

Keystone Exams Replace PSSA

BY: BRIAN ZAHN

As you already know, standardized testing this year has changed drastically for students in grades nine through eleven. Replacing the Pennsylvania Standard System of Assessment, the new standard for all public schools in Pennsylvania will be in the form of Keystone Exams.

Instead of taking all of the tests at once, such as math, literature, and writing with the PSSA, students are to take course-specific tests at the end of each course. For Hopewell students, that means taking the Algebra Keystone at the end of eighth grade, Biology at the end of ninth, and Literature at the end of tenth. However, during the implementation period, students in the class of 2014 had to take all three on the week of December 3rd. Like the PSSA, passing the Keystone Exams are a graduation requirement. But never fear: even if you didn't pass the first time, there will be several retest opportunities.

So why take the time to even implement an entirely new system of testing? According to state legislators, the goal is to make schools and administrators more accountable. At Hopewell, while the Algebra and Literature curriculums won't need much change, according to science department chairperson Dr. Gooding, who also was on the committee that wrote the Keystone Exams, says that the biology curriculum will. The good part is that the state does provide detailed guidelines as to

what is on the tests.

While this all may seem like a lot to handle, remember that every other public school in Pennsylvania is in the same boat. It will get easier for future students once schools have had time to fully rewrite their curriculum to match up with the exams.



Social Media is Misleading...

BY: TY RICHARDSON



"Who are you texting!?" -Every student hears this question from their parents. As technology advances, more and more people are talking less in person, and more through social media like texting, Facebook, etc.

According to CNN.com, teens who use Facebook more often show more narcissistic tendencies while young adults who have a strong Facebook presence show more signs of other psychological disorders, including antisocial behaviors and aggressive tendencies. Kids are using fewer social skills and it is becoming harder for them to talk to people in

person. While affecting the social interactions of teenagers it is also affecting interactions inside of families. Restaurants are flooded by families who in between ordering and eating are always on their phones, checking Facebook updates, tweeting, and texting others. Kids take after their parents and imitate them, so when they see their parents always on the phone they are likely to immitate that habit.

Holidays are becoming less and less talkative. In recent surveys, 75 percent of teens have cell phones and use them quite a bit; New Social Media apps are being released every day. These are easy ways for kids to escape person to person socialization. Ninety percent of 11-18 year olds use social media and also 36 percent of 11-18 year olds use social media to tell people about themselves. Myriads of younger kids, 11-12, believe that social media is a good way to make yourself look cool, but how will a kid know unless they talk to them in real life? New studies show kids use social media to brand themselves. All in all, people of all ages are losing their necessary communication skills to mindless technology

usage.

Post-Holiday Slim Down!

BY: TAYLOR SKELTON

After gorging yourself for several days of break you are left with a slight bulge. Now all you have to do is figure out how to shed those few pounds before your Christmas formal or upcoming festive event.

Christmas is quickly approaching and shopping time is limited. Instead of casually walking through the mall, trade that in for a speed walk or light jog. Side effects may include rude staring. If you are feeling generous offer to wrap all your family's presents and get that extra arm work out. Jog in place during the 25 Days of Christmas commercials. You will be amazed what thirty seconds of extra activity can do for you! To further the holiday spirit take up speed caroling; this will help you fit in your cardio while entertaining others. Are you looking to bring your family closer while shedding a few turkey day pounds? Host your family's own version of the reindeer games and instill some competition within your loved ones. Lastly, if all else fails, forget your red and green, wear black. That slimming color can cure

any food-baby dilemmas!





Class of 2013 Dominates Again

BY: RACHEL ZOOK
AND MACKENZIE HARTMAN

As the autumn colors surround residents of Western Pennsylvania, thoughts of football rush from person to person. At Hopewell High School however, these thoughts are on the women of the game. Not every game of football is played by guys. All over the country high schools, and even some charities, hold an annual all-girl football game, called Powder Puff.

Powder Puff football appears all over the country as females of all ages get together to show their love for the sport.

Even though these girls play a less violent game of flag football, many of the rules are the same as the men's game. "The ladies really show that guys aren't the only ones who can get down and dirty on the football field," explains powder puff fan and senior Breann Siversten.

The tradition at Hopewell is that the senior girls play against the junior girls while the guys



act as the cheerleaders. During this year's game, seniors Johnny Brady and Mike Churhan performed a halftime show and displayed their cheerleading moves.

Every year the students debate the outcome; some say the seniors always win, and others say the juniors will be the ones to take the victory.

Katina Volitich, a player for the Seniors of 2013, said, "The seniors usually win because most of the players have the experience from playing their junior year." However, during last year's game the juniors defeated the seniors in the final seconds.

This year, the students cheered on their favorite players just as they would during any normal Friday night football game. A congratulations goes to the girls of the Senior class of 2013 for their two years of undefeated seasons here at Hopewell High School.

Steelers Injury Update

BY: RACHAEL KRIGER

Ben Roethlisberger,
(Quarterback)
– Shoulder and Ribs

Byron Leftwich,
(Quarterback)
– Ribs

Troy Polamalu,
(Strong Safety)
– Calf

Stevenson Sylvester,
(Linebacker)
– Hamstring



Curtis Brown,
(Cornerback)
– Quadriceps

Marcus Gilbert,
(Offensive Tackle)
– Ankle

Antonio Brown,
(Wide Receiver)
– Ankle

Max Starks,
(Offensive Tackle)
– Ankle

Hockey Substitutions for this winter

BY: ZOE CARR

"I've got 99 problems and Bettman is all of them," said hockey fans not just in Pittsburgh, but also in the rest of the country and Canada. Frustrated fans may not know it, but there is hope. Just because the NHL is locked out, doesn't mean there isn't hockey.

