



The Dispatch

"A beacon of truth."

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Huntington High School

Oakwood and McKay Roads Huntington, NY 11743

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The Spelling Bee Soars

Huntington's 4th Annual Competition Had Unparalleled Drama

By Charles Beers

The Spelling Bee is one of Huntington's most anticipated events. There is no denying the powerful allure of seeing friends take the stage in a battle of wits and memorization to determine who is the best speller in the building. Fueled completely by the efforts of Huntington's English Honor Society, which heavily advertised this year's event and conducted the practice round which determined the participants, this year's Spelling Bee will be forever regarded as a nail-biting competition full of surprises, tragic losses, and a finale that was predictably unpredictable.

The competition, held on February 14th, seemed to be a sharp contrast to the atmosphere of the day. Valentine's Day, the holiday of love and the expression of buried affection, was completely undermined by the tension that the participants faced in the hours before the contest. Instead of thinking about poems or chatting about the recipients of their roses, these students were waging war against the dictionary, trying desperately to retain the trickiest of words in the hope that one would reappear whilst onstage.

Sixth period came by in a flash,

and at that moment students began hesitantly making their way to the battlefield, discarding their book bags and gathering all the courage they could muster. They



took their seat, and the show began.

One of the Spelling Bee's greatest assets was Brian McConnell, the emcee of the day. Despite the immense pressure of the competition, his perpetual smile and

horribly wonderful bee puns kept the contestants collected as they waited for their turn to take the podium.

The first round was a massacre. Due to the intensity of both the words being given and the pressure of the growing audience caused many capable spellers to misstep on their first go. Even in the face of failure, every single Huntington student was able to hold his head high and not be anguished by the difficulty of the competition, a testament to the fortitude of our community.

After the first round took its toll on the participants, less than half remained, many of whom had plenty of prior experience to guide them through the labyrinthine words uttered by Mr. Leavy, who also possessed a commendable composure but never failed to crack a joke now and again.

One of the favorites from the early going was Brian Gilbert, who had dominated last year's competition and was looking to reclaim his title. After it was announced that he was going to be the senior valedictorian, the odds were clearly in his favor.

However, Gilbert faced formidable opposition within his own grade. There was

See Brian on page 5

» news in short

> Huntington seniors Brian Gilbert and Marc Feldman have been named valedictorian and salutatorian respectively.

> Continuing his academic domination, Brian Gilbert won the 2014 Spelling Bee. Gilbert has won back-to-back titles, defeating second-place winner Caitlin Knowles and third-place finalist Donovan Richardson.

> Huntington High School seniors Aron Coraor, Jesse Feldman-Stein and Brian Gilbert have been named finalists in the 59th annual National Merit Scholarship program, placing the trio among America's elite Class of 2014 members.

> John Arceri rallied to tie the score and then notched a decisive takedown early in overtime to capture the Suffolk Division I wrestling championship.

Aron Coraor Continues to Shine

Huntington's Scientific Prodigy Advances in Prestigious Competition

By JOE SAGINAW

The Intel Science Talent Search is an annual nationwide science competition that receives over 1,700 applications from high school students who have conducted original research projects. This year, Aron Coraor, a senior at Huntington High School, has advanced to the semi-finalist round of this competition, being one of only 400 students in the entire country to do so.

His project this year focused on creating a new model for the formation of the moon, challenging the current model developed in the 1970's. "I sought to justify a new model for lunar formation that would

avoid these inconsistencies," Aron said, referring to variations between the lunar samples collected during the Apollo and Luna missions to the moon and the current model.

He was inspired to do this project after learning about a chemical mechanism called an "azeotrope" that would explain the formation of the lunar crust, and he has been developing his ideas since the summer of 2012.

When asked about his research, Aron possessed an unwavering command of the advanced subject material. "I

justified the conclusions of



my project by creating in a

lab a magma [that is] similar to what likely would have been found billions of years ago as the Moon was solidifying and by measuring the composition of the crystals that formed from this synthetic magma."

In addition to the student's insight on their topic, the Intel competition also looks at applicant's grades. Aron, in addition to taking three Advanced Placement courses at the high school, has taken Multivariable Calculus, Linear Algebra, and Modern Phys-

ics at Stony Brook University. He plans to be involved with Chemistry at a host of prestigious universities he has applied to, including Harvard, Princeton, Yale, MIT, Cornell, and UPenn.

Aron has received nearly universal praise and respect from his peers and mentors throughout the district. "This is tremendously exciting for Aron, for his teachers and for the district," Huntington Superintendent James W. Polansky said. "An incredible amount of research and study, typically over multiple years, must go into producing a high-quality project that reaches this level."

Ms. Kenny had simi-

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Cameron Diaz Takes the Stage

Popular Celebrity Inspires Huntington to Live Healthy Lives

By KATIE DUVAL

On January 13th, Cameron Diaz visited Huntington High School to talk about her new book, *The Body Book*, and maintaining fitness and nutrition. The school gathered in the auditorium, a few students equipped with posters that sought to get Diaz's attention during the assembly and try to test her unmatched poise.

Through answering questions delivered from Ms. Tedeschi's women's studies class, Cameron Diaz began to explain what her book was about and what her motivation behind writing it was. She told the student body about her desire to always lead a healthy lifestyle no matter what. She also explained how after she turned 40, health became even more important to her. Diaz knew that more than one-third of adults in the United States are obese and in 2010, 18% of children were obese. This startling fact inspired Diaz to try and start reestablishing good nutrition and a healthy diet for American teenagers.

Diaz wanted to investigate the human body

in order to understand the best, most natural ways to keep it healthy. Then, she wished to share that knowledge with the



people that have been watching her in movies for decades. She especially wanted to get the message of health and body security across to girls and women, who she feels experience higher social pressure concerning their looks and weight.

The *Body Book* seeks to explain the human body starting on the cellular level. By exposing the way the body works and how all its systems are interconnected, Diaz works to use science to inform the reader about how to maintain overall

wellness. "There are trillions of cells in your body," said Diaz with determination. She used a combination of both scientific fact and motivational power to explain that everyone in the audience had the power to change their body for the better.

It was apparent during the time that Diaz spoke to Huntington students that she was deeply invested in this topic and truly believed in her book. She exuded a positivity that anyone could be healthy as long as they educated themselves on how their body works and make smart, nutritious choices.

Diaz even provided many key examples to get the Huntington student body to a good healthy starting point. For example, Diaz explained that every morning she would take time to dance around in order to get energized and guarantee a solid morning exercise. Diaz urged everyone in

the auditorium to follow in her footsteps by taking the time to exercise through-



out their day, a crucial lesson in her healthy living plan. Overall, she had a bounce in her step and seemed prepared to speak for longer than her allotted time, as this was an issue she was very passionate about. The students also seemed receptive and listened to Diaz's mes-

"She exuded a positivity that anyone could be healthy as long as they educated themselves on how their body works and make smart, nutritious choices."

sage intently. It was clear that they too valued their health and were interested in any information they could find on it.

The assembly was a good way to end the day for both the students

and Cameron Diaz. It was a beneficial and exciting experience for the student

body to be able to meet a celebrity and learn about health at the same time, as a familiar face easily conveys a powerful message. Huntington High School students walked away with the knowledge that their bodies will try to keep them as healthy as possible no matter how they treat it, but for optimum health there's a balance between foods and exercise that people have to strike.

They learned that it's good to sweat a little every day and that it doesn't matter that much how healthy a person eats if they don't ever exercise.

It was most definitely a fun and informative way to spend an hour and a half, as well as a valuable life lesson for the Huntington community.

Black History Month: A Gateway to the Past

By KATIE DUVAL

Every year, we celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Dedicated to a man that has become a national treasure and a symbol for equality in our collective consciousness, this day reminds us of the struggle that we as a country must always go through in order to ensure that we live up to our ideals.

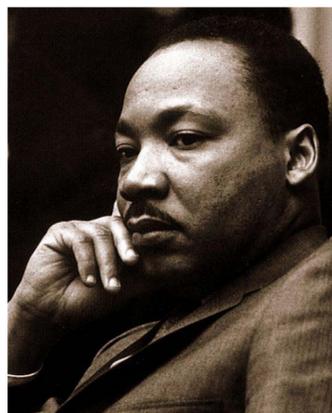
Up until only a few decades ago, American democracy was rife with holes and blind spots that allowed entire groups of people to slip through the cracks. Namely, black Americans were disenfranchised and discriminated against in brutal and ugly ways. They

had limited job and financial opportunity, no voice in the American democracy, and overall less quality of life in terms of services and advantages than white Americans.

