



THE DISPATCH

SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

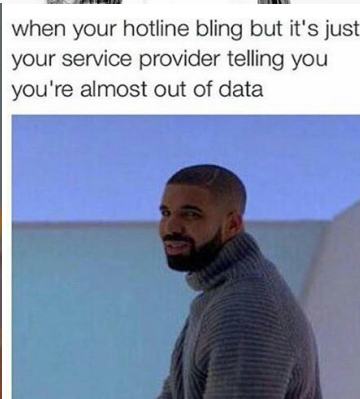
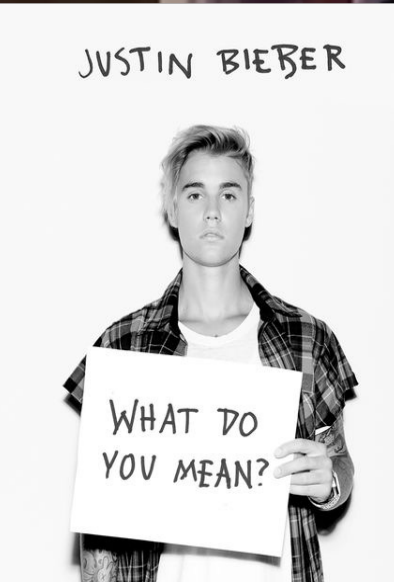
Issue II, Volume 45

HUNTINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

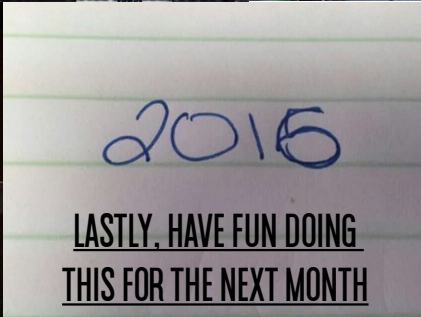
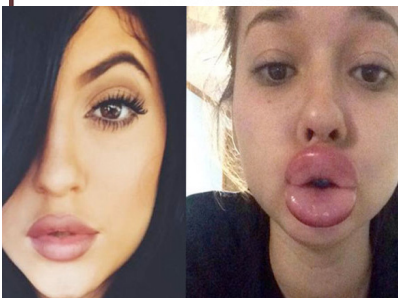
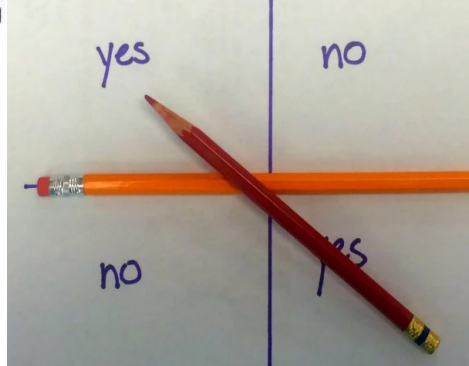
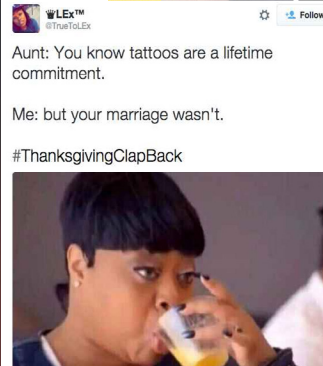
OAKWOOD AND MCKAY ROADS HUNTINGTON, NY 11743



when Miley Cyrus takes you to her favorite restaurant and you dont know what to eat



THE NEW CONDOM CHALLENGE PROVES A POINT



Cultural Appropriation— ANOTHER LOOK

An increasingly controversial topic among conversation seems to be the preservation of culture and the continuing preservation of the sanctity of each nationality/ religion through a common, seemingly childish view of “it’s mine, you can’t have it”.

Last issue, this topic was discussed briefly in this exact space titled “Cultural Appropriation- What Is It?”. In case you can’t remember, it touched on the idea that cultural appropriation is everywhere, in the ponchos and sombreros of bleak Party City aisles and in the windows of incense- filled henna shops. Given, cultural appropriation *is* seemingly everywhere, especially given the country we live in- America’s known for being the cultural melting pot of the world, where people from every sort of background can come to live, right next to someone of a completely different culture. This is a generally really good thing. It’s what we’re known for. It’s one of the major redeeming qualities about America.

This constant exposure to other cultures is perhaps one of the main reasons we experience so much cultural appropriation. Keep in mind, America is not by *any* means the only country with appropriation. We aren’t that special. Moving on, cultural appropriation is indeed everywhere. Alongside this constant “borrowing” of others’ traditions is the other American quality: political correction. So often, we are mocked for the acute sensitivity to others’ actions and words, finding a constant need to soften the world’s edges with euphemisms and to forbid all that may be offensive.

When these two meet, it’s clear to see where some people can take things too far. Pasta in Italy was taken from the noodles of the Chinese. Shall we assume that a scarce few might take offense to this “unprecedented imitation of another’s culture”?

The previous article states that cultural appropriation is the, and I quote, “When members of a dominant culture take elements from a culture of people who have been systematically oppressed by the dominant culture this is called cultural appropriation. It’s a power dynamic that praises a dominant culture for things they pilfer from an oppressed culture.” This, in fact, despite being the first sentences to an article whose title specifically asks for the definition of cultural

appropriation, is not the meaning of ‘cultural appropriation’. It is officially defined as “Cultural appropriation is the adoption or use of elements of one culture by members of a different culture.”

Now, the point where cultural appropriation can become more offensive and an increasing faux-pas in society is when it crosses over into that other category of coming from an ‘oppressed people’, or when the styles/ objects/ designs/ whatever have a much more serious and sacred history. For example, Native American war headdresses. They are, indisputably, very alluring and beautiful, they have an incredibly sensitive past, with the most commonly known feather headdresses’ including a ceremony of earning the band and each feather awarded for a brave or courageous act. This is only one example and it’s extremely common, but it makes the point. These have sacred roots and to disregard the horrors their culture was put through in order to look cool at your next music festival is borderline ignorant.

However, there are some things that yes, are adopted from others, but to forbid others from also partaking in said ‘whatever’ is somewhat overbearing. How can we ever expect to be able to rid ourselves of social stigmas and prejudice of other cultures and nationalities if we continually draw lines separating each other? This continuous claiming of “ours, not yours” only encourages the grouping of others. “Oh, you can’t have dreads, you’re ____”. How can this encourage people to live together and accept each other if they can’t even express their appreciation for another’s styles and ideas?

Furthermore, saying things like “if you do that, you’re taking credit for it” is incredibly hypersensitive- by wearing a poncho, I am not screaming out that my culture is the ‘rightful owner’ of the poncho. Drawing geometric designs on a piece of paper is not a declaration for oppression of ancient civilization. Braiding hair is not a way to slap an entire race in the face with a hairstyle choice.

Bottom line? Respect the culture, know its past and history before using it or taking part in it, and try to be more generous when it comes to sharing your own culture.

The Dispatch

2015–2016
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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.

The Dispatch accepts advertisements from local businesses and student organizations. The basic rate for advertisements can be provided on request to any interested organization. Requests for specific pricing, and examples of past advertising may be requested via e-mail through hhsdispatch@gmail.com. The Editorial Board reserves the right to refuse any advertisement deemed inappropriate, specifically those that reference illegal or controlled substances, products, services and/or paraphernalia.

LAS ESPINAS SE SACUDEN

POR SANTOS GARCIA AVELAR

LUZ, recorrió 3343.77 kilómetros, tres países, tres culturas, muchas ciudades y vio miles de imágenes pero solo una de ellas hasta hoy en día simplemente le pone la piel de gallina.

Luz como puedes ver es otra de nosotros, al primer año de vida le arrancaron a su padre en un homicidio que envolvió un puñal y una lluvia de gotas de sangre que hasta la vez invaden sus sueños dorados, en los cuales ella alcanza el éxito de la mano de su padre. Enseguida un remolino la despojo de su madre que viajo hacia el norte, y tristemente su mente no reconocía 11 años más tarde cuando la abrazó por primera vez, en un abrazo vacío fingiendo un amor que no sentía pero que lo había soñado tanto que al igual que un bebe comenzó a pasitos y con el tiempo creció saludable y más fuerte que mil cadenas. Luz también creció y vivió su infancia en su pueblo natal al cual ama tanto que hasta la vez, como una brújula puede encontrar en su mente la escuela, la iglesia, el parque pero sobretodo la casa de su abuelo con el cual creció, y



Brújula

Las agujas del reloj
Pantalones largos,
Pólvara- ineptitud.

Las palomas en éxodo, con una venda sobre los ojos
Acechan a Alba! a las doce pm.

La espuma mulata, el bulevar tinto! Con urgencia
Sin pensar la muchedumbre plagia la aves,
por los restos cotidianos. Las agujas del reloj gritan! las doce, los cementerios se agotan. ¿Entretanto los pantalones largos? Rígidos, fantasmas desconocen el clamor de

las aves, que vuelan hacia Alba.

-Santos García Avelar.

con su inocencia pensó que era su padre. Le tomó por sorpresa que también la delincuencia y la pobreza le extrajera su corazón patriótico y lo enviara por tierra hacia el famoso norte, en el cual las anécdotas cuentan que la plata llueve de los arboles.

Luz pudo soportar el asesinato de su padre, experimento la separación de su madre, trabajo fuerte y aceptó la derrota en que su tierra no era fértil para poderse plantar, pero jamás pensó que una simple imagen todavía la trasnoche y este tan viva que durante cinco años, durante más de dos mil días y miles de horas todavía haga palpar su corazón. Esta imagen es mas fuerte que la motivación, porque cuando a luz se le nubla el futuro, entra en acción como perro en completa cacería con cualidades de monje, y le sopla al oído “espero que os recordéis porque habéis venido a esta tierra”.

Luz a los 13 años entre la maleza y la madrugada con una luna impecable que alumbraba desde el norte hacia al sur y desde el este al oeste en el desierto de Arizona, observo huesos y cráneos de aquellos que cayeron durante su batalla tratando de alcanzar su sueño y fueron devorados por los gusanos y otras bestias. Una simple cerca es capaz de destrozar familias, de eliminar vidas, de romper pueblos porque como sociedad nos encanta tener barreras que nos impiden alcanzar la unión.

Luz como un relámpago giro la cabeza 90 grados centígrados pero la imagen ya estaba tatuada en su memoria y pronto la utilizó para alcanzar la disciplina que se debe tener cuando se llega a los Estados Unidos. ¿Ustedes, qué es la memoria y la imagen que les deja ese inolvidable viaje? ¿Vale la pena sacrificar todo y comenzar de nuevo? ¿por qué nos arriesgamos el pellejo, y cuando tenemos la oportunidad entre ceja y ceja la dejamos escapar? Luz encontró la respuesta y concluyo que si no vas arriesgar mejor no te muevas, que si caes , te levantes, que si piensas que la vida te da duro le pongas una sonrisa burlona y salgas adelante. Como dijeron por ahí “nadie muere virgen la vida nos jode a todos”. Entonces entendamos el verdadero motivo por el cual vinimos aquí y pongámonos a pensar en aquellos que cayeron y sus restos fueron devorados por los carroñeros, tenemos suerte de haber pasado esa fase ahora es tiempo de honrar esos caídos y seguir sus sueños y los nuestros sin importar cuantas veces caigas y tengas que levantarte.



ARE YOU FEELING SOME KINDA WAY ABOUT A TOPIC? WRITE ABOUT IT!

The Dispatch is always looking for writers and photographers to submit articles.