Robert Morris University has both men and women hockey teams, who play at the 84 Lumber Arena at Neville Island Sports Center. The seasons have already started, and both teams are doing well. The men's team, coached

by Derek Schooley, is 4-3 in the season so far, and the girl's team, coached by Paul Colontino, is 5-2-1 so far.

If college hockey isn't exciting enough, then hockey fans might want to take a whack at the Wheeling Nailers. The Nailers play at the WesBanco Arena in Wheeling, West Virginia, and are the ECHL affiliates for the Pittsburgh Penguins and the Montreal Canadians. So far, the Nailers are 4-7 in their season.

If hockey fans are still not satisfied, here is one, last suggestion. GO SEE THE WILKES-BARRE/SCRANTON

PENGUINS PLAY! The "Baby Penguins" play at the Mohegan Sun Arena in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, and are coached by John Hynes. The Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins are the minor league affiliates for the Pittsburgh Penguins. The team is 6-6 on their season.





Cheerleading: Sport or Not?

BY: SAMANTHA MARCKIONI

The old "Go Team Go!" just isn't going to cut it anymore. Cheerleading has evolved from the simple catchy cheers on the sidelines to what doctors consider after seeing patients, one of the most dangerous sports today.

The number of cheerleading injuries has risen over the past two decades. This prompted the American Academy of Pediatrics to have schools designate it as a sport, with safety rules and more supervision.

The degree of difficulty of cheer stunts has erupted, and so has the number of accidents. Cheerleading related emergency room visits have increased almost six times over the past thirty years. There were nearly 30,000 in 2008, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

These injuries are all the more disturbing because some states don't even recognize cheerleading as a sport. That means there are no uniform safety measures and training methods.

Not only is it a highly competitive sport, but for the year 2016, it is in discussion to be in the Summer Olympics.

Hopewell High School Junior Natalie Desantis, who participates in both Hopewell's own cheerleading team and all-star team, Coyotes Cheer and Dance, disagrees with those who have ruled cheerleading out as a sport.

"We hold and throw girls in the air that range from 100-135 pounds. We condition just as much, if not more, than other sports. To do all of that in 2 minutes, it gets tiring," says Desantis, who has been a cheerleader for 10 years now.

"I have learned so much more about life than most people would think- it teaches dedication, team work, builds character and commitment."



NFL Play-offs: Who's In? Who's Out?

BY: RACHAEL KRIGER

Super Bowl 47 is on February 3rd, in the Superdome in New Orleans. That might be a few months away, but the Super Bowl chatter is just starting.

The NFC and AFC will have one team each to represent themselves, their coaches, and their cities all for holding up the Lombardi Trophy.

It's around week 11 or 12 that analysts, and fans, make their predications. The fans, most of all, have it rough. They have to sit through some more games and see if their team has an absolute chance of making a run for the title.

The AFC's playoff picture looks like the Houston Texans (9-1) taking over the AFC South. It's a three horse race in the AFC North with the Baltimore Ravens (8-2) leading the Pittsburgh Steelers (6-4) by two games, while the Cincinnati Bengals (5-5) follow up.

The AFC West is being held on by the Denver Broncos (7-3) and have only the San Diego Chargers (4-6) at their heels. The AFC East seems to be the

tightest race.

The New England Patriots (7-3) have the all tied up New York Jets (4-6), Miami Dolphins (4-6), and Buffalo Bills (4-6) not ready to give up the division to New England for, yet, a 12th year.

The NFC's playoff contenders are neck at neck, except in the NFC South. The Atlanta Falcons (9-1), who were previously undefeated, have some breathing room. That doesn't mean that the



New Orleans Saints (5-5) or the Tampa Bay Buccaneers (6-4) can't clinch a wildcard berth.

In the NFC West the once undefeated Arizona Cardinals (4-6) have lost 6 straight games and their number one spot to the San Francisco 49ers (7-2-1). The Seattle Seahawks are looking for a wildcard spot with their 6-4 record.

The NFC North has a tight race with all four teams looking for the top divisional spot. The Green Bay Packers (7-3) and Chicago Bears (7-3) are tied for first.

The NFC East is also tight with the defending Super Bowl champions, the New York Giants (6-4), holding it at number one. The Dallas Cowboys (5-5) and Washington Redskins (4-6) hope to knock the Giants off their perch with the games left ahead.



College Preview

BY: STEFANIE JOHNDROW

Trying to look into different college options in the Pittsburgh area? This new segment of the Hopewell Hi-Lites will be dedicated to informing the student body on possible college choices in our area. This month's college is Westminster College in New Wilmington, PA.

Westminster's majors include: accounting, biochemistry, broadcast and digital communications, business administration, chemistry, Christian education, communication studies, computer information, physics, law, medical, and engineering, among many more.

When attending Westminster you can participate in soccer, volleyball, swimming, diving, softball, baseball, golf, football, or you can have your choice of eleven other activities!

This liberal arts college is most popular for its biology major, and the average GPA among applicants is 3.4. Tuition is about \$29,150 per year.