Martin Luther King, Jr. and his brave followers sought to change that and ensure that all Americans were treated with equality and respect. They shook the country's attitude toward race relations and ushered in the Civil Rights Act of 1964, an achievement in United States policy to this day.

In addition to recognizing Martin Luther

King, Jr. Day, February is also Black History Month. During



this time, the country honors

the black Americans that have made significant contributions to the country, as well as the rest of the community. It is a way to signify that Americans of all races are solidified in their hopes and values and that we are all connected by our patriotism.

It is important to reflect on all of our nation's history so that we can understand where we are today in terms of race relations and the dynamics between different racial groups. The fight for complete equality for all is not yet over, and we must always strive for egalitarianism. Recognizing Martin

Luther King, Jr. and Black History Month goes beyond just equality for black Americans, however. It is a way to think about all other minority groups in America and understand that their freedoms and rights must always be protected and to the same standards of the majority. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, or sexual orientation, Americans must see themselves as the same. In the United States, there is a strong belief that no one is better than anyone else. This belief must never be forgotten and always acted upon. The American ideal of parity among all must forever be preserved.

Becoming a Huntington Helper

Offering Limitless Opportunities for Community Service

By LILY MORRIS

Over the last few years, community has become a very important aspect for students. Our school requires that each student obtain a specific amount of service hours. In this community there are many different ways to get your community service hours.

One popular way is to help in school events. If you are in a club, it is

possible that there are events in which you can help. You can also help at bake sales that are every day after school. There are also things like the "K Factor" and orientation for children in eighth grade. If you are in an honor society, you could also help tutor students who are struggling in certain classes. Other ways to get service

hours include community activities. Many students



participate in "HI-HI", which is a program that helps the poor. There are

also churches that help people who cannot buy their own food. You can attend these events and serve food to those who need it. Also with the club "Habitat for Humanity", there are trips to Breezy Point, where they still need to repair the destruction of Hurricane Sandy. If you still do not know how to receive service hours, you only need to

ask a teacher or the principal. There are many ways to do service for your community that are parts of the school. It is important to do community service because universities like students who are part of their community. It is also important because you cannot graduate from school if you have no service hours.

Convertirse en un ayudante de Huntington

Muchas oportunidades del servicio para la comunidad

By LILY MORRIS

Durante los años pasados, el servicio para la comunidad se ha convertido en un aspecto muy importante. Nuestra escuela exige que cada estudiante necesita tener horas de servicio. En esta comunidad hay muchas maneras diferentes para recibir sus horas de servicio.

Una manera muy popular es ayudar en los

eventos de la escuela. Si está en un club, es posible que hay eventos donde puede ayudar. También puede ayudar en las ventas de pasteles que hay cada día después de la escuela. También hay cosas como el "K Factor" y la orientación para los niños en el octavo grado. También, si está en una sociedad honoraria, podría ayudar a

otros estudiantes con sus materias más difíciles.

Otras maneras de recibir sus horas de servicio incluyen actividades en la comunidad. Muchos estudiantes participan en "HI-HI", que es un programa que ayuda a las personas pobres. También hay iglesias que ayudan a las personas que no pueden comprar su pro-

pia comida. Puede asistir a estas eventos y servir las comida a las personas. También con el club de "Habitat for Humanity", hay viajes a Breezy Point donde siempre necesitan reparar la destrucción del huracán Sandy.

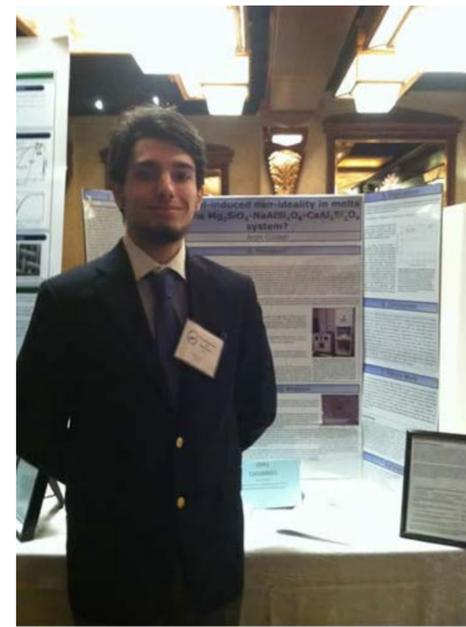
Si todavía no sabe como recibir horas de servicio, solamente necesita preguntar a un maestro o

a la principal. Hay muchas maneras para hacer servicio para su comunidad que son parte de la escuela. Es importante que haga las horas de servicio porque a las universidades les gustan estudiantes que son parte de su comunidad. También es importante porque no puede graduarse del colegio si no tiene las horas de servicio.

Aron Coraor's Tradition of Excellence

lar thoughts. "He is a shining star in the research program. Not only does he do high caliber research, but he is a leader with students in the research class." The praise did not end there. Coraor was also commended for his leadership and commitment to science, with Ms. Kenny saying, "He actively assists other students with their projects and is always highly respectful and interested in helping me in the classroom. He is also an integral part of our Science Olympiad, Science Bowl and Quiz Bowl teams."

Although Aron is the only semifinalist from Huntington, he is not the only applicant. Brian Gilbert and Victor Tellez, both conducted Intel level projects. Brian worked at Brookhaven National Laboratory with the par-



Aron Coraor standing beside one of his award-winning science presentations.

ticle physics department, conducting experiments concerning the super symmetry of particles in preparation for a larger experiment at Fermi National Laboratories.

Victor Tellez also conducted an Intel-level project, working with graphene nanoparticles and a cancer drug known as Gefitinib. This drug blocks these graphene nanoparticles, which are used to deliver medicine to specific types of cells to treat cancer.

While they are no longer in the running, both of these prolific Huntington scientists left a memorable impact on the competition through their unique work.

It is clear that Aron has made a lasting impact on Huntington High School's science commu-

nity. Not only does his Intel recognition reaffirm the tradition of excellence that the Blue Devils have established over the last few years, but it also serves as a reminder of his hard work and dedication to the scientific world at large.

Intel states that "Alumni of the Science Talent Search have made extraordinary contributions to science and hold more than 100 of the world's most coveted science and math honors, including the Nobel Prize and National Medal of Science." Clearly, for Aron Coraor, these goals are well within reach.



Robotics Club Takes Huntington By Storm

By CAITLIN KNOWLES

Lately in the Huntington School District, there has been a huge push to integrate STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) into more aspects of the curriculum. From founding the Jack Abrams STEM School to employing technology in the classroom, STEM is everywhere. It makes sense then that the newest extracurricular to join Huntington High School ranks is the Robotics Club.

Besides attracting school-wide attention, Robotics Club has helped numerous students become more familiar with engineering. The club currently has about 30 members and is lead by AP Physics teacher Ms. Paziienza and Club President Joe Saginaw. In November of last school year, Saginaw

requested help from Ms. Paziienza, a former engi-

sounds like a lot of fun, it's also hard work. Members of the Robotics Club have been working every day after school from 5-10 PM to construct a robot for the Long Island Regional

Competition. Held each year at the Hofstra sporting complex, the event draws teams from across the Island. Nationwide, the competition boasts a total of 90 regional events and over 2,700 teams. As of right now, the team has successfully built the chassis, or base, of the robot, attached wheels, and programmed software for the electronic aspect of the robot.

Clearly, advanced technical and mechanical skills are required to construct such a complex

robot. How, then, can a first-year team expect to catch up to groups that were established close to a decade ago? Fortunately, FIRST has set up a way to address this problem. "FIRST makes something called "gracious professionalism" a priority, which means that it is the responsibility of the more organized, advanced, and established teams to help out others." Huntington has received help from both Hauppauge and Half Hollow Hills West to learn the fundamentals of robot construction and technology.

In the future, it can

be expected that the Huntington Robotics Club will become a more organized and experienced team that may even mentor another group. The Club's goal is to establish itself as a serious team with increased student support and interest. For the long term, both Saginaw and Ms. Paziienza can agree that the ultimate goal of creating a Robotics Club at Huntington High School is to inspire the next generation of engineers. With the amount of hard work and dedication that has gone into the club so far, positive results are inevitable!



The Next Generation of Gaming Has Arrived

By MEELOD WAFAJOW

It has been a great launch for the new next-gen consoles this year. Both the Playstation 4 and Xbox One sold phenomenally well. The PS4 has sold over 2.1 million copies within two weeks in America and 4.2 million to date. Similarly, the Xbox One also sold well with 1 million within two weeks across 11 weeks. Although both were strong, PS4 truly won the launch.

