



THE DISPATCH

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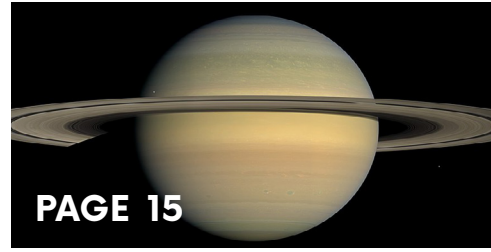
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BOYS SOCCER STUNS SUFFOLK

When it comes to soccer at Huntington, the best word that comes to mind to describe it is family. This family has proved everyone wrong by becoming the 2017 League III Champions, the first time in 28 years. Despite being predicted for sixth place in their division, the team came out on top with an overall record of 12-2-2 in league and non league games.

Coaches John Pagano and Jason Suarez remained confident with their players and focused on one game at a time. Captains Nat Amato, Michael Abbondandolo and Freddy Amador are just a few of the in-

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THE KAEPERNICK EFFECT LIBERAL PERSPECTIVE CONSERVATIVE PERSPECTIVE

BY
ZACH MCGINNISS

Football is a sport, in the most literal of ways, about progress: Its players move yard by yard, methodically and strategically, down the field, for first downs and then second and then third—a game of steady movement and minute measurement. But the drama of the sport often comes in those instances when, indeed, the slowness of progress becomes quick: the moment the arcing pass finds its recipient; the moment the tackle is evaded and the field is clear and the runner, weaving and winding, makes

*LIBERAL PERSPECTIVE
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4*

BY
PETER CICCONE

What does “freedom of speech” mean? Does it mean that we, as a society, can say whatever we want, period?

No, not really. What it does mean is that as citizens we can speak our minds without the government arresting us or without being hit in the head with a baseball bat. What it does not mean is that we can say whatever we want, whenever we want, without any consequences.

There has been a lot of controversy in the last year about whether

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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 2016-2017 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 hhsdispatch@gmail.com 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.

EDITORIAL

THOUGHTS & REFLECTIONS ON HIGH SCHOOL

BY SHAYE O'BEIRNE

I remember being in freshman orientation, as summer was slowly coming to an end, getting more and more anxious about my first year of high school. I was scared, and didn't really know what to expect. Even after the upperclassmen told me and my fellow freshmen not to worry, I still had my doubts.

That was two years ago, even though it only feels like two months ago. Every student was right when they said that it would go by so quick that you wouldn't even believe it. I had wished those last two years away, hoping to just get it over with as soon as possible. Now that I can reflect upon these two years I realize that, deep down, as much as I have wanted to make it to the finish line, I honestly don't want it to be over.

In my years at Huntington High School, the saying, "Huntington is as good as you make it," really reigns true. If you use the school to your advantage, might it be participating in a few clubs, trying out for some sports, or simply finding a new hobby you never thought you'd like, high school can be an exciting adventure.

Two years ago, I'd laugh if you told me where I'd be today. At that point, I had never played a sport, never worked a day in my life, and never really given back to



Huntington Swim Team is all smiles.

the community. Now, I play the sport I love all year round, I love my new job, and I've joined so many great clubs, as well as having discovered the countless hobbies I've fallen in love with doing.

I've learned that it doesn't matter what people think of you, as long as you're doing what you love. This is a place to make new friends and get out there. Even though some people you thought you knew may change along the way, don't let that hold you back, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind! The bottom line is, even if you're afraid, or shy, or unsure, go for it! You have nothing to lose, whether you're a freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior. It's never too late to make your mark.

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Huntington High School's iconic shield display in the 2016 Homecoming Parade.

AN HISTORIC DAY FOR HUNTINGTON

BY GAIA D'ANNA

This past September 12th was, without a doubt, a day that will go down in Huntington history. For the first time in the town's history, there was a Democratic Primary for town supervisor. You might be wondering why it

has taken the town 364 years to properly execute a town's constitutional responsibilities, letting the Democrats of Huntington decide who they believe is the best person to represent their party, so I'll tell you the rea-

son.

The Democratic Committee of Huntington is made up of individuals who are appointed by members, or people who receive a number of signatures from registered Democrats in the township. If you are not a member of the Democratic Committee, you can't even submit a question to the committee--even if you are a registered Democrat. Typically this group decides who will run in the Democrat Party for town supervisor and who will run for town board, without the citizens of Huntington having a say in the matter.

Because the

committee mainly consists of hand-picked members, the committee tends to select candidates who will continue providing favors to their donors, such as developers who financially supported the town's previous Democratic candidates. This year,

You can't even submit a question to the committee--even if you are a registered democrat.

the committee put up Councilwoman Tracey Edwards as their selection to take over for Frank Petrone, the incumbent town supervisor.

Darryl St. George, a teacher

and veteran, decided to challenge Councilwoman Edwards to a primary. To hold a primary, the candidate must get 1,000 signatures from registered Democrats of the township. Knowing the committee would contest the validity of each signature, he garnered double the amount of signatures required. Although Mr. St. George didn't succeed in winning the primary, the day still marks an important turning point for the town which will hopefully result in more primaries in the town's future.

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Darryl St. George and Tracy Edwards

HUNTINGTON BOYS SOCCER SUCCESS

CONTINUED FROM COVER

credibly talented Rentsch and Mike players on the team. Abbondandolo create plays as the out-

At the goal is captain Nat Amato, who has had game-winning saves, and is arguably the best goalie in the county. On defense, Jose Turcios and Johnny Tucker hold the center, while Julien and Manny Reyes on

the right. Of course up top is the target man striker and reliable finisher, Luis Ortiz.

Substitutions play a significant role as well. Kolby Rap- pel and Tyler Abedin come in as goalies for Nat Amato. Christian Bellissimo,



Boys' varsity soccer head coach John Pagano.

Nick Thompson, and Juan Salamanca replace the outside backs while Edwin Rodriguez and Aidan Forbes go on for the center backs. In the midfield, Jack Langton, Luke Luckow and Carmine Deieso provide a strong center while Carlos Reyes, Junior Flores, Hector Martinez, and Josh Yanuck use their speed at the outside midfield positions.

The other strikers are Christian Garay and Oscar Cordova. All

With this team's potential, we haven't seen anything yet!

twenty-eight players of the largest soccer roster in years are mentioned, as they all play an important role on the team.

In the first

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ARE YOU FEELING PASSIONATE ABOUT A TOPIC? WRITE ABOUT IT!

The Dispatch is always looking for writers and photographers to submit articles they feel passionately about.

Drop in during one of our Weekly Wednesday Meetings after school

OR

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THE KAEPERNICK EFFECT

THE LIBERAL PERSPECTIVE

BY
ZACH MCGINNISS

CONTINUED FROM
FRONT PAGE.

it to the 15-yard line, and then the 10, and then the 5, and then the end. Those are the moments that make the difference between wins and losses. They are the moments that make the game what it is.

History moves in a similar way. Its events proceed methodically until, inspired by a split-second happening—a perfect pass, a surprise tackle, a moment of quiet human ingenuity—they race forward. This weekend, #TakeAKnee, the small-turned-widespread protest, became one of those moments.

It started, as things so often do, with the president. On Friday night at a rally in Alabama, as one U.S. territory reeled from a humanitarian crisis and another lay under threat of a nuclear attack, Trump encouraged NFL franchise owners to fire players who kneeled in protest during the singing of the national anthem.

“Wouldn’t you love to see one of these NFL owners,

when somebody disrespects our flag, to say, ‘get that son of a b**ch off the field right now, out? He’s fired,’” the president said, efficiently combining a slur with a reality-TV catchphrase. He continued, “you know, some owner is going to do that. He’s gonna say, ‘that guy disrespects our flag, he’s fired.’ And that own-

mocking John McCain, Iran, and the leader of North Korea (“Little Rocket Man,” the president taunted) Trump doubled down on his Friday-night slights. “If a player wants the privilege of making millions of dollars in the NFL, or other leagues,” he wrote, “he or she should not be allowed to disrespect ... our Great

enact that violence. They are protesting, more broadly, the ways racism gets codified in America, the ways it’s expanded from a personal evil into a societal one.

Trump’s words willfully elided all of those sentiments. To his rallied fans, they warned ominously of the “son of a b**ch” who “disrespects our flag.” The president’s harsh condemnations of protesting athletes, as well as Trump’s recent demand for an apology from ESPN’s Jemele Hill, “stand in stark contrast to his ear-

demagoguery broadcast at the volume of a klaxon.”

Herein Trump’s words, tweeted and

The president had, once again, misrepresented the situation.

yelled, were the economic realities of football, ownership and physical labor, being tauntingly racialized. Here was the president of the United States, flirting once again not just with casual authoritarianism, but with overt racism. Here he was again purposely misunderstanding the First Amendment. Here was a man who had full-throatedly supported free speech as it applies to college campuses, refusing to acknowledge those rights as applied to black sports figures.

It was too much. And so, literally and otherwise, NFL players, athletes from other sports, team owners, coaches, spectators and others, took a knee.

Shahid Khan, the NFL’s only Muslim owner, joined in; before his Jacksonville Jaguars faced the Baltimore Ravens in London, he locked arms with his team during Wembley Stadium’s rendition of the American anthem. John Harbaugh, the Ravens’ coach, did the same. The Eagles, players and coaches alike, locked arms in Philadelphia as military jets performed a flyover before their game against the Giants. The Giants did the same. In Buffalo, dozens of members of the Broncos took

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Buffalo Bills players take a knee during the national anthem of an NFL game.

er, they don’t know it. They don’t know it. They’re friends of mine, many of them. They don’t know it. They’ll be the most popular person, for a week. They’ll be the most popular person in the country.”

On Saturday, the president repeated the sentiments, this time on Twitter. Among tweets

American Flag (or Country) and should stand for the National Anthem. If not, YOU’RE FIRED. Find something else to do!”

Here, in Trump’s words, were the economic realities of football tauntingly racialized.