Drop in during one of our Weekly Wednesday Meetings or Thursday Workshops after school in Room 252

See back for Contact Info

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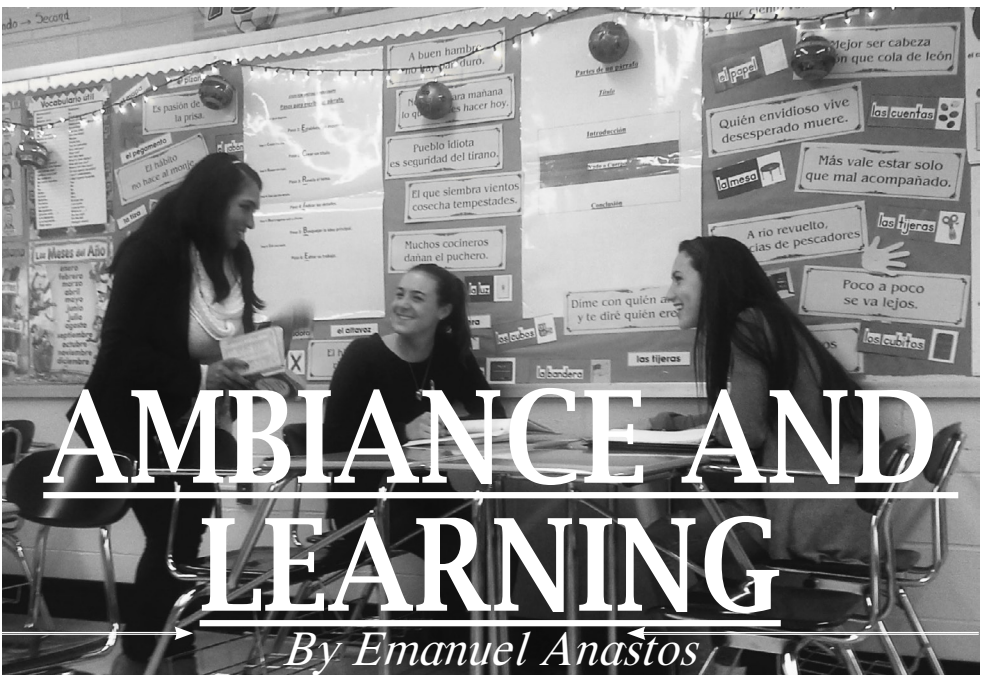
AMBIANCE AND LEARNING BY EMANUEL ANASTOS

Most teachers' primary focus is the teaching that goes on in their classroom, not their decorations. However, a creative few choose to give some special life to their classroom. Yes, the spaciousness and desk arrangement of a classroom important, yet there is more that can be added to a classroom to make it an even better learning environment and a place students love stepping into every day.

So, why is creating an extra ambiance in a classroom beneficial? Well, decorations around a classroom can make the environment feel friendlier and makes learning less intimidating for many students, easing the anxiety some can feel in a difficult class. A welcoming classroom might not be a big concern of the many students, but it can truly help some get through tough courses, and has never hurt anyone. In addition, a classroom that appeals to the senses and feels good to be in can enhance the focus of a student. This makes it more likely that they are learning relaxed, rather than sitting restlessly in boredom. Beside the calming effect of a warm atmosphere, classroom decorations can spur creativity and focus in students, provoking thought on the subject matter.

This can be particularly helpful in foreign language classes. The variety of decorations can be labeled with their names in either Spanish, Italian, French, Latin, or Chinese in Huntington High classrooms. This makes learning vocabulary more natural and fun than textbook teaching. Mrs. Mammone, an 11th grade honors Spanish teacher, takes her classroom decoration to the next level. In fall, Halloween decorations like friendly-looking ghosts and creatures, jack-o-lanterns, and spider webs can make a classroom feel more welcoming and festive. Students certainly agreed that her class atmosphere affects the experience. "...Decorations provide for a happy learning environment" says student Grace Curran, and "brings a happy spirit into the room," says another 11th grader, Ryan Gaffney.

As fall morphs into winter, and the holiday season approaches, Mrs. Mammone's white Christmas-style lights ("luces")



AMBIANCE AND LEARNING

By Emanuel Anastos

illuminate the walls, giving the room a feel of happiness, while candles ("velas") make the room feel more homely and an even cooler place for learning. "Señora" takes it even further, hanging student constructed snowflakes, or "copos de nieve", and spraying a fall-smelling perfume around the room to give extra ambiance to the classroom. It may seem like a lot, but it goes a long way. The last big benefit of decorating a classroom is the true care the students know that the teacher has for learning and their job. This encourages students to trust their teacher more, and put more faith in being able to learn a language, or any subject for that matter.

Taking some time to decorate classrooms can not only make the environment more welcoming, inspiring, and happy for students, but for teachers as well. A feeling of fulfillment is mutual in those who decorate their classrooms and the students who take these classes. "It makes me feel like I'm being the best teacher I can be, and taking teaching from a job to a lifestyle", says Ms. Mammone, the master of classroom decoration. It is clear to see that the decorations of a classroom can make a huge positive impact on both students and teachers, enhancing the learning experience of all who attend.

BY EMMA BLACK, SARAH FERNANDEZ,
NAOMI PONCE, MADDIE RINERE, ALEX
TACOPINA AND ALLY WOHL

Superlatives have been an exciting part of every senior's high school experience for as long as we can remember. So why is it that students are recently beginning to become less interested or even annoyed by the thought of them in today's yearbooks?

SUPERLATIVES: FUN AND EXCITING OR SUPERFICIAL AND INACCURATE?

Students are starting to realize that superlatives are exceedingly superficial and demeaning to others. For example, superlatives can make others feel less special if they don't get voted for "most attractive" or "most popular on social media". Are Superlatives fun and harmless or superficial and shallow? Let's take a closer look.

You may be asking yourself: what is a superlative? A superlative is defined as expressing the highest or a very high degree of a quality. Some examples of this include class clown, best artist, however,

superlatives can also be superficial as examples include most attractive, nicest car, most adorable, nicest hair, etc.

As we looked at this issue more closely, we discovered through old Huntington High School yearbooks that superlatives have always had superficial undertones. An example of this is in the 1998 HHS yearbook, we found a superlative that was dedicated to the student with the "Best Body."

The "Best Body" superlative is not only degrading but can also be viewed as an insult to other students sug-

gesting that their bodies are not as good or worse. This can have a huge impact on not only male students but largely on females who may be self-conscious. This could lead to a lack of self-confidence. High school students have enough issues in their everyday lives to be stressed over and by creating an award based off of looks or body image can create negative effects and is largely underestimated.

"While I look forward to the superlatives in my senior year, I think that categories such as most attractive and best body need to be taken

out as it can potentially harm the self-esteem of high school students," said Naomi Ponce, a Huntington High School Sophomore.

We are not saying that superlatives are a bad thing for the high school community. In fact, superlatives can be really fun and brings the student body together. However, we think that there needs to be a call to change certain superficial topics on appearances. Superlatives, in all, are a good thing, but we believe that a change is necessary for the tradition to hold its value...

APPRECIATING HHS'S FOOD

BY EMANUEL ANASTOS

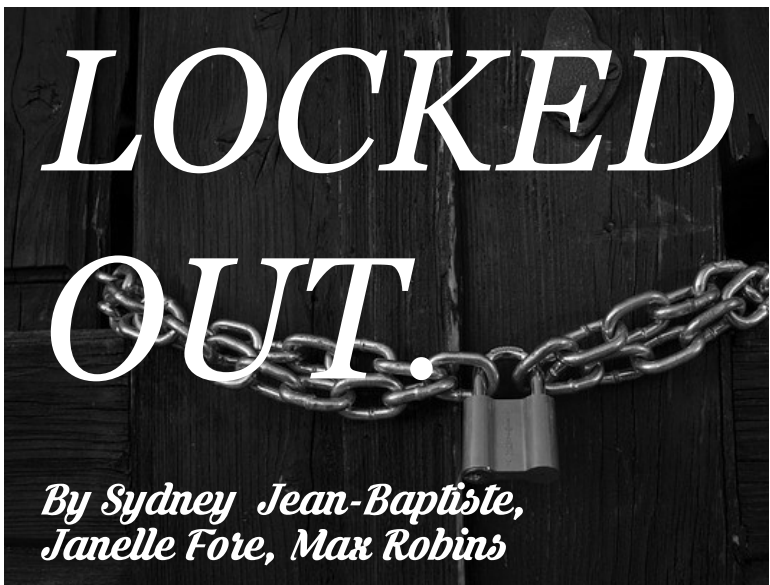
There may be various opinions about school lunch at Huntington, but everyone should be aware of the effort that the nutritional services make before a judgement is made with the circumstances and regulations put in place by authorities. There are a wide variety of choices provided to students, convenient eating provisions, and a very reasonable price offered to students on a daily basis. The nutritional services do their best to put a healthy and tasty meal on student's trays. While we can try to vouch for improvements in meals on a government level, we can also have a sense of pride in the food offered each day at Huntington High.

Above all, the food provided at Huntington is made to be the healthiest possible. For example, all of the cereals, which are provided for breakfast (before school from 7:00 to 7:25) are both reduced sugar and reduced fat. Though the choices may leave a little to be desired in taste for some, we must realize that we are not getting crap for breakfast, but something that will not be part of leading to obesity and future health problems, and will give us a nourishing start to our day. Sodium, carbohydrate, and sugar levels are just some of the regulated things for our school food.

In fact, there is nothing to hide about the health facts for our food: to access lunch items' nutritional values in both English and Spanish, log on to hufsd.edu, click on "Resources", then "Food Sources", and then "Menus, Forms, and Files". You will then see a full lunch menu for the month. Click on one day's menu, and you will see a list of almost every food item provided for lunch on the left. By selecting the plus sign next to an entrée, you can see the amount of 15 different values, such as total calories, fat, carbs, fiber, cholesterol, and many other component's amounts. This option will be available for breakfast items by next school year. With this information, just know that you are eating the right thing when you eat something at the high school.

If we want to ask for more choices, we must look to the NSLA (National School Lunch Program), a new government lunch program which offers low-cost meals (2.75 for a full lunch in Huntington) that are intended to decrease obesity in youth in the U.S. For example, the high school nutritionist orders every single available cereal provided, which include Frosted Flakes, Whole Grain Trix, Cocoa Puffs, Fruit Loops, Cinnamon Toast Crunch, and Apple Jacks, and even orders from the only other provider, Cisco, for extra items, like Cheerios and Rice Krispies (which one should request at the cafeteria for breakfast) for kids who like unflavored cereals. Still, we have three different sides for lunch; a cold wrap and salad side, a hot wrap, nacho, and pizza side, and a hot entrée side that has daily patty and burger options offered as well. I think that we can all agree that there is not much more we can ask for in terms of options, considering we are a public school.

Huntington food services care about their students; instead of barring students who have had money slip out of their pocket or forgotten cash at home (in addition to offering free meals to students who live in low-income families), a peanut-butter and jelly sandwich is offered as an option to students who agree to pay back the next day. In addition, conveniently packed lunches in plastic containers are available to students who would like to eat at another time, or have to go to Wilson Tech. We can also make the most of what is provided in more complicated instances, for example, if we do not have a lunch period. One idea for eating (because we are not permitted to go get lunch in a non-lunch or study hall class without passes) is purchasing two cereals and milk (less than \$2.75 lunch price together) in the morning, keeping it in a locker, and eating it at any class you please. This is a cool and efficient way to make the most of food provided, and while it may not be as nice as a lunch from a restaurant brought in, it is definitely much more affordable.



IF YOU ARE A STUDENT AT HUNTINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, YOU'LL NOTICE THAT IN-BETWEEN PERIODS, IN THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES AND THE LAST 10 MINUTES OF CLASS, THE BATHROOMS ARE CLOSED.

Most students can say that the idea of the bathrooms being closed is ridiculous. For example, Senior Joselyn Granados says that, "It's annoying that I have to wait until five minutes into the next period to go to the bathroom and miss class time." Why are the bathrooms closed? What if you drink two bottles of water before your next period? What if it is an extreme emergency but the students must wait on the monitors who aren't always on time?

With the bathrooms being closed, one tends to focus more on using the bathroom rather than the lesson in class. Senior, Sydney Jean-Baptiste, said "It is really hard to focus in class when you really have to use the bathroom."

The students want this issue to be solved by re-opening the bathrooms all day, so that students don't have to wait to use the bathroom and miss class time.

Although it seems that opening the bathrooms all day is the most logical solution, there are reasons as to why the bathrooms were closed in the first place. When asked, Mr. Coleca, one of the deans at Huntington High school, he explained to us the reasons the bathrooms were closed in the first place. These reasons included, "preventing students from fighting in the bathrooms... [and that] when the bathrooms were open, students would crowd the hallways and the bathroom area." Mr. Coleca concluded our conversation by telling us that "closing the bathrooms was a decision to end future problems before they begin."

Both arguments have valid points; there is an understanding that although most students object to the idea of bathrooms being closed, there are reasons as to why they are closed: to prevent chaos. By investigating both perspectives of the story, we believe that the bathrooms should remain open; however we do understand the reasons of why it stays closed.