Careers of the Future

BY: LAUREN ZAWATSKI

For teens and adults alike, choosing the right career path is one of the most challenging and important decisions to make. Most people do not have time to conduct extensive research to know what jobs will be in demand for the next 5-10 years. With the price of college at an all-time high, students want to have a concrete idea of what they want to do way before they even enter college. With the job market fluctuating every few years, they also want to be sure to pick a financially stable career for the years to come. Many different fields have excellent projected outlooks for the future, especially the medical field. One career that looks particularly promising is a physician assistant (PA).

Ranked second on CNNMoney's list of "The Best Jobs in America," the number of physician assistants has more than doubled within the past decade, and the employment of them is expected to increase 30% from 2010 to 2020, much faster than average. The main source of this growth can be contributed to the "baby boomer" generation. Since their generation is getting older, an expansion in the medical field will definitely be necessary. Here is a quick breakdown of this expanding career.

Education Requirements:

Unlike an actual physician, a PA does not require medical school or an internship, a welcome relief for those who would enjoy working in the medical field, but cringe at the sight of the sticker price. However, what usually is required is a bachelor's degree, a few years of health care experience, and the completion of a PA program. It may sound like a great amount of time, but it does not even compare with the 8+ years required to become a physician.



Salary:

In 2010, the median annual pay of physician assistants was \$86,410. Considering the amount of education involved, the wages are very favorable. In addition, the hours are fairly reasonable as well; physician assistants in clinics generally work 40-50 hour weeks.

What they do:

Under a physician's supervision, they perform some of the same duties that a physician would, such as examining and treating patients, counseling patients, prescribing medicine and interpreting laboratory tests and x-rays.

Furthermore, if becoming a physician assistant sounds appealing to you, there are a few majors to consider aside from the usual Biology or Chemistry major. Majors in Nutrition, Foreign Languages, Anatomy, or even Psychology can give a student broader opportunities for becoming a physician assistant.

Achy Breaky Hartwood Acres??

BY: TAYLOR SKELTON

Hartwood Acres' Celebration of Lights is canceled this year due to high costs and decreasing sponsorship.

The plug has been pulled for this great family tradition that began in 1991. County Executive Rich Fitzgerald was quoted on WPXI.com saying that costs have gone up a significant amount each year. This past year, taxpayers had to cover an outstanding portion of the \$1.5 million cost. The celebration first started out with a mere 28 displays structured of about 250,000 lights. But this previous year, more than 2 million lights were in operation through the three-mile route.

A little more than 170,000 people came out to take part in the display and helped generate almost \$160,000 for charity. Members of families throughout the area are distraught over the loss of a cherished tradition and are still searching for ways to sustain the celebration. Workers who have donated their time and money each year to make Hartwood Acres' Celebration of Lights possible are also saddened at the thought of losing such a worthy project. Since Hartwood Acres supports WTAE Project Bundle Up and the Salvation Army, these charities will be losing a substantial amount of funding as a result.





Snowy Winter Ahead

BY: BRIAN ZAHN

As the days turn shorter, the start of the winter season is quickly approaching. The dominating factor this season will be El Nino, a warm ocean current off the coast of Ecuador. Generally, this ocean current causes stormy weather across the eastern United States. In addition to El Nino, the cool fall and early freeze we have experienced already are some pretty good indicators for a colder than normal winter.

The season will start off slowly in November and December, at least compared to the rest of the winter season, with slightly cooler than average temperatures and around average snowfall. November looks to have about 4 inches of snow with an average high temperature of 52 degrees and low of 36 degrees. December looks

to be about average with snowfall of 9 inches and an average high of 40 degrees and low of 26 degrees.

By the time the New Year rolls around, winter seems to kick into gear. January looks to have 15 inches of snow and average high of 33 and low of 20 respectively. February should be the snowiest month of the season with double the average snowfall, around 22 inches. Temperatures should have an average high of 32 and low of 18. By March, conditions begin to improve and it seems spring should arrive quickly in April.

All in all, this winter should bring back visions of the winter of 2010, when Hopewell experienced similar conditions, including a massive snowstorm in mid-February. Season total snowfall will be around 50 inches, with the majority coming in the form of lake effect snow until February when the pattern will change to occasional east-coast storms.



November Students of The Month

BY: MACKENZIE HARTMAN

For the November Students of the Month we honor senior Ryan Cox and sophomore Erik Gilligan.

Q: What is your favorite subject and why?

A: Ryan- "Math because of Mr. Shuleski."

A: Erik- "World Cultures, it is interesting."

Q: What Kind of extra-curricular activities are you involved in?

A: Ryan- "Basketball, Latin Club, Youth group."

A: Erik- "ROTC."

Q: If you could meet one celebrity, who would it be? Why?

A: Ryan- "Drake, his music is too good."

A: Erik- "Kenny Chesney; favorite country singer."

Q: What are your plans after high school?

A: Ryan- "To play baseball in college and earn a degree in business."

A: Erik- "To join the Marines for active duty infantry."



