



The Dispatch

"A beacon of truth."

■ Issue 1, Volume 38

Huntington High School

Oakwood and McKay Roads Huntington, NY 11743

OCTOBER 10



PHOTO: NATASHA STOLLMACK

» news in short

Davis named merit semi-finalist

Senior Conner Davis was named a semi-finalist in the National Merit scholarship program. He competed against 1.5 million teens from 22,000 high schools across the country.

Fourth annual Breast-Cancer Awareness walk

The Class of 2011 hosted their fourth annual walk for breast cancer on October 5th to raise awareness and donations.

HBDMB to host USSBA competition

The Huntington Blue Devil Marching Band is hosting a United States Scholastic Band Association (USSBA) competition on Sunday, October 17th. In addition to the HBDMB, there are 11 other bands scheduled to perform.

INSIDE NEWS/FEATURES



Arizona Immigration, pg. 3

ENTERTAINMENT



Huntington Music Scene, pg. 5

OPINION



Jersey Shore P/CP, pg. 7

INDEX

features.....3-4
entertainment.....5
editorial.....6
opinion.....7
sports.....8

IDENTIFY YOURSELF...OR ELSE

New ID policy sends waves of angst throughout student body

by SHIRA MOSKOWITZ

Over the summer, Huntington High School created a new rule for its students: they must always be wearing their student ID cards.

According to Dr. Leonardi, this new rule is not meant as a punishment. It is meant to "facilitate communication between the staff and students, and between the students and their peers." If everyone is wearing their student IDs it will be easy to identify them. People will be able to call each other by name, thus fostering a stronger and more caring community.

Dr. Leonardi thinks fondly of the day when she and her faculty can proudly say that they call every student by name. Even if it is just a teacher reminding a student of a minor rule, the impact she feels using a name will have is insurmountable. Letting students know that someone is paying attention to them and taking the time to get to know them is an important element of running a school and those sentiments can be easily expressed by simply adding names.

Many students are not supporting these reasons, feeling that the change is unnecessary. "Being forced to wear our ID cards is ridiculous. I keep mine in my backpack, which seems to work just fine," said senior Tyler Moore. While the policy may not seem ideal to all, having students wear their IDs at all times is not only a community building ven-



GRAPHIC: MIKAH FELDMAN-STEIN

» Huntington students and staff alike are sporting their ID cards around school.

ture, but also a safety precaution. Although it has not been a significant problem in the past, making students wear their IDs will make it easier for school officials to monitor who should and should not be in the building.

Many students are upset by this new rule, but become a bit more settled when they see the security benefits to the new system. "I can definitely understand the security aspect of it," said sophomore Alex Reinertsen. The ability to quickly identify HHS students and staff could prove majorly beneficial in the event of an emergency.

It is never easy to implement a foreign rule, especially within the pool of upperclassmen, because they have become so accustomed to certain methods. Defiant Facebook statuses have appeared since the school sent

out a letter explaining the new rule ("wear my ID at school? HAH get real..."), and many people seem adamant about not cooperating.

Dr. Leonardi has prepared herself for the challenge of getting people in tune with the new regulation and hopes that once everyone begins to do it, students will realize how minimally intrusive the rule is and follow suit. She and her faculty plan to be lenient in the beginning of the school year until all IDs are made and have moved picture day to an earlier date to speed up the process.

If students do not have their IDs on them temporarily they will be able to use the extra copy that will be stored in the

see STUDENT IDs on pg. 3

Stein's swift return

Students celebrate rearrival of HHS favorite

by MIKE VALENTE

"The halls will once again feel normal," says Senior Joe D'Esposito of Mr. Stein's return to the high school.

D'Esposito is one of many

students who will be comforted by the return of the Huntington High School faculty member. Although most of the student body may wish to see him patrol the

halls routinely once again, the former assistant principal will assume a position of a much different capacity.

Mr. Stein had always dreamed of becoming a principal. When the position became available at Woodhull Intermediate School in the summer of 2009, his friendly demeanor and extraordinary patience made him the perfect candidate for the job. Despite receiving rave reviews as principal after his first year, district issues and the Jack Abrams School debacle forced Mr. Stein to lose his position.

Aware of Mr. Stein's value to the school community, the Board of Education decided to give him new responsibilities. "I really appreciate the opportunity given to me by Mr. Finello and the Board

of Education," said Stein. This opportunity entails some of Mr. Stein's previous responsibilities in the high school, but will also allow him to have more interaction with schools throughout the district.

As the District Director of School Safety and Alternative Educational Programs, Mr. Stein will work closely with security staff and administrators within the district. Students concur that his presence will still brighten up the hallways on occasion, however his main focus will not be the high school students. Instead, Mr. Stein will be making daily trips to various other schools in an effort to create a safer environ-

see STEIN on pg. 3



PHOTO: DYLAN FERBER

» Mr. Stein is now the District Director of School Safety and Alternative Educational Programs.

Larkin takes the lead

HHS senior hopes to raise environmental awareness through new student organization

by CARRIE FANTE

From the Gulf oil spill to deforestation to global warming, the environment is a hot topic on many people’s minds.

Huntington has tried to start environmental initiatives in the past such as setting up a recycling system in the cafeteria last year, which followed other attempts at recycling in the school. However, most initiatives to make HHS, which like most schools uses hundreds of sheets of paper each day, more environmentally friendly have not lasted in the long run.

Part of the reason for this is ignorance about the environment, which is why senior Shayne Larkin came up with the idea for the Youth Environmental Activists of Huntington High School, or Y.E.A.H.H.S.