MR. SMITH BRINGS NEW ENERGY |

By Sarah James

Everyone knows by this point that there are some new faces at Huntington High School this year besides the freshmen. One of these new faces is our Assistant Principal Mr. Gamal Smith. You’ve probably seen him standing in the hallway greeting students in the morning or chatting with security guards during passing time. Although we’ve seen him around, a lot of us don’t know much about him.

I was lucky enough to be a part of a group of students that had the great opportunity to get to know Mr. Smith a couple months ago when he arranged and chaperoned a field trip. During the trip, we learned a lot about him, things like where he’s from, what his view of our school is, what he’d like to change to enhance our high school experience, and even his music preference.

Mr. Smith hails from Canada and proudly told me that he was, “born and raised in the six.” He spent his childhood in between Canada and Jamaica, where his family is from. He briefly rehashed some of the memories from his childhood like summers in Jamaica trading music



from home for mixtapes from his cousins in the Caribbean. He chuckled remembering how much of an effort it was sharing music, making mixtapes and burning CD’s and waiting until Friday nights from 8 to 10 just to listen to some hip-hop when he was a kid.

When I asked him more about his country of origin he told me that the main differences between America and Canada for him are the atmosphere and the mindset. Canada’s a little more relaxed than America. They have culture-based festivals where all cultures are acknowledged and celebrated and tolerance is facilitated. These festivals are so big and so important that in the cities where they take place, public transportation is free for the time being.

From his home in Canada, he went to Potsdam, New York to attend Clarkson University on a full D3 basketball scholarship to major in biology. When I asked him why he became an Assistant Principal instead of going to med school, he openly told me that a wrench was thrown into his plans when he became a father junior year of college. He decided that he didn’t want to leave his daughter by continuing in medical school where he had been accepted.

According to him though, the responsibility and sacrifice that came with becoming a father at that age marked an important turning point in his life. He went from being the “big fish” on campus to learning humility and a different sense of responsibility. It gave his life perspective, and even though he had to give up on his dream

of going to med school where he was accepted, he doesn’t regret it. This family oriented trait of his is yet another reason he says he loves Huntington, seeing as it enables him to be closer to home and is very family oriented at its core.

Prior to coming to Huntington in September, he was an Assistant Principal in inner city schools. He moved in order to be closer to home and he happily claims that he doesn’t mind the change. In fact, he quite enjoys the sense of community our school boasts and the close-knit feeling one gets walking through the halls of Huntington.

Although Mr. Smith’s plan wasn’t to be an AP, he can’t deny that he enjoys coming to work every day. “It’s rare having this fresh start,” he told me in reference to the brand new slate (that is the trio of Mr. Cusack, Mr. DiTroia and himself), “It’s good for the community, the stability and longevity it will facilitate.” He is excited about the chemistry between him and his new coworkers, the great character he sees exhibited in the student body and all the opportunities he has to make Huntington better.

Among some of the things Mr. Smith would like to do to make Huntington better and enhance our high school experience is hosting more engaging and lively events for the student body. “I like to do fun things,” he stated simply. If his plans are any hint, his declaration is true. Mr. Smith wants to explore the possibility of many exciting things like a senior field trip, a pep rally for every season and a more inclusive Battle of the Class-

es. He also told me about cool ideas to potentially incorporate into Battle of Classes: each class having a theme and a hallway to decorate, as well as other tasks that all amount to points in an elaborate points system. He observes, that at the end of the day, events like pep rallies and class battles have been so all encompassing and enjoyable because it includes the entire school, the student body and the faculty and ultimately that’s what Mr. Smith is about-- bringing everyone in the school closer together, faculty and students alike.

“You can’t make decisions about a school if you don’t have your finger on the pulse,” says Mr. Smith. He’s right- you can’t make important decisions for someone’s well being if you don’t pay attention to them. However, Mr. Smith fully intends to keep his “finger on the pulse” by getting to know the people he’s working with faculty and students alike, and he’s already making headway. For the short time he’s been here, Mr. Smith and his enthusiastic and bright disposition has already made an impact, where many of the students I’ve talked to know exactly who he is. Junior Michael Harris said, “He’s a great guy who bonds with students superbly and has become a great assistant principal.” His sentiments were echoed by senior Giulia Gourgue who avowed, “I love how he interacts with us, he made an effort to get to know us his first year here.”

All in all, Mr. Smith is quite a genuine guy and if you haven’t had the chance to meet him, you should really get to it.

WELCOMING MADDIE RINERE |

BY ALEX TACOPINA

She may be the new kid at Huntington High School, but Maddie Rinere isn’t letting that stop her. The Huntington High School senior has had no trouble getting to know all of the new people in her senior class.

“Everyone at the high school is so accepting and friendly,” Ms. Rinere said, “It really has been an awesome first couple of months at the high school.” Coming from a catholic school environment, where she was from Kindergarten till the end of junior year, Rinere does miss the environment she’s been used to for so many years. “Obviously it’s hard leaving the many relationships I’ve made with my friends from catholic school, however, I thought the high school could provide an environment where I could excel and be myself,” Rinere says.

Many of the high school students have taken

a liking to Rinere’s attitude and love having her as part of the school, “I met Maddie in my journalism class this year,” says Tunji Ikuomenisan, a Huntington High School senior; “She’s always considerate of other students and is willing to talk to anybody about anything. She always has something to add in our discussions in class.” Ms. Rinere contributes a lot of her qualities to her sister and looks up to her. “She’s great at balancing business and pleasure. She knows when it’s time to get stuff done and when it’s alright to go and hang out with friends,” Ms. Rinere says, “She’s very mature and I want to be as mature as she is when I graduate high school and college.”

In looking towards the future after high school, Rinere is setting out to do what she wants to do. “I hope to study either psychology or nutrition in college. I’m looking towards the University of Rhode

Island, along with some other colleges, but URI is the goal.” When she isn’t spending her time applying for college or doing her homework, Rinere loves being outdoors. “I love hiking along with going swimming and paddle boarding with friends at the beach, it’s a time for me to kick back and have a good time and not stress out about senior year.”

As the school year begins to wind down at Huntington High School, Ms. Rinere is grateful of having the experience at the high school in her senior year. “If there’s one thing I could tell an incoming freshman to the high school, it is that you should do what will make you happy at the end of the day. Cherish your high school experience, it’s one of the most challenging and exciting times of your life and always be ready for each challenge that comes your way,” Ms. Rinere said.

ROMA MIGRANTS FACE PREJUDICE, POVERTY, AND ACID ATTACKS IN SWEDEN

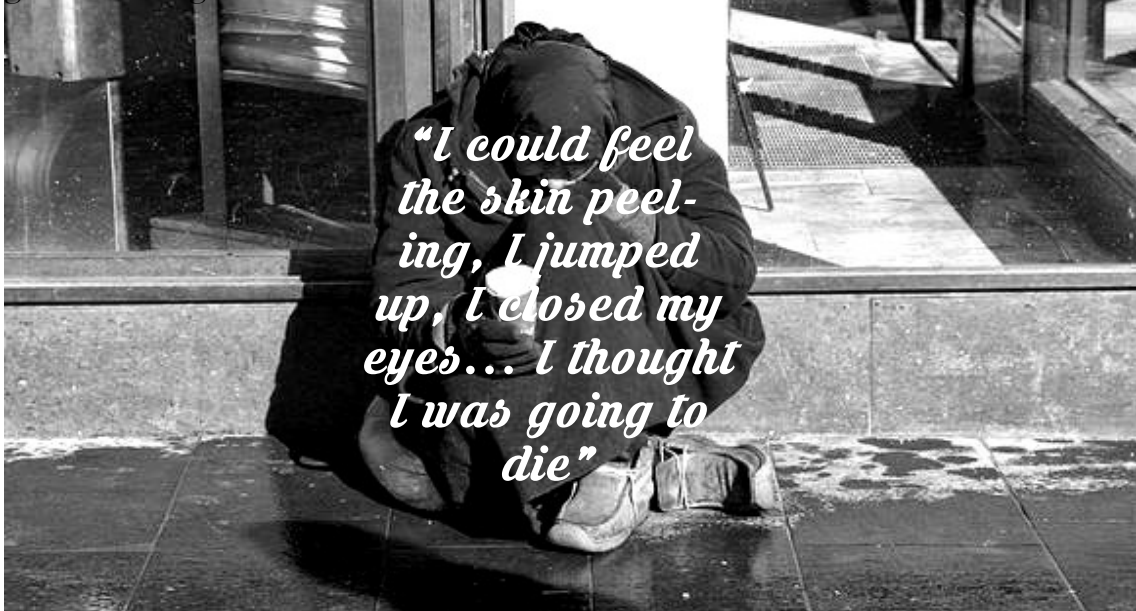
BY LINDSAY SAGINAW

Immigration has been a troubling problem that continues to plague the world, and several nations are handling the influx of migrants in different ways.

Thousands of travelers from varying countries in the European Union are flooding Sweden, specifically, Romanian/“Roma” migrants. They are not considered true immigrants because Romania is within the EU, and citizens within the EU may travel freely inside of its borders. Sweden has been known for its toleration and openness to foreigners, however, what used to be a trickle of Roma migrants has turned into a flood as they hurry to escape poverty-stricken Romania. These migrants come from Romania with nothing and are forced to beg in the urban streets.

Sven Hovmoller, a professor of chemistry at Stockholm University and vice chairman of an organization created to support homeless migrants, known as HEM, said, “Anywhere in the country, as long as there is a food store, there will be someone sitting outside it begging.” That is due to the fact that, as Professor Hovmoller put it, “poor people have noticed that they, too, can move around Europe to try to find a better future.”

The waves of migration are posing important social, political, and economic challenges across Europe. Refugees from outside of Europe gained asylum, but these Roma migrants get little or no help from the government. Many unprecedented attacks on Roma homeless migrants have been recorded, such as the acid assault on Roma migrant Gheorghe Rancu. He stated: “I



could feel the skin peeling, I jumped up, I closed my eyes,” while pointing to the park location where someone doused him with a corrosive fluid that the police suspected contained chlorine. “I thought I was going to die,” Rancu added.

Unfortunately, activists in Sweden who support the migrants claim that police give low priority to attacks on the beggars that riddle the city streets and neighboring towns. Important themes that endanger the Swedish toleration policy include bigotry, as some Swedes scorn the homeless people that crowd the streets of Stockholm, and believe that they should return to Romania. Threatening the toleration policy in Sweden the most are the Sweden Democrats, a politically anti-immigration party. “In Sweden, the lack of an anti-immigrant party was part of Swedish identity,” says Andreas Johansson Heino, a publishing director for Timbro, a research institute. The Swedish Democrats want to criminalize begging –which would brand the almost 4,000 beggars in Sweden as felons. Sweden continues to look for a solution, but every possible answer seems to end with only relocation, and not a full solution.

Conflicts remain because “Opinion among Swedes is polarized by those hostile to begging, and those who see beggars as people in need of help,” said Lisa Staaf, head of the intelligence division at the Swedish Police Department.

To conclude, the Swedish toleration policy has been a source of controversy as an influx of Roma migrants crowds the city streets in an attempt to find a new life.

DAM FAILURE SPURS TALKS OF REFORM

BY ELYZIA MUSTAFA

On November 5th, 2015, a large dam in Brazil failed and released huge amounts of toxic chemicals in hundreds of Brazil’s rivers. The catastrophe directly killed 15 people, and at least 19 more are missing. However, the hundreds of thousands of people who are dependent on the rivers are now without clean water. Governador Valadares, who is 200 miles away from the site of the accident, has been without drinking water since the accident turned their river orange with toxic waste. This event is said to be the biggest environmental disaster in Brazil to date.

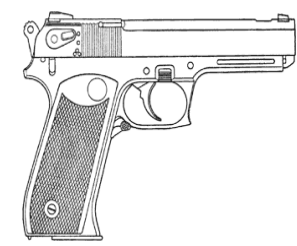
Critics argue that the government’s reaction to this catastrophe has been slow. In response to this, President Dilma Rousseff announced that the companies held accountable for the disaster—Samarco Mineçãro (owned by Brazil’s Vale SA) and Australia’s BHP Billiton—will be fined \$66 million for breaking several federal laws. Rousseff herself stated that these three companies are responsible for what she called “the biggest environmental disaster to affect large regions of the country.” Sandra Cureau, a federal prosecutor who deals with environmental issues, says that there has been a “total indifference among all parties about the plight of the victims, the people who didn’t receive aid, the children who have died, and the rivers that have been destroyed.”