Erik Gilligan

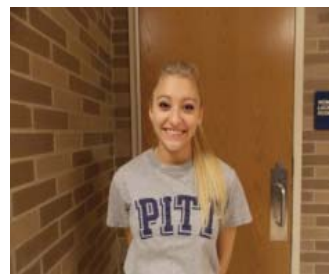


Ryan Cox

Senior Spotlight

BY: RACHAEL KRIGER

Chosen for November's Senior Spotlight is Olivia Unen. Olivia's favorite classes are Home Economics and Calculus. Her senior project is teaching the petite dance company at her dance studio, Dana's Dance Center. Olivia has been dancing since she was 3. She has also done cheerleading since 7th grade and playing the piano since 3rd grade.



Olivia Unen

After she graduates, Olivia wants to attend either Ohio State University or the University of Florida to major in accounting and minor in dance. Good luck and congratulations, Olivia!



Marcellus Shale

BY: RACHAEL KRIGER

Marcellus Shale, the natural gas and drilling company, has been a booming business since 2005. A total amount of 5,933 wells have been drilled in Pennsylvania. Out of that amount, 1,043 were drilled during 2012. So far, many leases have already been issued, and a total of two permits have been issued for Beaver County. More permits and leases will be coming closer to the Hopewell area, as a Shell petrochemical plant is issued to be built in Potter Township.

The petrochemical plant is being built with \$2 billion dollars and is going to turn Marcellus Shale products into industrial and consumer products. The plant, if approved and ready to go, will be the first plant in the U.S in decades. Also, Shell plans on having about 400 permanent jobs for local residents. Another job starter is the expansions on a region pipeline. The project is reported to be done this fall or winter and will increase the shipping production of natural gas to the Northeast.

While the thought of new jobs pleases most people, the thought of pollution makes people worried. The process of the chemical plant is to take ethane gas and

make it into ethylene, created to make forms of plastic. Marcellus Shale is providing the ethane, which is buried under the Pennsylvania ground. Pennsylvania has been recently criticized about their gas drilling tests. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reportedly told Washington County about only eight metals related to gas drilling in their water. The EPA, though, has reportedly documented 24 metals. Is this a sign that drilling is dangerous? Keep an educated eye out for drilling coming to our area.

Mock Election Comes To Town

BY: RACHAEL KRIGER
& BRIE MILLER

Hopewell Civics teacher, Ms. Meyers, decided to get the student body involved in this year's presidential election by holding a 'mock election' on November 5. Even though the votes didn't count in the real election, opinions mattered and voices were heard.

Regarding the mock election, Ms. Meyers said, "It's really important, and hopefully every student will learn how to be a good citizen."

Ms. Meyers' Civics classes held the event, which begged the question, "Are they doing it for a grade? Or do they really care about politics?" Freshmen Charlotte Coulter and Stephen McCutcheon said they've been, "preparing for it all year, and are being graded for big points."



Ms. Meyer's AP European History Class participates in the mock election.

Fellow freshman Zach Schuller said he's taking it "very seriously." He also comments that he "likes talking to people and getting reactions." Zach also noted that he wished he could vote in the real election. Avery Levinger, also a freshman, said that he liked the project because "we can't ignore it."

Students also seemed to enjoy the election as well. Sophomore Josh McAfee said, "I'm glad the school is teaching us how to vote. It's important." Miss Huth, the librarian, said, "It's great practice for a real-world voting situation. It's really nice to have the library so busy." Some students, however, thought the election was pointless. Ashley Zanella, sophomore, said the election was pointless because "our votes don't count anyway. For the older students? Yeah. But for us? No." When asked if she wanted to vote in the real election, Zanella replied, "Yeah. That'd be pretty cool."

Ms. Meyers hopes that students will enjoy this and remember how important voting is when they turn 18. "I hope the other teachers will tell me there has been a lot of talk about the election. Nothing like this has ever been done here before, and I think the entire event was successful, and hopefully we informed some of our students."

Mitt Romney won the mock election, but President Barack Obama won the real election.

Voices



Dear
Dr. Stef,



Dr. Stef,

I have an important issue I would like to address that may be affecting more of my peers than I realize, but I would like to put it into a more public light for my own benefit.

My best friend has been dating a not-quite-so-faithful maiden for quite some time. She has recently made advances on me, presenting quite the quarrelsome quandary. How do I get rid of her without upsetting any of the parties involved?

Sincerely,

Fiercely Furious Friend

Dear Furious,

Frankly, someone involved in this "quarrelsome quandary" will ultimately be upset. However, there are a few things you can do to hopefully resolve this situation.

You should start by confronting the troublesome girlfriend. Explain to her that you aren't interested, and that she needs to back off, because she's dating your best friend. If she continues to pester you after that, go to the boyfriend.

Inform your best friend of his girlfriend's wandering eyes. Remind him that you would never betray his friendship; hence you're informing him of the situation. Hopefully, your friend will be able to realize this, but if he continues to have relations with this girl, and she continues to make advances toward you, it would be best to distance yourself from the pair.

Love can blind people, yes even you

Sincerely,

Dr. Stef

best friend, so it would be no use arguing with him on how unfaithful his girlfriend is. He would never believe that the love of his life is on the prowl for a new man. Therefore, keep the conversation as light as possible. Sit him down and let him know you are serious.

exhibit, the dogs' natural inclination was to think that they were under attack. The situation escalated when the alpha of the pack began attacking the boy. As a result, the rest of the pack members had no choice but to follow suit. Contrary to media speculation, the boy's death is now believed to have been the African Painted Dogs' fault. As natural predators, they merely didn't know any better. The dogs are not logical animals, therefore, their minds had no way to decipher that the alien object was, in fact, a harmless child.