We will have to see what both companies, Sony and Microsoft, come up with in order to gain more customers. In 2015, Sony will release a new service known as Playstation Now. Playstation Now is a subscription service which will allow gamers to stream any PS1, PS2, and PS3 game they want with HD upgrades. This is a great offer for those wishing they could play their favorite classics on their new consoles. On the other hand, Microsoft

has revealed a new Xbox One that is the color white with a lower price point. Both of

Which one is right for you? Well, it all depends on what you are looking for.

into gaming and enjoy high-quality exclusive titles such as Uncharted and Killzone, then

has sold 40 million copies. While that statistic sounds promising, when you consider the original Nintendo DS sold 150 million copies, the sales figure quickly diminishes. The Wii U has sold almost 3 million copies to date since last year. This will lead the company to end the fiscal quarter with a 200 million dollar loss. Leader of the company, Satoru Iwata, and his lead executives are all receiving sever pay cuts of up to 50%. To expand their outreach, they plan to extend to mobile gaming on smartphones as "marketing tools". There is no word of Nintendo bringing their games to third party consoles yet, but only time will tell.

these could prove to bring in cash for these big companies. The future is bright for the new consoles as well as gaming as a whole.

If you are someone looking for a multi-media device that allows for TV-Console connectivity, then the Xbox One is your choice. If you are more

the PS4 is right up your alley. While Sony and Microsoft are raking in cash, Nintendo has been struggling with their consoles. The 3DS



Wikipedia (while not a reliable school source) holds a comprehensive list of all current and projected next-gen launch titles for you to check out.

RELAY FOR LIFE

Huntington's Biggest Fundraiser Kicks off With a Bang

By Kaitlin Dayton

It's that time of year again people! No not Christmas, and not finals week either. What I'm talking about is Relay For Life crunch time, and with a successful kick off week behind us this year promises to be Huntington's greatest event yet.

For those of you who aren't familiar with Relay For Life, it's an event run through the American Cancer Society in conjunction with volunteers from our school and community. All of the donations that are raised from this event are invested towards vital cancer research and free information and

services to cancer patients and their caregivers.

Participants come together in teams and take turns walking around the high school's track from six at night until six in the morning. At least one team member is asked to be on the track at all times, to remind us that cancer never sleeps. It's a fun filled occasion, with entertainment throughout the night, from midnight Zumba to hula hoops contests to musical numbers from our

very own talented students.

Relay For Life brings the community closer together, as we work to celebrate victories against cancer, remember loved ones we have lost,

and fight back against a disease that has affected so many.

This year's kickoff was a little different from the previous years' kick-offs. Committee members decided to change things up a little, and instead of one big assembly, Relay For Life kickoff was stretched into a whole spirit week of Relay fun. Unfortunately delayed due to Long Island's little snow problem, the week started off late but nevertheless

with a bang on Tuesday, February 4.

Volunteers met students at the door, handing out purple ribbons to raise cancer awareness. The school was decked out in purple paraphernalia, from the flags and banners to the stickers and posters in the library computer lab. On the first day, team captains were encouraged to create their teams in the beautifully decorated library computer lab, with the help of Relay committee members. After that, team members were invited to sign up. All week, luminarias were sold in the



Brian Gilbert Triumphs in Dramatic Spelling Bee

no denying that Donovan Richardson, who won the spelling bee in his freshman year, was the obvious crowd favorite, receiving loud cheers whenever his name was mentioned at the podium. In addition, prominent spellers such as Mattison Chadwick, Jesse Feldman-Stein, and Greta Farrell also represented the strong senior class.

The next few rounds were hectic and dramatic, with spellers standing and sitting in undeterminable patterns. In the end, only two contestants remained: Brian Gilbert, the unconquerable king of spelling, and Caitlin Knowles, the rising star determined to usurp his throne. In an epic battle, Gilbert reigned victorious, confidently spelling Knowles' error to claim his second spelling crown. To cap off the successful day, Richardson defeated the two remaining spellers to emerge as a third-place winner, receiving a loud standing ovation from the crowd.

the spelling bee, Donovan had nothing but praise for all the participants. "I

an interesting point. With many of the champion seniors leaving us this summer, who will rise to the challenge next year? Will Caitlin Knowles fight her way back to the championship round and come out on top? Will a senior rise to the occasion and challenge her reign

would like to congratulate Brian and Caitlin, who did a really great job, as well as all the other participants." He continued by looking towards the future, bringing in an interesting fact. "I'll look forward to hearing about next year's spelling

"The tensions rose and the excitement with it, and happily we were able to end the event and crown our champions. Who knew spelling could be so exciting?"

bee when it comes around again, knowing that no former champion will still be attending the high school."

at the top? Are there hidden prodigies in the lower classes, begging for their chance on the stage and shock the entire Huntington community?

Before we can contemplate the future, we must first bask in the suc-

cess of the present. This year's Spelling Bee was unparalleled in drama and student participation. "I thought that it was yet an-



other memorable event for NEHS and the entire student body," said NEHS advisor Ms. Antorino. "It was our 4th spelling bee and it was exciting to see some of the graduating seniors on the stage who were there as freshman, such as Donovan Richardson."

Ms. Guarino, another devoted NEHS advisor, had similar views. "Each year we look forward to the Spelling Bee and enjoy having the student body come together to support it. We were a little nervous about the timing because of the delayed opening and shortened periods, so we went right to the mid level words to start the

eliminations. The tensions rose and the excitement with it, and happily we were able to end the event and crown our champions. Who knew spelling could be so exciting?"

Overall, the National English Honor Society has provided us with another heart-stopping spectacle. Through their tireless efforts, we were able to enjoy four periods of engaging competition, as well as learn a plethora of novel phrases to bolster our increasingly versatile palette. With all of this in mind, it is safe to say that the 2014 Huntington Spelling Bee was nothing less than a t-r-i-u-m-p-h.

The Polar Vortex

How This Winter Has Set Bone-Chilling Lows

By Leah Butz and Olivia Liepa

Global temperatures have been varying greatly for the past few months. In case you haven't noticed, the Northern Hemisphere has been quite chilly this winter. The polar vortex pushing its way south is to blame for some of these record lows. In contrast, regions in the Southern Hemisphere, especially Australia, have seen ultra-high temperatures that have been incredibly detrimental to various ecosystems. The great divide in weather systems between the two hemispheres is causing controversy - what is causing such radical changes?

The Polar Vortex

The recent temperature drop in North America has been a topic of great debate. When all fifty states managed to have temperatures below freezing in early January, the US went into a panic - where did these cold temperatures come from? The answer is the polar vortex. Despite its name, the polar vortex is

not some kind of sign of the apocalypse; it is just a natural phenomenon that while considered semi-permanent, has recently been surprisingly strong.

The polar vortex is a series of strong winds that circulate in a low-pressure system in the Arctic region. However, for the past few weeks it has been pushed south, which caused the Arctic-worthy temperatures. This is called a distortion of the vortex, and it happens randomly in any part of the Northern Hemisphere. Distortions happen quite often, but not as often over such densely populated areas.

The Southern Heat Wave

Phil Turner of Maree, South Australia managed to fry an egg on a metal shovel in early January to demonstrate



the incredible heat. Herds of cattle in Queensland have been killed off very quickly due to inability to sustain themselves in the unusually high temperatures. As many

as 50,000 bats have died as well. Brazil is also heating up, and zookeepers at the Rio de Janeiro zoo have been feeding ice pops to some of the animals to cool them off.

The cause of this sharp rise in temperature is attributed to a combination of global warming and the late arrival of the seasonal monsoon, which usually has a cooling effect. El Niño, the term used to describe warm waters in the Pacific by the equator which usually only occur every twenty years, is predicted to start happening abnormally often - as often as every decade. Australia, Indonesia, and much of South America should begin preparing, be-

cause these heat waves are expected to become more prevalent within the next few years.

What is the Cause?

Last March, Europe was hit with the vortex pushing southward and causing some of the lowest European temperatures in fifty years. Australia has recently been seeing perplexingly high temperatures, as high as 122 degrees Fahrenheit, or 50 degrees Celsius - killing thousands of animals such as bats and kangaroos. Some argue that global warming is the cause of these extreme fluctuations, and it is a topic that is being researched very thoroughly. Some studies show that climate change is related, but no conclusive evidence has been found. Regardless of the cause, we should try to protect ourselves and the Earth around us. Stay warm in this cold winter, and limit your carbon footprint as much as possible.

We Need Your Help!

We want to make your Dispatch experience more enjoyable! By filling out a quick survey and giving it to your teacher to collect, we can learn your likes and dislikes and make the newspaper more appealing for the Blue Devil community!