The sludge released has enough volume to fill the Dallas Cowboys’ Stadium 20 times over and has flooded villages 45 miles away from the accident site. The sludge has since reached the Doce River, a river essential to fishing towns, and the Atlantic Ocean. The mudslides caused by the release had so much force that nearby villages were decimated. While rescue crews are doing their best to find and provide resources to those affected by or lost to the mudslides, there are still many unaccounted and uncared for. Clean-up of the Doce basin alone is expected to take at least 30 years, costing the companies at large at least \$606 million.

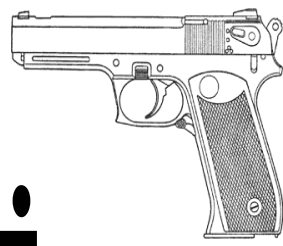
Samarco has taken steps to atone for the disaster caused by their dam failure. They are offering \$250 million as compensation for the people whose homes have been lost and providing food, water, shelter, and emergency rescue services to over 600 people. The aftermath of the tragic accident has spurred many debates over the storage of mining waste and for stricter regulations.



written by Nicole Arenth



LET'S TALK ABOUT GUNS.



SPURRED BY RECENT VIOLENCE, THE ISSUE OF GUN CONTROL IN AMERICA HAS BECOME AN INCREASINGLY URGENT TOPIC IN MEDIA

The issue on gun control remains ever-present in America as the number of mass shootings sprouting up across America has increased. From Sandy Hook, to Oregon, and Virginia Tech (and many more), the issue has been brought to the attention of the mainstream public.

The controversy surrounding gun control is usually brought to light following mass shootings. This is clearly a problem considering that since 2006, there have been 146 mass shootings killing at least four people. This means that, according to USA Today, more than 900 people have died since then. However, mass shootings aren't the only problem that has to do with gun violence. Robberies, homicides, gang rivalries, and poor mental health can all contribute to gun violence. In the same report by USA Today, they found that around 30 people each day are victims to these and that 60 people a day kill themselves with guns.

Since records have been kept, it seems that active shooting situations from 2000-2014 have increased. A report by the FBI shows that in the first seven years of their research (2000-2007), there were around 6.4 active shootings per year. In the last seven years (2007-2014), the number went up drastically to 16.4 per year. If this trend continues, the amount of active shootings per year might continue to rise. In a report done by Harvard University, research shows that states with stricter laws for gun ownership have fewer deaths from gun violence. Is it not clear to people that having stricter laws will help keep more people alive?

It seems that certain groups are opposing gun control laws. PEW Research center finds that whites, specifically white men, are more against gun control, compared to blacks and Hispanics.

Blacks and Hispanics are also likely than whites to be victims of gun homicide. In 2010, PEW Research found that blacks were 55% of shooting homicide victims, but 13% of the population. Hispanics were 17% of the victims, being 16% of the population. While whites were 25% victims, but 65% of the population.

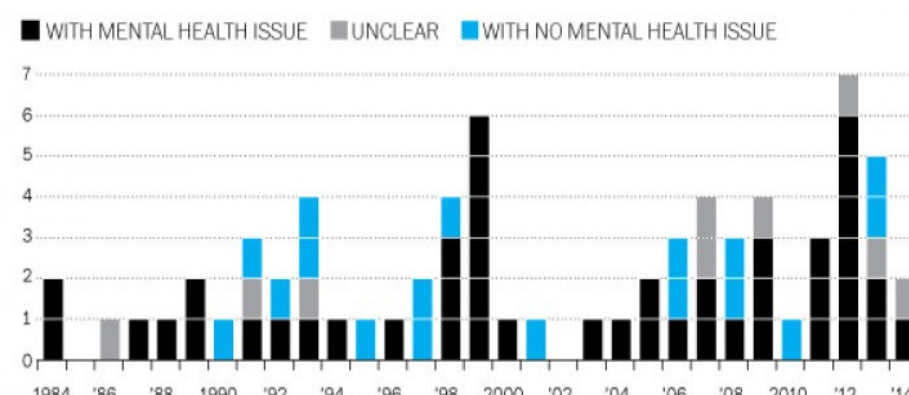
Although it might seem that these percentages relate directly to the ownership of firearms, this seems not to be the case. Blacks are less than half as likely as whites to own firearms (49% vs. 19%) and Hispanics are half as likely as whites to own guns (20%). One could conclude from this data that whites are more likely to be opposed to gun control laws. This can often be unfair since whites make up a large part of the population who vote, even though blacks are by far the most affected by it.

Laws on gun control will always remain a controversial issue. Although laws that completely ban guns are still out of reach, there should at least be laws that establish limits. There should be a more comprehensive system for buying a gun. Additionally, the government should also support small measures such as limiting the amount of magazine clips to ten rounds or less. Small efforts such as this can greatly reduce the amount of casualties in mass shootings. Laws on gun control are made to protect people's lives, and should not be held back by those who have their own selfish interests in mind.

Mass Shootings: Killers and Victims

The killers

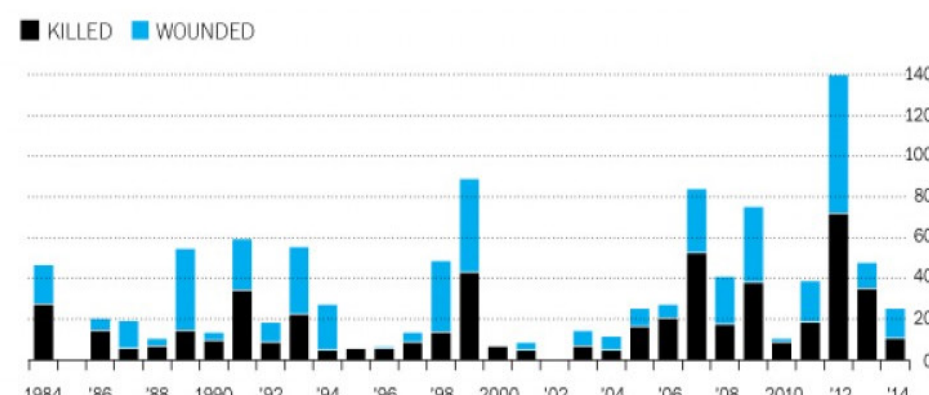
In December 2012 in Newtown, Conn., a 20-year-old with a history of mental problems shot his mother dead at their home then drove to Sandy Hook Elementary School. Once inside he opened fire, killing 20 children and six adults before committing suicide. Mental health issues have been noted in many of the killers, shown here at the time of their attacks.



COURTESY OF [HTTP://DATAVIZBLOG.COM/](http://DATAVIZBLOG.COM/) FROM RICHARD JOHNSON

The victims

More than half of the mass killers of the last 30 years possessed assault weapons or high-capacity magazines, according to Mother Jones. High-capacity magazines allow a gun to fire without the need to reload, maximizing damage, increasing body count and minimizing risk to the shooter. Below is a look at the numbers of dead and wounded.



TAKING A PAGE FROM THOREAU'S BOOK:



THE LESSONS HE LEARNED AWAY FROM SOCIETY

by Peter Ciccone

Why on Earth would anyone want to live alone in the wilderness, secluded from society, unaware of what is going on in the world?

Maybe that is exactly why Henry David Thoreau spent two years in a cabin at Walden Pond, to be secluded from society and all of the distractions it poses. This experiment helped him discover the true meaning of life, and while we should take the time to appreciate all that modern technology has to offer, we must not forget to simplify every once in a while and live life, not waste it.

Thoreau says that, "I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived." What he is trying to tell us is that instead of living his daily routine in Concord and listening to the same old gossip and news and becoming secluded to other aspects of life, he decided to take a risk and face a lifestyle he did not know. He found that people were more interested in the news than in what he felt mattered, like human interaction and living life fully. "Hardly a man takes a half-hour's nap after dinner, but when he wakes he holds up his head and asks, 'What's the news?'"



Famous Words from Thoreau:

"GO CONFIDENTLY IN THE DIRECTION OF YOUR DREAMS. LIVE THE LIFE YOU HAVE IMAGINED."

"THIS WORLD IS BUT A CANVAS TO OUR IMAGINATION"

"HOW VAIN IT IS TO SIT DOWN TO WRITE WHEN YOU HAVE NOT STOOD UP TO LIVE."

Thoreau is trying to encourage us to take that risk and put down our cell phones and stop watching Netflix (in a modern-day setting), so we can enjoy life in its purest state. In the city, where there were factories and light pollution, the air is terrible to breathe in and the stars can never be seen. But, in the wilderness, he was able to see all of the stars and breathe in fresh air. So, that means we should be having more fun outside playing tag or hide-and-go-seek or Werewolf tag than inside playing that new Star Wars game, in a modern sense.

Another point Thoreau tries to make

"He found that people were more interested in the news than in what he felt mattered, like human interaction and living life fully."

is that if we set a goal for ourselves and believe that we can achieve said goal, we "will meet with a success unexpected in common hours." By setting a goal and working to achieve it, we can achieve that goal and have no worries when we go to sleep at night, no stress in the morning that we have to finish all of our homework or that Spanish extra credit project because ha-ha, we did it all already.

Once this stress is relieved, we can enjoy life to the fullest and enjoy new experiences without distractions from technology and work we haven't done yet. By setting a goal, and going on a "digital detox", we can truly live life, and not waste it doing what we should have done yesterday or doing frivolous things like watching Netflix or playing video games.

One final point Henry David Thoreau makes is to love our lives. "You may perhaps have some pleasant, thrilling, glorious hours, even in a poorhouse." Thoreau felt someone with the right attitude could turn any bad situation into a good one, espe-

cially life. If one was poor, but was self-sufficient and honest and kind and trustworthy and happy, and he could find the positive in all the negatives, Thoreau believed that he would be much better off than the snobby rich kid who hated his life because he didn't have enough material items that really had no sentimental value to him.

On that note, in today's times, no matter how rich or poor we are or how good or bad we think our lives are, let's appreciate what we have and that we get a life and try to find more positives than negatives, or rather, think only about the positives. By thinking only of the good things in life, we can enjoy life even more without having to worry about the bad things.

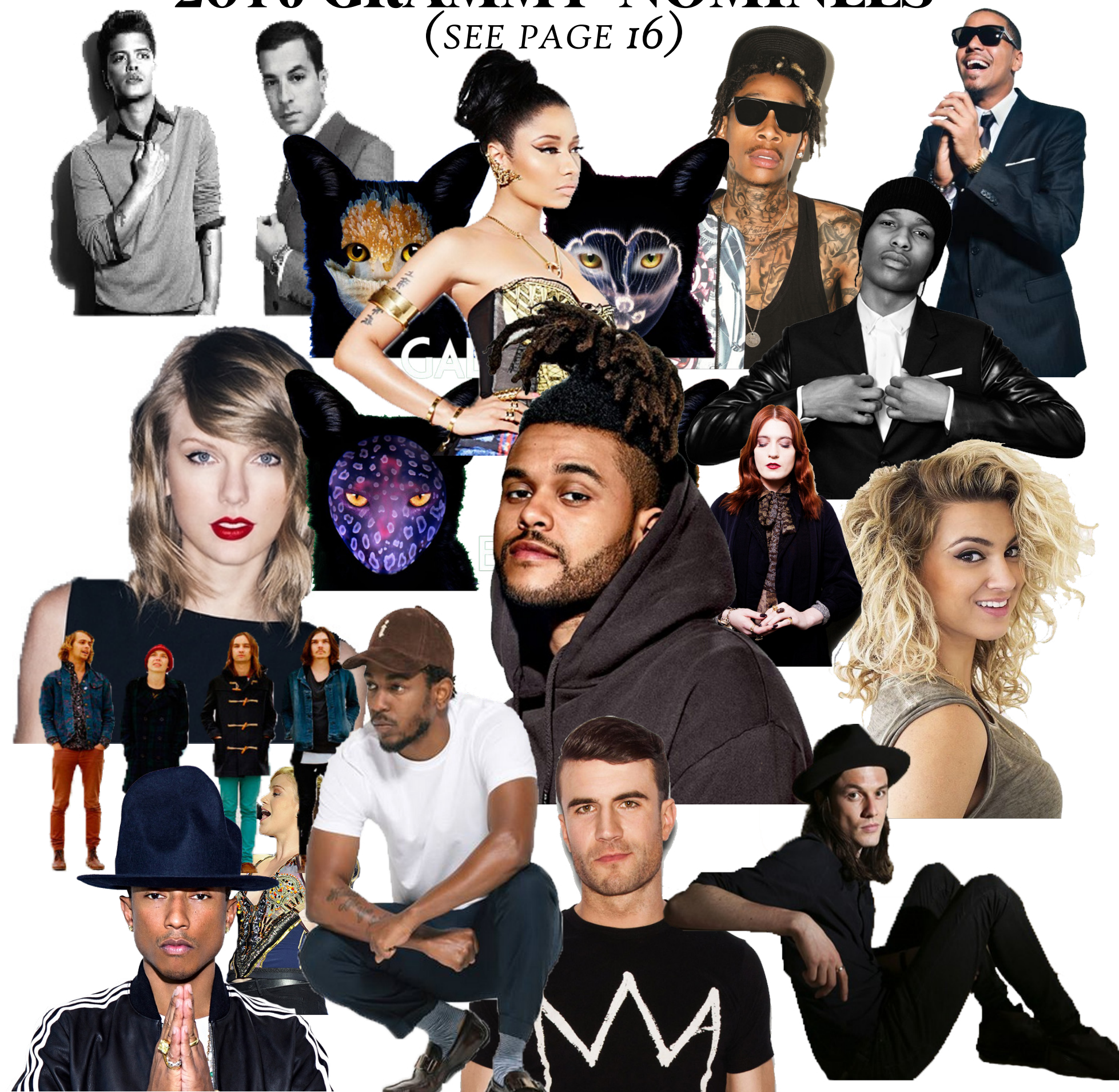
Thoreau believed that by living in the wilderness, simplifying, setting goals to achieve, and loving our lives, he would be able to live life to its fullest. By simplifying, we can cut technology out of our daily lives (to a comfortable extent, not necessarily every minute of every day) and focus on pure life and enjoy nature. By setting goals and believing we can achieve our goals and working hard to achieve them, we can achieve our goals and cut all of the stress from our lives in worrying about what we have to do tomorrow, because we did it today. Finally, by loving our lives and focusing on the good things, we will cut the bad things from our conscience and not have to worry about those bad things.



