder of success with your hands in your pockets" -Arnold Schwarzenegger



Courtesy of Google Images



Courtesy of Google Images

Another Season In The Books

BY: RACHAEL KRIGER

Ten years after Tom Brady won his third Super Bowl, he and the New England Patriots hoisted the Lombardi Trophy on February 1st, 2015 in Phoenix, Arizona. Brady got the taste of championship again after losing to the New York Giants twice in 2007 and 2012.

Tom Brady and Vince Wilfork were the only two players on New England's roster that were there in 2005 for the Patriots last victory. The New England Patriots defeated the Seattle Seahawks with a score of 28-24 after Seahawks' quarterback, Russell Wilson, threw an interception in the end zone which Malcom Butler grabbed to end the thrilling Super Bowl XLIX. However, it was Brady who clinched his third Super Bowl MVP Award.

Super Bowl XLIX was not the only thrilling event that happened in the 2014-2015 NFL season. Many events occurred that shook up the NFL and its players. From the Ray Rice elevator incident to Peyton Manning passing Brett Favre to become the NFL's all-time leader in passing touchdowns, the

NFL was filled with many surprises, heart-ache, and thrill for every NFL fan to soak up.

Notably the Ray Rice incident was the biggest event of the NFL season. Occurring on February 14th, 2014 Ray Rice and his fiancée, now wife, Janay Palmer were arrested and charged with assault after an altercation in Atlantic City. TMZ had posted a video of Rice dragging Palmer's body out of an elevator, her being unconscious. On March 27th, Rice was indicted on third-degree aggravated assault and later on, on September 8th, was released by the Baltimore Ravens. No team has since signed Rice, and earlier this January he filed a suit against the NFL citing wrongful termination and Rice won his claim.

Also facing legal trouble was Adrian Peterson. Peterson was indicted on September 12th, with charges of reckless or negligent injury to a child. Peterson was reported to have used a tree branch to beat his son repeatedly. On November 4th, Peterson pleaded no contest to the charges. Ever since

the incident, Peterson had not played a NFL game. He is still under contract by the Minnesota Vikings as they had not released him.

The NFL also lost many notable figures this year. Chuck Noll, former coach of the Pittsburgh Steelers, passed away on June 13th. He led the Steelers to four of the six Super Bowl wins. He coached the likes of Terry Bradshaw, Franco Harris, Mel Blount, and "Mean" Joe Greene. Also passing away were New York Giants matriarch Ann Mara on February 1st, Buffalo Bills owner Ralph Wilson on March 25th, and William Clay Ford Sr. the owner of the Detroit Lions on March 9th.

Also in the news, this NFL season was Peyton's Manning's new record. Manning passed Brett Farve and now leads the league with the most career passing touchdowns. He broke the record on October 16th against the San Francisco 49ers with a touchdown pass to Demaryius Thomas. Devin Hester in week three broke Deion Sanders' record of total returns for touchdowns. Hester now leads that record with 20 in the NFL.

Spring Training 2015

BY: JUSTIN MARCHIONDA

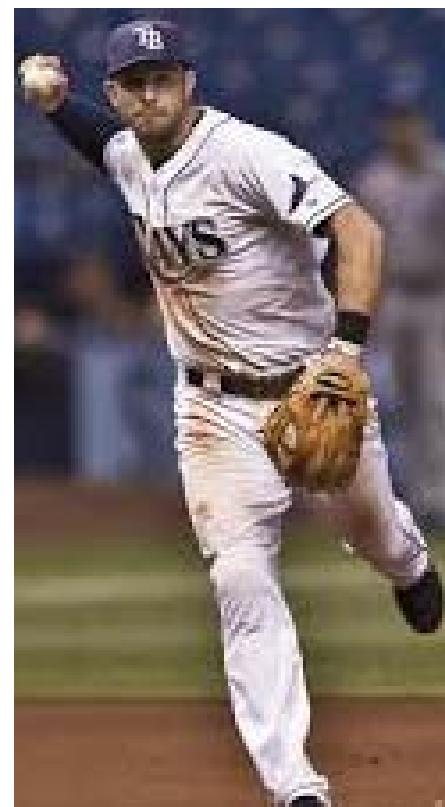
With Valentine's Day passing, it is time for America's true love to return. On February 18th Major League Baseball returns with pitchers and catchers returning for spring training. The first teams to report are the Pittsburgh Pirates along with the, Giants, Indians, Reds, and Phillies. Position players will report a few days later to begin full squad workouts.

Many people recognize the day pitchers and catchers report for workouts as the beginning of spring. It is the first look people get as to what their team will look like in 2015. Attendance averages almost two million people in both the Cactus League in Arizona and the Grapefruit League in Florida.

For star players like Mike Trout, Andrew McCutchen, and Clayton Kershaw, spring training is nothing more than a chance to get in baseball condition for the upcoming

season. For others though it is a chance to earn a big league roster spot. Some are rookies trying to earn a roster spot for the first, while others are veterans who are trying to get back on a roster as non-roster invites to spring training.