“One day my friend told me that he ‘just didn’t care about the environment,’ and then asked me if I believed in global warming. We got into a lengthy conversation about it, and he finally began to express concern,” said Larkin when asked how she came up with the idea for the club. “It made me realize that



PHOTO: DYLAN FERBER

✿ Shayne Larkin is ready to spread her love of the environment.

more people would care if only they were informed. So, that night I sat down at my computer, designed a flier for Y.E.A.H.H.S and e-mailed Dr. Leonardi about my idea.”

Larkin hopes that the club will work to make students informed about the environment and more enthusiastic about doing something to help it. She says many students “feel like there isn’t any hope for the environment’s recovery because of how massive the tragedies are compared to how much they as individuals can do about them.”

Larkin wants to use the club to convince her classmates that the “‘small things’ we do in our school and community will contribute to a larger effort.” She says, “One of the club’s mantras is going to be: ‘Think globally, act locally.’”

After she got Dr. Leonardi’s approval, Larkin made a Facebook group to determine the potential interested members for the club. “The group membership became indicative of potential club members,” said Shayne.

“I’m really excited to join

it! I think it’s great that more students are starting to think about the environment and get involved,” said senior Danielle Cerezo.

Y.E.A.H.H.S will meet on Wednesdays at 2:30 PM and is to be advised by science teacher Mr. McKee. At each meeting there will be a short current event presentation on something related to the environment. They also want to continue to improve recycling at the high school, and come up with other ideas for making the school more environmentally friendly.

CLUB LIST

What better way to explore your interests and meet exciting new people than by joining a club? HHS is chock full of various student organizations that can be enjoyed by all (Note: The clubs listed below can be joined by all grades and without any applications or pre-requisites).

Club Name	Advisor
A World of Difference	Ms. Biagi and Ms. DeCanio
The Dispatch	Mr. Graber
Environmental Club	Mr. McKee
Etcetera Literary Magazine	Mr. Krummenacker
Gay/ Straight Alliance	Mr. Dumar
Grandfriends	Ms. Biagi and Ms. DeCanio
Habitat for Humanity	Mr. Gilmor
History Day Club	Ms. Desiderio
H.O.P.E	Mr. Schwendemann
Key Club	Ms. Colica and Mrs. Krynski
Mathletes	Mr. Mattis and Ms. Meyer
Science Research	Ms. Pyzocha
Stage Crew	Mr. Gilbert
Triathlon Club	Mr. Fishlow
Video Club	Ms. Swan
Y.E.A.H.H.S.	Mr. McKee
Yearbook	Ms. Piffard

HHS welcomes three new heads

by HOLLY FLORES

Three new heads of the Academic departments have stepped up to the plate for the 2010-2011 school year. HHS welcomes Raffaella Montesano (Director of the Science and Instructional Technologies Departments), Kitty Klein (Director of the Guidance Department), and Marybeth Robinette (Director of Mathematics).

Having three new directors means that the core values of each subject will be strengthened, curriculums will become more organized and efficient, and most importantly, students will have the ability to get in contact with an official chairperson to discuss goals, ambitions and give feedback per department.

Unfortunately, this year the directors will not be in their usual offices, scattered throughout the building based on the hallway of the predominant subject. Instead, their offices are neatly squared away in the rotunda of Jack Abram’s Intermediate School. However, the phone numbers for the department have not changed, and they should be available to contact by phone, e-mail, or in person during several periods at the high school.

Raffaella Montesano graduated from Cornell University in 1976 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology, and in 2000 she obtained a Master of Science

degree from Hofstra University, where she also received state certification as an administrator in 2004. Since then, Ms. Montesano has completed many positions or various rigors that clearly exemplify her proficiency in the profession.

Ms. Robinette graduated from Hartford University with a degree in sociology with a special education certification in 1978 as well as a master’s degree in computer science in 1985 at Union College. She went on to obtain a certificate of advanced study in educational leadership along with state administrative certification at SUNY Stony Brook in 2009.

Ms. Kitty Klein received a B.A. in psychology from C.W. Post College, an M.S. in school counseling, and a P.D. in secondary education administration and supervision from St. John’s University.

Raffaella Montesano Email: rmontesano@hufsd.edu Phone: 673-2078
Marybeth Robinette Email: mrobinette@hufsd.edu Phone: 673-2077
Kitty Klein Email: kklein@hufsd.edu Phone: 673-2101

WORD ON THE STREET

What was the strangest thing that happened to you this summer?



Steve Correll- Senior

“Ordering 140 chicken nuggets at Burger King.”



Daniel Giraldo- Freshman

“Ding dong ditching with my friends. The guy let his pitbull go after us...it caught up to us and started licking us.”



Richard Gray - Senior

“I met one of my favorite designers, Daniel Vosovic, and went to his studio to talk to him! I even got an invite to the Spring/ Summer Runway Show!”



Laura Ironman- Sophomore

“About 20 five-year-olds chanted, ‘Laura kissed a boooy!’ in front of my boss.”



Katherine Gerdes- Freshman

“My friends and I picked up a ringing payphone, and a man asked for ‘red squirrel.’ A man in sunglasses and a hat appeared, and picked up the payphone the next time it rang, screaming, ‘Red squirrel, ready to go!’ A black car pulled up and he jumped into it and drove away.”

The opinions expressed do not reflect the opinions of The Dispatch’s staff, nor the HUFSD School Board or any affiliated.

PHOTOS: DYLAN FERBER AND NATASHA STOLLMACK

Land of the free?