My Favorite Section of the Newspaper Is: _____

What I Look For in the Newspaper: _____

What was the best part of this issue? _____

What was the worst part of this issue? _____

By filling out these four questions, the newspaper can be perfected and fine-tuned to meet the needs of the student body, making it a better read for everyone.

Also, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, feel free to contact us at hhsdispatch@gmail.com and we can start a Letters to the Editors section. Thank you for your continued support!

Et Cetera

Huntington's Literary Magazine Sparks Our Creativity

By Brian McConnell

In younger grades, creative writing is a prevalent part of English class. From using the weekly first grade vocabulary words to form a story to the yearly "All About Me" poem throughout primary school, by the time students reach high school they have gained years of experience in letting their minds free and their pens flow.

However, with the dialectical notes, SIM paragraphs, essays, and close readings that compose today's curricula, the practice of writing creatively has been limited, sans a few whimsical homework assignments that teachers thoughtfully assign to alleviate mundane and analytical writing.

Thanks to Et Cetera, HHS's own unique literary magazine, students have

the opportunity to write the short stories and poems that aren't ruled by rubrics. Also included is the artwork of esteemed HHS artists, which is not to be overshadowed by the literary exposé.

Much like The Dispatch, Et Cetera is free to all Huntington High School students, however the magazine is released once a year, in late spring. This allows creativity to blossom throughout the year and culminate in a successful collection. Last year's 2013 issue boasted a proud 38 pages of student-produced literature and artwork, and 2012's issue contained 23 pages, displaying the club's recent growth in popularity.

While the "Et Cetera Club" puts together the publication, it is a misconception to believe that its members, led by advisor Ms. Molenko and Senior Editor Greta Farrell, produce all of the con-

tained literature. The staff welcomes and encourages submissions of writing from all HHS students, and have used various methods to advertise their club, such as handing out creatively cute poems on Valentine's Day and hosting a "Hunger Games Movie Night" last year. This event also was mainly utilized as a community service opportunity, as the money raised from the night was donated to assist victims stricken by the dreaded Hurricane Sandy.

"I think people would be surprised at how fun the club is," said one anonymous source. "While displaying your writing to the high school seems daunting, every member of the club is supportive and welcoming the minute you walk through Ms. Molenko's door."



Editor Charles Beers had similar views. "I have really enjoyed my time as the senior editor of the magazine. I think Et Cetera is the perfect opportunity for writers to express themselves in ways they couldn't in the classroom. I'm amazed at how much the club has grown, as seen by our great turnout at last year's Hunger Games Night, and can't wait to see how much it will thrive in future years."

2014's Et Cetera magazine is still open to submissions, so if any intrepid students would like to see their literature or artwork published in a collection even more prominent than the class bulletin board, contact the Et Cetera staff!

The Et Cetera Staff

Senior Editor - Greta Farrell
Assistant Editors - Charles Beers and Asar Nadi
Treasurer - Bobby Marcus
Art editors - Olivia Liepa and Keti Tsotskolauri

Contact Greta Farrell or Ms. Molenko if you would like to submit any poems or stories for this year's magazine.

Let's Take a Quiz!

What it Takes to Be Part of the Prestigious Quiz Bowl Team

By Mary Sheehan

Do you consider yourself a rising Jeopardy star? Come join Huntington High School's Quiz Bowl team! Quiz Bowl is a voluntary club that is supervised by Mrs. Forbes and Mrs. Kenny. It is open to all students who are ready for a challenge.

On the first Wednesday of each month, the students compete against other schools from all over Long Island at John Glenn High School, from November to March. Meets are structured as a team style Jeopardy competition, involv-

ing both JV and Varsity teams. Each team has 5 players, but only 4 are allowed to play at any given time.

are posed in a multiple choice format which can include any topic of interest. One round during the competition

team to lose points, while in first round of the competition they offer bonus points. It is important to accumu-

late the maximum number of bonus points to boost the team's score.

At the end of the season, the top two schools from each region, in addition to two other teams, are invited to participate in the final competition. The winner is named the "Long Island Champion." For anyone looking to flaunt their knowledge, or

Throughout the rounds, subs can be made so each player is given the opportunity to play. There are four rounds of questions that

is the "speed round," in which all the questions are linked in some way. In the last round of the competition, wrong answers can cause your

just enjoy the excitement of a Jeopardy-style showdown, should not hesitate. Join Quiz Bowl today and you won't be disappointed!



Top 10 Ways to Spend Next February Break

By Donovan Richardson

#10 Doing no assignments so that when you come back you're absolutely toast.

#9 Missing all your teachers because lack of teachers is totally definitely the worst thing about February break.

#8 Honoring Honest Abe and Cherry Tree George. Celebrating their birthdays, both in February, is the purported reason that we have a school holiday this month.

#7 Going on college visits, whether you're a just accepted senior or a prospective junior, many HHS students will without a doubt use these days to visit their favorite schools.

#6 Skiing or snowboarding taking advantage of the coldest month to hit the slopes.

#5 If you don't know how to ski or snowboard or you just don't like the cold at all you can go to vacation somewhere really warm like California or Aruba hashtag. Very nice.

#4 Watching the Olympics. You can only find it on NBC-Universal owned channels, but you'll be able to see a good portion of it between during our school break.

#3 Shopping!!!!!! For the people who want to look extra fabulous on the first day back.

Tied for #1- The Marching Band is going to Disney, having fun in the sun, and making really great music, while the Habitat for Humanity group is going to New Orleans to build houses in areas struck hardest by Hurricane Katrina, also taking time for themselves to explore the Big Easy.

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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 2012-2013 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.

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The Personal Fitness Controversy

By Chaz Ruggieri

The Personal Fitness program at Huntington High School has been a hot topic in private circles, classrooms, and revolutionary councils ever since its induction. The many voices of the student body have come out in unison, announcing their frustrations with the program.

The amount of recreation cut out of physical education is one common complaint, as are the high standards that some of the teachers set for unathletic students. One particular offense (one very scalding to the writer's heart) is its invasion of the celebrated Project Adventure alternate course. Some of the currently enrolled say the new course hardly even resembles its former self, reporting that team-building and leadership exercises have been replaced by AMRAPs and air squats.

There's more than one person in this school who would say that personal fitness has been slowly invading our lives with each passing day. That's why there was a lot of celebration when rumors turned up about the death of the program.

The spun tale goes like this: one fateful day, while working through the WOD in gym class, a certain girl (none of our sources could name the person, period or teacher) fell and broke her arm. In furious response, her parents took the school to court.

There, it was found that Huntington instructors had been using a specific personal fitness name and regimen without being licensed as an official facility. The order came down to stop the program.

But for days after, per-



sonal fitness remained in the P.E. lineup, hardly changed. To get to the bottom of the story, we went to the phys-ed staff and questioned them about the popular rumor. Each teacher, in turn, vaguely denied that anything had happened to the personal fitness regimen, and pointed us in the direction of Jamie Fishlow, gym teacher, varsity tennis coach, and the spearhead of the pro-personal fitness move-

ment in the school. Finally, we had come to the source we were looking for.

"First, to clear the record," Mr. Fishlow explained to us, "nobody was hurt, and there was never a lawsuit. I don't know where people got that idea. The only issue that the school has had with the guys behind (the personal fitness program) is that we weren't 'official partners' of the program."

As it turns out, the administration team at Huntington High School did not want to go through the lengthy process to license the official personal fitness name, which involves going through the actual company. They still could use programs and techniques from the popular fitness trademark-- they just couldn't call it by the licensed name.

"So all that changes is that we're calling it Fitness now," Mr. Fishlow continued. "It's still the same workouts, same techniques. The level of exercise we do in school isn't as heavy as an authentic fitness class, either."

Unfortunately for many, the cruel iron kettle bell of oppression has not yet lifted from the backs of Huntington students. It will take years of civil protest to free us of this program, so for now, we may as well just accept it. And maybe, just maybe, we'll learn to do a push-up in the process.

Project Memory Hits its Stride



The Art Honor Society is pleased to announce its third year of participation in Project

Memory, an opportunity where art students create portraits for youth around the world

who've been neglected, orphaned, or disadvantaged. A select group

of 12 students from the Art Honor Society created portraits for children in Nepal this year. Leah Butz said "Being part of the Memory Project is very rewarding. It's humbling to know that a simple image I created can give a child who has faced immense challenges some form of happiness.

Other News

The Art Honor Society would like to congratulate Vice-President of the Art Honor Society Angelica Tome Radigan who had the honor of receiving one of this year's Long Island Arts Alliance Scholar - Artist Awards for her work in Media Arts. She is expected to be profiled in print and online via Newsday on March 10th.