African Wild Dogs are endangered because of habitat loss and human overpopulation. Even though their exhibit has been closed until further notice, Pittsburgh Zoo's president Barbara Baker said that the dogs will not be euthanized. The zoo's eleven dogs are a part of a population of 3,000-5,500 dogs. In this incident, they weren't killing just because they could; they were killing to protect their "family."

This tragic event struck the heartstrings of people all over the nation. It is natural for some people to look for someone to blame for this little boy's death; however, it is not correct to blame the dogs when for their natural reaction.

Tragedy Strikes at the Zoo

BY: JENNIFER CRANMER

Imagine it: one day you're milling around when something foreign falls into your territory. You think you're in danger, and your animalistic instincts kick in. Therefore, you look to your pack leader who has already begun to attack. You have no choice but to join in and protect your pack.

This is exactly how the eleven African Painted Dogs felt on that tragic day at the Pittsburgh Zoo. When a 2-year-old fell from the 10-foot railing into the

Hey Hopewell! How do you feel?

BY: MACKENZIE HARTMAN

What do you feel should be the biggest priority for our president?



"I believe that the biggest priority

for our president is job creation. Job creation leads people to have more disposable income. Which in turn leads to people buying products causing the economy to grow."

-Bryon Jones

"I believe that the biggest priority should be cutting our spending and balancing our budget.

Everyone knows that



when you are in debt you can not spend more

than you take in."

-Mike Tempalski

"At this point, the president's main objective needs to be on stabilizing the economy. In my opinion, the best way to attain this goal is through

the creation of jobs, reducing the national debt, and distributing entitlements to the truly needy."

-Brian Zahn



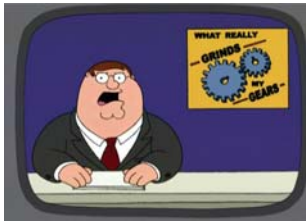
Voices



"Grinds My Gears"

BY: TAYLOR SKELTON

PARENTS...



Hey there, Hopewell. I'm back to tell you once again what really grinds my gears; aren't you lucky.

Sometimes, I think parents were not just put here to guide and embarrass us, but to also tick us off. A few days ago, I was minding my own business, quietly doing my math homework. All of a sudden, my mother beckoned for me from downstairs on the first floor of our house. All I was trying to do was to let her know I was coming and that I heard her from such a distance. I calmly raised my voice a tad and said, "I'm coming." The minute I arrived at the bottom of the steps I was greeted by her wagging finger and look of disapproval. She looked me straight in the eye and said, "Taylor Ann, I do not appreciate the tone or attitude you are using with me. I am your MOTHER." First of all, I do not believe I had an attitude or tone but how was she going to hear me from so far away if I hadn't yelled slightly? What did she want, a whisper? Secondly, if I wouldn't have responded that

quick second I would have received the heartwarming lecture about not ignoring your parents. Also, just in case adults didn't realize this, if you repeatedly tell kids they have an attitude, there is a pretty good chance that they will develop one and the situation can escalate from there.

Don't worry, my stories don't end there. Later that same night, I walked into the kitchen to get a drink. My mother was sitting at the table and obviously in the mood to talk. Me, not yet over the charade from earlier, tried to avoid all communications. She simply asked me how my day had been and all I said was, "fine." I did not raise my voice, roll my eyes, or do any of the typical teenage reaction move. I even gave her a little toothless grin after my answer. Then, the same look and wagging finger that had graced my presence before returned.

Personally, I think parents just expect teenagers to carry a constant attitude problem, when in reality we just don't have much to say or just plainly don't care enough to find more to elaborate on.

Black Friday: More Fun Than It Looks

BY: REBECCA HADDIX

Only hours after Thanksgiving comes an occasion that most people

treat like a national holiday: Black Friday. Annual festivities include waking up unnaturally early and fighting the crowds for the best bargain on the hottest Christmas gifts. However, people have turned Black Friday shopping from an awesome experience, a violent shopping trip.

One Los Angeles Times article from 2011 recorded seven different incidents of shopping-related violence in multiple Wal-Marts. Every year, there are innumerable reports of trampling, fistfights, pepper spray, and arrests. Occurrences such as these cause alarm among shoppers.

I, for one, enjoy Black Friday shopping. For me, it is one of the best opportunities to spend time with my mother and sisters over coffee, sales, and overdone Christmas carols. There's an exciting rush between the warmth of crowded stores and freezing while waiting in front of ones that haven't opened yet. Waking up early to go out and do something, even if it is as silly as saving a whole dollar on your brother's Christmas present, gives you a sense of accomplishment. Most of the time, if you do it right, you can save more than just a few cents here and there- does \$15 for a pair of \$80 boots sound nice? Black Friday is a way get your shopping done early so you're not running around last minute. If you do shop on Black Friday, there are ways to be significantly less frustrated, be safe, and to have fun.

For one, you don't need to get the latest laptop. No matter how early you get up or how long you wait in line, they probably will have sold out hours before you get there anyway.

Avoid busy stores. A good rule of thumb is that if you don't like waiting in the checkout line at a store on a normal

day, don't even go into that store's parking lot on Black Friday. For example, going within a mile radius of a Wal-Mart can be deadly. You'd be surprised at the relatively short lines and nice presents you can find at smaller stores, like national-chain pharmacies (CVS, Rite-Aid, etc.) and dollar stores. Department stores like Macy's are usually moderate.