Arizona Immigration law leaves many questioning the rights of U.S. residents

by DAVID STILLMAN

The immigration law passed in Arizona this summer, which was designed to seek and deport illegal immigrants from the state, was blocked via a federal preliminary injunction. Huntington High School has a sizeable percentage of Latin American students, many of whom are concerned over the legislation.

The law cannot be enforced before the trial governing its constitutionality is held. The supporters of the law claim that the law is protecting U.S. citizens from illegal aliens occupying the country. Those opposing the law view it as a liability that can restrict the rights of bona fide U.S. citizens. However, many people believe that those in favor of the law support it due to racist feelings.

With most illegal immigrants being of Latin American descent, the law would effectively remove many Latin Americans from Arizona. The law also gives the government the power to check an immigrant’s documentation while enforcing other laws. The Arizona immigration law has become a national concern, with President Obama actively opposing it, and Senator John McCain actively supporting it. The controversy over this law has created animosity in Latin Americans throughout the country, including those who reside in Huntington.

Ms. Pena’s ESL class was asked about the justification of the immigration law. One student remarked how it is difficult for working families to obtain immigration documents in the first place, and how it is unfair to request such documents arbitrarily.

Another stated that the law was extremely racist. “There are plenty of immigrants from other countries that do not have proper

documentation, but [Latin Americans] are the only people who are punished for it.” A student explained that the only reason for Latin Americans being in the United States was to find work. “They are not criminals or delinquents; they are people searching for work in the only place available to them.”

One student stated that the families are also bringing their children to a better educational environment. The school system in the United States is much better than those available in Latin America.

Luisa Quintanilla, another Latin American student outside of the ESL class, stated that the law would not be enforced on people with fair skin and blonde hair; it would solely target the stereotypical Latin American person, which goes against the fundamental aspects of the Constitution. Sandra Duarte added, “The immigrants are supporting their families, and this law is also very capable of abusing their rights.” The Latin American community feels that the law is denying Latin Americans rights that are given to every other individual in the country.

Ms. Debhora Mellon, Huntington’s Advanced Placement Government and Politics teacher, stated, “Any person inside the United States has the rights

granted to them by the Constitution. Even if you’re an Australian traveling to Spain with a layover in Los Angeles, you have rights as long as you are in an American airport waiting for your plane.” The Arizona Immigration law seems to be denying Latin Americans those very rights granted to every person on American soil. The law also called for the detainment of people who did not have the documents on them but claimed to have them at home. If the people did have the documents at home, then genuine citizens would be jailed unjustly at a police officer’s discretion.

The Arizona Immigration law is both supported and opposed by different groups in the United States. Those supporting it are claiming that Arizona has reserved powers granted to them in the Constitution that allow it to govern its immigration policies as its state government sees fit. Those opposing it claim that the people entering the country are subject to the federal government’s policies and regulations regarding immigration.

The sentiments about the law are extremely controversial, but the real tempers will rage when the law is either permanently passed or declared unconstitutional, potentially by a Supreme Court ruling.



PHOTO: DYLAN FERBER

Students in Ms. Pena’s ESL class.

STUDENT IDs from front page

dean’s office. If they have permanently lost their ID. they will be charged for a new one, a procedure that has been in place for years. Students without their ID cards visibly displayed will receive lunch detention; seniors will put their privileges in jeopardy. The school will be providing lanyards and clips to make carrying out this new rule simpler for students.

Huntington is not the first to implement this standard; as a matter of fact, HHS is coming upon this rule later then most. This is the beginning of a multi-step plan that includes the purchase of an automatic ID reader in the cafeteria to make students’ lives easier. The PTA has offered to fundraise for this new machine to help create a more organized community at Huntington High School.

Change is daunting for many students, however once this new rule is looked at from multiple angles it becomes clear that the school has its students’ best interest in mind. It is the beginning of a safer and friendlier community.

STEIN from front page

ment for students and staff. “I’m going to recommend many changes to Dr. Leonardi to keep this school as safe as possible, both interior and exterior.” To ensure school safety, Mr. Stein will also assume the role of acting liaison between the district and the local police. Aside from the obvious pressing security needs, many people hope that the alternative high school program can be further improved. Mr. Stein is responsible for the development of the program and will make routine recommendations to the superintendent on the matter. The responsibilities he now holds may seem overwhelmingly difficult, but the district is confident that there is no other person better qualified for the job.

Although Mr. Stein is excited to tackle new challenges, the change is somewhat bittersweet. “Quite frankly, it was my best year in terms of enjoyment,” he said about his year at Woodhull. The Woodhull community welcomed Mr. Stein with open arms, and was extremely grateful for his hard work throughout the year. As he begins his new job this year, there is no reason to rule out the chances of assuming principal duties somewhere in the future. Given his close affiliation with the district and Huntington High School in particular, it would not be a surprise to one day see Mr. Stein move upstairs from the basement and roam the halls as Principal Stein.

No say, no vote, no problem

G.O. elections exclude two-thirds of eligible voters

by SHIRA MOSKOWITZ

The recently elected G.O. (Government Office) representatives were not brought into office by the entire student body. Rather than being elected by all whom they will be serving, the 2010-2011 G.O. officers were only voted for by the current seniors- approximately one-fourth of the student body.

Annually, each grade elects a set of representatives from president to historian to attend to the tasks of student government. At the same time, the entire student body is meant to elect the Government Office (G.O.) officers. These seniors represent the student body as a whole throughout the year, from reading the morning announcements to planning school wide events.