Spring training games will start on March 1st with the Phillies taking on the University of Tampa in Clearwater, Florida. The Pirates and the rest of the Grapefruit will open on March 2nd. The Pirates will open with the Toronto Blue Jays at their home in Dunedin, Florida. The spring training season for the Pirates will run through April 2nd, the Pirates will leave Bradenton to travel to Philadelphia for a two game exhibition set with the Phillies. The Pirates will open in Cincinnati on April 6th, they will return home for the home opener on April 13th against the Detroit Tigers.



Courtesy of Google Images



Two Hour Delays

BY: JUSTIN MARCHIONDA

Have you ever wondered what goes into the process of a two hour delay? Who better to ask than the man in charge of them, Dr. Charles Reina.

Q: What goes into the process of a two hour delay?

A: I will communicate with the director of transportation, who communicates with salt truck drivers on the road conditions, then I will check the National Weather Service Forecast. If weather gets bad during the night I will wake up at 4 AM and check the local news.

Q: What is the latest you can call a two hour delay?

A: Around 4:45 AM, but



it may take up to an extra half an hour to appear on the news and website.

Q: Do you communicate with other superintendents?

A: Yes, I mainly communicate with the superintendents of

South Side and Aliquippa schools.

Q: What temperature is too cold for school?

A: There is no set temperature, so I take into account the safety of the students at the bus stop as my main priority, if I feel that they are at risk of being stranded at the bus stop while we heat the bus fuel.

Q: Is a two hour delay necessary if the temperatures are not going to change all that much?

A: Yes. Since I believe the safety of the students is paramount, I don't want it to be my fault that a student got frostbite.

Q: Do you plan on following Moon School District in not calling two hour delays for cold?

A: No, safety is the most important. How another school runs is up to them.

Rachel's Challenge

BY: MARY-JANE HOUSTON

Since the beginning of the year the VIP club has been raising money and awareness for Rachel's Challenge. Rachel's Challenge is a nonprofit organization that has several student-empowering programs and assemblies that will get both student and staff involved. VIP president, Kristina Celeste says "Our goal of having it at Hopewell is to bolster the kindness and awareness of everyone's incredible individualism."

At the beginning of the school year they sold cupcakes and recently, with

the help of Service Learning, sold



Photo by Mr. Mohrbacher

cupcakes again and raffle tickets for gift baskets. They also sold Christmas canes to benefit Rachel's Challenge this past December.

Both clubs involved were happy with the amount of people that participated. VIP Club has more fundraising ideas planned for the rest of the school year. The exact amount of money that is raised will be announced at the end of the year.

The money that is raised will go toward an assembly that Celeste says will be "phenomenal." The VIP club hopes that this will make the entire school a more positive environment.

Students of the Month: February

BY: JENNIFER CRANMER

Congratulations to Hopewell's February students of the month, sophomore Asia Martinez and junior Greg Nero!



Photo by Santino Ciccone

The underclassmen student of the month is Asia Martinez. Recently, Asia has been a big proponent and supporter of Rachel's Challenge which came to the high school on February 26th. Rachel's Challenge is an anti-bullying program that Hopewell High School and specifically Asia have adopted to promote here.

She supported Rachel's challenge with banners and signs. Asia also created two fundraising programs on her own to benefit Rachel's Challenge: a Christmas candy cane gram sale and a cupcake sale. She wants to make a difference by giving people at Hopewell High School training through Rachel's challenge and create a safe learning environment.

The upper-classmen student of the month is Greg Nero. Greg avidly participates in many aspects of the high school. Academically, he is ranked 4th in the junior class. He is a member of both the National Honor Society and student council. Athletically, he partakes in both the cross country and swim teams. Greg has seen tremendous success on both. In the fall he helped the men's cross country team make it to the WPIAL championship. He went on to compete in the state championship at Hershey as an individual. At the swimming WPIAL championships, Greg competed with the men's 200 meter freestyle

and 200 meter medley relays. They received 6th place in the medley relay and 4th place in the freestyle relay and qualified for the PIAA state championships in both.



Photo by Alex Fragale

The teams will be competing at Bucknell University on March 11th and 12th.

Congratulations to Greg and Asia for this well-deserved honor!

Anything Goes

BY: KYLIE CHICHESTER

This March, the cast of Hopewell's musical will put on a production of the Broadway hit *Anything Goes*. The play takes place on a cruise liner that is travelling from New York to London. It follows Reno Sweeny, an evangelist turned night club singer, who is aiding her old friend Billy Crocker, a stowaway, win the heart of Hope Harcourt, who is already engaged.

Anything Goes stars Alaina Stroud as Reno Sweeny, Alex Barna as Billy Crocker, Danny Watts as Moonface Martin, Corinna Lapson as Hope Harcourt, William Tarelton as Sir Evelyn Oakleigh, and Sarah VanderWagen as Bonnie.