The president had, once again, misrepresented the situation. The players are not, as a whole, protesting the national anthem. They are not protesting the flag. They are protesting police brutality against African Americans. They are protesting the lack of legal accountability for the officers who

lier, sluggish reaction to the white supremacist protest in Charlottesville, in which a counter-protester, Heather Heyer, was killed, allegedly by a white supremacist.” They represent, as *The New Yorker’s* David Remnick put it, “the same sort of

The players are not, as a whole, protesting the national anthem.

racial signaling that followed the fascist and white-supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia. It is no longer a matter of ‘dog whistling.’ This is a form of racial



Cleveland Browns players kneel during the national anthem.

a knee. In Charlotte, ten of the Saints sat during the anthem.

Rex Ryan, the former coach of the Jets and Bills—who had introduced then-candidate Trump at a 2016 rally in Buffalo—told Sunday N.F.L. Countdown, “I’ll be honest with you. Because I supported Donald Trump. When he asked me to intro-

duce him at a rally in Buffalo, I did that. But I’m reading these comments and it’s appalling to me and I’m sure it’s appalling to almost any citizen in our country. It should be.”

Roger Goodell, the commissioner of the NFL, joined in: “The NFL and our players are at our best when we help create a sense of uni-

ty in our country and our culture... Diverse comments like

They were protesting...the ways racism gets codified in America.

these demonstrate an unfortunate lack of respect for the NFL, our great game and all of our players, and a failure to

understand the overwhelming force for good our clubs and players represent in our communities.”

Unity is easy, as both a sentiment and a hashtag on Instagram; in practice, on the field, it can be much harder to realize. Colin Kaepernick, the player whose protest is being replicated this weekend, is not on

the field today in part because of the league-wide backlash against his political views. Despite this, he is in a sense still playing. With him and around him, slowly and then all at once, we as a country have begun to unite—one knee at a time.

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THE CONSERVATIVE PERSPECTIVE

BY
PETER CICCONE

CONTINUED FROM
FRONT PAGE.

professional athletes should stand for the National Anthem. In 2016, NFL quarterback Colin Kaepernick decided he was “not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses black people and people of color.”

I am not going to get into the racial aspect of the protests because I do not believe that is appropriate. I will, however, make a different argument: should these peaceful protesters be allowed to proceed?

In the privacy of their own homes, absolutely. The first amendment to our Constitution states that “Congress shall make no law...abridging the freedom of speech...” As a result, people can say what they want in private and fear no consequences.

But at work, as athletes paid to play and to entertain the American public, no, absolutely not.

We live in a country where the national government tends to--and was designed to--take a backseat in the lives of citizens and private businesses. To the founders, the government should not be too

to our economy. We are a mixed economy, meaning that both the government and the people have a say in what goods are produced, how they are produced, and for whom they are produced. For the most part, as the people have decided, the only true government interference in private business is in the form of regulation, not total con-



Colin Kaepernick and Eric Reed kneeling during National Anthem before NFL game.

powerful and should only take care of real necessities, such as dealing with other nations and printing money; the rest should be up to the people.

Because of the somewhat limited nature of our Constitutional Republic, everyday citizens have been able to shape the course of their lives more so than in any other place on Earth. This partly translates

control. The government does not create a private business’ code of conduct, nor

Not only are these protests inappropriate, but they just ruin the game.

does it tell the person in charge of that business when to fire an employee; the person in charge of a the business has all

of those abilities, not the government.

Do you see where I’m headed here? The teams that play for the NFL would be our example pri-

the demands made by their customers, the fans of professional football.

Who knows who these players will offend when they refuse to stand for the National Anthem? NFL ratings have gone down in the last year, which, while subject to opinion, may have had something to do with these protests.

And, to the managers, why continue to sign a player who deters fans (and thus ratings and money)? These athletes’ contracts are not concrete, so they should be careful about how they choose to express themselves. Their freedom of speech is not protected in the workplace, rather it’s controlled by their bosses.

Take in school, for instance, how we aren’t allowed to say and do certain things even though that inability technically violates our Constitutional right to free speech. Our

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GLOBAL FEMINISM

BY AMELIA
MAGGIO

It's funny to think that a piece of cloth can be a statement, a form of self expression, and even a political issue. Clothing is important to almost everyone—it's an extension of oneself, and can be deeply meaningful, even religious.

Almost every religion has a form of head covering for women: Christians have habits, the Jewish have tichel (veils) and sheitel (wigs), and Muslims have hijabs and burqas. For years there has been debate about headcoverings in Islam and whether or not they are forms of gender-based oppression.

There are compelling arguments from both Muslims and non-Muslims for both sides. Many

Many people argue that along with wearing a hijab comes oppression associated with Islam.

people who wear a hijab on a daily basis feel as though it is liberating, but there are also muslim people who feel it is a symbol of the patriarchal nature of Islam.

Naza Khan, founder of World Hijab Day, claims her head covering makes her feel liberated, saying, "I see the hijab as a symbol of freedom because with it, I no longer have to comply with the expected standards of the society showcased by maga-

zines, TV, or celebrity lifestyles." Khan, like many other Muslim women, feel as though they are safe from the constant focus of vanity that is prevalent in Western culture. Many people even use their hijab as a symbol of feminism, claiming that it is a way for a woman to control her own body in a way that no man can. Some argue that hijabs allows people to be seen more as individuals and to be treated with respect.

What's shocking about this is that people still wear their head coverings even when they are faced with overwhelming prejudice and even physical violence every time they walk out of the door as a result. In a time period that is marked by inter-religious tension and terrorism, people are using the hijab as a symbol of solidarity and resistance to Islamophobia.

On the opposite side of the spectrum, many people argue that along with wearing a hijab comes oppression associated with islam. These people argue that headcoverings symbolize that women are considered "second class citizens" in the muslim religion. There have been many instances of women, and even children becoming victims of crimes surrounding refusal of wearing hijabs. The most insidious form of violence surrounding the hijab is the immense mental pressure that surrounds a

person when they are choosing to wear the headcovering.

Faisal Saeed Al Mutar (a male), founder of Global Secular Humanist Movement, is hesitant about the religious freedom supposedly associated

People still wear their head coverings even when they are faced with overwhelming prejudice.

with the hijab. He says, "many women who wear the hijab even in Western countries are forced to wear it due to a pressure from society or their families. I personally know of cases in which

women have been beaten up or rejected by their families for refusing to wear the Hijab."

Some even cite that the Quran does not even specifically state that hijabs are mandatory; in verse 24:31, the Quran says: "Tell the believing women to avert their eyes, and safeguard their private parts, and not to expose their attractions except what is visible. And let them wrap their shawls (khimar) around their breast lines, and reveal their attractions only before their husbands" What all of these instances don't acknowledge is that the people in these cases are being forced to wear their hijabs.

Ultimately, it is a matter of personal

choice. Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, but non-

Some argue that hijabs allows people to be seen more as individuals and to be treated with respect.

muslims who have never faced this kind of polarity, come from an extreme place of privilege to simply say, "just take it off." When debating this issue it is always important to recognize and understand different perspectives. If a person wants to wear a hijab because they feel that it makes them closer to god, so be it, no person in any culture should be forced to dress a specific way.

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DISAPPEARING FEMINISTS

BY CRAIG HAAS

The First Lady of the United States, Melania Trump, recently astonished many world leaders during her United Nations speech with a bright pink dress by Delpozo, a luxury pret-a-couture fashion brand.

Melania's speech was on the modern day topic of cyberbullying and the dangers of bullying. "When we join together as parents caring for children, whether they live in our own families, across the street, across the nation, or across the globe, we

For such a figure like the First Lady, one would assume that feminists would stand up and defend her.

claim our responsibility to the next generation to ensure they are prepared to accept the torch of leadership for the world of tomorrow," she said.

However, many internet trolls totally disregarded her significant speech and began to bully Melania on social media because of her choice of wardrobe. One

These advocates are all talk with little-to-no action. These hypocrites are the real bullies above all else.

troll even compared Melania's appearance to the "blueberry girl from Willy Wonka."

Instead of having many women beside her defending her choice of wardrobe, almost no news anchors or celebrities brought up the topic or decided to defend her. However, when people insulted the casual style of previous FLOTUS, Michelle Obama, feminists gathered aside on TV and social media to stand by her side. But, where were all of the feminists to defend Melania's style, or to bring at-



Melania Trump addresses the United Nations general assembly.

tention to her speech? NO-WHERE! Feminists such as Beyoncé, Patricia Arquette, Lena Dunham, and Hillary Clinton have all disappeared after one of their fellow women was dragged in the mud. These widely known women who are praised for being advocates of feminism all allowed the FLOTUS to be trolled because she was a conservative and wasn't on their political side.

This "hide-and-go-seek" game is here to prove that modern day feminism is rather selective as long as they are conservative or have the last name

Trump. While these highly-recognized feminists preach acceptance, tolerance, and female empowerment, they seem to disregard their beliefs and allow for other women to be bullied. These advocates are all talk with little-to-no action. These hypocrites are the real bullies above all else.

For such a figure like the First Lady, one would assume that feminists, above all people, would stand up to defend her. It's one thing if feminists do not agree with the president, but there is no reason to promote a cause if they

won't follow up on their useless words that encourage fe-

Almost no news anchors or celebrities brought up the topic or decided to defend her.

male-superiority.

Feminism has hit a new-low with the lack of defense for the FLOTUS and should be questioned amongst all women who consider themselves feminists. Shouldn't feminists give support to all women, no matter their political side or last name?

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TRUMP VS. KIM JONG-UN: SHOULD WE BE CONCERNED?

BY DOMINICK
STANLEY

Having entered the eighth month of his presidency, President Trump has finally had his first major test on the issue of North Korea.

An omnipresent irritant in discussions of US foreign policy, especially those regarding our alliances with South Korea and Japan (along with our economic rival, China), North Korea has remained secluded and alone from most of the world during its relatively short existence. Despite its isolation and small size, it is incredibly vital to the future of our relationship with East Asia, as well as the world at large.

Not so long after its previous nuclear scare during the Obama administration, this small yet powerful nation has found itself

back in the news, this time with leader Kim Jong-un and President Trump going head to head. As the two hurl insults back and forth,

would be met with “fire and fury” if they put the United States at risk, and even went as far as referring to Kim Jong-un as “Rock-

sults to be humorous, they bring up a more morbid question: is this it? Could this be the breaking point with North Korea? Years of in-

as anything new, as this has all happened before with previous administrations. One of the most famous points in which ten-



As the two hurl insults back and forth, the ever-present fear of nuclear war grows larger.

the ever-present fear of nuclear war

President Trump doesn't believe the country has time to wait.

grows larger.