Clearly, this is far from fair. The G.O. officers represent all of Huntington High School, not just their own grade. Allowing only the junior class of 2010 to vote makes the nature of the election susceptible to becoming a popularity contest. While some may argue that one's contemporaries may be the best judges of who would perform best in office, the system should mandate that the current freshmen, sophomore, and junior classes at the time of the election are eligible to vote.

Mr. Troffa, a student government advisor, commented, "We didn't mean to hurt

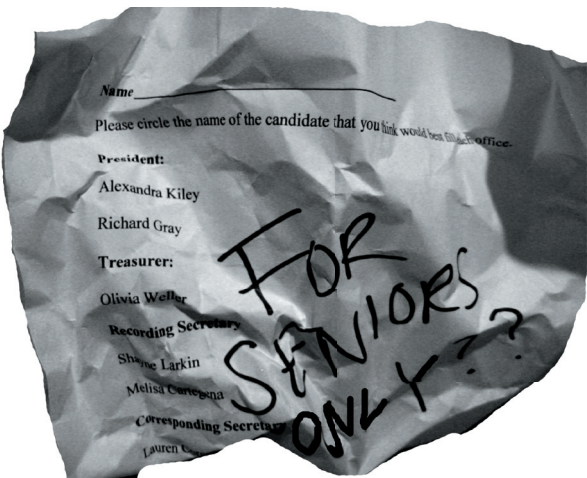
anyone...we just didn't think it made sense for kids to be voting for someone they didn't even know."

A G.O. officer is in charge of representing the entire student body and should have to make an effort to reach out and connect to underclassmen. "As G.O. president, I should be the elected president of the entire school. I think it's ridiculous that only a fraction of students were allowed to vote," said senior Ally Kiley. By not ensuring that all grades voted, representatives with no interest in the wellbeing of younger classes could easily have been elected.

An issue is on the horizon due to the fact that only the class of 2011 had a say in who would be the G.O. officers for the coming year. In meetings with officers from all grades and the G.O., the senior class will

be doubly represented, and thus the opinions of one class may likely take over and outweigh the others.

It is fortunate that the class of 2011 chose G.O. representatives that embody the many faces of Huntington High School and are willing to speak on behalf of the other three grades. However, in the future, the freshmen, sophomores, and juniors must all have a say in the G.O. elections to collectively choose their leaders for the upcoming school year.



GRAPHIC: NATASHA STOLLMACK



Ally Kiley Ms. Kiley's year as G.O. president will be the finale of a long reign as a representative of her peers.

She began working with student government in fourth grade as class representative and has been a school leader every possible year since then. "Spirit week" is well underway and there is talk of a potential second pep rally. Kiley is an avid Harry Potter fan and dislikes yogurt; she is also a member of the Girl Scouts.

Mr. Gray has been involved in the student government for the past three years. His biggest goal is for the G.O. to make a strong and positive impact on the school. Gray is a member of the Art Honor Society and the HHS drama club. He hopes to attend FIT next fall for fashion design.

Richard Gray
Vice President



Shayne Larkin
Recording Secretary

Ms. Larkin has been an officer in student government since her sophomore year. She was and remains a huge advocate of the "Bracelets for Haiti" fundraiser that began last year, and hopes to continue it this year. In her spare time, she enjoys listening to music and watching animal videos on YouTube.

Ms. Corcoran is very excited to be a part of the 2010-2011 G.O. She has been involved in student government since the ninth grade. She hopes to hold many events and fundraisers throughout the year. Corcoran is the woodwind captain of the marching band.

Lauren Corcoran
Corresponding Secretary



Olivia Weller Ms. Weller began her membership in student government two years ago as a sophomore. She is excited for Homecoming and to lend a hand in planning prom for a second time. Weller is also an accomplished fencer, having been named the county champ as a sophomore and junior.

Mr. McCartney is a first-year member of the HHS student government and is thrilled to be involved for his senior year. He is most excited about making Homecoming an enjoyable event for all. In his free time, McCartney enjoys skateboarding.

Kyle McCartney
Historian



PHOTOS: NATASHA STOLLMACK

Words from the wise

Straight from Dr. Leonardi's desk



PHOTO: COURTESY OF DR. LEONARDI

The 2010-2011 school year is in full swing, and many students are noticing changes within the high school. These changes stem from Dr. Leonardi and her administrative team's agenda, full of new ideas that will hopefully lead to a safer and more cohesive environment at the high school.

Dr. Leonardi has adopted a new mantra to embody what she wants students and faculty at HHS to keep in mind this year: "Respect, responsibility, and safety." She is also striving to strengthen relationships within the school community, especially among students. "I want there to be more events like family gatherings; more tradition..." said Dr. Leonardi. Her first steps towards achieving this goal can be seen through the new ID policy and the barbecue that will

be held at Float Night. The mandatory wearing of IDs is already fostering contact on a first name basis- it also promotes safety in a simple way. The barbecue was approved by each grade level's student council and will serve as an additional enjoyable element to the traditional float-making event.

Although Dr. Leonardi has brainstormed ideas of her own, she is requesting that students bring any thoughts on how to improve the school environment to the administration's attention. There will be a box in the main office for submitting ideas, or students may leave messages with Mrs. DeAngelis, Dr. Leonardi's secretary. Ideas are to be submitted in a specific and developed format (who, what, where, when, how, etc.).

-Frustrated with school policy?

-Have ideas on how to improve HHS?

-Need questions answered?

Your voice matters.