"This show is going to be amazing, and we are all really excited to show everyone how hard we have been working," said Alex. The cast has been working a huge

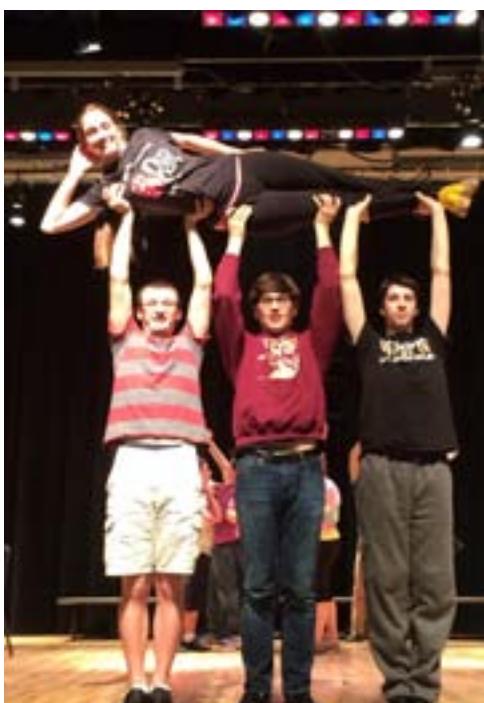


Photo Courtesy of Kylie Chichester

amount over the past few months to put together a show that can be enjoyed by everyone. "I'm excited for everyone, especially Mr. Shuleski, to see all the hard work we've put into this show. Everyone learned to tap dance for it. Plus, I can't wait to be lifted in some of the dances," said Alaina. The cast even showed off their newly found tap skills in a dance, choreographed by Alaina, to the tune of "Uptown Funk" by Bruno Mars. The video can be found on YouTube.

Anything Goes will be performed March 20th through the 22nd. Tickets will be \$6 for students, and \$8 for adults. The Friday and Saturday shows are at 7:30, and the Sunday matinee is at 3.

Lions, Tigers, Bears, and a Band?

BY: AVA JODIKINOS



Photos by Brie Miller

The Hopewell High School marching band's annual trip is fast approaching. The marching band's trip this year is to Chicago, Illinois, where they will be performing at the Chicago Zoo. The band travels a four-year circuit to Washington D.C., Tennessee, Chicago, and Disneyland. Each student in the band raises money by doing small fundraisers such as Market Day, candles, and many others. With the trip this year costing roughly

between 500 and 600 dollars, the students get a small amount of profit off of the fundraisers, which is transferred into their own band bank account. They can use that money to pay for a part of the yearly band trip. The students will stay after school on Thursday, April 23 and board a

bus to Chicago where they will stay in a hotel for three nights. They will drive back Sunday and return to the school sometime that afternoon.

Last year's trip was to Nashville, Tennessee, where they performed in the Hermitage Estate. The trip lasted three days. They left after school and returned Sunday night. Juniors Julie Kerlin and Sarah Jamison talked about last year's trip, "We thought it was so much fun. I loved being in Nashville with all my friends." With about 60 or so kids going this year, the band hopes to make memories with each other like past years.



Meet the New Librarian

BY: SANTINO CICCONE



Photo by Santino Ciccone

Many people enjoy reading, but only a few enjoy being surrounded by books. One who does is Mrs. Widdersheim.

Mrs. Widdersheim attended school at Kittanning High School, so she has always been a western

Pennsylvania native. She furthered her education at Clarion University, where she got her bachelor's degree in elementary education.

"I love my job," she said, "it may sound cheesy, but I really do. I enjoy working with everybody, like

all different people in the school. I never have the same day twice."

Although she really enjoys her job, she wishes that students were more productive and didn't look at the library as just a study hall. "I'd rather work here than in a public library. Here, I get to interact with students and get to know them. Also, I get to do more than just typical librarian things," said Mrs. Widdersheim.

Every book in the library is not pre-read either. "I use many book review lists, and if it has a good review, and I think that kids will be interested in reading it, I'll get it," said Mrs. Widdersheim. Also, if there is a book that a student is interested in and it is not in the library, a student can fill out an ILL, which is an interlibrary loan.

Many people do not know that librarians go to meeting with other county librarians. They discuss popular books and any programs that other libraries are running.

Mrs. Widdersheim enjoys reading, exercise, and spending time with friends and family.



Finding Your Soulmate

BY: JENNIFER CRANMER

This year Hopewell took Valentine's Day to a whole new level. With flyers posted all around the school telling you to find your soulmate, students were bound to fill out a Matchomatics questionnaire just to see what all the buzz was about.

The Matchomatics survey was a series of multiple choice questions designed to pair you with the students you are most compatible with. They were distributed during science classes and lunches. During the week of and the week after Valentine's Day, students were able to purchase their survey results. Three dollars got you the matches from your grade and two dollars got you the matches from all grades. The

proceeds benefitted charity.

Junior Lauren Trimber decided to join in on the fun and fill out one of the surveys. Unfortunately however, there was a glitch in the system and instead of receiving the matches from all the grades she only had four matches on her list: two freshmen and two seniors. Three of these four "matches" were also put on her most opposite list. Lauren explained, "I was excited to share my matches with my friends, but the result was disappointing and I

was kind of frustrated that I paid money for it."

Similarly, junior Santino Ciccone said, "I don't think it's worth paying two dollars for something that I'm not going to put use to. I'm not actually going to date the people on the list."

Other juniors, Maddy Hopkins and Mary-Jane Houston both agreed that participating in Matchomatics was fun even though they are not going to take it seriously. Hopkins said, "I know they aren't my soul mates but it was still fun."