These threats have not been to any degree mild-mannered; Trump recently announced that North Korea

et Man” during an address to the entire United Nations general assembly. Kim proceeded to refer to Trump as a “mentally deranged dotard” (dotard meaning a “senile old man”) only heightening tensions even further.

While at first glance one might consider these in-

tense relations with the hermit kingdom, through its insulting of our state leaders and testing of nuclear weaponry, have never resulted in outright conflict between the two powers. While tensions are always fairly high, the North Koreans only end up back in the news whenever there's another nuclear test, or a small skirmish with the South Koreans on the DMZ or the Japanese in the sea of Japan. So what is it then? Are we doomed for a nuclear armageddon with those darn communists?

To put it bluntly, the answer to that question is no. Nothing going on in the world today between the Kim regime and the Trump administration should be seen

sions seemed to be at their highest was during the Obama administration, when Seth Rogen and James Franco debuted the now infamous film, *The Interview* in which the duo was tasked with conducting a secret undercover mission to North Korea in order to assassinate Kim Jong-Un. This was of course countered by threats from Kim himself, asking that production be shut down. When the movie was not taken out of theaters, the North Korean government hacked into Sony Pictures entertainment and made terroristic threats to cinemas who planned on showing the film.

Another instance of what seemed like a breaking point that fizzled out was in 2010, with the notorious ROKS Cheonan sinking. This was when a South Korean navy ship, the Cheonan, was sailing in South Korean waters when it was sunk by a North

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Korean torpedo, happen as long as the Kim Regime remains in power.

That said, the question returns: do we have anything

Is this it? Could this be the breaking point with North Korea?

In total, since the end of the Korean war, there have been over 220 isolated incidents of North Korean provocation towards either the US directly or our allies in South Korea and Japan. With North Korea back in the news once again, it's important to remember the oftenness of these incidents, and that spasmodic bursts of tension between North Korea and the US are not only common, but will continue to

to fear from what seem like rising tensions? No, there is nothing to fear. The US and North Korea's complicated relationship will continue to have its ups and downs, and travel in and out of the news cycle every few months or so, just as it always has. As was once said, "there's nothing to fear but fear itself," and North Korea is no exception.

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**CONSERVATIVE PERSPECTIVE
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5**

free speech does not extend to the workplace, whether that is a part-time job, a career, or school, and that is a fundamental reality that cannot escape our consciences.

NFL players should not bring their political opinions into the sport because it is (or was) one of the few unifying factors in this country. Think about it: this continental empire is so culturally diverse, from Maine to Mississippi, to Colorado to Iowa to Or-

gon. And, despite all of these peoples' differing political views, they could put politics aside and come together to enjoy football on Sunday evenings. Not only are these protests inappropriate, but they just ruin the game.

Finally, about President Trump's comments on this issue. Of course he is allowed to have an opinion, as he is a citizen of this country just as much as your mailman. As I said before, it is inappropriate for

the government to get involved in private businesses, so for him to advocate for the firing of these players is overstepping his bounds. I get it. He's trying to show the American people that he's on the same page as them, which does not go unappreciated. But in my opinion, he should keep that opinion to himself and let the sports teams managers decide for themselves what they should do about their protesting players.

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HUNTINGTON SERVICE CLUBS YOU CAN JOIN!

BY ALYSSA BEFUMO

AWOD

A World of Difference (AWOD) is Huntington High School's anti-bias and tolerance training club. Members attend two trainings a year, one in the winter and one in the spring, in order to receive the tools and skills needed to be an effective and socially-aware member of the community.

AWOD participates in an annual field trip to Wood-

hull Intermediate, where students meet with all fifth grade classes to work on specific issues they face in their school environment. Last May, AWOD completed a successful training with the kids by working on ways to combat cyber bullying, cultural insensitivity, and low self esteem.

AWOD plans to focus their 2017-2018 training around positive thinking and resilience. Club Presi-

dent Mardnie Mentor and Co-Vice President Quinn Blackburn hope to expand AWOD's influence throughout Huntington this year. "We would love to become more involved by volunteering at the local food pantry and possibly meeting with members of the PTSA to spread our message," Mentor says. Their fall training is scheduled for October 17th in Room 201.

Mock Trial

After a successful 2016-2017 season,

the Huntington High School Mock Trial team is ready to take on another case. The team made it to last year's Suffolk Sweet 16 round before falling to Miller Place at the Cohalan Court Complex in Central Islip.

Local attorneys Xavier Palacios and Jack Piana serve as the club's legal advisors, and Mrs. Buchalter and Mrs. Biagi are the faculty advisors. In the upcoming season, the team will prepare a criminal case assigned by the New York Bar Associa-

tion to mock trial teams around the entire state.

Co-President Max Robins is excited to kick off the season. "We performed really well last year, and I know that with more practice we can excel even further," Robins says. If you have an interest in the law, acting, research, public speaking or the criminal justice system, please come see Mrs. Biagi in room 201.

GRAND-FRIENDS

Recently when asked

CONTINUE ON PAGE 12



Huntington High School's Mock Trial team, with captain Max Robins front and center.

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

THOMAS EDGAR-MCNERNEY

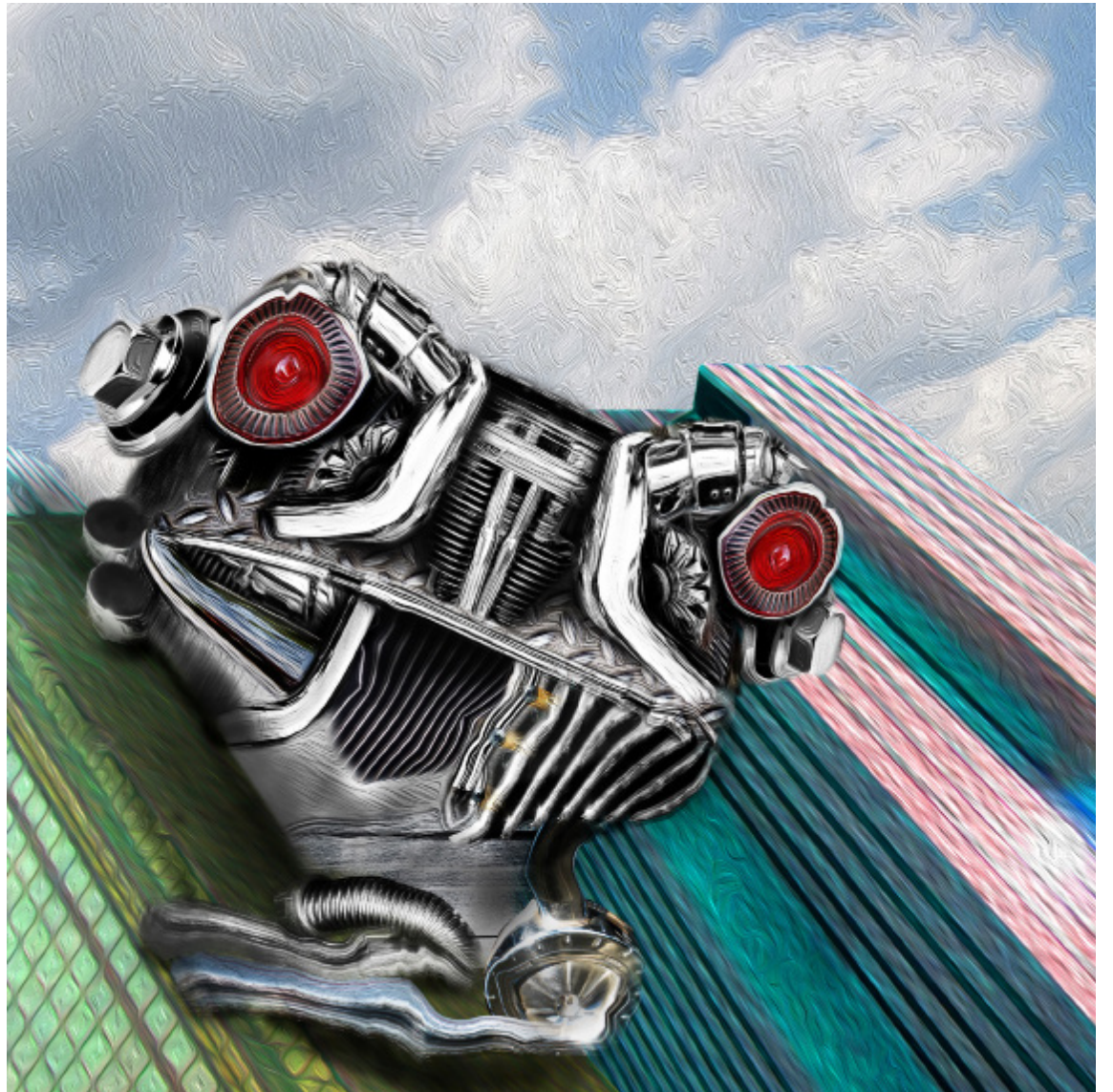
My name is Thomas Edgar-McNerney, and I'm in 12th grade. During my time in high school, I have taken Mrs. Mohanty's computer graphics courses, ending with AP 2D design which I completed in my junior year.

Although I'm not currently enrolled in any particular art class, I remain active and involved with the Art Honor Society, and continue with digital art in my free time outside of school.

My piece titled, *The Future is Chrome*, revolves around the idea of the human destruction of nature, and how technology is altering the way we interact with it. I decided to create the frog from distorted machine parts to reflect the threat that a robotically-dominated world could hold.

I created the other piece, *Miles to Go Before I Sleep*, very late at night to see how sleep deprivation would affect the creativity and content of my art.

While I'm not specifically applying to an art school, I'm planning on taking on a double-major in digital art & animation, and computer science.