Leave a message for Dr. Leonardi today!

Spotlight on... HUNTINGTON'S MUSIC SCENE

by SHAYNE LARKIN

With the marching band season well underway and the auditions for Huntington's plethora of musical ensembles approaching, the air in HHS is full of music. But there are some Huntington students also making sound waves who spend a bit more time underground. These creative and self-established student musicians have pursued music beyond the school's music wing; inside their basements and studios.

When describing the "independent" music scene of HHS students, there's something magical that occurs within it. The genres typically played by

"Foreshadow" (sophomore Brent Filippini on guitar, Huntington alum Luke Reigot on bass, and drummer Ricky Dennis) recalls, "I learned a lot about the punk music scene from Jake Zimmerman when he attended Huntington." Jake Zimmerman, Huntington alum and punk rock connoisseur, became interested in the punk scene while in high school, and now promotes and books countless musical functions on Long Island. It's likely that he's responsible for most of punk music's influence within the Huntington High School community by fostering the Huntington youths' interest in punk through word of mouth

students like those in "Foreshadow," his younger siblings, Josh and Aaron Zimmerman, also keep Huntington's punk music momentum turbulent. Sophomores Aaron Zimmerman and Ryan Lader have been playing gigs left and right with their hardcore band "Scourge," which has been developing a hefty fan base on Facebook. The young musicians' active role in the music scene as well as their musical talent is rather remarkable.

On September 3rd, the boys were booked to play alongside hardcore heavy weights "Suburban Scum," "Incendiary" and "Dead End Path" in New Jersey. They could not attend due to Hurricane Earl. Regardless, that's not too shabby for a bunch of fourteen and fifteen-year-old kids. They will soon be recording their highly anticipated self-titled EP.

Huntington also has the pleasure of being affiliated with "White Noise," the one-man mash-up band of former Huntington student Mike McCourt. He's currently a sophomore at Penn State studying political science, and has released two albums since his high school graduation ("Spoiler Alert!" and "Disregard Females. Acquire Currency.") He's performed at Randolph-Macon College, Villanova University and Bucknell University, and has DJ'd several parties around the PSU campus.

As McCourt climbs the musical ladder at Penn, "White Noise" is constantly being bumped from the speakers in houses he used to call home.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SHAYNE LARKIN

➤ Aaron Zimmerman of "Scourge"

When asked about how growing up in Huntington influenced his taste and talent in music, he replied, "Because [Huntington] is so diverse, I was constantly being introduced to new artists and genres. Certain artists, like Wiz Khalifa and Basshunter, are very popular at HHS, and if I grew up somewhere else there's a chance I never would have heard them."

Notable Huntington alum Gabe Perez is a member of the band "Ultrageist," which was founded at HHS and has recently begun picking up a lot of steam nationally and internationally. The members of "Ultrageist" have performed in the Louis D. Gianni gymnasium at many a Bandfest. The reason Geist continues to perform there? "(Ultrageist) continuously playing at the high school is a cross between a flex of our own Huntington pride and a check-up that the creative side of Huntington is still strong and thriving, the creative side that isn't forced by an educational system. The one that is natural and real," says Perez.

Perez traces his band's success to Huntington's social climate, saying, "None of (it) would have been if I wasn't exposed to the music of my peers growing up through high school and that's something I'd like to contribute back to. Huntington is a place of much diversity within heritage and lifestyles, creating a lot of smart, open-minded beings if they don't become arrogant from their successes."

Indeed, the bulk of HHS musicians who attended "Ultrageist's" shows in their underclassmen days are now rocking the one foot high platform at Bandfests today.



➤ Members of "Foreshadow": (clockwise from top left) Brent Filippini, Ricky Dennis, Conner Purcell, Luke Reigot.

student bands and artists are not offered as a part of a school curriculum. However, that's not to say that there are no "teachers" involved in keeping the student music scene alive at Huntington. Conner Purcell, senior and vocalist of the hardcore band

and also by making live performances accessible to students.

While studying at Hofstra University, Zimmerman continues to book shows on the Island, but there's been something of a torch passing to younger H-ton punkers. In addition to inspiring

The Dispatch examines . . .



1. Nicki Minaj- Harajuku Barbie has held her own as she is quickly becoming one of the best female rappers in the game.

2. Stein- HHS just didn't seem quite right without him around.

3. Video chatting- iChat, ooVoo, Skype, you name it- no one can seem to get enough.

4. Olive green- This hot fall color can be seen all over the halls of HHS.

5. The Social Network- Facebook lovers everywhere are anticipating the release of David Fincher's new film.



1. Meat dresses- Fans and haters alike seemed to disapprove of Gaga's carcass costume.

2. Tornadoes on L.I.- It'll be a good story for the grandkids-that's about it.

3. Reggie Bush- This NFL star is giving the NCAA a bad name through his relinquishment of the Heisman Trophy.

4. Glasses with fake lenses- You don't look cute, trendy or like a hipster. You look ridiculous.

5. Silly Bandz- Just make it stop.

Primetime back in business

by AMY EISEN

With the beginning of school comes the return of worthwhile television. Thanks to cable networks with shows like *True Blood* and *Mad Men*, summer TV isn't totally unwatchable. Fortunately, this fall lineup has proven itself with both new and returning shows.

The new show that has caught my attention is *Lone Star*, a Fox drama about a con man torn between two lives and a pushy father. One side is Robert Allen, who lives in a small town with his girlfriend and scams his neighbors into investing in a non-existent oil well. The other, known as Bob, is married to the daughter of his oil-magnate boss, whom he and his father are trying to drain financially. Allen, however, is oddly enough a very likeable character and the show seems to have the twists, drama, and cleverness it needs to

continue.