The Art Honor Society will be inducting 39 deserving students into their ranks on Friday, February 28, 2014.

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

If you would like to submit a piece, contact Ms. Mohanty and email the PDF file to hhsdispatch@gmail.com, along with a brief artist statement that features your name, grade, and inspiration for the piece.



JULIANNA BARCA

Julianna L. Barca is a young woman known for her distinctive flair for the arts. She is the President of the Art Honor Society, Art Director of 'The Huntingtonian,' the school yearbook, and was named the Scholar Artist for Suffolk County 2014. Having taken classes in practically every discipline here at the high school, including Ceramics and Sculpture, AP Studio Art, AP2D, and is currently enrolled in the career internship program for Painting and Drawing teacher, Ms. Singer. Very dedicated to her artistic endeavors, Julianna is planning to study at one of the country's top art schools, MICA (Maryland Institute College of Art), in fall of 2014.

Focused mainly on the human figure, Julianna's work explores many experimental hand rendered and digital techniques. Her works most often consist of her closest friends and family. She describes her passion for the arts

as "a way to make the reality you live in a lot more beautiful".

"By expressing how feel through visual art forms, people who cannot understand your ideas through words can have the opportunity to feel them through from a more abstract point of view. In simpler terms, art is a simple way to show people what you're thinking. You don't have to go around trying to find the perfect words to describe a tough concept when you can just use a color to show the same thing!"

The piece featured above is one of many AP Studio concentration pieces from Julianna's portfolio. This double self-portrait, rendered in colored and black inks and featuring one of her favorite techniques, was created by printing thread to create chaotic line and texture.



AARON FELTMAN

Aaron Feltman is a tenth grader who is currently taking painting and drawing and advanced computer graphics.

He primarily works with watercolors and colored pencils in highly detailed portraits. His focus is centered on females and his portfolio contains the faces of his closest friends.

His picture entitled "stargazer," which will be hung in the art hall wing, includes sev-

eral meaningful flowers to Mrs. Singer, the painting and drawing teacher who inspired the piece.

He has focused on his art throughout his entire childhood and plans to continue his work into the distant future.

He is majorly inspired by many contemporary artists and is always searching for new muses to further his advancements in art and develop his style.

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E-mail hhsdispatch@gmail.com

Contact Mr. Florea, Ms. Antorino, or one of The Dispatch's editors if you wish to place an ad in the paper.

The Latest Trends, From A to Z

Just because the winter season is coming to a close, it doesn't mean you should stop keeping up to date with all of the latest trends. To keep your wardrobe looking sharp, we've compiled a list of all our personal fashion tips, from accessories to zippers. If you follow our helpful alphabet of style, you're sure to impress your friends and enter spring with flair. By Bianca Cadet

Accessories- From necklaces to Peter Pan collars to geometric earrings, these additions can show off your festive side with glitter, or make a statement that brings together your outfit.

Beanies -My personal favorite, these hats are versatile

and can be worn with just about anything. They can even be customized to your own preference, as well as keep you warm for the winter.

Cardigans- this winter favorite is common and cute for this holiday season it is a very versatile piece and can make any outfit that you pair stand out

Dr. Martens
Doc Martens are grunge chic and are amazing with any look your going for each day. The patent leather boots are a must and come in different colors and can send a unique vibe to your statement pieces. DIY's are high suggested as well whether you decide to stud the panels of your favoritesweater or badazzle the front of your moccasins it can show a different side of you and your sense of style

Earmuffs
These cozy winter accessory is interesting that it comes in many forms classic, colorful, black and white and the more recent animal. It looks cute this chilly season and still keeps your ears warm

Fragrances
What's your winter fragrance? Whether it's warm vanilla,

the sweet smell of peppermint or a winter wonderland be sure to find your own fragrance this holiday

cause it can be worn with just about anything: skater skirts, high waisted jeans, this interesting piece is great for layering on top of a collared shirt for a preppy more vintage look.

Leggings / Leather
Leggings are comfortable and stretchy and one size can fit almost anybody.

Leather, a popular trend with bottoms, tops and shoes, looks matte and official for winter.

Moccasins
Warm and cuddly for your toes. Socks or no socks, you decide. It is a classic for this time of the year and can make even the dressiest look casual while still keeping your feet warm.

Gloves and Glitter
Gloves are a cool way to keep your hands nice and toasty this winter. Glitter is an extra decoration to celebrate for the holidays.

Holiday!!
Anything holiday oriented for this time of the year of course is on trend. Christmas clothing, lights, tree decorations, santa hats, reindeer ears they are all just a part of enjoying the last year and preparing ourselves for a new year.

Ice skating
Since the snow is starting to freeze how about you and your family take a trip to the ice skating rink. Trying something different is another way to have some bonding time with your family. Ice skating may be difficult, but having fun is key to this activity.

Jackets
Outerwear is of course ideal for this season, but what kind of coat? Any kind of jacket is great as long as you feel good wearing it, it's all about the comfort.

Knits
Knits! Knits Knits! This chunky, comfortable material is excellent be-

Plaid/ Patterns

This kind of material is thick and can change your tone of the outfit. It's a common classic and can be worn in many ways even the simplest outfit can look chic with a plaid blouse

Quilts

This isn't really a fashion trend it's more of a winter favorite linen. It sets the mood of your home and yourself as well. It's also a great sheet to stay warm besides blankets

Running Shoes

With Winter Track up in running it's gear is also becoming a favorite just to work out in. These shoes provide comfort while still giving you confidence working out in the gym.

Sweaters

Of course sweaters had to be mentioned they can be in many forms and

effortless outfit for the colder months ahead.

Uggs

These boots are a recurring trend each year. It can be worn similar to mocassins and they come in a collection of colors, heights, matte, sparkle and can suit just about everyone's personality.

Vans

Vans are a year round trend. It can be worn with any outfit; it creates a more skater cool edgy vibe to your look in just one glance. Vests are also a good piece because they have more versatility; especially denim; it is more in this season to pair with your Vans.

Wedges

Booties in this case are great for going out with friends or to wear to a dressier event. It is a classy look and although it may be hard to walk on at times, at least you still look good doing it.

X-Games or skating
event that occurs once ever winter with many ice related activities such as snowboarding, ice skating, skiing and much more. Be sure to tune in this winter to see who's there.

Yoga Pants

These are good if you just don't feel like doing anything. It's a warm piece and it gives you a causal but with the fit of the pants a more classy look depending on what you pair it with.

Zippers

To the back in the front of your shirt you name it. It's a cool way to make your shirt or boot noticed. Try to find pieces that contain zippers it can vary your own outfit.

can help you avoid from layering too much. Sweaters are awesome for this season because you can wear it how you want. Be sure to add statement pieces like necklaces, embellishments to change your look.

Thermal wear

It's better if you use thermal wear to put under your clothing or even leggings with oversized sweaters for a cute but



The Lego Movie Review

An Incredible Love-Letter to the Famous Bricks

By Charles Beers

When I first heard about the Lego Movie, I was completely convinced that it would be terrible. Movies have constantly been used as marketing schemes for major companies (just look at the first ten minutes of Space Jam and you'll understand where I'm coming from), and typically this has led to two-hour long commercials that do nothing more than advertise their product. I expected the Lego Movie to be just that: a marketing ploy that was lazily put together in order to sell more toys. But, after seeing the movie all the way through, I realize I couldn't have been more wrong.

The Lego Movie is, as of right now, the best movie of 2014. Critics and audiences alike have praised the film for its creative plot, energized animation, and surprising emotional depth that transcends its genre. I couldn't agree more. I don't think there has been a movie in the last three years that has made me laugh as hard as the Lego Movie. It was one

of those movie's that you can't judge by its poster, that awesome surprise masterpiece that you never see coming. So, what makes the Lego Movie so great?

The story involves

Emmet, an ordinary Lego figure who enjoys fitting in with the crowd but soon realizes he has nothing that makes him unique. He lives in a Lego city

overlooked by the evil Lord Business, who poses as a benevolent ruler but secretly plans to destroy the world and prevent people from messing with the world he so meticulously created. Emmet is soon forced into danger, as he discovers a mystical Lego piece that is prophesized to be the one thing that can save the world from disaster. Emmet is proclaimed a legendary "Master Builder"

and is forced to start a team of fellow builders, such as Batman, a powerful Morgan-Freeman voiced messiah, and many surprise cameos that will keep the audiences laughing for hours.

to follow pre-determined designs in order to create something really special.