Thomas Edgar-McNerney's *The Future is Chrome*, 2017



Thomas Edgar-McNerney's *Miles to Go*, 2017

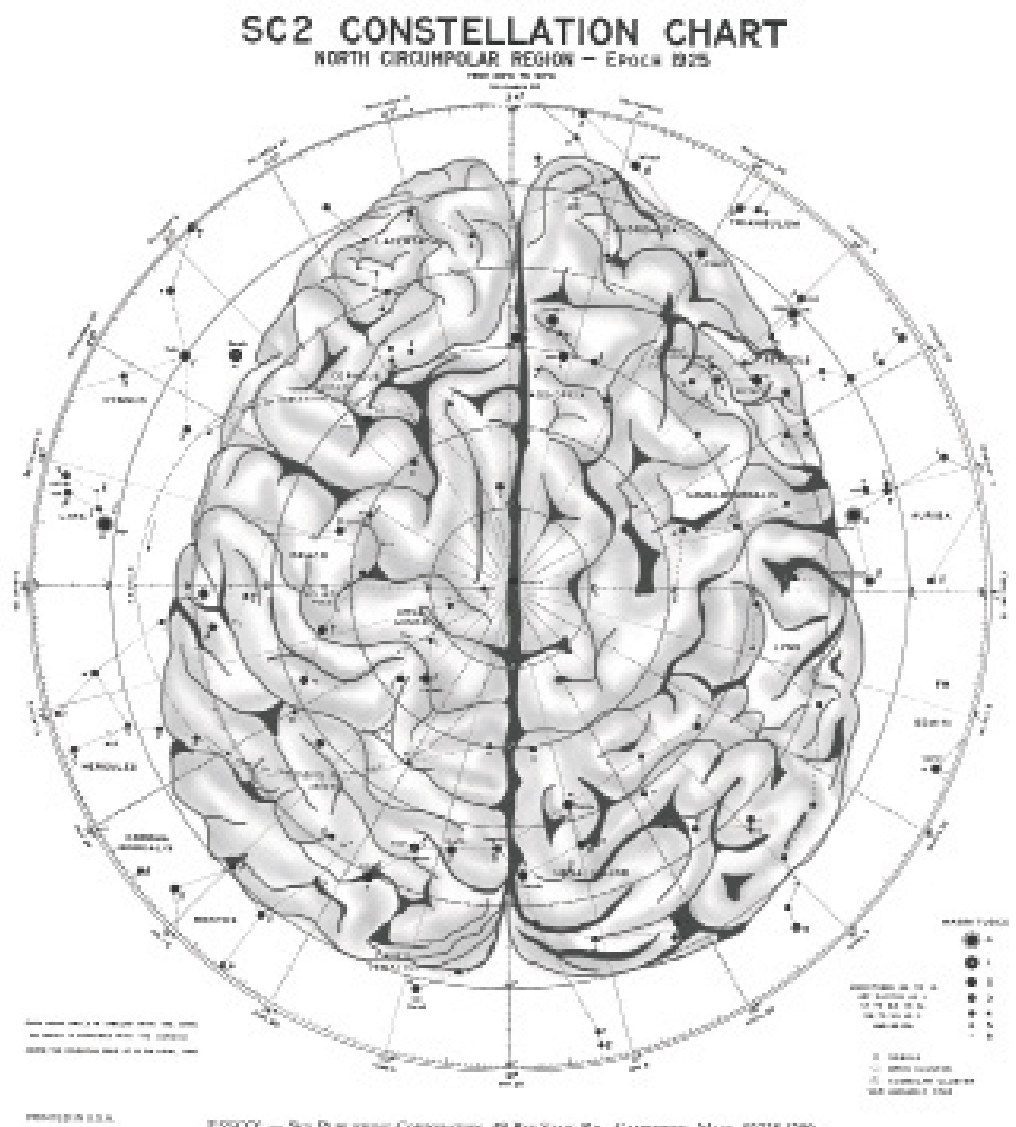
ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

ERICA VAZQUEZ

My name is Erica Vazquez and I am in 12th grade. Being injured so many times has intrigued me with the human anatomy. I've delved into the world of how bones and muscles operate, and how they work together in order to perform everyday tasks, such as walking, picking up a cup, or simply typing this article. This interest is evident in my art, as everything I digitally paint has something to do with the human body.

Head in the Stars is one of my favorites, not only because of the time it took to create, but because of the message behind it. The star constellation map provokes how the brain is like a complicated map that has endless locations paired with unlimited functions. Similar to space, the brain is like a giant question mark. Although we have a degree of knowledge, there is plenty more to learn.

Feuilles de la Main (which translates to hand leaves) is another one of my favorite pieces because of its simplicity. Think about what your hands do, and how essential they are for survival. We consider



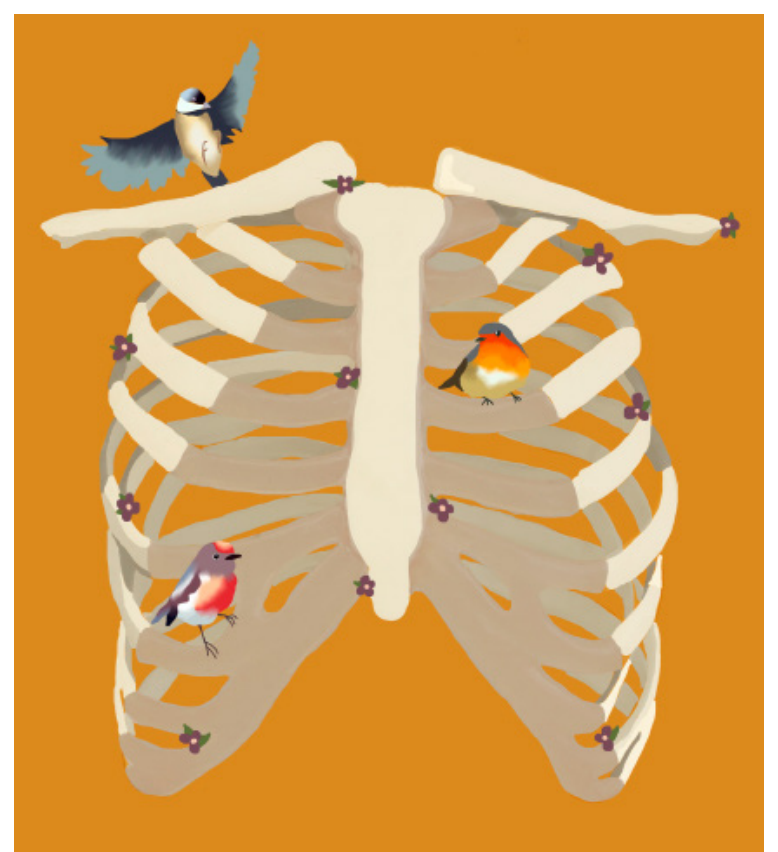
Erica Vazquez's *Head in the Stars*, 2017

them to be such simple mechanisms, but they are actually extremely complex when the nerves, bones, and muscles that compose them are taken into account. While at face value my piece may appear to be just a hand with leaves, think about the detail and complexity that lies behind the surface.

Overall, digital painting is what makes me happy. I plan on majoring in exercise science, so that I keep learning about the human body, and hopefully be able to paint it in the future too.



Erica Vazquez's *Feuilles de la Main*, 2017



Erica Vazquez's *Bird Cage*, 2017

DRESS CODES: WHAT'S "APPROPRIATE" ANYMORE?

BY KERRIE JOYCE

Have you ever been "dress-coded," or told to change because your outfit was "inappropriate"? I sure know I have, along with several other girls who I've spoken to about this problem.

One female student shared her personal experience with me. She said, "on the last day of school sophomore year, I walked into the school in the morning, and I immediately got dress coded; I was told that my dress was too short and my shoulders could not show. It was an off the shoulder dress, and I was wearing heels as well." She was told to change her clothes and also

shared, "I think it's wrong to tell a girl she can't wear something when she feels good and confident in it. It diminishes their self-esteem and is objectifying girls."

Do we ever ask ourselves why school dress codes forbid clothing that shows shoulders, or is considered to be too "revealing"? If a boy is distracted by a girl's clothing, why is it that the girl is punished? Shouldn't, instead, the boy be disciplined for not paying attention to the lesson?

Granted, parts of dress code are reasonable, such as the banning of clothing that promotes drug use and violence. However, are we not simply promoting violence



Example dress code illustration courtesy of Vista Grande Elementary School.

and rape culture by suggesting that girls put a target on their backs depending on the clothing they wear?

The part of dress code that focuses on length is also incredibly unfair to taller girls because skirts and shorts will always appear shorter on people with longer

legs. School dress codes that discourage girls from wearing clothes that show shoulders or midriffs are unfair and harmful; they teach a backward lesson that young women must be modest to be respected.

In a school where we encourage acceptance towards

all people, why do we have rules that shame girls for wearing clothes that they feel confident wearing? We come to school to learn and socialize--everyone should be able to feel like they are in a comfortable and safe environment in Huntington.

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CONTINUED FROM
PAGE 9

what we do I had to think, what don't we do? GrandFriends is an intergenerational community service based club that's main focus is to work with the elderly in our community and to help make their lives a bit sweeter.

Besides making new friends, exploring elder issues, practicing leadership skills, and having monthly meetings, we partake in a plethora of vari-



GrandFriends hosts Huntington's annual senior, senior prom.

ous activities. From Safe Halloween and building Thanksgiving

ing baskets to be donated to our local senior center, to

visiting senior living facilities, playing BINGO, doing

arts and crafts while fostering relationships, caroling for the holidays, running food drives, and our "piece de resistance" our Senior, Senior Prom, we really do it all. This year we are excited to announce a new "pen pal" program that we will be participating in on a national level. So come join us. Our club is run for you, by you and your peers, and we're always welcoming new ideas, energy and heart!

What is Chris' last name?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 18

THE HUNTINGTON KEY CLUB: THE “KEY” TO SUCCESS



BY SAMANTHA
SGRIZZI

I have been a part of multiple clubs and organizations that our school offers, yet Key Club is one that has always stood out to me. Key Club is the largest and oldest service organization in the world, dedicated to helping the community, whether it is local, regional, or even national. Huntington High School’s chapter of Key Club has truly flourished into a community of its own.

The officers who run key club, along with the members who join, truly want to make a difference in the lives of others; I have seen this first hand as both a four-year member and through my senior officer position as Publicist.