For all those Gleeks, *Glee* returns for a second season promising more singing and more tribute episodes. Watch out for the Rocky Horror Picture Show Halloween tribute episode, with rumors claiming that the original cast may make an appearance (hopefully Tim Curry will wear a little more this time). Zac Efron is rumored to take part in an episode as well.

Like zombies? Who doesn't. AMC hopes to continue its run of excellent shows with *Walking Dead*, set some years after the zombie apocalypse. It follows a group of survivors in search of a new home, faced with many challenges, chiefly trying not to get eaten. It premieres, not coincidentally, on Halloween at 10 pm.

The Dispatch

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The Dispatch is Huntington High School's official student publication. Written for over 1200 students attending HHS, *The Dispatch* is distributed to all students, staff and school community members at the school free of charge.

The Editorial Board is the newspaper's decision-making body, organizing and directing its operation. *The Dispatch* staff has adopted the following editorial policy to express the rights, responsibilities and philosophy of the newspaper for the 2010-2011 school year.

The Dispatch of Huntington High School is a public forum, with its student editorial board making all decisions concerning its content. Unsigned editorials express the views of the majority of the editorial board.

Letters to the editor are welcomed and will be published as space allows. Letters are preferred signed, but may be published by request. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit letters for grammar and clarity, and all letters are subject to laws governing obscenity, libel, privacy, and disruption of the school process, as are all contents of the paper. Questions, comments, and letters to the editor should be sent electronically to dispatch@hufsd.edu or submitted to *The Dispatch* mailbox located in the main office.

Opinions in letters are not necessarily those of the staff, nor should any opinion expressed in a public forum be construed as the opinion of the administration, unless so attributed.

The Dispatch's goal is to provide readers with interesting content in a wide variety of areas. Such areas include the news coverage of school and community events, as well as features on relevant topics. In addition, *The Dispatch* will provide opinionated editorials on controversial topics, as well as provide previews and reviews for upcoming school and professional sports seasons and other forms of entertainment.

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EDITORIAL

It is often the case that the human race is reluctant to change, and often there is no real reason behind the opposition. Such is the story with students that are resistant to wearing their Huntington High School ID cards, a new mandatory policy that Dr. Leonardi has enacted. While *The Dispatch* supports Dr. Leonardi's new plan, we have come across many who are simply refusing to display their identification. Although some have acknowledged that there is no legitimate reason as to why the policy should be disobeyed, *The Dispatch* will examine the excuses of those who prefer to be publicly denounced than to think logically.

The Self-Proclaimed Fashionistas. A popular response to why a student has refused to wear his/her ID card has been, "It doesn't go with my outfit!" Huntington High School has certainly pumped out quite a few talented fashion students. Unfortunately, creative skill seems to have suppressed the logic of these students that feel they have had tacky white ID cards unfairly inflicted upon them, thus cramping their style.

Perhaps some see the task that faces them as daunting. *The Dispatch* has sincere faith in the fashionable circuit of students at HHS that they can rise to the challenge of creating a trendy approach to abiding the new policy. After all, a man has no more fashion sense than he can display in a time of crisis.

The Hollowly Defiant. With any kind of change comes mixed reactions; some will agree with reason, some will disagree with reason, and many will passionately disagree without any reason at all. For students who have labeled the ID rule as stupid, pointless or a synonym with either, perhaps you may be intrigued as to why the policy will make the lives of HHS students and faculty much easier. To reference Dr. Leonardi's mantra for the 2010-2011 school year, ("Respect, Responsibility and Safety"), the mandatory wearing-of ID cards will improve each of these areas.

A first-name basis among students and simply a name basis between students and faculty is an important stepping stone towards developing a respectful school community. Confusing and potentially awkward situations of not knowing someone's name, or worse yet mistaking them for someone else, will be easily alleviated through a quick glance at the shiny rectangle hanging from their neck, sticking out of a pocket, or tied to a personal bag. For many years, HHS has relied heavily on the presence of ID cards. Their usefulness

ranges from allowing seniors to leave the campus for lunch, admittance into the school cafeteria, and entrance to school events, such as Float Night and the Homecoming dance. If students are required to have their identification on them at all times, problems such as spending half of your lunch hour waiting on line to have your schedule checked on a Palm Pilot will become a thing of the past. Most importantly, the ID policy promotes a certain level of safety on school grounds. Administration and faculty could quickly identify a trespasser among the 1,200+ students wearing their identification in the event of a true emergency.

The Fearful. *The Dispatch* recognizes that many students are fearful of change. While this bunch may attempt to blend within the Defiant or Fashionistas, they are truly unnerved by the idea of their ID card abandoning its former residency under their bed. Luckily, the administration is well-prepared for this expected scenario.

Dr. Leonardi clearly stated that the ID policy revolves around the card "being visible at all times." She is mindful of the prediction that many students will not want to wear their IDs around their necks, and has therefore not made that a part of the policy. Students are allowed to and may adjust more easily to the switch by simply tying the lanyard to their backpack.

For many, the thought of having a plastic card bound to them during school hours is aggravating. Nevertheless, *The Dispatch* hope you may all look back on these first few weeks in laughter over how senseless all of the fuss was.