Manage your time well: don't wait in line for a doorbuster or for the store to open if you don't have to. Start fishing around in the circulars and online a week or so before Black Friday. Make a list of exactly what you want to get at which store. In the end, it'll save you time, energy, sleep, gas, and frustration.

Bring your friends and make a day out of it! Get doughnuts or coffee or breakfast afterwards to finish off your date.

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A Prank to be Remembered

BY: EMILY SERETTI

It was eight o'clock at the local high school, and teachers had just begun their duty of filling the minds of young scholars with knowledge. Half of the teens were already drifting off, pouring themselves into elaborate dreams within the depths of their consciences.

Some students at the high school expressed themselves through paint or music; others portrayed their talents through intelligence. But, a few students spent their class time devising a prank.

There was a well known prank war established between two

gym teachers who worked at the school. The rumor, an accepted story at the school, was that many years before the gym teacher fought over how to spend the fitness budget. Eventually though Mrs. Fued got new equipment for her classes, leaving Mr.Boxer and the boys with just enough money for a football or two. The girls relished in the new equipment, while the boys were o' so bitter. Out of jealousy and spite, Mr. Boxer hid all the new equipment. The act was supposed to be a simple prank intended to seek revenge, but Mr. Boxer had unintentionally started the legendary prank war.

It became a common tradition for the two teachers to prank and be pranked, but one day Mrs. Fued decided she has had enough. The

exhaustion from being on her toes all the time had finally gotten her. So, she gathered her most loyal students to plot her revenge for the last time; the experience would be remembered as the prank that ended the war. To start, her students would meet three times after school for "exercise."

Once the girls had finalized and perfected their plan, they were ready for their last mission. The team of girls, headed by their leader, crept into the inner depths of the school early in the morning. They moved quickly through the deserted hallways and into what was established as the "boy's territory."

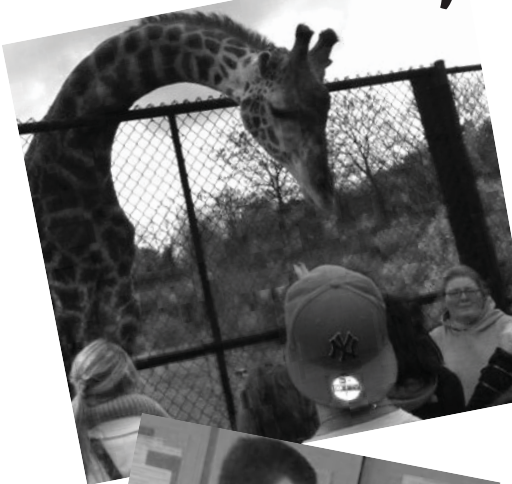
The locker room was smelly, crusty, and cockroaches the size of small baseball scattered

into the corners just as the door to the room opened. Careful not to breathe in the fumes or touch the surfaces, the girls flawlessly set up for their prank.

After their mission was completed, they filed out one by one and exited the building just before the boys had begun to arrive. Assuming their normal routine Mr. Boxer, followed by the boys, unblocked the door to the locker room. What was laid out in front of them was appalling. Without a choice, the boys stood and watched in awe at what faced them...

To be continued in next month's issue!

SURPRISE, YOU'RE IN HI-LITES!





Winter fashion forecast

BY: LAUREN ZAWATSKI

With winter soon approaching, it is easy to take the simple route when planning an outfit: throwing on a sweater and a pair of boots and sprinting out the door. However, as tempting as this idea can be, it is still possible to look polished and trendy without freezing half to death. As understandable as it is (we all have had a few "It's too cold to dress nice" type of days), sacrificing fashion for warmth does not have to occur. Below are some tips and trends to refresh your winter wardrobe!

- Try a hat. With the various styles of hats out there, you are bound to find one that suits you. Knit hats are usually a safe choice, but if that's not your thing, try a beret with a sparkly pin to ensure it stays put.
- Infuse pops of color. Just because it is winter does not mean your entire wardrobe must consist of grey and black. Wear a cobalt dress with tights or coral lipstick to infuse some color into a dark outfit.
- Tie your scarf differently. Scarves are easily the most worn accessory of winter, so tying

yours a new way can spice up an outfit considerably. For inspiration look at scarves.net, an excellent website that shows 40 different ways to tie a scarf.

- Utilize your summer wardrobe. Remember that gorgeous dress you loved wearing over the summer? Don't stash it the back of your closet until next year, you can still wear it by mixing it with winter clothes. Add a thick button-up sweater, a belt to cinch at the waist and printed tights, and your summer dress is ready for the winter!
- Forget the "Labor Day rule." Don't let the infamous "Don't wear white after Labor Day" rule phase you; white is the perfect color to add during winter. A white blazer gives an instantly chic aura to an otherwise drab outfit.
- Alternate your outerwear. As marvelous as a cozy sweater can be, it can feel routine after a while. If you are getting sick of sweaters, try a leather jacket, poncho or military-style jacket instead as a welcome change.

Really, again?

BY: BRIE MILLER

Every year music artists come out with their own versions of holiday favorites in a Christmas Album. But, how many times can one really listen to the same songs plague the radio over two months in advance of the holiday? This is a list of some of the most covered music of the holiday season.