Sophomore Garret Roberts enjoyed the results. "Some of the answers were hilarious," he said. "Schoolwide, I got my cousin."



Walk For ALS

BY: KYLIE CHICHESTER

By now, you've probably all heard of ALS, or Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, because of the ice bucket challenge, which took social media by storm last summer. ALS, or Lou Gehrig's Disease is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord, eventually leading to paralysis and death. About 5,600 people in the US are diagnosed with ALS each year, which is 15 people a day. Right



Courtesy of Google Images

now there is no cure for ALS, but scientists hope that with donations for research one day those living with ALS will be able to undergo treatment.

On March 21st seniors Cody Boring and Sarah Mooney will be hosting a walk that benefits ALS research. "It's towards a really good cause because watching my grandfather suffer through it was the hardest thing I've ever had to do," said Sarah of her grandfather, who the walk



Courtesy of Google Images

honors. He was diagnosed with ALS and passed away six months later in 2013.

Tickets for the walk are \$20 for adults, and \$15 for children under 12 years old and you're guaranteed a t-shirt up until March 13th. After then, ticket prices go up \$5 each, and shirts are no longer guaranteed.

College Kick Start

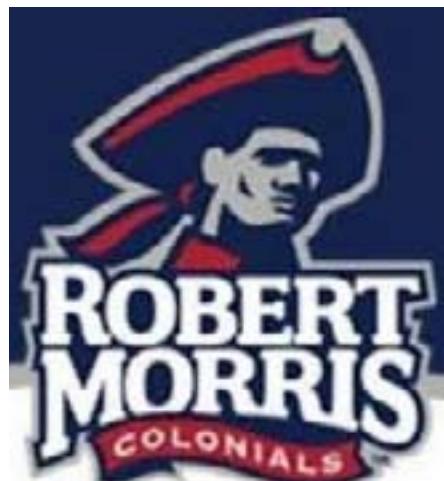
BY: MADDY HOPKINS

Back in the start of the school year, some students were doubling up. Not just as in sciences or math but as in dual enrollment.

Robert Morris University offers college courses every Saturday in order for high school students to earn college credit. This can be perfect for those looking to get a head start on the future. Even better, the courses come at a discounted cost, providing an opportunity for students to save some serious money on tuition.

The program offers five classes: Reading and Writing (COSK 1220), Introduction to Humanities (HUMA 1010), General Psychology (PSYCH 1010), Principles of Sociology (SOCI 1010), and Environmental Science (ENVS 1160). These classes total to an entire semester's worth of credits.

The students' first class was Reading and Writing, which both Mary-Jane Houston and Michael Pigoni agree was a disappointment. Houston says, "The first class was really bad. The teacher was



Courtesy of Google Images

disorganized and assigned crazy homework."

However, prospects are beginning to look up now that the first class has ended, giving way to Introduction to Humanities where the students study art and music. Pigoni, who is a part of the school musical, says "I find the material very interesting, especially since it

includes studying different music as well as theatre," although he and Houston are most looking forward to the Psychology class.

There is also quite the difference in college courses than in high school classes. Not only are they about three times the length of high school ones, but the assignments vary. Houston says the coolest assignment from the courses was when "we had to bring in Disney items from our childhood like movies, pictures, or stuffed animals. Then we spent the class talking about the history of Disney." For Pigoni, he considered the strangest assignment to be when the students had to "write a criticism of a street artist's work."

He also notes the difference in how teachers treat students, saying "I find that college professors will tend to treat you more like an adult. I act in the same manner I would in a high school class, but for some reason, I feel more respect."

Despite the first class, both Pigoni and Houston enjoy the program, agreeing they are beneficial and interesting. Houston says, "If you have extra time, I would recommend taking them."

Senior Spotlight: Josh Prosko

BY: DONALD MASON



Photo by Alex Fragale

There are many different types of high school seniors in Hopewell. Ones that want to have a college education, ones that don't want to go to college and would rather go straight into the work force, or those that want to enlist in the military. Josh Prosko is the latter; he plans to join the Navy to serve for our country.

Josh Prosko is this month's senior spotlight. Prosko did slack off a little this year but says. "I might have missed a lot of school this year and slacked off some, but my grades are the highest they have ever been since I've been in high school." His favorite teacher throughout high school is Mr. Witterman. "Mr. Witt was my favorite, not because he was an easy teacher but because he was actually a very challenging teacher and was able to help you

learn better than any teacher I've ever had." He said though his parents aren't too happy with his discipline at home, they hope he comes back from the military with a better attitude.

Josh feels that Hopewell offered the best education he could possibly get. He says, "Our school has the hardest classes and grading scales in Beaver County. We never get cancellations so we can learn as much as possible in a year, and our senior projects are the hardest to do in my opinion."

Josh's one tip to all underclassmen is to "stay away from drugs and stay in school. It may be tough in some classes, but if you're having a problem ask a teacher or get a tutor. Hopewell isn't here to fail you but only to make sure you get the best education you can."

Grinds My Gears: Movie Theater Woes

BY: GARRET ROBERTS

Going to a movie theater is a nightmare. You have to be the prince of a foreign nation to afford popcorn, people act like they've never been in public, and finding a seat is harder than finding Waldo. Spending a small fortune to have an experience ruined by someone acting stupid during a movie is terrible.