GRAPHIC: MIKAH FELDMAN-STEIN

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POINT/COUNTERPOINT

Live, love, fist pump

by KATIE PETROZZO

Guido. GTL. Poofs. MVP. For all of you out there who are unfamiliar with this slang and vocabulary, you’ve been missing out on the wildly entertaining reality show *Jersey Shore*, whose first season aired in December 2009 and came back as a huge success to MTV for a second season starting this past July. It follows the lives of eight house mates, Jenni “JWOWW” Farley, Nicole “Snooki” Polizzi, Sammi “Sweetheart” Giancola, Angelina Pivarnick, Michael “The Situation” Sorrentino, Paul “Pauly D” DelVecchio, Ronnie Ortiz-Magro, and Vinny Guadagnino, who share a house for the span of a summer vacation.

During the day they work at a T-shirt store on the boardwalk of *Jersey Shore* (Season 1,) and at a gelato shop located on the streets of Miami (Season 2), in exchange for living in a lavish vacation home. Each episode circulates around the crazy times the roommates are sharing, numerous jokes that will have anyone laughing about and quoting for weeks after the air date, and fist-pumping craziness at night clubs. While most say it’s another trash television show, they can’t argue with the hard fact that 2.7 million people tuned in for season one and continue to watch the show regularly. This highly captivating show can be sought after for comic relief; a way to unwind from the day’s stress and have a laugh about what the reality stars are up to. It always provides some sort of exciting new drama, whether it be about Sammi and Ronnie’s relationship or Angelina causing an uproar in the house. Nonetheless, it is a relief from the pressures we live through every day.

People have come to love the personalities the housemates have presented and the humorous banter that continues throughout their house and the season. The housemates also are extremely loyal to each other, and are always willing to help one another out whether it’s dealing with someone’s stubborn ex or an out of control stranger at a club. When Snooki was punched in the face last season, they consoled her, comforted her, took care of her, and made sure the offender was punished for his actions.



(from left to right) Pauly D, The Situation, Snooki, and JWOWW of Jersey Shore

They’ve become family to each other, which presents itself clearly on the show, showing how they stick with each other through bad times and good, and sit down together every night for a meal to spend hearty time with each other.

Another positive factor of the show is that these are not overpaid, high-maintenance celebrities trolling around showing everyone how luxurious their lives are; these are people who are working to make a living and on their time off enjoy quality time with people they have become incredibly close to.

While some people argue the show adds unnecessary drama to their lives, the protest is completely irrelevant. The events on the show are not happening to them; television viewers have the choice to tune in at 9 P.M. on Thursdays or not.

Whether you completely abhor it or are merely familiar with the title, *Jersey Shore* is a unique and ever-entertaining program to catch.

Take out the trash

by SAMI AIMAN

Jersey Shore is trash television. It takes everything that is wrong with reality television and combines it with the superficiality and arrogance of young adulthood. This monstrosity is being viewed by today’s youth under the pretense of reality television while others watch for the pure comedic genius that the show brings upon; shame on those who view the show as a comedy for they add fuel to the fire that is inflicting disease upon our nation’s mindset. In a house where self-proclaimed “guidos” and “guidettes” praise all things Italian, a supposed family-like bond is formed between the roommates. The denizens of the household apparently don’t know anything about authentic Italian culture, as the show demonstrates a love for fake tans, hair gel, men wearing lip-gloss, and fist-pumping than familial bonds. The show also portrays

such reliable romantic insight that it can teach even the most inexperienced daters to woo a foreigner with a sexy accent.

The best way to describe what is wrong with the *Jersey Shore* is by going over the characters that make the show what it is. Snooki is the almost-too-stereotypical cute bumbling idiot; a sad reminder that this is indeed reality television. She is a short spunky gal who can’t handle alcohol as it leads her to listen to the little birdie inside her head that tells her that making out with her roommates and being overly promiscuous is a good idea. She is also the most quotable character of the *Shore* with lines such as, “They’re alive when you kill it,” and “I’m not trashy unless I drink too much.” Many a father would love to have daughters like Snooki dearest.

The Situation is what every man shouldn’t be. He claims he knows a thing or two about Italian culture, but that’s rather debatable. Mike himself declared that he viewed his roommates as family,

but either those were extremely empty words or he doesn’t know what family is. In episode seven of season one, Mike creates a situation as he declares that he “committed a robbery.” He stole a girl that fellow roommate, Vinny, was hooking up with. Wasn’t it believed that Mike viewed his roommates as family? Men know not to touch another man’s woman, especially if the men involved are declared family. Secondly, The Situation completely denied other fellow roommate, JWOWW, any sort of aid when she came and pleaded to him to help her return to a hotel room. Avid watchers are aware of his beloved life policy: GTL. GTL stands for gym,

tan, and laundry. He focuses on these three things to heighten his looks while neglecting the building of his character. His inferiority complex is rather irritating as

he tries to establish himself as man of the house via drama and disrespect. He can’t handle that everyone does not view him as a god.

The romance in this show is also unparalleled and sickening. JWOWW’s lecherous situation teaches girls that cheating is okay and that blue roses await those who commit the act. Boys are taught that muscles will make up for charm, personality, and the inability to speak romantically which is proven through Ronnie and Sammi’s feeble attempts at romantic dialogue (a repetition of the words “You’re so special”).

This show is a disease that plagues us. Some enjoy the show for what is, and some enjoy it as a comedy knowing that the show is trash. Those whose reason is similar to the latter should realize this show is degrading and destroying the minds of those who don’t realize that the cast of *Jersey Shore* is filled with a bunch of, “Role models that should’ve never been.”

“This show is a disease that plagues us.”