- Jingle Bell Rock
- Silent Night
- Santa Baby
- Have Yourself a Merry little Christmas
- It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas
- All I Want for Christmas is You
- Holly Jolly Christmas
- Santa Clause is Coming to Town
- Last Christmas
- White Christmas

Tasty Apple Pie

BY: MACKENZIE HARTMAN

Pie crust

- 1 cup dry rolled oats
- 1/4 cup whole-wheat pastry flour
- 1/4 cup ground almonds

- 2 tablespoons brown sugar, packed
- 3 tablespoons canola oil
- 1 tablespoon water

Filling

- 6 cups sliced and peeled tart apples (about 4 large apples)
- 1/3 cup frozen apple juice concentrate
- 2 tablespoons quick-cooking tapioca
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

To prepare pie crust

1. Mix dry ingredients together in a large mixing bowl.
2. In a separate bowl, mix oil and water together with whisk.
3. Add oil and water mixture to dry ingredients. Mix until dough holds together. Add a bit more water if needed.
4. Press dough into 9-inch pie plate. Set aside until filling is prepared.
5. To prepare filling, combine all ingredients in a large bowl. Let stand for 15 minutes. Stir and then spoon into prepared pie crust. Bake at 425 F for 15 minutes. Reduce heat to 350 F and bake 40 minutes, or until apples are tender.





Wii U Wonder??

BY: BRIE MILLER

With a release date of November 18, Wii U is expected to sell over 5.5 million consoles in the first year. The starting price of the Wii U is \$300 for the standard set and \$350 for the deluxe set.

Being the first Nintendo console to offer high definition graphics, it includes an HDMI cable in both sets. The Wii U gamepad, the primary controller, offers a touchscreen to compliment key gameplay, which is normally shown on the television; the Wii U Pro Controller, a more traditional controller, is also given. With a \$50 price increase, few aspects differentiate the two types of the Wii U consoles available for purchase. The white 8GB system is the basic version, while the deluxe version includes 32GB of flash storage, as well as stands and a charging dock. There are currently 85 confirmed titles, 65 retail, and 20 downloadable for the console these include Call of Duty: Black Ops II, New Super Mario Bros. U, Assassin's Creed III, and ZombiU.



Pop Goes Punk 5



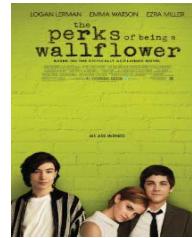
BY: TY RICHARDSON

For those of you who follow the "Pop Goes" series, every year there seems to be a new CD released, and this year's is "Pop Goes Punk 5."

These CDs are great for see various artists of the alternative genre cover songs of the Pop and Rap genres. Some well known hits covered on this CD are The Wanted's "Glad You Came," which was covered by We Came As Romans, and Justin Bieber's "Boyfriend," which was covered by Issues. Other Artists and Bands covering songs on this CD are Breath Carolina, Craig Owens, and Forever the Sickest Kids.

The newest pop songs are usually covered on the CD but there are always some exceptions. For example Breath Carolina, covering "Billie Jean," and The Maine, covering "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun." "Pop Goes Punk 5" is a great way to expand your music taste while also listening to your favorite songs. I give this CD 4 out of 5 stars. If you want to listen to some songs before purchasing the CD, go to Fearless Records Youtube page and they have a few lyric videos for some of the songs.

The Perks of Being a Wallflower



Five / Five Stars

BY: ZOE CARR

During a school year, you experience awkward dances, show up to football games, and have late night gossip sessions – all of which "The Perks of Being a Wallflower" include. The movie, which was adapted from Stephen Chbosky's novel, is about Charlie (Logan Lerman), a depressed teenage boy starting his first year of high school with a less than stellar attitude about it. During one of the football games, Charlie meets Patrick (Ezra Miller) and his stepsister Sam (Emma Watson) and the three immediately become friends. Throughout the course of the year, not only do Charlie's friendships grow stronger, but his feelings toward Sam grow stronger as well. Charlie makes a mistake though, and this mistake will cost him his friendships. Soon afterward, everyone heads off to college, except for Charlie. Feeling low, Charlie harms himself and ends up in a teenage mental hospital. The experience there is a life-changing journey for Charlie and his parents.

"The Perks of Being a Wallflower" is a movie that every heart wants to hate but still ends up loving. The movie grabs onto you from the beginning and sends you on a roller-coaster ride, and will send you walking out of the movie theater

with tears pouring out of your eyes, both happy and sad. "The Perks of Being a Wallflower" has a wonderful cast that delivers an important message to the viewers.