The price is ridiculous at the movies. If you go to a small theater, large popcorn, a ticket, and a large soda will cost you \$15. At Cinemark, the nearest theater to Hopewell, a ticket cost \$8.50, a small popcorn \$5.50, and small soda \$3.50. For a high school student working minimum wage, you just spent 2 hours of labor for popcorn. "You end up with an empty wallet just to see a movie on a date!" says sophomore Dalton Pifer. Spending a small fortune to have an experience ruined by someone acting stupid during a

movie is terrible.

The past two times I have gone to the movies, after spending over \$30 with a friend at the door



Courtesy of Google Images

finding a seat became an ordeal. The theater is always packed to the brim, and you're usually forced to get the "crappy" seats down in the front. I was unlucky enough last time to have gone with three people, and ended up having to sit alone in the handicap section. People act like they've never seen another human being. They throw their coats beside them, making

everyone have to fight over seats like it's the Hunger Games.

People somehow forget that they aren't at their own home. "I get annoyed when people laugh way too hard in comedies," says sophomore Ryan Colangelo. "You don't even get to hear the jokes over their loud and obnoxious laughing." My personal pet peeve in a theater are "kangaroos," the people who sit behind you and pound your chair repeatedly. While there is only limited leg room, you don't have to take your anger out on my back.

To sum it up, movie theaters are comparable to getting your teeth pulled out. You feel poor when you leave and lose your hope for humanity. The plus side is you get to look up to the future, as you can't look down from your new neck pain. Cinemark should be proud, they have created the best haunted house on this side of the Mississippi.

Red Velvet Oreos

BY: SOPHIA STOKES

Whenever my friends and I are at lunch, we all often bring in many bizarre foods. Sometimes my friends bring in the craziest foods, and I have no idea where they bought these things. At the beginning of February, my friends had Oreos in their lunches. They were an odd red color, and they looked incredibly strange. They started talking about how delicious these Oreos were. I then asked what the flavor was.

The new Oreos that came out this year on February 2nd were the Red Velvet Oreos. The Red Velvet Oreos are red-colored cookies with a cream cheese filling. Nabisco, the makers of Oreo, have not had a new flavor ever since the Golden Oreo came out in 2004. My mom would not let me buy these at Walmart the other day, so my friends finally let me try one. Let me say, they are delicious cookies. The cream cheese filling is quite



Courtesy of Google Images

unique, and with a different filling the cookies are a popular hit.

With every new food that comes along, there are always negatives. The Red Velvet Oreos come in a smaller box than regular Oreos, and they still cost the same because they are "Red Velvet". Also, some say that the cookie part does not really taste like Red Velvet, but tastes more like vanilla. The cookie is not a bright red color; it is more like a dark-maroon color. The cookies and cream combined together though make the taste perfection.

"I dislike that the cookies are \$4.00 for a smaller box, but it's so worth buying them. These are amazing Oreos." said junior Darby Ryan. She is the one that let me try these fantastic Oreos. These Oreos are great for lunches, meetings, or even a simple snack. Red Velvet Oreos are only in stock for about five more weeks, so go buy them while you can!

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If You're Reading This It's Too Late

BY: SANTINO CICCONE

In July of 2014, Drake announced that his fourth album would be titled *Views From the 6*, although he had not begun to record it. In January 2015, basketball player DeMar DeRozan had mentioned that Drake had intents on releasing a new mixtape soon. The morning of February 12, a short film titled *Jungle* was released, including small parts of new songs, hinting that Drake had something new coming.



Image Courtesy of Google Images

Later that day, *If You're Reading This It's Too Late* was released.

This was now Drake's fourth mixtape and his first mixtape/album since 2013. Although it has been out for less than a week, it is already skyrocketing, and expected to debut at number one on the Billboard 200 chart. This mixtape scored 77 out of 100 from Metacritic based on four generally favorable reviews. Neil McCormick of *The Telegraph* said "Drake is amongst the most musically and lyrical progressive proponents of his chosen medium, bringing a level of educated artiness and

psychological self-awareness to a genre too often reliant on big beats and braggadocio."

The only controversy is whether this is technically considered a mixtape or an album. *If You're Reading This It's Too Late* was recognized differently by each of the four labels it was produced from. Although recognized as a mixtape by the general public, OVO Sound considers it as an album, since it was released through iTunes by Cash Money records. At the same time,

Young Money recognizes it as an extended play (EP) instead of long play (LP). Since mixtapes are generally free, most labels that released this consider it a "commercial mixtape," which is when a mixtape is given different format distinctions for profit by separate labels. Drake then went on to clarify that *If You're Reading This It's Too Late* is a mixtape.

Overall, *If You're Reading This It's Too Late* is a good mixtape and gives Drake fans the excitements that better things will be to come when he releases his album, *View From the 6*.

Real Friends Album Review

BY: ABBY HIGHBERGER

Back in July of 2014, pop punk band Real Friends released their first full length album titled *Maybe This Place Is The Same And We're Just Changing*. The album had in total 12 tracks, was released at number 24 on the Billboard 200, and featured three singles, *I Don't Love You Anymore*, *Loose Ends*, and most recently, track number five, *Summer*.