An event that stands out beyond the countless others is K-Factor: The Huntington Key Club’s talent show. As I’m sure most of you know, last year’s show was different from any other produced; the funds were not just donated to cancer research but were used to support one of our own, Rachel Antorino. Through the help of not only our club members but the school as a whole, the message “#rachelstrong” spread throughout the community. Words are not able to describe the overwhelming empathetic atmosphere created that night. The experience of being able to contribute to the rallying of an entire community for such a meaningful cause was truly one-of-a-kind. With the support of fel-

low Blue Devils, local businesses, and the district, we were able to raise over \$7,000--all donated to funding Rachel’s treatments.

Key Club has a busy schedule in the winter as well; our most popular events are the Sears Shopping Tour and the Make-A-Wish Foundation. The Make-A-Wish Foundation’s goal is to grant the wish of every child diagnosed with a life-threatening medical condition. Selling

Key Club is always striving for new ways to benefit our community.

holiday cards to raise money for a child enrolled in the Make-A-Wish Suffolk County Chapter program was a tradition started by our President (Erica Vazquez), Vice

President (Maggie Giles), and Treasurer (Gaia D’anna) in Finley; this tradition is now continuously carried out by Key Club every December. Our total of over \$2,000 last year in sales sincerely highlights the impact a group of individuals can have when they come together for their community.

The Sears Shopping tour is one of the fan favorites amongst club members. This unique service event allows Key Club members from all over Suffolk County to provide local children with clothes for the winter. We get the opportunity to personally shop at Sears with them side by side, helping to pick out a new pair of Nike sneakers, or the much needed fluffy winter coat. The Shopping Tour gives members

the chance to create a direct impact on the lives of others--an experience truly different from the impersonal nature of traditional fundraising.

In essence, whether it’s running Huntington High School’s blood drives, creating Thanksgiving food baskets, or hosting a toy drive for the Family Service League, Key Club is always striving for new ways to benefit our community. The experiences, along with friendships that I’ve gained through being a part of this club are genuinely unparalleled. I can say with complete certainty that participating in Key Club for the length of my high school career has not only benefited the community but forever changed my life for the better.

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How often does Bella make chemistry jokes?

CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL, WAKE UP AND SMELL THE GLOBAL WARMING

BY JULIA GILES

Many of you may have heard of a little thing called climate change (insert immediate angry responses to this article). I know, I know, a lot of you don't want to hear about this scientifically-proven phenomenon, but at least let me explain why it's so important. I hate to sound like a conspiracy nut, but the current government doesn't want you to hear about it either.

For a quick explanation, climate change is the steady warming of the atmosphere due to overuse of fossil fuels. Scientists have continually supported these claims; many have said that in twenty years, the effects of climate change will become irreversible and the planet nearly impos-

sible to live on.

I, as a person who lives on the planet, really don't want that to happen, and can safely say that a majority of Americans don't want that to happen either. However, many members of the government have been doing the timeless tradition of denying indisputable facts. Our current president has said that "climate change is a hoax created by China," and pulled out of the Paris Climate Accord for these reasons, along with some nonsense about America being screwed over by the accords.

President Trump's administration has followed suit, with many Republicans saying that climate change

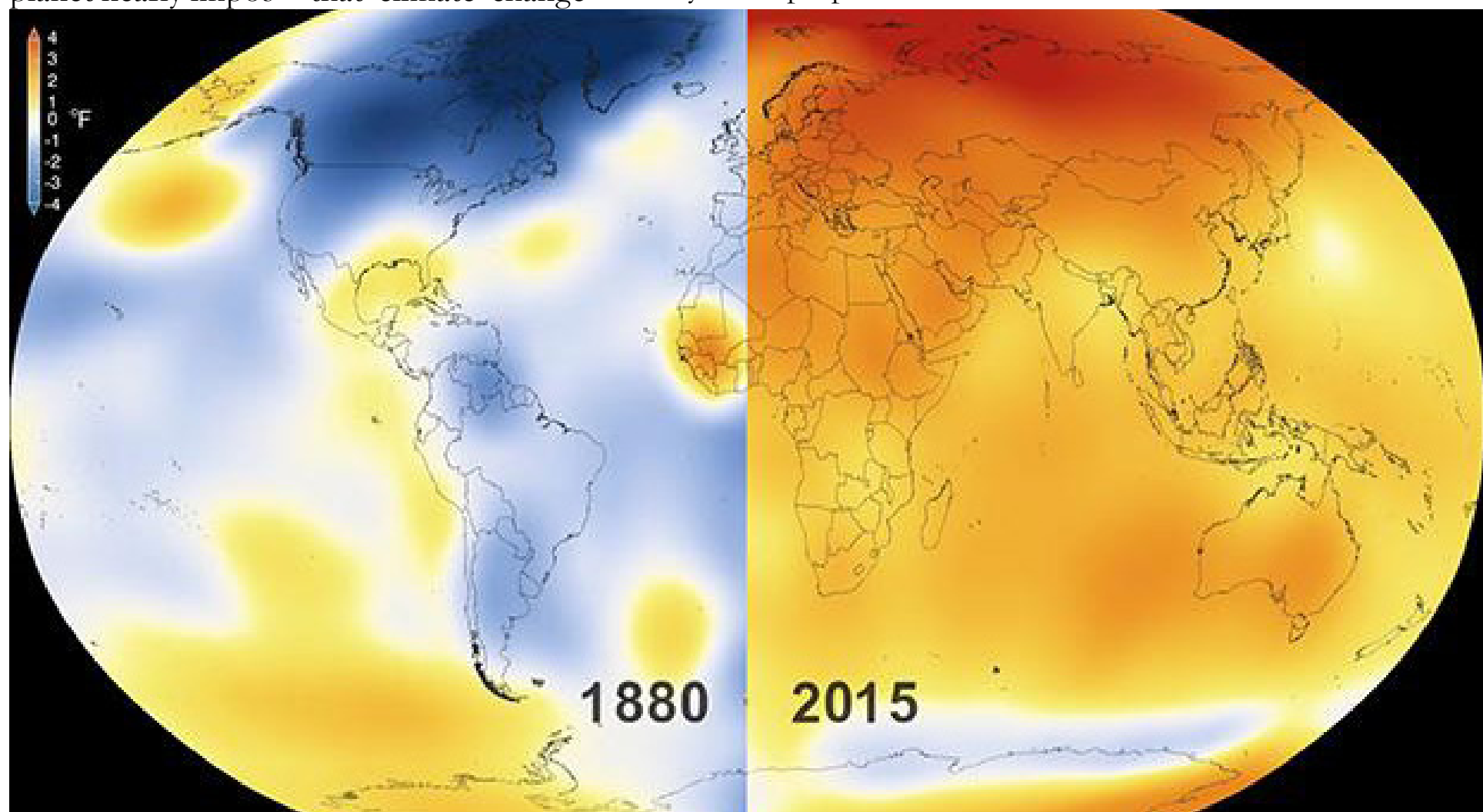
is indeed false, including one man who said, "the world is getting warmer because humans have warm bodies." Even oil companies are getting in on this, with many paying for studies to contradict scientific facts--all with no repercussions from the government.

As you may have guessed, many scientists are horrified by Trump's pol-

icies, with some saying that his efforts could even escalate climate change. So, what can we do to stop this? Well first off, if someone tries to say that climate change is a hoax, look them in the eyes and tell them they're wrong. Do it with your friends, your senators, even your president if you get lucky enough. Second, we should all make more ef-

fort to protect the environment. Recycle stuff, turn off the lights when you leave a room, walk to more places--you can even protest oil companies who deny this stuff. It's not a lot, but if we work together, we can stop the world from literally flooding over.

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CASSINI MISSION TO SATURN

BY HANNAH BAILIN

For the past twenty years, the Cassini spacecraft has been orbiting Saturn recording data. Even as its lifespan approaches its final moments, Cassini continues to help scientists on the Goddard team in their understanding of Saturn, our solar system, and the complex evolutionary processes in play.

In 1997, Cassini launched for its seven-year long journey to Saturn (slated to finally arrive in 2004). During this time, Cassini was able to complete a flyby of Jupiter--a difficult feat. However, this was not the only flyby the spacecraft completed. For thirteen years, Cassini orbited Saturn alongside its 62 moons located around its rings.

With the Composite Infra-red Spectrometer or CIRS, terabytes of data and images were sent back to Earth. CIRS was able to generate photos by detecting light and obtaining colors from radiation imprints the spacecraft's system recorded in its flybys. The 100 im-

ages from Cassini's Mission to Saturn,

Another moon, Enceladus, was discovered to have oceans of water beneath its thick surface of ice.

provided by the *New York Times*, contain phenomenal pho-

Some of Cassini's most amazing discoveries were on Saturn's moons. Titan, Saturn's largest moon, is a planet with an atmosphere of propylene, though thanks to Cassini we now know it to have a second cloud of ice. Another moon, Enceladus, was discovered to

questions to researchers. Could life develop this far away from the "habitable zone" of our solar system? What life has developed? How does this tie back to the evolution of the universe, and planets like our own? The possibilities are endless. However, this mission alone didn't