Thoreau's Cabin in Walden



2016 GRAMMY NOMINEES (SEE PAGE 16)



A NEW MURAL COMES TO HTON

- BY RACHEL MOSS -

This year, an ambitious and eye-catching project is well underway, centered on the renovation of the previously unfinished wall located just outside our school's entrance. I'm sure you have seen the steady progress, as the Art Honor Society worked tirelessly alongside the artistic leader of the project, Mr. David Whitcher.

Our new principal, Mr. Cusack, initially thought of the idea for the mural. Though he began to think about the potential of the wall before, this year was his first opportunity to ask questions and follow through with the project. Mr. Cusack reached out to Mr. David Whitcher, acknowledging that he was "very enthusiastic about the project and brought a number of design ideas, all of which were fantastic."

To set the project in motion, a popular club here at the high school, Habitat for Humanity, was first recruited to prepare the wall for the mural. Mr. Gilmor and members of the club were able to scrape and power wash the wall so it could then be primed and painted. With this project, these students were able to continue to contribute to the community's beautification on top of their work of fixing and building homes.

Though the wall had been thoroughly cleaned and prepped,



play the talents of the Art Honor Society."

Chloe Liepa has also dedicated her free time to help paint the mural and thinks "It is really awesome that we are able to contribute to our community and create something beautiful."

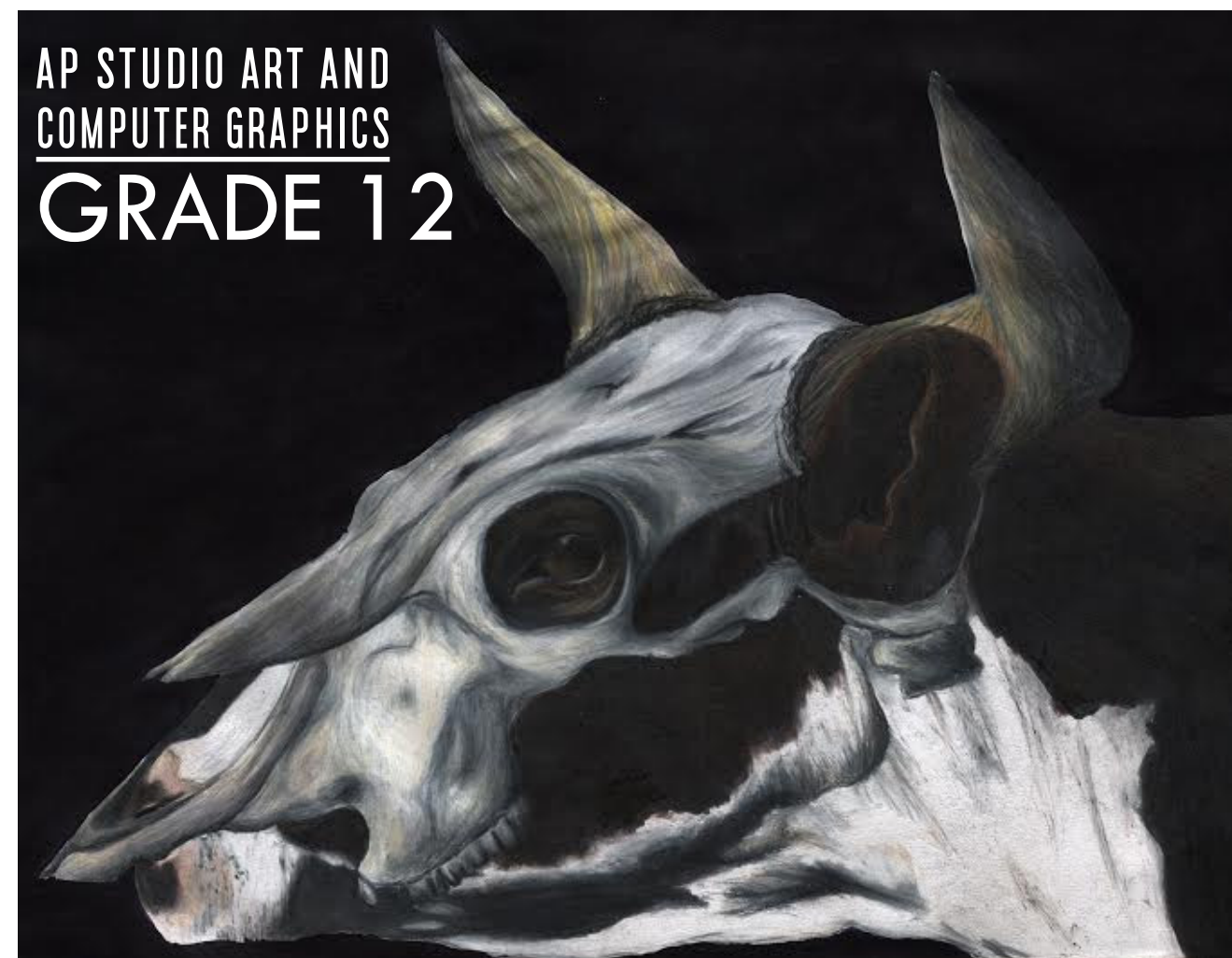
Both students and faculty alike hope the artwork will instill pride in our school and the town for many years to come.

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

If you would like to submit a piece, contact Mrs. 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.

BRIANNA JONES

AP STUDIO ART AND
COMPUTER GRAPHICS
GRADE 12



Hi, my name is Brianna Jones and I am in 12th grade. I am currently taking AP Studio Art with Mrs. Singer and Computer Graphics with Mrs. Mohanty. I love this year's class with Mrs. Singer because AP art is not only challenging, but fun, as I'm with a bunch of other talented artists. Previously, I had taken Studio Art in 8th grade with Mr. Belton. When I reached high school, I had taken Drawing and Painting 1, Pre-AP Studio Art, and Portfolio development with Mrs. Singer.

In AP, I have to choose a topic for my concentration section, which will include 12 pieces in total. My theme focuses on a combination of skulls or skeletons with living things, like animals and plants. This piece is a color pencil drawing of a cow wearing a cow skull on its head with acrylic paint as the background. This piece can also show the correlation between life and death, which is what I was going for.

This was the first piece I made during my senior year, and probably one of my favorites. It took a little more than a month to finish, but it was worth it. Creating this piece also boosted my love for color pencils, which I have only used one other time last year for the Art Honor Society's Project Memory drawing.

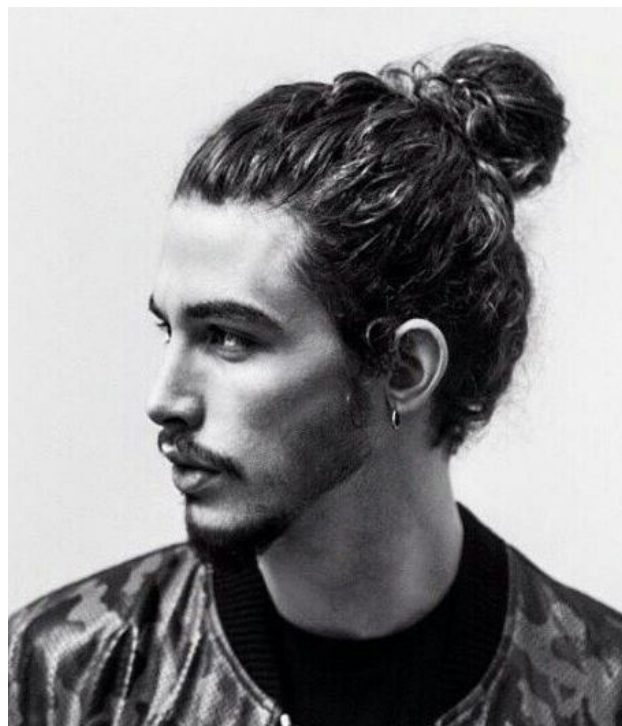
MAN BUNS—THE NEW MULLET?

BY GRACE ROWLEY

I'm not talking about the bread we put our hamburgers on. I'm talking about a new hipster hairstyle that became popular in recent months, the man bun. A true man bun is when a guy has his head buzzed from the nape of the neck to the crown area, and the hair on the top of the head is kept long and tied in a bun. However, many people confuse a man bun with someone who has long hair all over and ties it back.

This year, there is a new English teacher at Huntington High School named Mr. Kroll. He's gained attention from his hairstyle, which is long hair and which he keeps tied back in a bun. I asked Mr. Kroll why he chose the hairstyle he has. In response, he told me, "I've always wanted to grow long hair, so when I turned thirty I decided to do it. I don't consider it a man bun because my hair is long so I put it up because it gets annoying when I'm teaching. On the weekends, I don't wear it up." I agree Mr. Kroll, contrary to the popular belief of many students; you do NOT have a man bun.

In my opinion, one many seem to share, true man buns are unattractive. There's no other way to put it. In fact, some people are so against man buns, a group of 20-something year old men decided to drive around and find man buns to snip off with a pair of scissors. A surprise haircut is not the way to go about



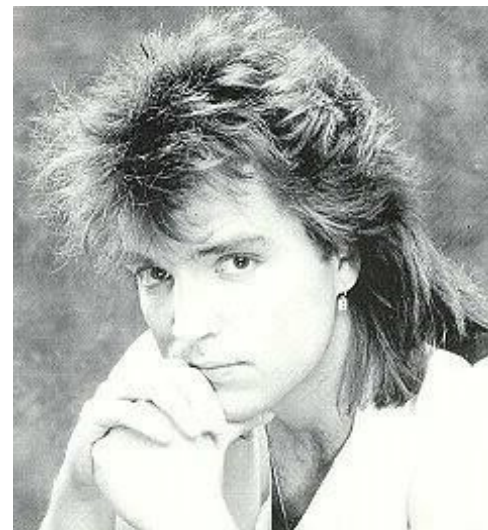
THIS IS NOT A MAN BUN, JUST A MAN'S BUN (MORE PROPERLY KNOWN AS A TOPKNOT)

cleansing the world of this horrific, yet trendy hairstyle.

One famous hairstyle from the 80's, called a mullet, is seen as one of the worst hairstyles in men's history. It was incredibly popular in its heyday, but is now is the regret of many. I'm confident that one day the man bun will be viewed the same way, hopefully sooner rather than later. So ask yourself this: in twenty years, do you want to reminisce your high school years through social media, and in between pictures of yourself and your "boys" holding cheap beer cans, to see yourself with a man bun? Do you really want to cringe when you think about how you wore your hair? I know I don't.