In addition, the Lego animation is stellar from start to finish. Every Lego brick appears to be in its proper place and the

really struggle to figure out what was happening on screen, since everything moves at blinding speeds and rarely slows down for the audience to take a breath. Apart from this, though, there is very little else to complain about.

The Lego Movie is, quite simply, a masterpiece. I don't think anyone was expecting this film to be anything more than a money-generating advertisement for the already-popular toys. However, what we received completely blew our minds. Who would have guessed that a story about Lego figurines could be this inspiring and emotionally complex? The message for both kids and adults is great, and it possesses that perfect mix of child-like nostalgia that everyone gets when looking back on their old Lego sets, reminiscing on construction projects of the past.

Overall, the Lego Movie is a near-perfect experience, as well as a poignant love-letter to our favorite pastime.



The best part of the movie is just how unbelievably fun it is. Every world, made completely out of Lego bricks, is imaginative and full of colorful characters, ranging from an old western saloon to an overwhelmingly bright world full of rainbows and magical creatures. The movie really captured the spirit behind Legos: offering limitless potential to create new worlds and not having

for a kid's movie. I really enjoyed how both Emmet and Lord Business evolve at the conclusion of the film, leading to one of the best endings to a movie I have ever seen.

If I had one gripe about this unbelievable movie, it would be the animation. While the animation is vibrant and addictive to look at, it sometimes is too energized for its own good. Sometimes I had to

9.2/10

Huntington Gets Ready to Relay With Incredible Kickoff

continued from page 5

cafeteria, and kickoff week was concluded with a delicious bake sale. It was by far a successful week, with 52 teams currently signed up and more being created or joined everyday.

Just having your team set up is by no means the end of the Relay For Life process. Now, it's up to team members to do all they can to raise money and donations before the event.

Please help us beat this year's goal of \$165,000! All members who raise \$100 by April 28th will receive a 2014 Relay t-shirt, but all members must raise \$100 before May 27th. Visit relayforlife.org for email templates to send out for donations, or think of team fundraisers such as

car washes or yard sales for more fun ways to raise money.

The first captain's

planning team meetings to go over and organize paper work that needs to be filled out as well as jobs

to the event and who is contributing to team fundraisers). Luminarias, paper bags which you can



meeting will be on February 27th at 7p.m. in the Heritage room, so begin

that need to be assigned (such as who is bringing what food and supplies

off week. Don't forget to ask any cancer survivors and caregivers you know

decorate in honor of a loved one, will be continued to be sold, so it's not too late if you didn't buy one during kick-off week. Don't forget to ask any cancer survivors and caregivers you know to the Cancer Survivor's Reception which will take place at 5p.m. at the high school on June 7th, an hour before the event starts. There's still time to create or sign up for a team, so don't worry if you haven't yet, and anybody who has further questions is welcome to ask Mr. Cohen or any committee members. There are no silly questions; remember, this is a positive event and we're all in this together. Every Thursday until the event is officially "purple Thursday" so please wear purple to show your support!

Now all that's left to do is to ask yourself this question, "Why do you Relay?"

2014 Oscar Predictions

Who Will Take Home Gold in a Year Full of Masterpieces?

By BRIAN GILBERT AND CHARLES BEERS

The 86th Academy Awards will take place on March 2nd, hosted by Ellen DeGeneres.

The Oscars are always fun to watch, but in case you want to impress the guests of your Oscar party or just win some bets, here are our 2014 Oscar Predictions.

Best Picture: Twelve Years a Slave



While Gravity was suspenseful and immersive, *12 Years a Slave* was the most powerful depiction of American slavery to date. Not only did the film garner universal critical acclaim, but it also served as a poignant reminder of America's darkest hours for a new generation.

Best Actor in a Leading Role: Christian Bale (*American Hustle*)

Very few people have predicted that Bale will win the Oscar. In fact, most of the major awards ceremonies have overlooked his masterful performance as a con artist struggling to survive a forced partnership with an FBI agent. We believe that this is Bale's time to shine, and the Academy will deliver him a trophy. And yes, Leo will once again miss out on Oscar gold.

Best Actress in a Leading Role: Cate Blanchett (*Blue Jasmine*)

Few people we know have seen *Blue Jasmine*, a moving drama about the story

of a rich Manhattan socialite falling into poverty and homelessness. At the heart

of every positive review of the film was Blanchett's leading role, which has already won her a Golden Globe and a BAFTA. Consider her the front-runner for the trophy.

Best Actor in a Supporting Role: Michael Fassbender (*12 Years a Slave*)

Fassbender's performance as a biblical, abusive plantation owner is frightening and powerful.

Best Actress in a Supporting Role: Jennifer Lawrence (*American Hustle*)

The Academy seems to have a thing for J-Law. Ever since her thrilling performance in the 2010 masterpiece *Winter's Bone*, Lawrence has dominated the industry with her performances in the *Hunger Games* and *Silver Linings Playbook*. Her performance in *American Hustle* may be her greatest one yet, and will most likely continue her reign over Hollywood.

Best Animated Feature:

Frozen

How can you say no to a film that has been widely considered the greatest Disney movie since *The Lion King*? Breaking box office records, boasting beautiful animation, and reinventing that sense of Disney magic, *Frozen* warmed the hearts of millions and is almost a shoo-in for the award.

Best Cinematography: Gravity (Emmanuel Lubezki)

Gravity's greatest strength, apart from the lead performances, was making you feel as though you were in the quivering boots of the



astronauts, treacherously dangling in space. For this unparalleled dramatic vision, *Gravity* deserves the win.

Best Director: Steve McQueen (*12 Years a Slave*)

It takes both skill and courage to depict the life of a slave with gruesome, shockingly realistic detail. Not only did McQueen perfectly demonstrate the stress and oppression that slaves faced on a daily basis, but he did so in a

way that neither fell into obvious cliches or blow the events that occurred in the South completely out of proportion. In the end, McQueen deserves the most praise out of all of 2013's directors, mainly for taking the most risks and still producing a masterpiece.

Best Original Song: "Let It Go" (*Frozen*)

An instant classic, *Frozen*'s defining song is still ingrained in the minds of audiences everywhere. Its spirit and the stunning voice of Idina Menzel have no equal this year in film. In short, there is no doubt that "Let it Go" will come home victorious.

Best Visual Effects: Gravity

The Full List of Winners

- Best Picture: *12 Years a Slave*
- Best Actor in a Leading Role: Christian Bale (*American Hustle*)
- Best Actress in a Leading Role: Cate Blanchett (*Blue Jasmine*)
- Best Actor in a Supporting Role: Michael Fassbender (*12 Years a Slave*)
- Best Actress in a Supporting Role: Jennifer Lawrence (*American Hustle*)
- Best Animated Feature: *Frozen*
- Best Cinematography: *Gravity* (Emmanuel Lubezki)
- Best Costume Design: *The Invisible Woman* (Michael O'Connor)
- Best Director: Steve McQueen (*12 Years a Slave*)
- Best Documentary Feature: *The Act of Killing*
- Best Documentary Short: *Facing Fear*
- Best Film Editing: *Gravity* (Alfonso Cuarón, Mark Sanger)
- Best Foreign Language Film: *The Great Beauty*
- Best Makeup and Hairstyling: *Dallas Buyers Club*
- Best Original Score: *Philomena* (Alexandre Desplat)
- Best Original Song: "Let It Go" (*Frozen*)
- Best Production Design: *American Hustle*
- Best Animated Short Film: *Room on the Broom*
- Best Live Action Short Film: *Helium*
- Best Sound Editing: *Captain Phillips*
- Best Sound Mixing: *Inside Llewyn Davis*
- Best Visual Effects: *Gravity*
- Best Adapted Screenplay: *12 Years a Slave* (John Ridley)
- Best Original Screenplay: *Blue Jasmine* (Woody Allen)