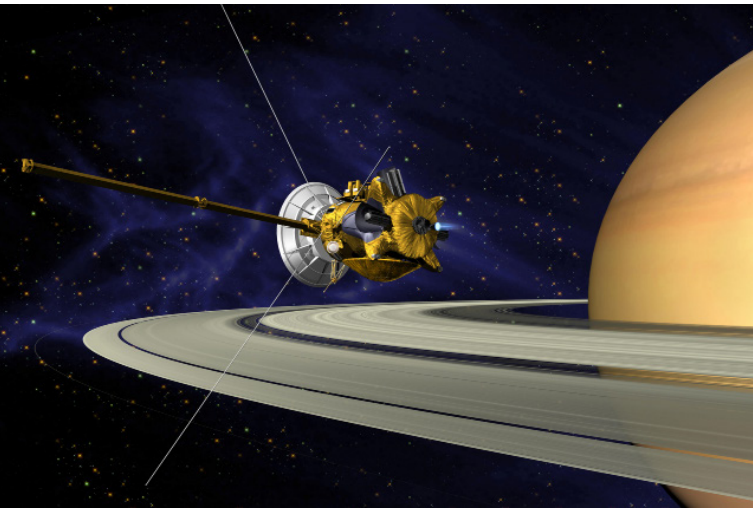
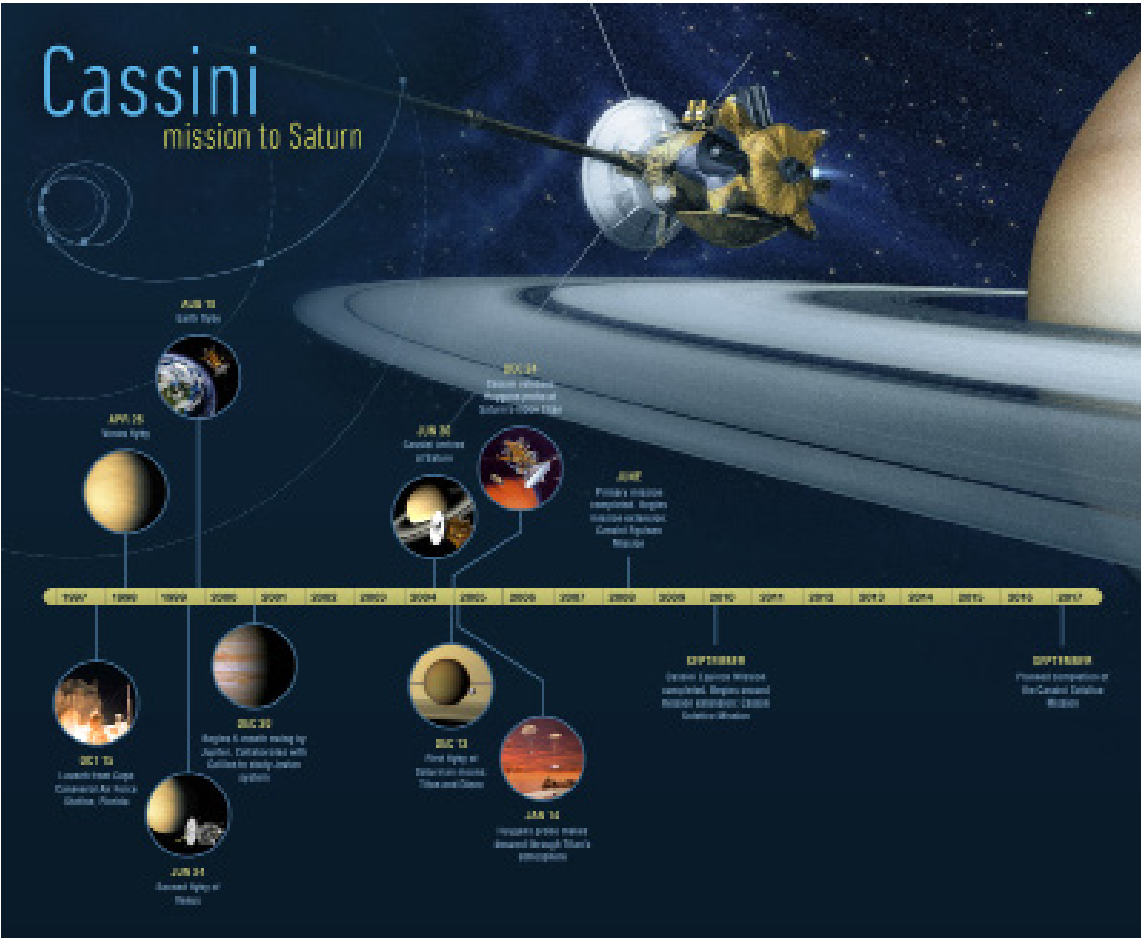
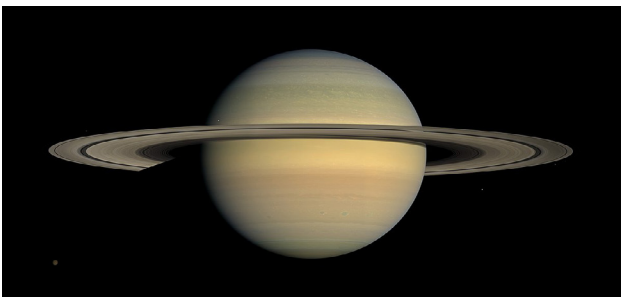
dard team expertly executed the "grand finale" of the Cassini Mission--an impressive 22 dives through Saturn's rings. By using Saturn's gravitational pull, Cassini slingshotted around the planet while collecting its final data and images. Finally, on September 15, Cassini journeyed into the atmosphere of Saturn. At 70,000 miles per hour, Cassini flew, thrusters firing to keep the spacecraft upright. Until the very end, Cassini continued to send data back to Earth, including hazy, up close images of Saturn. At 7:55 A.M. EDT (7:55 A.M. EST), the Goddard Team lost contact with Cassini, marking the end of the 20-year long mission.

NASA will continue to work on new spacecraft that will journey back to Saturn, and potentially further into the depths of our solar system. To keep up with news of NASA discoveries, or even to look

Until the very end, Cassini continued to send data back to Earth.

back at the amazing work of the Goddard Team, follow [@nasa](#) and [@nasa-goddard](#) on Instagram, or check out their website, [www.nasa.gov!](#)

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have oceans of water beneath its thick surface of ice. The Goddard team certainly did not expect this moon to have geysers that shoot out from the South Pole into space, falling back to the surface as snow. Cassini flew through these geysers, collecting data about their composition. The spacecraft was able to detect microbial life, jump-starting an entirely new mission for the future.

The appearance of water this far out in space, has opened up lots of

have the luxury of time, or fuel, to answer the plethora of questions in the wake of this discovery.

With little fuel left, the Goddard Team had decided it would be too risky to let Cassini float in space once its propellant ran out. If the spacecraft is taken in by the gravitational pull of any of Saturn's moons, it could potentially crash, contaminating future research sites, as well as the habitable moons Titan and Enceladus. Instead, the God-

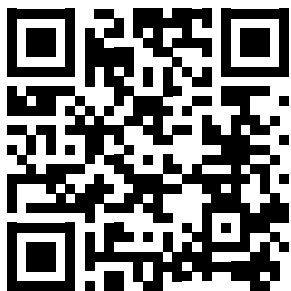
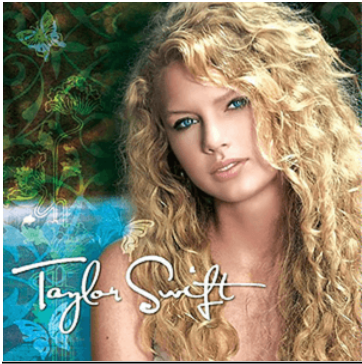
FROM TAYLOR SWIFT TO 1989

BY LUKE FARRELL

When I heard that Taylor Swift is set to release her sixth studio album, *Reputation*, in November I thought to myself, what are my favorite Taylor Swift songs? Although I am not a huge Taylor Swift fan, she is no doubt a huge influence in the music world. I took my favorite song from each of her studio albums, and I highly recommending giving them a listen. Enjoy!

Only Me

Album: *Taylor Swift*



Swift's self titled debut album had eleven songs on the original, physical edition of the album, though this song was not one of them. "Only Me" came with the reissued version of the album in 2008. The song has a nice, peppy step with a consistent tempo throughout its upbeat lyrics. It's a real shame it wasn't.

Change

Album: *Fearless*



"Change" was part of the AT&T soundtrack for the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, China and was then added to her *Fearless* album. "Change" is an inspirational song about revolution. Anyone who is going through a tough time and thinks that they won't get out are sure to be uplifted with this great motivational song.

Enchanted

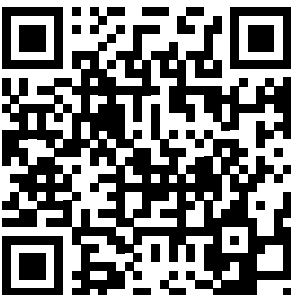
Album: *Speak Now*



"Enchanted" is a beautiful song on my favorite album, *Speak Now*. In the song, Swift details her encounter with lead singer of Owl City, Adam Young. Swift has a relaxing melody and describes in an interview with MTV that she "started writing [it] in the hotel room when [she] got back." You can tell from the lyrics that she certainly thought it was a wonderful experience. Swift was truly flawless with this piece and brings a sense of joy to the classic.

All Too Well

Album: *Red*



"All Too Well" is a fantastic song and my favorite Swift song. She transitions from smooth, soft verses to the more emotional chorus and bridge. It shows a transition through Swift's relationship with actor Jake Gyllenhaal. Swift truly put her heart and soul into this song and it's the only song on the album written with Liz Rose. Rose helped Taylor pen a majority of her songs for "Fearless" and her self-titled debut in 2006. This song is an exceptional piece of music and is a must-hear.

Style

Album: *1989*



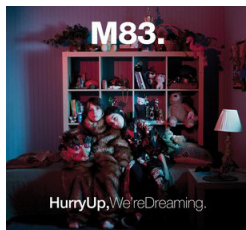
Although I do prefer Swift's country-pop vibe more than the full-on pop album, *1989* still brings a lot of the feeling that she showcased on her previous albums. "Style" is a song that still has Swift's usual vibe and (pardon the pun), style of her music. It has a relatively slow beginning but then picks up for the rest of the song bringing a catchy sound and is the best song on her Grammy Album of the Year.

SPOTIFY COMES TO HUNTINGTON

BY AFRODITI MOUNTANOS

Huntington High School now has a Spotify! With different types of playlists in the makings for everyone, you're sure to find some songs that you love. To submit any new songs to a current playlist, or even add an entirely new playlist, please email the dispatch at dispatch@hufsd.edu to be validated and submitted!

The following is a sampling of several of the playlists, and a few of the many songs in each. Enjoy!

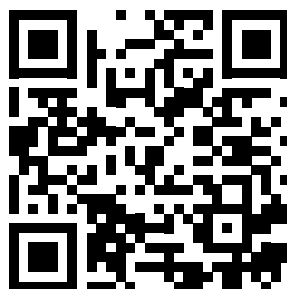


Playlist Name:
Atmosphere

Less words, more music. This is an awesome genre of music to have playing in the background, while driving, or just trying to have a relaxing time.