THIS IS WHAT A TRUE MAN BUN LOOKS LIKE, IN ALL OF ITS SHAMEFUL, SHAVED GLORY



THE TRAGIC MULLET

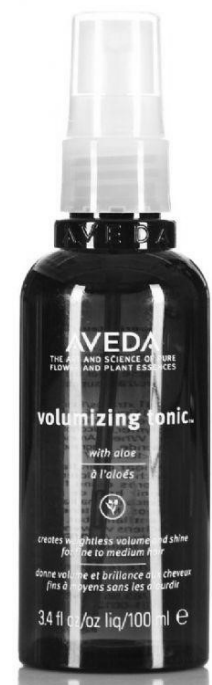
BY GRACE ROWLEY FASHION COLUMN PT.1: HAIR

Q: How do I make my hair grow thicker and longer faster? – Anonymous

A: Hair grows at a rate of about 1/2 inch per month, or about 6 inches per year. If you feel like your hair doesn't grow longer as fast, it's most likely because of breakage. Bleaching your hair, straightening your hair frequently, etc., can lead to breakage. Damaged hair will still grow, however it continues to break, which prevents it from growing longer. Unfortunately, hair damaged to this extent is beyond the point of fixing (despite claims by hair products), and the only way to get your hair to continue to get longer is to cut off the damaged hair. I know it sounds scary, but think of it as an investment. Trim off the damaged ends now, and your hair will look and feel so much healthier and you'll reach your desired length in no time. If you can't wait, I would still recommend a haircut, but you could always get extensions. Extensions can be "permanent" which generally last about three months before they need to be redone, or you can get

temporary clip-in extensions to wear on days you just need a little extra oomph.

As far as getting thicker hair, that usually just depends on genetics. If your hair is naturally very fine, you can try the Invati system from Aveda. This includes an exfoliating shampoo, conditioner, and scalp treatment spray. If you use this consistently for at least one month, they claim you will see results. Additionally, you can use products such as mousse, or volumizing sprays such as the Thickening Tonic from Aveda (which I personally love). Additionally, after blow-drying your hair you can tease/backcomb a few small sections towards the top to provide a cushion and make your hair look fuller. Furthermore, a haircut that establishes a weight line in the back can also give your hair a fuller, thicker appearance. Consult with your hairdresser about a hairstyle that can do this for you. Best of luck!



THICKENING TONIC FROM AVEDA

SUBMIT ANONYMOUS QUESTIONS TO ROOM 252

FASHION WEEK RECAPPED

ARTICLE WRITTEN BY GRACE ROWLEY

This year's fashion month was truly a hit, with the most popular shows happening in New York and Paris. Talent ranged from Alexander Wang, to Elie Saab, to Valentino, and all collections were absolutely fantastic. In case you missed fashion month, here's a recap.

To start off, transparency was a huge hit. Transparent dresses, shirts, and skirts were seen from many designers. The sheer material with a slight shape was seen from both Toga and Barbara Casasola. With such transparent fabrics, the choice of wearing a slip underneath is totally up to you.

Polos are back.... and no, not the type of polo you see your dad wearing. Although Ralph Lauren still monopolizes this look, new brands are starting to take ownership of it too. Swap your normal polo tee for one that is looser and says "edgy" and "vintage" instead of "I'm heading to the nearest country club".

One question that echoed after fashion week was "Will off the shoulder tops be the new crop top?" Well, from the amount of them seen in fashion week, I wouldn't be surprised. They were featured in looks ranging from sleek to playful, grungy and urban to clean and classy. Show off your collarbones with a sophisticated off the shoulder top paired with a skirt or trousers, a pair of pumps and you'll be good to go.

Another tip from fashion week? Swap the 90s for the 70s. 70s style was seen all over the runway this fall. Dior, Diane Von Ferguson, and Roberto Cavalli all incorporated retro pieces into their shows. Bits of suede, bold prints, long dresses, fringe, and layers are necessary to perfect the look. You don't even need to buy this new fad- you can just dig something up out of your mom's closet or go to the thrift shop!

Brown, army green, and orange were huge color palettes designers loved on the runway for the upcoming season. Something new and something different. If paired and picked in the right hue, these colors can make for amazing outfits, just make sure not to fit them all into one outfit. Look to Prada, Anthony Vaccarello, and Opening Ceremony's shows for inspiration.

Although these looks won't be hitting the stores until spring, you can take matters into your own hands and find these yourself. Stepping into these simple pieces of fashion will make you the one wearing clothes everyone envies. And don't forget the words of Anna Winter, editor-in-chief of Vogue, "Create your own style... let it be unique for yourself, yet identifiable for others."

Off-The-Shoulder Tops: The New Crop Top?



"Transparency Was A Huge Hit"



Less 90s



More 70s



Polos Make a Return



GILMORE GIRLS RETURN

A LONG-AWAITED REBOOT IN THE WORKS AT NETFLIX

BY KATY DARA

On October 5th, 2000, a new show called Gilmore Girls premiered on the WB (Warner Bros.) network. This feel-good series following the lives of a dynamic mother/daughter duo garnered major popularity and became the network's most popular show.

Lorelai Gilmore, a witty, wonderfully disorganized former teen mom, helps her 15-year-old daughter Rory navigate a tricky path through life in the fictional town of Stars Hollow, CT. The tagline, "Life's short. Talk fast", says it all. Complete with a quirky cast of characters, idyllic settings, and relatable conflicts, the coming-of-age series was especially popular with young women. However, Gilmore Girls was cancelled and aired its final episode in May of 2007 after the creators couldn't come to an agreement with the new CW Network. Fans were left heartbroken, having grown up with Rory Gilmore from her sophomore year of high school to her college graduation. Now, Netflix is in

negotiations to revive the beloved mother-daughter drama as a limited series of four 90-minute movies. According to TV Line, each "episode" will take place during a different season, totalling as one calendar year.

In October of 2014, the existing seven seasons of the series was made available to stream on Netflix, sparking a rabid, renewed interest in the show. The cast — minus the late Edward Herrmann (Richard Gilmore), who passed away on New Year's Eve 2014 — reunited at the ATX Television Festival last June, and addressed the possibility of a reunion. "There is nothing in the works," Sherman-Palladino said at the time. "But the good news is, nobody here hates each other." She added, too, that if they ever did decide to do a reboot, they'd "do it correctly."

Now that Netflix has confirmed the revival, another question hangs in the air; which stars will return? While it hasn't been confirmed, it's obvious that the series won't

be possible without Lauren Graham (Lorelai Gilmore) and Alexis Bledel (Rory Gilmore). But what other characters will reappear?

The other stars seem game to get back to their tiny Connecticut town. Scott Patterson (Luke Danes) said it was "kind of time," while Kelly Bishop (Emily Gilmore) said the show needed a proper "wrap and a finale." Jared Padalecki (Dean Forester) stated, "If possible, I would love to be a part of the reboot. I'd totally jump at the opportunity." THR says many of the series' original cast members are in talks to return. Not among them, however, is Melissa McCarthy, who played Lorelai's best friend Sookie St. James. The show will begin production later this year.

Gilmore Girls isn't the only show on Netflix's reboot list. The company is also producing Fuller House, a spinoff of the '90s sitcom Full House, starring Candace Cameron Bure reprising her role as DJ Tanner.

(SOME) 2016 GRAMMY NOMINATIONS

COMPILED BY MICHELLE D'ALESSANDRO

SONG OF THE YEAR

- Alright
Rendrick Lamar, Mark Anthony Spears & Pharrell Williams
- Blank Space
Max Martin, Shellback & Taylor Swift
- Girl Crush
Hillary Lindsey, Lovi McKenna & Liz Rose
- See You Again
Andrew Cedar, Justin Franks, Charles Puth & Cameron Thomaz
- Thinking Out Loud
Ed Sheeran & Amy Wadge

BEST NEW ARTIST

- Courtney Barnett
- James Bay
- Sam Hunt
- Tori Kelly
- Meghan Trainor

ALBUM OF THE YEAR

- Sound & Color
Alabama Shakes
- To Pimp A Butterfly
Rendrick Lamar
- Traveller
Chris Stapleton
- 1989
Taylor Swift
- Beauty Behind The Madness
The Weeknd

BEST ALTERNATIVE MUSIC ALBUM

- Sound & Color
Alabama Shakes
- Vulnicura
Björk
- The Waterfall
My Morning Jacket
- Currents
Tame Impala
- Star Wars
Wileo

BEST MUSIC VIDEO

- LSD
ASAP Rocky
- I Feel Love (Every Million Miles)
The Dead Weather
- Alright
Rendrick Lamar
- Bad Blood
Taylor Swift Ft. Kendrick Lamar
- Freedom
Pharrell William

BEST POP VOCAL ALBUM

- Piece By Piece
Kelly Clarkson
- How Big, How Blue, How Beautiful
Florence + The Machine
- Uptown Special
Mark Ronson
- 1989
Taylor Swift
- Before This World
James Taylor

BEST ROCK ALBUM

- Chaos And The Calm
James Bay
- Kintsugi
Death Cab For Cutie
- Mister Asylum
Highly Suspect
- Drones
Muse
- .5: The Gray Chapter
Slipknot

BEST ROCK SONG

- Don't Wanna Fight
Alabama Shakes
- Ex's & Oh's
Dave Bassett & Elle King
- Hold Back The River
Lain Aches & James Bay
- Lydia
Richard Meyer, Ryan Meyer & Johnny Stevens
- What Kind Of Man
John Hill, Tom Hull & Florence Welch

BEST RAP ALBUM

- 2014 Forest Hills Drive
J. Cole
- Compton
Dr. Dre
- If You're Reading This It's Too Late
Drake
- To Pimp A Butterfly
Rendrick Lamar
- The Pinkprint
Nicki Minaj

BEST DANCE RECORDING

- We're All We Need
Above & Beyond Ft. Zoë Johnston
- Go
The Chemical Brothers
- Never Catch Me
Flying Lotus Ft. Kendrick Lamar
- Runaway (U & I)
Galanthis
- Where Are Ü Now
Skrillex And Diplo With Justin Bieber

BY DYLAN DELGUIDICE

IT IS A GOOD TIME TO BE ALIVE FOR MUSIC.

This past year alone we've seen a slew of great releases in a variety of genres, all of which were different and couldn't have been made in previous eras. With the internet, music is more readily accessible and music that is challenging, thought-provoking and experimental has an immediate and powerful audience. Deafheaven is one band that has benefited from this exposure.

Deafheaven is a San-Francisco based experimental Black Metal band whose 2013 album "Sunbather" fused shoegaze, black metal and post-rock to much critical acclaim. "Sunbather" is one of my favorite recent metal albums, so naturally I was extremely excited to hear their latest release, "New Bermuda."

DEAFHEAVEN ★★★★★★☆☆ (9/10)

'NEW BERMUDA'

LEAST FAVORITE TRACK: "GIFTS FOR THE EARTH"

FAVORITE TRACKS: "LUNA", "COME BACK"

First of all, if you have not heard "Sunbather" or much black metal in general, there are a few things you should know. Black metal is not for everybody and if you don't like it you are certainly not alone. Musical characteristics include fast, tremolo picked guitars, blast beats, atonal harmony, and completely unintelligible screams, however that leads me to my next point. Just because you don't like Mayhem, Burzum, or Darkthrone (some popular Scandanavian Black Metal groups) doesn't necessarily mean you won't like Deafheaven. In fact, they are a different form of black metal all together. Their music is much more uplifting than most bands in this style. Their chord progressions are epic, the songs are long but have clear development, and the way the vocals mix with the wall of sound created by the guitars is tear-jerking. So, even if you are skeptical of the genre, give Deafheaven a try.

Finally, to talk about the album. This album shows Deafheaven getting way darker and diving way more into their metal roots than they ever did on "Sunbather." The first track, "'Brought to the Water'", opens with a strong almost thrash metal style riff that lead vocalist George Clarke sounds perfect over. Even though it is a more traditional style metal riff, Deafheaven manage to make it sound blood pumping. The track then moves into a slower, more indie/alternative rock sort of build, a formula that most of these tracks follow. These songs start heavy, devolve into a beautiful rock instrumental and then end heavy or leave you waiting for the next track's bang. Even when Clarke's vocals come in over the more traditional rock style instrumentals, it is still intense and they manage to still sound fitting even when using fairly typical chord progressions. The track "'Luna'" is probably the heaviest and fastest song they've ever done. Unlike the other tracks here, it barely lets up for its entire ten minute length and it opens with a super thrashy, almost Metallica-style riff that is broken up by Deafheaven's trademark version of black metal guitar styles. Even though

the song doesn't really slow down until the very end, it doesn't get boring and it keeps your blood pumping for the whole song. The influence of Metallica shows even more on the third track "'Baby Blue,'" another 10 minute epic. This track opens with mysterious, chorus infused guitars that sound like they could've come off an "'Ok Computer'" era Radiohead song, and in the middle of the song, a feature we haven't really heard on a Deafheaven song comes up- a guitar solo that is super Kirk Hammett influenced and yet sounds more tasteful than anything Metallica has done since 1990. The track "'Come Back'" is one of my favorite songs on here and features one of the most beautiful sections on the whole album with a long alternative rock outro featuring a gut-wrenching slide guitar melody.