Real Friends over the past couple of years has released a total of four EP's. Toured with several different bands, including their up-and-coming tour with The Maine, and are releasing a documentary titled *Moving Forward* on February 19th. Since the release of the album Real Friends' success has skyrocketed. Along with the Billboard 200 they were placed at number six on the US Top Rock Albums, number five on the US Top Alternative Albums. Then number three on the US Independent Albums. The album also managed to earn a four and a half out of five star rating on iTunes.

Loose Ends:

The single was released off of the album on May 7th. The single featured a music video with scenes in which the band was performing, traveling, or just "messing" around, and hanging out like the friends they are. The song itself sets the sound or vibe of the album with its punk roots, and relatable or

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SpongeBob SquarePants Returns

BY: GARRET ROBERTS

All classic *SpongeBob SquarePants* fans can all agree that the show suffers from the new Nickelodeon formula of "if it's gross it has to be funny." When the new SpongeBob movie was announced, classic fans were afraid that there would be a new nail in the classic show's coffin. Surprisingly, *Sponge Out of Water* turned out to be a breath of life to the dying series.

The most notable thing is how the advertising works against the actual movie. The ads lead you to believe that the movie is entirely fart jokes in 3D, but it isn't this at all. The majority of the movie was in 2D, with 3D only taking up about 20 minutes of the movie. The movie's 2D animation looks great and has a similar style to the first movie, and the 3D transition was smooth and not overly cheesy.

The humor in the movie is the best part. Instead of using SpongeBob's current style, they used witty and clever humor that made references to original SpongeBob jokes. At one point in the movie, the classic "My leg!" line can be heard. The movie also made fun of SpongeBob's laugh by using it as torture for Plankton in one scene.

A Murder

BY: AVA JODIKINOS

The most renowned author of thrillers and creepers is Mr. Stephen King. King has published 54 novels, including seven under the pen name Richard Bachman, and six non-fiction books. He has also written over 200 short stories, most of which are in book collections. Most of his stories are set in his hometown of Maine. Over 40 books made into movies the release of his book *A Good Marriage* recently made into a movie in 2014.

A Good Marriage is a short story within *Full Dark, No Stars*. The main characters Bob and Darcy are in a rough marriage. At first they seem to have tension. Bob is one of the best accounts in their small hometown. He goes on a business trip and leaves his wife at home alone. The night Bob leaves Darcy is spending her time and taking in the quiet home while her husband is gone.

When Darcy sits down to watch some TV, the movie that is on



Image courtesy of Google Images

The movie surprised me with this different take on the humor.

While the overall movie was good, it wasn't flawless. Sadly, some of the humor did result in "toot" jokes. SpongeBob is intended for kids, and if I was 10 years younger I probably would have laughed at these parts. The 3D animated part was the weakest part of the movie,



Image courtesy of Google Images

is gruesome and she tries to change it but the remote batteries are dead. So she goes to find some new ones in the garage. While in there she stumbles upon a box that contains untold secrets of her husband. *A Good Marriage* is about the dark side of humans and explores the capacity of one to do evil things.

as the quickly progressing story slowed down for no apparent reason. The plot had reached its climax, and it stuck there a little too long. The plot in general wasn't great, and it felt very thrown together around the jokes. The thing to remember that this is *SpongeBob*, so you're not really expecting an incredible story in the first place.

In short, *SpongeBob SquarePants: Sponge Out of Water* is a great movie, with clever humor and very smooth animation style. However, the 3D parts and weak plot keep it from being perfect. It was close to matching the first *SpongeBob* movie, a 9/10 in my book, but fell short. I would recommend *Sponge Out of Water* to a fan of *SpongeBob*, as it is a great movie. I give *SpongeBob SquarePants: Sponge Out of Water* an 8/10.

Best Netflix Binge Watches

BY: KYLIE CHICHESTER

We're all guilty of binge watching. It has become a staple of 21st century living. Here's a list, in no particular order, of some of the best, most addictive shows on Netflix.

1. Sirens
2. Breaking Bad
3. Gossip Girl
4. Sons of Anarchy
5. House of Cards
6. Parks and Recreation
7. The Office
8. The Walking Dead
9. One Tree Hill
10. 30 for 30
11. Mad Men
12. Friends
13. 30 Rock
14. Orange is the New Black
15. X-Files
16. Cosmos
17. Hemlock Grove
18. American Horror Story
19. 90210
20. Friday Night Lights
21. Twin Peaks
22. Lost
23. Criminal Minds
24. Scrubs
25. Law and Order: SVU
26. Firefly
27. Arrested Development
28. Dexter
29. Freaks and Geeks
30. Futurama

The Sirens Wail as Guitar Solos Pierce The Veil

BY: ABBY HIGHBERGER

Post-Hardcore bands Sleeping With Sirens and Pierce The Veil played at Stage AE on February 10th and 11th. Several thousand fans pressing toward the stage made the venue feel like a full house.

Starting at seven and going to almost 11, it truly was a night to remember.