For the Damaged Coda - Blonde Redhead
Runaway (U & I) - Galantis
A La Lumière Des Diamants - M83
The Great Gig in the Sky - Pink Floyd
Strawberry Fields Forever- The Beatles
...And The Day Turned to Night - Shpongole
Apache - Incredible Bongo Band
A feast of Friends - Jim Morrison
La Llorona - Chavela Vargas
Bron-Yr-Aur - Led Zeppelin

Code To
list of playlists
on Spotify



Playlist Name:
Disco Fever



Featuring classics such as Donna Summer and the modern form of disco from the Netflix Original, The Get Down, enjoy timeless, groovy hits from the seventies.

Last Dance 12" - Donna Summer
Set Me Free - Herizen Guardiola
Devil's Gun - CJ & Co
Turn the Beat Around - Vicki Sue Robinson
Dancing Queen - ABBA
Disco Inferno - The Trammps
The Hustle - Van McCoy
Good Times- CHIC
Best of My Love - The Emotions
Daddy Cool - Boney M

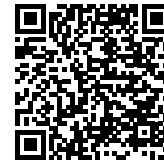


Playlist Name:
Rock & Roll
Mania

From legends like the Beatles and the Who, to Queen and Jimi Hendrix, relive some of the best Rock & Roll numbers from the twentieth century.

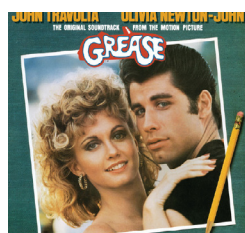
Panama - Van Halen
Lucy in the Sky With Diamonds - The Beatles
Love Her Madly - The Doors
Love Hurts - Nazareth
Home Tonight - Aerosmith
We're Not Gonna Take It- Twisted Sister
Killer Queen - Queen
Welcome to the Jungle - Guns N' Roses
Purple Haze - Jimi Hendrix
Behind Blue Eyes - The Who

Playlist Name:
OG Hip
Hop



With songs ranging from the late 70s to the early 80s, this playlist consists of the beginning of the Hip Hop era.

Apache - The Sugarhill Gang
The Message - Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five
Rapper's Delight - The Sugarhill Gang
It's Like That - Run-D.M.C
Planet Rock - Afrika Bambaataa
The Breaks - Kurtis Blow
Basketball - Kurtis Blow
Adventures of Super Rhymes - Jimmy Spicer
That's the Joint - Funky Four Plus One
I Know You Got Soul - Eric B. & Rakim



Playlist Name:
The 50's
Bash

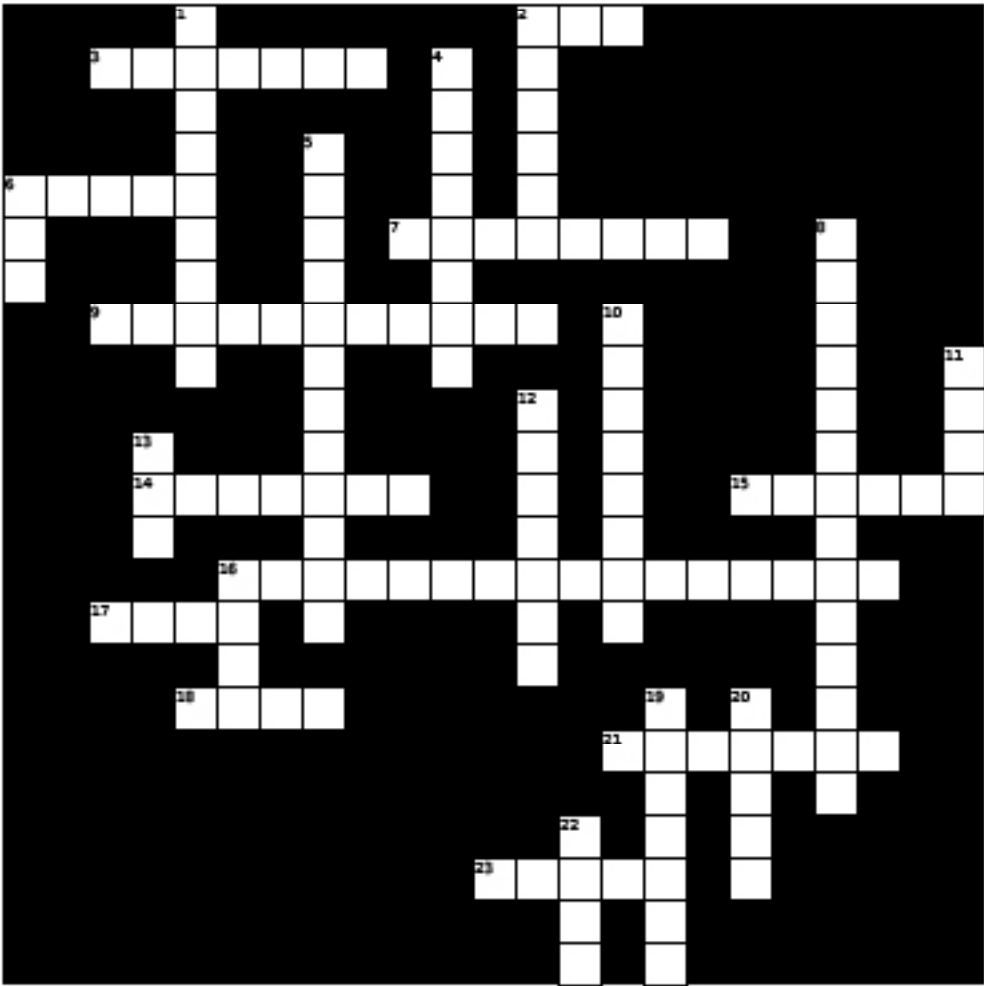
The great ol' 50's (and a little hint of the 60s) gave us fantastic music that will last forever. From the King of Rock to the Queen of Latin Soul, this decade sure is one to remember.

Born to Hand Jive - Sha Na Na
La Bamba - Ritchie Valens
La plaga - Enrique Guzman

Trouble in Paradise - The Crests
Oriente - La Lupe
Just Pretend - Elvis Presley
Vino, Dinero Y Amor - Elvis Presley
Fever - La Lupe
Blue Moon - Sha Na Na
Mooning - Cidny Bullens, Louis St. Louis
Grease - Frankie Valli

Presidential Puzzle

BY LUKE FARRELL



- Across

2

Network of "General Hospital" and "Dancing with the Stars"

3

Famous for "The Tramp" character

6

___ and The Giant Peach

7

Taylor Swift album with hits "Mine" and "Dear John"

9

President who supposedly got stuck in a bathtub

14

Christopher Nolan film

15

"Alas Poor Yorick" Play

16

Received Best Actor for "The Revenant"

17

Roe v. ___

18

What peas are in

21

Harrison Ford's Character in "Star Wars"

23

Walt ___ Disney
- Down

1

President who is buried at the Tennessee State Capitol

2

Current German Chancellor Merkel

4

"Viva la Vida" and "Adventure of a Lifetime" band

5

President with the middle name Milhous

6

The youngest President, for short

8

President assassinated during a production of "Our American Cousin"

10

Muckraker who wrote "The Jungle"

11

Attic

12

Nickname for the Beatles, with "the"

13

Only president to serve more than two terms, for short

16

Former Late Night host Jay

19

Singer of "Billie Jean" Michael

20

Boy band that included Justin Timberlake

22

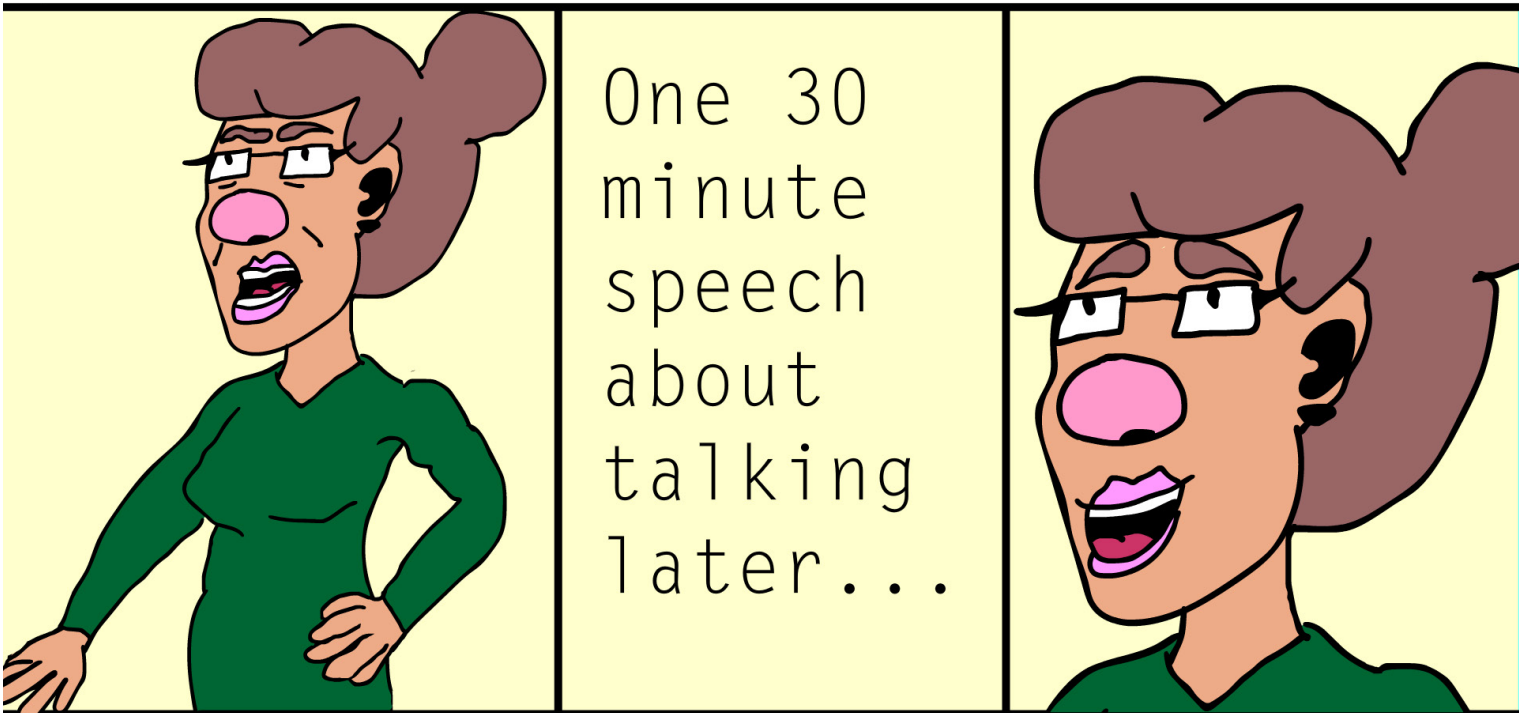
Good Food and Fine ___

Page 12 Joke Answer:
Pebacon!