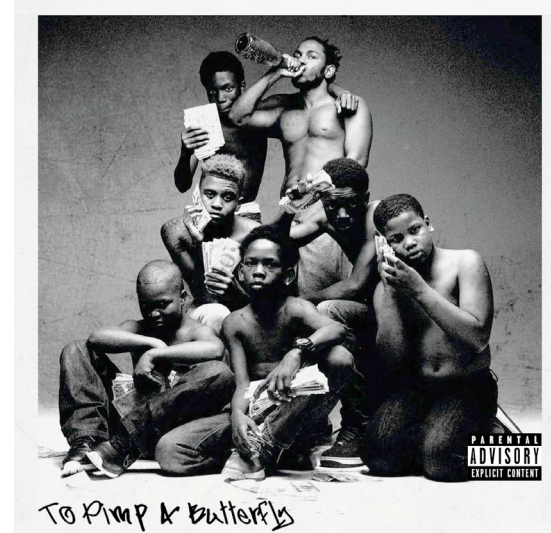


Now, for the few negatives of the album. The biggest complaint I have with this album is that the songs seem to end prematurely, especially "'Brought to the Water.'" The song just came out of a beautiful softer section and climaxes into another great black metal section when, all of a sudden, it fades out and goes into this cheesy piano interlude. "'Brought to the Water'" is already eight minutes long, what harm would two more minutes for a proper end do? "'Baby Blue'" also fades out, and while this one isn't as disappointing, it still fades a great metal riff out too soon and brings in a field recording over ambient electronics that sounds like it could've come from a Godspeed You! Black Emperor album. Not that I dislike this, it's just I feel like that metal riff wasn't done developing by the time they cut it off. Also, the closer "'Gifts for the Earth'" feels a little anti-climactic to me (it relies heavily on alternative rock chord progressions in a way that feels a little clichéd), but I think it improves when you read the lyrics to it which have to do with death closing in and the way they write it is very poetic.

The lyrics here need demand to be read because you will not be able to understand them from Clarke's screaming. This isn't a bad thing at all because lots of metal is like this, but I would recommend you google the lyrics while listening to this album- it may give you a new perspective on songs the way it did for me on the closing track.

Despite these minor complaints, overall I loved "New Bermuda." I don't want to say at this point that I like it more than "Sunbather", because I do think "Sunbather" was in some ways more unique than "New Bermuda", but with this new album I think they really perfected their formula while still adding more metal techniques to their already unique blend of shoegaze and black metal. This album is highly recommended for any fans of metal, alternative rock or just good new experimental music.

"THEIR CHORD PROGRESSIONS ARE EPIC, THE SONGS ARE LONG BUT HAVE CLEAR DEVELOPMENT AND THE WAY THE VOCALS MIX WITH THE SOUND CREATED BY THE GUITARS IS TEAR-JERKING"



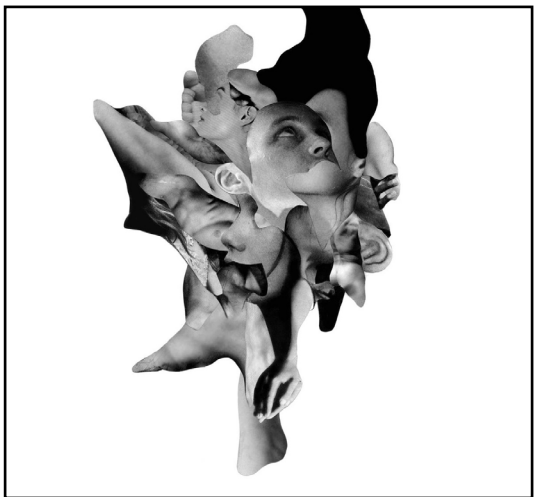
KENDRICK LAMAR-
1. **“TO PIMP A BUTTERFLY”**

5 master jazz musicians out of Chicago come together for this concert and perform originals by 4 out of the 5 members of the group. The music they make together is unlike music I’ve heard each of these artists. It isn’t the most accessible project (a lot of the music is very soft and atonal), but it also isn’t the most chaotic and bizarre that these guys have put out. The compositions are really strong and the improvisation is incredibly interactive. It’s fun just listening to these guys finish each other’s musical ideas.



MERZBOW, JIM O'ROURKE, CHIKAMORACHI, AKIRA SAKATA-
6. **“FLYING BASKET”**

Japanese noise producer Merzbow, songwriter/guitarist/outsider Jim O'Rourke and Japanese jazz musicians Chikamorachi and Akira Sakata come together for this one track, all improvised, 70 minute album that is almost as impenetrable as it sounds. But not quite the laboring listen it seems because these artists all bring their largest tool kit to the project with soft clarinet and drum duos all the way up to roaring noise and guitar. This is one of the most cohesive and varied free improvisation projects I've heard in a while and if you're trying to get into the weirdest side of jazz and improvised music this one might be for you.



ASH KOOSHA-
9. **“GUUD”**

One of the stranger electronic music albums to come out this year with beautifully done compositions that even remind me of electronic classical music (a genre I don't get enough of today). Drum and bass, noise and sound collages all collide here in a super unique way.



LITURGY-
5. **“THE ART WORK”**

This album got some very mixed reviews when it dropped because it is not friendly to metal purists whatsoever. Strange glitchy electronics, synthesized horns and chimes come head to head with blast beats, tremolo picked guitars and droning vocals. A lot of people thought it sounded like a mess, but not to me. I love hearing all of Liturgy's influences thrown into this pile and I'm excited by bands like Liturgy doing something new with black metal. Definitely one of the most interesting listens I've had all year.



NUMBER 10.
ASH KOOSHA-
9. **“GUUD”**
FKA TWIGS-
“M3LL155X”

FKA Twigs's approach to R&B and pop gets even more experimental here with tons of synthetic drums and synthesizers that bring out the beauty in her voice. My favorite release from Twigs in a career full of great projects.

KAMASI WASHINGTON-
2. **“THE EPIC”**

Kamasi Washington makes an extremely ambitious and powerful jazz album here. The compositions aren't really the most innovative that have come out this year, but the performances convey a level of emotion and intensity that makes this album undeniably beautiful. It's a relatively accessible modern jazz project that you should really pick up and even though it's 3 hours long don't feel like you have to listen to it all in one sitting. It is one of the most powerful musical experiences you'll have all year.

DEATH GRIPS-
4. **“THE POWERS THAT B”**

My favorite Death Grips project yet and this is coming from a huge fan of the industrial hip hop oddballs. The first half, “N****s on the Moon”, is a super glitchy, abstract album with weird Bjork samples flying between each other speaker and MC Ride whispering some of his most unsettling lyrics yet. The second half, “Jenny Death”, is loud, abrasive, chaotic and still catchy just like Death Grips did with “The Money Store.” Themes of suicide and the digital age are addressed in Death Grips' most frightening way yet. This is the one Death Grips release you should pick up if you can only have one and if you're trying to get into experimental hip hop this is one you should check out.



DEAFHEAVEN-
7. **“NEW BERMUDA”**

Deafheaven returns with another fantastic black metal album that fuses shoegaze and post rock with typical black metal features. This album is much darker than “Sunbather” was, but they remain true to their sound and make yet another great project.

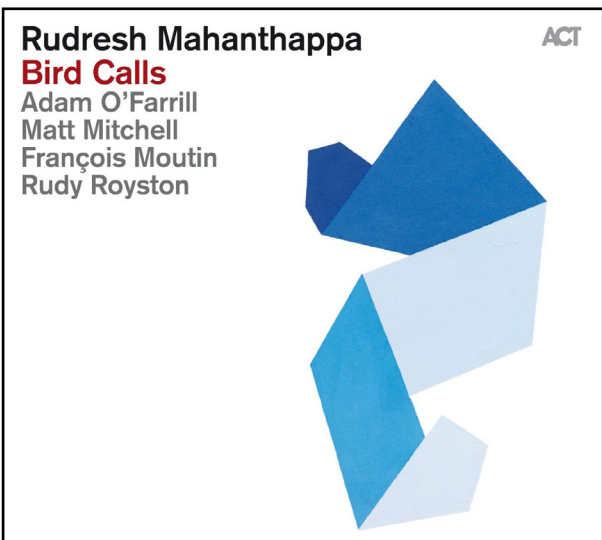
BJORK-
8. **“VULNICURA”**

Bjork comes out with one of my favorite “breakup albums” of all time. The production is beautiful with strings and electronics covering the mix and Bjork's vocals soar over it talking in a very honest and blunt way about relationships, heartbreak and emotions.



RUDRESH MAHANTHAPPA-
11. **“BIRD CALLS”**

Mahanthappa makes one of the best jazz albums of 2015 with this Charlie Parker inspired project. This album proves that you can be influenced by something and inspired by an artist and still making something that sounds nothing like your influences. This music takes elements of Bird's music and goes well beyond it and makes it into something distinctly modern.



SUN KIL MOON-
15. **“UNIVERSAL THEMES”**

Even though I liked “Benji” more (and you should really start with that album) I like the direction Mark Kozelek chose to take Sun Kil Moon on this project. Essentially, Kozelek goes through all of life's mundane details and creates a project that is unlike many others. He basically tells long winding stories that don't seem to have any particular theme and your enjoyment of this record will depend on your willingness to hear the stories. Personally I was captivated by what he was saying and with patience I think you will be too.



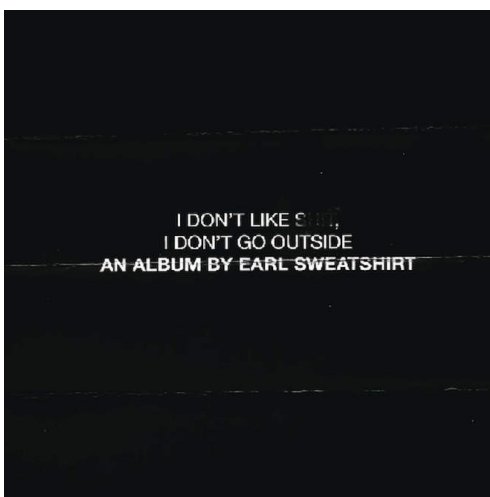
THE MOUNTAIN GOATS-
19. **“BEAT THE CHAMP”**

The Mountain Goats take their ambitious songwriting to this project and create an interesting concept album about the life of a professional wrestler. I know it sounds a little silly, but the stories they put together are actually very thought provoking and emotional.



PRURIENT-
14. **“FROZEN NIAGARA FALLS”**

One of the most wistful and romantic noise albums I've ever heard. The screaming is harrowing and the sounds are ear shattering at times but they are mixed in with beautiful synths that make this project more accessible than Prurient's previous work and that of most other artists making this type of music.

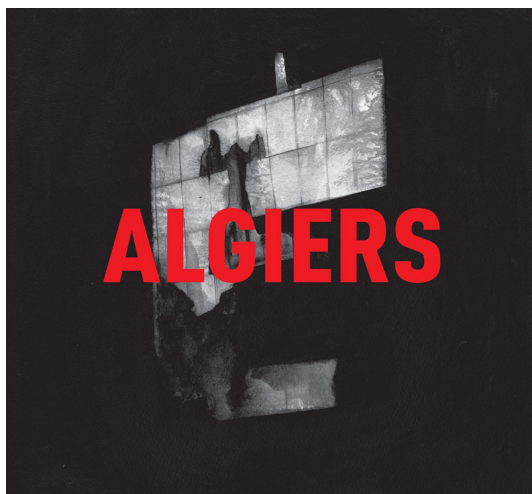


JOANNA NEWSOM-
17. **“DIVERS”**

Joanna Newsom is back with her medieval melodies and instrumentation on this album where she becomes infatuated with the concept of love. For me, most impressive on this album was the wide variety of instrumentation including her own harp, keyboards and a variety of guitar sounds, every track had ear grabbing sounds.