The world tour Pierce the Veil Photo by Abby Highberger

website said the opening acts would be Beartooth and This Wild Life. It was a pleasant surprise to see Mallory Knox and PVRIS were kicking off the show.

The first band to play was Mallory Knox, a five member, alternative rock group from the UK. They played about six songs, including their most popular songs "Wake Up", "Death Rattle", and "Lighthouse". They're definitely a band worth checking out. They performed all upbeat songs, and all together just gave off good energy.

The second act was up-and-coming alternative band PVRIS (pronounced Paris). They were equally as good, but had more of a mellow vibe. One thing for sure though, they had the whole place bumpin' when they performed their hit single "White Noise."

The first band of headliners to play, from San Diego California was post-hardcore band Pierce The Veil. The energy when they came out was huge. From the moments the lights dimmed all the way to the curtain drop everyone just let loose. Opening with "Hell Above", from start to finish every song was full of passion, energy, and these guys really knew how to get the crowd going. Especially during "Hold On Till May" in which lead singer Vic Fuentes picked a fan out of the crowd to serenade. Pierce The Veil finished their set by playing "King

for a Day" with the lead singer Kellin Quinn of Sleeping With Sirens to make a clever transition into the next bands set.



Sleeping With Sirens, from Orlando Florida another post-hardcore band was the last to play. Opening with their brand new single "Kick Me", the first word to describe their set would be loud! From start to the encore, every song was sure to blow the roof off the place. However, the band played two acoustic songs "Roger Rabbit", and a cover of The Goo Goo Dolls 1998 hit "Iris". The last song they played was a hit off of their first album titled "If I'm James Dean, You're Audrey Hepburn."

After the song finished people started piling out slightly disappointed at the fact that the band didn't play their biggest hit, but if you had stayed not even five minutes after the last song you would've heard lead singer, Kellin Quinn come back out with an amazing speech to announce the bands encore song "If You Can't Hang."



Kellin Quinn of Sleeping With Sirens
Photo by Abby Highberger

GRAMMYs 2K15

BY: MADDY HOPKINS

With performances by stars such as Sam Smith, Ariana Grande, and Sia, the 2015 GRAMMYs, which premiered on February 8, were anything but boring.

The GRAMMYs, first held in May of 1959, were created to acknowledge excellence in the music industry. The four main categories, called the General Fields, include Record of the Year, Album of the Year, Song of the Year, and Best New Artist.



Sam Smith with his 4 GRAMMYs: Photo Courtesy of Google Images

This year, Sam Smith went home with an impressive three of the four General Field categories. Awarded for his hit "Stay With Me," Smith beat out other popular records such as "Shake It Off" and "All About That Bass" for Record of the Year and "Take Me To Church" for Song of the Year. Smith also won a GRAMMY for Best New Artist and Best Pop Vocal Album.

Beck was awarded Album of the Year for *Morning Phase*, which topped Beyoncé's *Beyoncé*, Ed Sheeran's *X*, Sam Smith's *In The Lonely Hour*, and Pharrell Williams' *Girl*.

The soundtrack for all the 2015 GRAMMY's nominees is available on iTunes for \$10.99, featuring tracks by Taylor Swift, Iggy Azalea, Ed Sheeran, Ariana Grande, Miley Cyrus, and many more.

The Age of Superhero Movies

BY: BRIE MILLER



Posters for the new *Batman v Superman* movie. Photo courtesy of Google Images.

Superhero Movies, especially with the success of The Avengers as the third highest grossing movie ever, are far from going out of style. Since Disney bought Marvel in 2009, they have already profited over \$3 billion, proving that the Superhero genre brings in big bucks. Various studios including Marvel, Sony, Fox, and Warner Brothers, have a total of 30 planned superhero movies for the next handful of years.

As a self-proclaimed superhero fan, senior Noah Ondik said, "I think there may be a little too much coming, but I am happy that comic books are at a time where comic books are fully being embraced by people, rather than being considered just for outcasts."

As someone who is not too involved in the comic book world, senior Brandon Philippi said "I like Iron Man, but overall it's not really my thing."

Why superhero movies and why now? Well, technology has made advancements so that the special effects look believable (see the Batman shark repellent video from the 60's.) The target audience has also expanded, with more mature plots. Superhero movies are no longer just for kids. Hollywood realized, when Silicon Valley struck, that they could make big money by catering to the geeks of the market. Which is the other part of why superhero movies has become so popular; they come with a built in fan base.

Overall, Marvel Studios has the edge in this particular market; all they do is comic book movies, to which they can dedicate their full at-

tention and resources. While, Warner Bros., Fox and Sony all have other movies to make as well.

Hopewell sophomore Garret Roberts said that he personally was most excited for the Deadpool movie, which is currently in production and starring Ryan Reynolds as the violent Wade Wilson.

But some hold non-marvel characters as their favorites; junior Santino Ciccone said he was "Most excited for Superman V. Batman, because Batman is awesome."

Superhero movies are not going anywhere. And why should they? These stories and characters have entertained generations of fans. A lot of them can be shared by families and teach good moral lessons. At their best, they tell compelling, exciting stories that engage and activate the imagination and even encourage younger people to read.