Movie Review: Frozen

Huntington Warms Up to an Instant Disney Classic

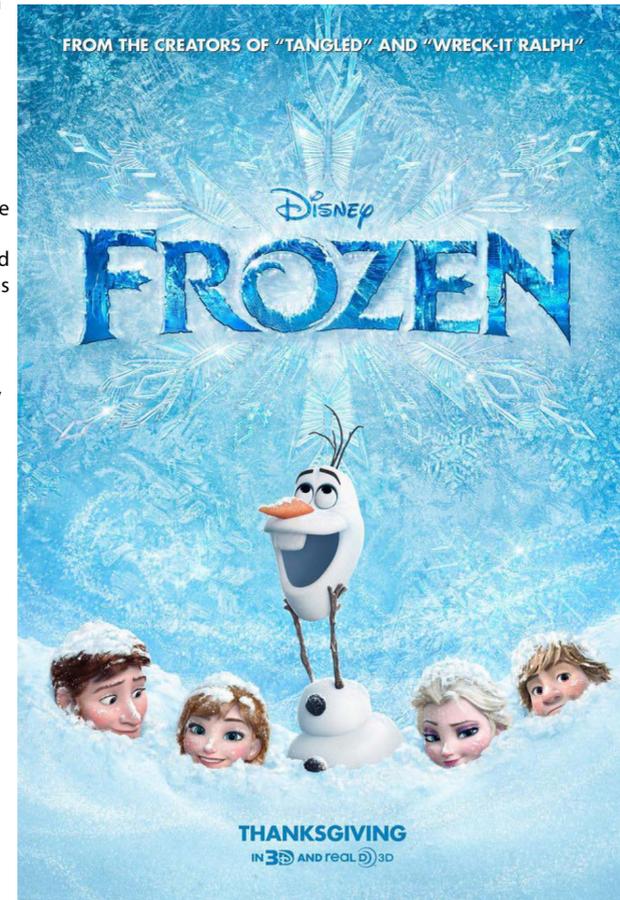
By MICHÈLLE D'ALESSANDRO

One of the newest and more memorable movie releases of the season is the Disney comedy-adventure production *Frozen*. Many fans and critics alike regard this movie as one of the greatest animated Disney films ever made and is a heavy favorite for the Academy Awards. This begs the question: Can the Disney magic overcome such massive hype?

This movie follows optimistic princess Anna as she searches for her sister Elsa to reverse the endless winter that has befallen their kingdom. Elsa contains unharnessed wintery powers that, when she was provoked, creates Himalayan conditions throughout the land. Anna uses the help of Kristoff, the hardy mountain man who prefers reindeer to human company, and the comical and entertaining snowman Olaf throughout her journey. On their race to save the kingdom from eternal frost, Anna, Olaf, Kristoff and his sidekick reindeer Sven encounter magic, trolls, wolves and many more incredible animated creatures.

Many students in Huntington High School went to go see *Frozen* and

had a great time. One student regarded the animated film as "unforgettable,



touching and endearing." The film has not only gotten praise for its amazing animation, but also its touching themes of sisterhood and the importance of family. "The script is great and the music is beautiful. I loved the plot,

how two sisters fight, but can make it through because they love each other," said another Huntington student.

Others loved the characters. "My favorite character was Anna. She's so positive and innocent" regards one student. Olaf was by far

freshman.

The movie's soundtrack was also a big hit among viewers and left them humming. Great songs like "Let it Go" went from depressing feelings of being exiled to being strong and

the most popular character, with people instantly falling in love with the whimsical and virtually indestructible snowman. Always happy and ready for the next adventure, Olaf gave a fun light to the bleak wintry situation. "He's so cute and adds humor to the plot" exclaimed one

The film's plot is wonderful and shows how through hardships, love conquers all (a reoccurring [and classic] Disney theme). However, it is different in that, unlike many other Disney movies, it shows people that girls don't always need a man to save them. This ushers in a newer Disney theme that many have taken to, and hopefully will be expanded on in future Disney movies.

Overall, *Frozen* is an instant Disney classic. With incredible animation, endearing characters, heartfelt themes on the bond between sisters, and a memorable musical score to bring everything together, this is one animated film that you should never let go.



What Other Critics Are Saying

"Frozen impresses by conveying coldness in all its frostbitten beauty, from northern lights and blizzards, to ice magnifying, refracting and reflecting light. The movie is a lovely example for animation enthusiasts to study." -Steve Perall, *Tampa Bay Times*

"As far as animated movies go, it doesn't get that much better than *Frozen*. It's a new Disney classic." -Drew Taylor, *The Playlist*

"A great big snowy pleasure with an emotionally gripping core, brilliant Broadway-style songs and a crafty plot." -Kyle Smith, *New York Post*

Scan this QR Code to see the nominees



Scan this QR Code to watch the trailer



Spring Sports Ready for Action

continued from page 16

in the playoffs. Baseball on the other hand experienced a tough season last year by finishing the year at a 5-15 record. However, a new year means a new start for the Blue Devil baseball team. With workouts already a month underway, the team looks to improve and make a playoff push. "We need to be consistent and fight



for wins that are hard to get in order for us to be

tefusco. "These workouts are important for us to get ready for the season.

"We are in a tough division and we need to win some games against tough teams to make the playoffs" said Junior Alex Borman. The Blue Devil baseball team is heading towards a tough road but if they have a good start then they can make a playoff push.

In Lacrosse, the girls' team is hoping to improve on its success they had last season in the playoffs and contend for a county championship. Their heartbreaking loss to Harborfields High School in overtime last year will give the team experience

this season and help them win tough games and make them serious threats

opportunities for championships are in the air. If these teams work hard, then

"This team has the ability to beat anyone in the league. Our teamwork has made us one of Suffolk County's most powerful teams."

to other top teams in the county. The boys Lacrosse team has a very good chance to reach the Suffolk finals once again after a tough loss to Miller Place last year. Several starters are coming back this year in order to win Counties and represent Huntington in the Long Island Championship game.

The spring sports season is almost underway in Huntington. New op-

they have a great shot at success while representing Huntington High School and showing the rest of Long Island its colors of blue and white.



The 2014 Winter Olympics Politics and Progression Buried Beneath the Gold

By Donovan Richardson

The Olympics are always historic in their own ways. This is first Russian Olympics. The first Olympics since the iPhone went widespread. The first Olympics since people didn't drop the thun thun thun!

The media likes to talk about how the upcoming Olympics are bigger, greater, and better than the last, but it is often apparent that not much changes either. Since 1994, Winter Olympics (the less popular little sister of the Summer Olympics) have always been held two years after the summer Olympics; before 1994, both the Summer and Winter Games were held in the same year. NBC

has covered these games since 2002, and has been criticized for offering 20th-century style coverage to a 21st century audience. Especially in the most recent London games, NBC drew notable criticism for consistently delaying the broadcast of popular events for hours until primetime in America, even when their results were available on the Internet. These delays and other tactics were designed primarily to increase viewership and satisfy sponsorships in order to ultimately fund NBC's multi-billion dollar

broadcast contract with the International Olympic Committee. While this makes good business sense, the obvious and awkward limitations to NBC's broadcast style is often unsatisfactory to those who want instant knowledge of Olympic events.

Additionally, political tension and the Olympics have always gone hand in hand, which has been demonstrated time and time again by protests, boycotts, wars, and tragedies that have taken place while athletes were competing. The staggering boycott of the 1980 Moscow Olympics and the brawl that broke out between Russia and neighboring Georgia during the 2008 Beijing games are notable events

that illustrate the current political situation surrounding Sochi-- the first Russian Olympics to carry all the baggage of being Russian.

Even without an iron curtain to divide them, there are still longstanding animosities between the U.S. and Russia.



This long-standing feud has been exacerbated by the controversy surrounding Edward Snowden, the imprisonment of recently released members of the anti-government band Pussy Riot, a new law banning homosexual propaganda, as well as other human rights violations. But a list of controver-

sies can be made for any Olympics and Sochi isn't inherently unique.

However, the 2014 Olympic Games have the potential to truly leave their mark on sports history. Athletes will rise and fall, medals will be won and lost, and in the end countries may leave Sochi



Another Sensational Season Domination, Loss, and a Whole Lot of Football

By Will Harris

The 2013 NFL regular season has come to an end. The season consisted of many exciting moments as well as many disappointing performances from teams that were successful a year ago. The season also showed new stars making their first strides towards greatness, while future Hall of Famers continued to cement their legacy with record-breaking numbers and amazing comebacks from injuries. The 2013 season didn't disappoint and the fans got their money's worth, whether the games were played in the sunniest days or the chilliest of blizzards.

In the AFC, the Denver Broncos were the big story. With their future Hall of Fame quarterback Peyton Manning, the Broncos clinched the AFC West division title, a first round bye in the playoffs, and home field advantage throughout the AFC playoffs with a 13-3 record. Manning was a huge contributor for Denver as he set both the single season passing yards and touchdowns records. The

future Hall of Famer threw for a total of 55 touchdowns which surpassed

Amendola, into key offensive players in the AFC. The Patriots won the AFC

the AFC North champions Cincinnati Bengals, AFC South champions Indianapolis Colts and the second wild card winner San Diego Chargers.