Endless Summer



Five/Five Stars

BY: ZOE CARR

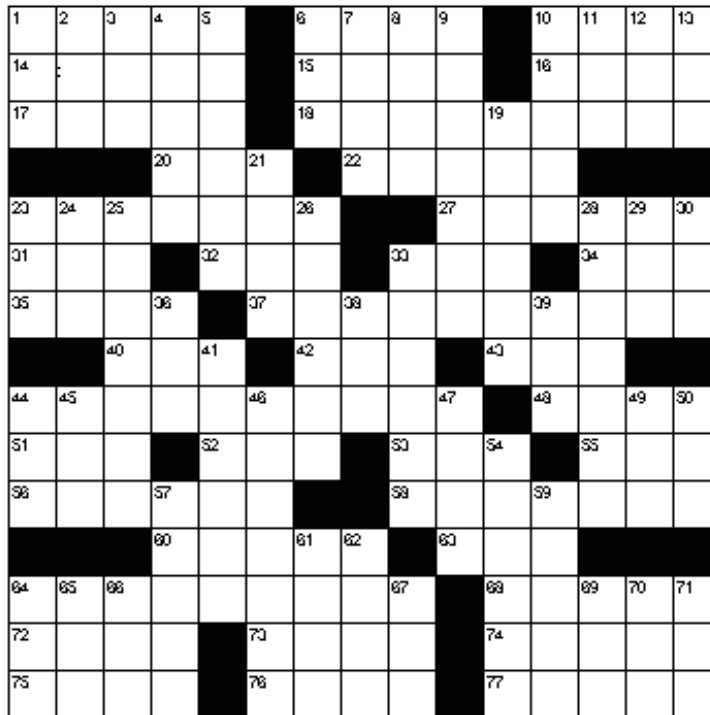
Lori and the boys are back! **Endless Summer** by Jennifer Echols is the sequel to "The Boys Next Door." The book picks up where "The Boys Next Door" ends. Adam and Lori are together, and they don't think anything will stop them. However, when her dad bans her from seeing Adam for the rest of the summer, Lori, like any other teenager in love, sneaks around to see him anyway. Once again, Lori and Adam get caught, not just making Lori's father even angrier, but now Adam's parents want to send him to military school. Even though it kills them, Lori and Adam decide to stay away from each other so military school doesn't become a reality. Of course there is some drama, but will they be able to work everything out in the end?

The book bounces back and forth between Lori and Adam's point of view, which was interesting because you were able to see how both of them felt. "The Boys Next Door" was good, but **Endless Summer** was able to complete Adam and Lori's story.

THANKSGIVING CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Big meal, like the first Thanksgiving dinner
6. Person who frosts a cake
10. Stick a fork into
14. New ___ (capital of India)
15. Treat for the dog
16. Pepsi or Coke
17. 34-Across's middle name
18. With 23-Across, the Pilgrims' agreement to establish a government
20. Low-___ (indistinct, like computer graphics)
22. ___ cards (fortunetelling tool)
23. See 18-Across
27. Thanksgiving's season
31. "Not a Pretty Girl" singer DiFranco
32. Cheerleader's shout
33. ___ Tin Tin (dog in a 1950's TV series)
34. "The Raven" poet
35. Olympic figure skater Lipinski
37. Area of the United States in which the Pilgrims settled: 2 wds.
40. Pacino and Gore
42. Squeak-stopping stuff
43. Have some 44-Across, for example
44. Thanksgiving dessert: 2 wds.
48. Overflow point of a cup
51. Santa ___, California
52. Suffix with serpent, hero or opal
53. ___ Lanka (country in the Indian Ocean)
55. Garden of Eden resident
56. Confused states: Hyph.
58. The Pilgrims were giving thanks for this at the first Thanksgiving
60. Aware of, in slang: 2 wds.
63. Slide down a slope
64. What students and employees enjoy during Thanksgiving



68. Sci-fi novelist Asimov
72. Jacob's twin in the Bible
73. ___-Rooter (drain-cleaning company)
74. "___ worry!" ("Never fear!"): 2 wds.
75. Like Shaquille O'Neal
76. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Slaughter
77. It's poured on the Thanksgiving turkey

DOWN

1. Govt. agency concerned with the safety of consumed items
2. "Electric" fish
3. "Can't we ___ just get along?"
4. Like a good knife
5. What a tone-deaf person has: 2 wds.
6. ___-compatible computer
7. Winter outerwear
8. New Age music superstar
9. Song chorus
10. "Party of Five" actor Wolf
11. Stranded motorist's need
12. Ginger ___
13. Soap unit
19. Pass time lazily
21. Read over quickly
23. Garfield is one
24. ___ scale of 1 to 10: 2 wds.
25. Film studio of "Pulp Fiction" and "Trainspotting"
26. Shania Twain's "You're Still ___": 2 wds.
28. In an embarrassing situation: 3 wds.
29. It's between Sun. and Tue.
30. "___ & Stacey" (short-lived sitcom)
33. Hot dog topping
36. Swiss mountain
38. Reddi-___ (brand of dessert topping)
39. Mad scientist's workshop
41. "Never mind": 2 wds.
44. "Mork and Mindy" co-star Dawber
45. Prefix meaning "one"
46. Give an emotional lift to
47. Significant stretches of time
49. Hookups in the E.R.
50. Encountered
54. Ticking off
57. Moving-van rental company: Hyph.
59. Glare blocker attached to a cap
61. "Tiny ___ Adventures" (animated series)
62. "I think you're ___ something!"
64. Doc for a 23-Down
65. Gentle ___ lamb: 2 wds.
66. Ripken of baseball
67. Urgent call for help
69. "One Day ___ Time": 2 wds.
70. Truck designed for on- and off-road: Abbr.
71. Shy

Riddles

What five-letter word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it?

Answer: Short

I have a large money box, 10 inches square and 12 inches tall. Roughly how many pennies can I place in my empty money box?

Answer: Only 1 - after that my box won't be empty

Which animal eats with its ears?

Answer: All of them because no animal can take off its ears to eat!

How many animals do I have if all but 3 are dogs, all but 3 are cats, all but 3 are pigs and all but 3 are cows?

Answer: I have four animals, one of each.