21 periods worth of time wasted?

by EMILY MCGOLDRICK

Each morning, classes are put on hold in order to hear all about what is going on at school, and some may question the necessity of announcements due to their content as well as the time they take away from the classroom.

Whether it is about a meeting that has been canceled, or a win for a Huntington sports team, the morning announcements update students on recent school news. Yet it is questionable as to whether or not the five or so minutes during third period is the ideal time to share such headlines.

Several years ago, homeroom was a separate class scheduled before first period for students to bring their full attention to the loudspeaker. Today, HHS students are interrupted during their third period class where they seem much more concerned with handing in homework and catching up with friends than listening to reminders that they may need later. Twenty-five people all talking at once tend to make the intercom hard to hear.

It must be considered how relevant the information

really is- a simple recount of the score of yesterday’s big game would be much more substantial than explaining every moment, considering most people who were interested would have watched the game live from the stands anyway. While birthday reminders and other gimmicks

“...the time adds up over the months to be fifteen hours.”

are always fun and increase interest during the morning, students and teachers alike could get by without them.

If those five minutes were put toward time in class, it would not be a big change in the scope of one day, but the time adds up over the months to be fifteen hours,

which is the equivalent of about 21 periods. This time could be incredibly useful if it were put towards students for studying for big tests or just to go over an unclear subject.

It is a difficult task to find a direct and effective way to reach students. Any other means of sending out announcements to students, such as flyers, a bulletin board, or the use of the school TVs, have their positive attributes and negative consequences just like using the intercom. However, there is no doubt that the value of time in the classroom should trump a broadcast that consists of an honor society’s upcoming bake sale and a student’s birthday.

SPORTS

Inside Football’s two-a-days

A look at Huntington football’s rigorous preseason practicing



PHOTO: DYLAN FERBER

◆ The JV football team circles up before a game

by MIKE O’CONNOR

Many of Huntington High School’s fall sports teams show their dedication and commitment by holding pre-season practices during the summer. In addition to boy’s and girl’s soccer, field hockey, boy’s and girl’s cross country, and the golf team, both the JV and varsity football teams have held pre-season practices during the last few weeks of summer to try to get a head start on the season and gain a competitive edge against other schools.

The football teams begin their two-a-day pre-season practices earliest by starting in the second week of August

while the other sports teams start shortly after. These pre-season practices are designed to help athletes back into shape with strenuous workouts after a summer without practices. The members of the football teams spend a large amount of their two-a-days running from station to station, having to complete either calisthenics like push-ups and sit-ups or skill improvement exercises like footwork drill at each station. Athletes are able to hone their skills during these practices in anticipation for the fast approaching season.

The summation of these summer practices can be seen through team successes, such as the varsity football team’s performance during their two scrimmages against the North-

port and Half Hallow Hills West teams. These victories foreshadow a promising season for the HHS football teams as both of these triumphs were against very competitive teams, the Hills West team wining the Long Island Championship last year.

For many athletes, pre-season practices mark the end of their summer as two-a-days consume most of their time and leave them with little energy for much else. Others look forward to these practices as it will allow them to be with their friends again and they can spend their time playing a sport that they enjoy. Coaches value these pre-season practices as it is a great opportunity to begin evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of their players as well as a good time to start building team unity.

While pre-season practices may not be enjoyed by all, Huntington athletes show their true dedication by spending the end of their summer practicing with their teams.

Catch the teams on their home turf on...

October 9 vs. Deer Park (JV)

October 16 vs. Eastport (JV)

October 23 vs. E Hampton (V)

Huntington sports fans in hiding

Lack of team fanbases send morale down the drain

by DAVID STILLMAN

The sporting industry, believe it or not, is an entertainment industry. It is a chance to show the audience a display of athleticism, skill, and competition. Whether it’s parents cheering on their six-year olds at little league games, or devoted Bills fans rooting for their team after four straight Super Bowl losses, the fans make the event.

high school. With the fall season underway, it is unfortunate that only one out of the 11 fall sports teams will have ample spectators in the crowd.

Alex Gennaro, who has been on the varsity football team for three years, stated, “No matter how we have performed, dedicated fans show up to our game.” The

either. A lack of fans is depressing to athletes, and it instills a sense of unimportance in their performance. It is unfortunate because every event is worthy of an audience, and players almost always tend to perform better when cheered.

There is no logical reason as to why so many sports are unattended. The records

preoccupied with other activities such as schoolwork, clubs, and other social events, then they should emulate their G.O. president, Ally Kiley, who said that she would, “Attend at least one game of every sports team in the high school,” despite her busy schedule. However, the majority of Huntington High School students are not Ally



GRAPHIC: MIKAH FELDMAN-STEIN

The same cannot be said for the Huntington Blue Devils. With the exception of a few, it seems as if the fall teams are only viewed by parents and those in current relationships with the players. Huntington is renowned for its football and lacrosse teams, but there are 24 other teams in the

other teams do not see this dedication from their “fans”. The boys’ volleyball, cross country, and golf teams have experienced the emptiness of playing in front of sparsely-filled bleachers. Girl’s cross-country, tennis, and swimming teams are not used to packed stadiums and roaring crowds,

of the teams do not seem to be a factor because football has had a large audience despite two years of losing seasons. Perhaps it is the team’s reputations within the school that deprives them of fans, but a dislike for a certain team cannot be felt amongst the majority of the students. If students are

Kileys. Cheering for their peers is obviously not a top priority. Unless there is a dramatic shift in the mindset of the student body, the football team will be the only team performing for a crowd this fall.