In the NFC, the Seattle Seahawks were the powerhouse of the conference with their number one overall defense including Richard Sherman and Earl Thomas. The Seahawks, along with their amazing crowd also known as the 12th man, helped Seattle win seven of their eight home games. Seattle's dominance at home contributed to their 13-3 record, home field advantage in the playoffs, a first round bye, and the NFC

ly, utilized up tempo offense and the resurgence of quarterback Nick Foles, who finished the year with 27 touchdowns and a minuscule two interceptions. The Panthers were another surprising team in the AFC. In the first two years of Cam Newton's career in the NFL, his leadership was unsuccessful. However, when coach Ron Rivera replaced John Fox, Cam Newton began to excel. Along with their amazing defense led by Luke Kuechly, the Panthers skyrocketed to the elite of NFL defenses. The Packers as usual went on to win another division title by one of the top



Tom Brady's old record of 50. Peyton broke Drew Brees' former NFL passing record of 5,476 yards by 1 yard.

Another exciting story in the AFC was the Kansas City Chiefs. Coached by former Eagles' head coach Andy Reid, the Chiefs turned from a disappointment, with only two wins to their name last year, to a wild card playoff team with a 11 and 5 record. Their stellar defense created the most turnovers in the league which gave Jamaal Charles and the offense big leads, allowing them to execute their powerful run game and play action passes. Also, the New England Patriots, with their inexperienced wide receiver core, had a lot of work to do. As he always has, Tom Brady turned his receivers, Julian Edelman and Danny

East and a first round bye in the playoffs with twelve wins and four losses overall.

The most disappointing team in the AFC was the Houston Texans who were the AFC South champs at 12-4 last year and were one of the few favorites to win the Super Bowl this year. The Texans were plagued with injuries to star running back Arian Foster and quarterback Matt Schaub. The rest of the teams representing the AFC in the 2014 playoffs were



quarterbacks in the league; Aaron Rodgers. The San Francisco 49ers and the New Orleans Saints also clinched playoff berths.

Overall, the 2014 season was characterized by dramatic change. Many new stars rose to the occasion while others

shrank into the shadows. No matter how you view it, there is no denying that 2014 was a stellar year for football fans, keeping things interesting from week 1 to Super Bowl Sunday and leaving us begging for more.

West division title. The other division winners in the NFC were the Philadelphia Eagles from the East, Carolina Panthers from the South, and the NFC North champs the Green Bay Packers. Philadelphia, under first year head coach Chip Kel-

Super Bowl Sparknotes

By Will Harris

The Playoff matchups for the first round or also known as the Wild Card round were the 49ers vs. Packers, Chiefs vs. Colts, Saints vs. Eagles, and the Chargers vs. the Bengals while the Seahawks, Patriots, Broncos, and the Panthers had first round byes.

In the playoffs, the Indianapolis Colts defeated the Kansas City Chiefs 45-44 after a 28 point early

deficit. It was the largest comeback in NFL playoff history. The Saints beat the Eagles 26-23 and the 49ers beat the Packers 23-20.

To conclude the wild card round, the San Diego Chargers also pulled the upset against the Cincinnati Bengals by a score of 27-10.

In the Divisional round, the Patriots upended the Colts 43 to

22 at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Massachusetts.

The Broncos avoided an upset by defeating the Chargers 24-17. The Seahawks beat the saints 23-15 at the Seahawks stadium, home to the 12th man and 49ers ended Cam Newton and the Panthers season by a score of 23-10.

In the Conference

Championship games, an exciting game between the Seahawks and 49ers ended with a game ending interception by linebacker Malcolm Smith of the Seahawks that gave them a Super Bowl berth.

Joining them in the Super Bowl were the Denver Broncos who beat Tom Brady and the Patriots 26-16.

With all the expectations in New York and

New Jersey for the Super Bowl were to be a great game that would be competitive to the end turned out to be a huge blowout where the best defensive in the league, the Seattle Seahawks annihilated the Denver Broncos 43-8 to give the 12th man its first Vince Lombardi trophy.

SPORTS

Spring Fever

Huntington's Roster is Filled With Championship Teams

By Will Harris

As the snow melts and green grass starts to appear again on the fields of Huntington, spring will arrive and athletes from all over Huntington High School will appear outdoors once again to show their athletic abilities and represent the Blue Devils. Sports participating for Huntington in the spring include track and field, softball, baseball, tennis, and lacrosse. Each of these sports has different stories heading into the new season but a same goal of being successful.

Following an amazing season of dominance in Suffolk County, the boys tennis team has moved into a "tougher division featuring potential Long Island Championship caliber teams including Whitman, Hills West, and Hills East" said, Huntington tennis player Shane Meyers. Charles Beers, another member of the tennis

team stated "This team has the ability to beat anyone in the league. Our teamwork has made us

teams, the tennis team has had workouts during the offseason in order to keep the players in shape

has high expectations this season and are expected to be one of the top contenders in Suffolk County

ago, the boys and girls track and field teams are looking forward to another successful year. Girls' track and field finished 5 and 1 with a share of the League Crown while the boys team collected county titles along with other awards during a tremendous season last year. With many athletes leaving Huntington last year, a new group of track and field stars are emerging and are ready to show their skills for the Blue Devils track and field teams.

From the oval shaped track to the diamond shaped field, Blue Devil softball is back following an impressive year. The Blue Devils had a great year before losing to Smithtown East in the playoffs. With a new season arriving, there are expectations for the Softball team to return to the playoffs and make a run



Huntington lacrosse prepares to dominate the county this season.

one of Suffolk County's most powerful teams." Like many other Huntington

and train for the season. The boys tennis team led by coach Jamie Fishlow

to compete for the Long Island Championship.

Also, coming off a promising season a year

See Spring on page 14

Seahawks Soar Past Broncos in Super Bowl XLVIII

By VINCENT FREDERICKS

The amount of pressure placed upon both teams at MetLife Stadium on Super Bowl Sunday this February was undeniably huge but the Seattle Seahawks embraced it, and reveled in it. Speaking all week of their respect for Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos' high-powered offense, the Seahawks stood calm and collected until the big day.

To the Seahawks, Manning, despite his decorated career, was just another quarterback to smother and suffocate, force him to make bad decisions and sloppy turnovers that would tilt the game in their favor. This was how the Seahawks had won all season, and this was how they won Super Bowl XLVIII. It was a defensive strategy that made them champions.

Even with a final score of 43 to 8, the margin of victory — the largest in a Super Bowl in 21 years — did not fully reflect the scope of Seattle's domination. It was as if the Seahawks chose to unleash 38 years of frustration in 60 chaotic minutes, scoring the first 36 points of the game en route to winning their first championship

in franchise history, an accomplishment that many Seattle fans will remember for the rest of their lives.

The demolition began

and would not escape.

After the first quarter, in which the Seahawks lead 8-0, the pain refused to stop for the Broncos or their fans. With four

having the best offense in the NFL, stood completely stagnant against the best defense in the league for the first 45 minutes of the game.



in 49-degree temperatures, on a night devoid of snow and chill, conditions ideal for a coronation. The Broncos downfall began in the first 15 seconds of the game when a miscue on the Broncos offensive line led to an overthrown snap to Peyton Manning resulting in a safety. This abrupt yet seemingly minor error put the Broncos in a hole from which they could not

turnovers, two picks from their beloved quarterback, and a defense that could not contain the explosive Seattle offense line nor make a tackle when needed, it must have been a painful game for fans to watch. The Broncos subsequently regressed throughout the game. Not breaching the end zone till the last play of the third quarter, the Broncos, notorious for

Many amongst the crowd of about 80,000 at MetLife stadium - those clad in orange, at least — had departed by then, having apparently decided it would be more enjoyable to stew in traffic, or in train-related congestion, than to watch the rest of their broken hopes of their team's third championship.

On the bright side,

Peyton Manning's 34 completions and DeMaryius Thomas' 13 catches both set individual records for a Super Bowl offense. In addition, the superb halftime show by Bruno Mars and the Red Hot Chili Peppers was enjoyed by everyone at MetLife stadium, distracting them from the rather disappointing game.

The Osprey, sometimes known as the sea hawk, is a diurnal, fish-eating bird of prey. It is a large raptor, who hovers over water stalking fish until the right moment, when it then fiercely dives into the water and scoops up the fish, leaving no chance for escape. The Seahawks seemingly embodied their logo during Super Bowl XLVIII, as they took advantage of every calamity by the Denver Broncos and left no possibility for the Broncos to recover. Despite critics stating that there were many flukes, such as the Broncos' mishaps on the offensive line in the first 15 seconds of and the various interceptions and turnovers by the Broncos league-leading offense, the Seattle Seahawks undoubtedly reigned supreme in the 2014 Super Bowl and soared to bold new heights.