Page 13 Joke Answer:
Periodically!

“Hypocrisy”

By
Nicholas Rowley



Are you seriously talking during my class! Don't you know how much time you are wasting?

And that is why you shouldn't talk during my class. See, now you guys are really behind!

FISHING FOR GREAT SEASON

BY CRAIG HASS

After a rough 2016-17 season for the New York Islanders, the team is beginning to coming back with some new players and staff to earn a spot in the playoffs. Along with the inquiry surrounding the slightly different team, many questions are still in the air about the upcoming season, John Tavares, and the possibility of a new arena.

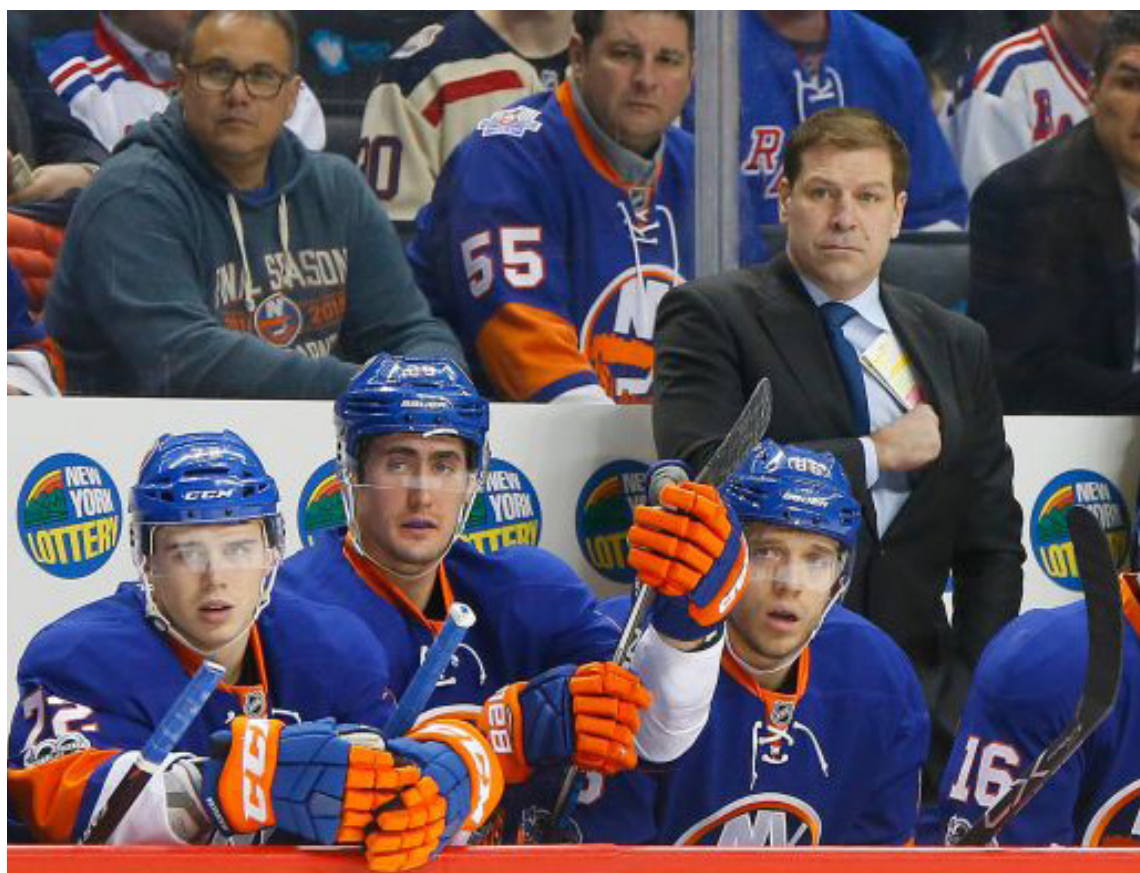
This season is going to be a big year for rookies on the Islanders. Young newbies such as Joshua Ho-Sang, Ryan Pullock, Mathew Barzal, and Michael Dal Colle are all projected to have a great first year given each of their unique attributes.

Ho-Sang adds speed, excitement, and great stick-handling skills to the team--an optimal combination with John Tavares on the first line. Ryan Pullock is a great defenseman with an outstanding 105 MPH slap-shot! Mathew Barzal has excellent stickhandling skills while maintaining a very accurate wrist shot. Michael Dal Colle, the former #5 pick, is a great team leader, known for

his playmaking skills. These young-guns are all eager to make some noise around the league in their rookie seasons, and Ho-Sang hopes to continue his tear he got off to last season!

The comeback second-half season the team had last year was brought about by Doug Weight, the interim head coach who will enter his first full-year as the head coach of the New York Islanders this coming season. As he began his job as head coach last year, he ended his short season with an astounding, 24-12-4 record. If Weight continues to coach his players as he did last year, the team might have a chance at being one of the best in the NHL this season.

During the off-season, the Islanders traded away two key players, Ryan Strome and Travis Hamonic. First off, Ryan Strome was traded for the Edmonton Oilers' winger and Jordan Eberle. Jordan Eberle is a great friend of John Tavares' who played extremely well with the captain during their days in the World Juniors in 2009. The duo finished second and third respectively in points in the



Head Coach Doug Weight and his team at the Barclays Center.

tournament; the Lee-JT-Eberle trio on an NHL team may prove to be a significant threat to other teams around the league. The loss of Ryan Strome was a risky move, as the player has boundless potential, yet also hasn't

This season is going to be a big year for rookies on the Islanders.

played to the standards that the team was hoping for. Travis Hamonic, team leader and defenseman, was traded to the Calgary Flames for a bundle of draft picks; this opens up room for a great young prospect like Ryan Pullock (described above) or

Adam Pelech to start their career in the NHL. Either one of these defensive prospects has the potential to hold a core spot on the team, making a big impact for years to come.

The question of a new arena and Tavares' extension all rolls into one big mess! Let's start off with the arena, as drama surrounding this fiasco has been causing a great dilemma in the talks of the captain's extension.

With the Barclays Center being a hassle for players to commute to, members of the team want the franchise to opt out of their contract with Barclays, to construct a more accessible stadium for the players and staff. John Tavares would much rather prefer having a shorter, easier commute with another team than to drive the hectic streets of New York, or ride the train with us, crazy fans. A new arena will also bring a better ice-standard to the team. The weak cooling system below the ice

at the Barclays Center has been insulted by players around the league for creating a low-standard, unsafe playing environment.

What's more, the fan base in Brooklyn has been nothing compared to the Long Island-grown fanbase that the players are used to from Nassau Coliseum; the preseason game at the Nassau Coliseum presented by NYCB sure proved that. Contrasting to any regular season or playoff game at Barclays Center, this game held a sold-out arena and a loud, exciting crowd that gave John Tavares the energy to score the game-winning goal in overtime. As John Tavares said, he wants to play for the Islanders for the rest of his career; no new arena could force him to sign with another team. For the Islanders, the decision on a new arena could change the future of the franchise for decades to come, and John Tavares needs to be signed if the team wants to have a run for the Stanley Cup.

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Captain of the New York Islanders, John Tavares.



SPORTS

HUNTINGTON BOYS VARSITY SOCCER STUNS SUFFOLK

BY
CHRISTIAN BELLISSIMO

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non-league game, Huntington went head to head against Connetquot in a 2-1 overtime nail-biting finish. During the end of the first half, striker Luis Ortiz blasted a goal past the keeper. Connetquot answered back 10 minutes into the second half of play. Tied at 1-1, the teams headed to overtime. At the start of overtime, Huntington had a scoring opportunity on a corner kick. Coach Pagano yelled, “Johnny Tucker end this!” as Tucker trotted his way up to the opposing team’s net. The kick came in from Freddy Amador, was headed closer by Julien Rentsch, and Johnny Tucker

ended the game with his diving header. After the first win, some players knew something special was brewing.

The second non-league game was away at Rocky Point. Huntington suffered a loss 3-1, as only Eren Aydin found the net after an assist from Luis Ortiz. Upset, Pagano told his players to think about the game, realize what they did wrong, and use it as

At the goal is captain Nat Amato, arguably the best goalie in the county.

motivation to win the next one. After the loss, Hunting-



Huntington's Alex Rivera overtaking an opposing player.

ton knew they had to come out strong against Sachem East, and that they did; In a 4-2 televised win, Freddie Amato, Freddy Amador, Jose Turcios, and Eren Aydin

all found the back of the net. Aiden Forbes, Alex Rivera, and Freddy Amador showed successful passing by assisting the players. Fueled by the win, the team then commenced a six-game winning streak that continued to grow and gave them a playoff berth.

The second half of the season was exciting. With the pressure on Huntington tied 1-1 against Smithtown West and lost 2-0 to Newfield. Those games made the team realize that it was time to get serious. Luis Ortiz won the game against Massapequa on his overtime game winning free kick, and the team strolled on with four more wins to finish off the season.

on one game at a time and had one goal in mind: make playoffs. After we achieved that goal we moved on to the next one: win the league. Now that we have done that we have one more, and that's to make a run for a county title,” said Alex Rivera, the starting center midfielder.

For the time being, that attitude holds true. Make sure to come to the playoff games and support the Huntington Boys Varsity Soccer team on their remarkable season. When you hear Josh Yanuck chant, “Family on three, 1, 2, 3, FAMILY!” you will feel like you’re a member of the family too.

“We focussed

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Senior soccer player, Michael Abbondandolo, after scoring a game-winning goal.