If you are more interested in the potential plots of the upcoming movies you can sign up for Marvel Unlimited, a service which offers thousands of comic books on smartphones and tablets for \$10 a month or \$70 a year.

Squelch Your APPetite

BY: MR. MOHRBACHER

Okay? You might need to go to AA (addicted to apps) after you play any of the following games. Mindless games and time-wasting apps are more popular than ever. You should be reading a book!

Okay? The authors say, "Clear the board. Pay what you want. Okay?" The game requires players to shoot a ball off of basic shapes floating, spinning or flying on the screen. The ball must strike all of the shapes, which forces the user to have patience. Timing and angle are paramount to advance in this free app.

AA The creators describe the app, "like snake on an old brick phone, it's fundamental." The free app places a revolving circle in the center of the screen. The object of the game is to shoot needle-like projectiles into the circle as it rotates at different speeds. The challenge is addictive

as the levels increase in difficulty. Level 49 has been a stalling point for many, "When you get to level 49, you should just quit. I've been on that level for like three weeks now," said sophomore Donald Mason.

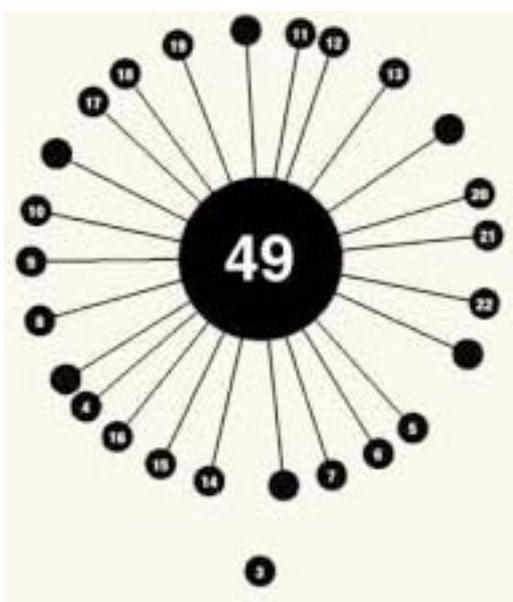
Crossy Road Tap and swipe a flea across the busy streets. This remake of the Atari classic, Frogger, addicts vintage and current-gen users.

Skippy Squirrel A flying squirrel strives for high altitude. Tap the squirrel to reach nutty heights.

Heroes Charge A role-playing game with pint-sized characters of all sorts. Build a team of five to take on challenges or other users. Like all RPGs, Heroes Charge is loaded with upgrades and unlockables.

Impossible Dial Creators of the app disclaim, "WARNING: Highly Addicting." A dial, like a board game

spinner, has a pointer that changes color as it rotates between colors. Users must tap the screen when the pointer is the same color as the portion of the dial it is next to.



Courtesy of Google Images

Mock Trial Makes History

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season. Bethany Schwartz said that the team is “ready to go further next year.” However, they will have to do it without leader and multiple Best Advocate winner, senior Nick Tocci. Tocci has done mock trial all four years of high school and held the role of both prosecution and defense lawyer this season.

This year, Tocci has won four Best Advocate awards and “I believe I have earned seven since my sophomore year,” he says. His best memory of mock trial came when he found out with his mother, who is a coach on the team that the team was moving on. Tocci says that it is his mother and the rest of his family that inspired him. “Mock trial made it possible to see how the law actually works. The most rewarding part of mock trial is you gain the ability to speak in public and persuade people.” Tocci plans on going to school to study business and then move on to law school.

Even though Tocci played a major part as leader of the team, other leaders have emerged, such as Jennifer Cranmer. Cranmer gives a lot of mock trial success credit to Mrs. Tocci, Mr. Samek, and Mr. McMillan, the team’s coaches. “They are a vital part of the team. Mr. Samek donates his time and his room for our meetings. Mr. McMillan and Mrs. Tocci also take time out of their busy schedules to answer all of our questions and help us. Mrs. Tocci lets us have meetings at her house on the weekends and at the law firm. We couldn’t do it without them!”

Cranmer has been on the Mock Trial team since her freshman year. This year she held the role of prosecution lawyer. “I performed the opening statement, directed a witness, and cross examined another witness,” Cranmer said proudly. She agrees with Tocci that Mock Trial helps with public speaking. “It also helps with thinking on your feet, but it has also given me some really good friends. We were a real family this year and that was my favorite part.”

Real Friends Review

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accurate lyrics of what it's like to have “Loose Ends.”

I Don't Love You Anymore:

This single was released off of the album on July 16th. The music video for this song starts off with the typical garage band scene but as the story proceeds it's revealed that every person who was cast in the video do not show their actual faces but rather all wear animal costume heads such as mice, cats, or wolves. The sound remains similar in this track as compared to the rest of the album, and the lyrics basically

describe what it's like to lose feelings for someone you used to feel strongly about because they did you wrong.

Summer:

This single was announced as the third single on January 13th. The video follows a man who is in or around his twenties that basically secludes himself in his house for a remainder of the winter and all the way into the summer. He finally steps out, just to walk back in. While it was unique way to portray the title of the song, the lyrics suggest to be missing someone like you miss the warmth of the summer, and you want or have to wait for that good feeling to come back.

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