FKA TWIGS-
18. **“APEX PREDATOR-EASY MEAT”**

A great brutal death metal album from one of my favorite bands in the genre. This album is everything I look for in an extreme metal album and this is one of Napalm Death's best projects since the 1990s.



AND FINALLY...
ALGIERS-
20. **“ALGIERS”**

Gospel and post-punk are fused here in a way better than I ever could've thought. Super socially conscious and creative, a great release all around.

LIL' UGLY MANE-
12. **“THIRD SIDE OF THE TAPE”**

A great compilation of Lil Ugly Mane's ideas for the past decade. On this tape is some jazz rap, some drum and bass, indie rock, sample based instrumentals and even some points of noise and black metal. One of the strangest compilations of music all year.

JEFF ROSENSTOCK-
13. **“WE COOL?”**

Coming from a guy who is not a big fan of pop punk, this album was great. Full of anthems on getting older, dealing with death, and dealing with friendships and relationships, I loved this album front to back. The songs are catchy, and it never feels annoying the way some other pop punk albums can feel.

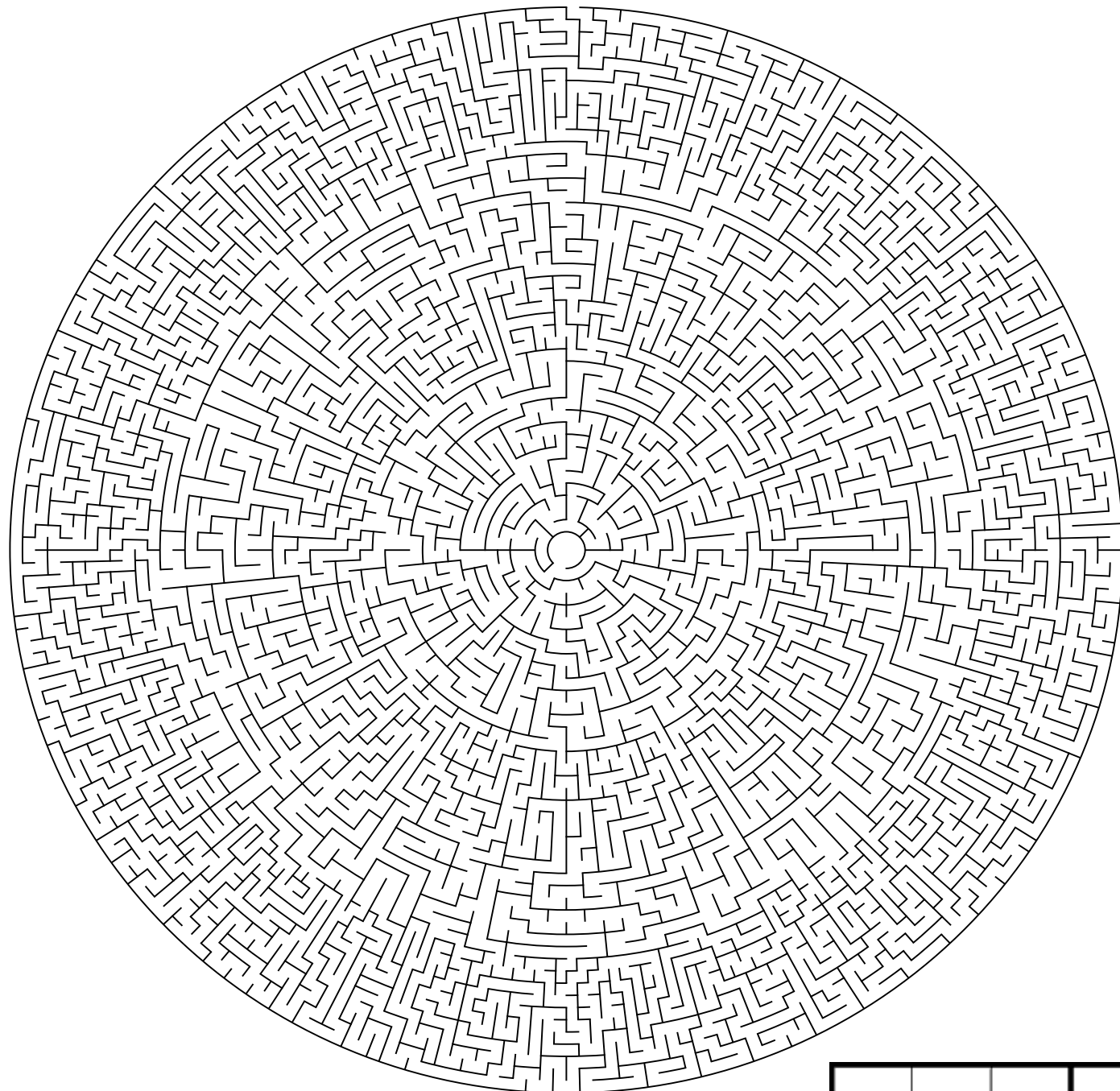


EARL SWEATSHIRT-
16. **“I DON'T LIKE S***, I DON'T GO OUTSIDE”**

Earl makes his most depressing and darkest project yet. His flow is still slow as hell, his lyricism is still complex and imagery heavy, but he dives into his own drug addiction and friendships in a super depressing and personal way. With this album, and his great wordplay that he displays on verse after verse, it's clear why Earl is the Odd Future member creating the most buzz at the moment.



*all reviews written by
Dylan Delguidice*



A ROUND MAZE. IT
MIGHT BE A CHEESE
WHEEL. IT MIGHT BE A
PIZZA. EITHER WAY, IT'S
A COMPLICATED CIRCLE.
ENJOY!

wearejohnlocked:

mareeps:

humans are very interesting
because no other creature has
gone through years of evolution to
be this stupid

sometimes a sloth's metabolism can
slow down so much it can starve to
death with a full stomach

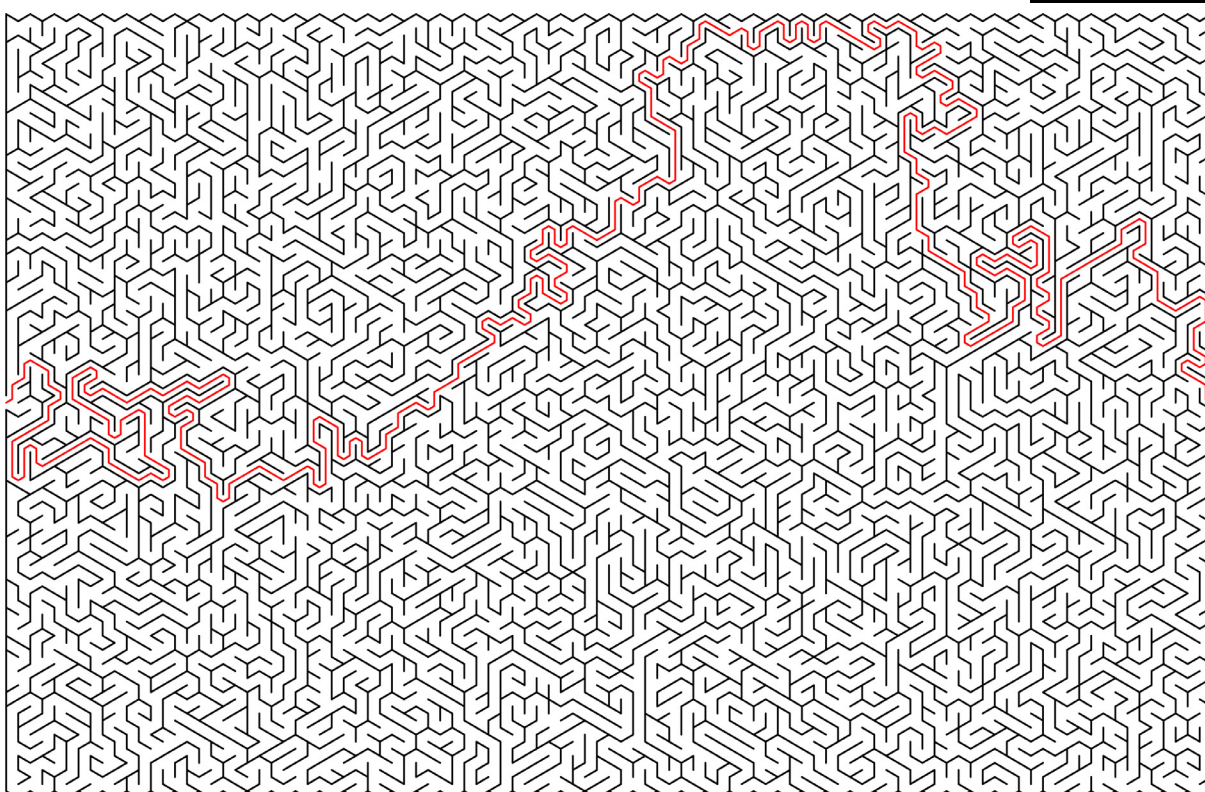
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If you are interested, drop by Florea's
room Thursdays after school to submit
ideas and comic strips



THE 'IF YOU
STARE AT IT LONG
ENOUGH, IT'LL
START LOOKING
LIKE AN OPTICAL
ILLUSION' MAZE
SOLUTION FROM
LAST ISSUE

NEW COACH, NEW YEAR, NEW TEAM

BY DONG HAN, OLATUNJI IKUOMENISAN,
MELISSA INGLE, ALEX TACOPINA, AND
ALLY WOHL

What to Expect from Huntington Fencing in 2016

Last year could have been considered a rebuilding year for Huntington fencing. With the loss of beloved and longtime coach Alan Kuver to cancer, the Huntington team struggled to deal with the loss both on and off the mat.

"We felt very motivated," said Sydney Jean-Baptiste, a Huntington High School fencing member.

"After the death of Mr. Kuver, we were all very sad, but very motivated to do well for him."

Huntington obviously felt the effects of losing their longtime coach; they compiled a record of 11 wins and 17 losses combined, with the girls winning 8 and losing 6, while the boys won 3 and lost 11. However, the team did show signs of promise for this year's team. "We tried our best, that's all that matters," said Annalise Mozer, a senior on the Huntington Fencing Team.

Trying to carry on the legacy of Mr. Kuver, Huntington's new fencing head coach Jillian Melnick, a



Walt Whitman High School and CUNY Hunter graduate, is well versed in fencing. Melnick was part of the U-20 World Cup national team, as well as being a Junior Olympian, and champion in Summer Nationals Division II and Empire State games.

"With our new coach, we have begun a new workout style," says Jack O'Heir, a senior on the Huntington fencing team. "It seems it will provide great results and when we start fencing, I think we will show great improvement," Mr. O'Heir says.

Huntington fencing plans on turning the tide by looking towards a better season and creating a foundation for future fencers to excel in the sport.

"We are looking for a better year", O'Heir says, "with more of an emphasis on work ethic."

Huntington will compete against Brentwood/Hauppauge, Newfield, Com-mack, Sayville, Half Hollow Hills, Centereach/SWR, Walt Whitman and Ward Melville High Schools.





Sports



GIRL'S WINTER TRACK MAKING A COMEBACK

By Nicole Arenth

As the winter sports season begins, a variety of sports become options for the student-athlete to choose from. Among these choices are wrestling, fencing, basketball, and track. Track, deemed one of the more popular sports, takes place in both the winter and spring, so there is guaranteed to be a new face every season.

Girl's track is as successful as it is popular at our high school. Last year, the team won the Suffolk Indoor championship, and went undefeated. Many of the girls headed to division, state, and national championships. The team is determined to do just as well this year. As the team begins to prepare for the first meet, they attempt to try to fill in the spots of the seniors they lost from last year. Some of these girls are Tara and Ellyn Brynes, Kayla Eidle, and Suzie Petryk. The Brynes twins both participated in shot put, Eidle returned with the 1500m racewalk, and Petryk participated in the 1000m run and relays. Al-

though all of these girls did exceptionally well in their last season and helped the team out tremendously, the coaches are preparing to do just as well this year. Seniors this year are all expected to do extraordinarily well. Nina Cartwright, Kelsey Jaminson, Alex Koumas, Lexi Mills, Latoya Shand, and Savannah Richardson all are ready to dominate in this farewell season of theirs. Cartwright and Jaminson both represent Huntington in shot put. Koumas is a mid-distance runner who also competes in the 55m hurdles and relays, usually running the 800m. Mills is a sprinter, but also participates in triple, long, and high jump. Richardson competes in relays and high jump.

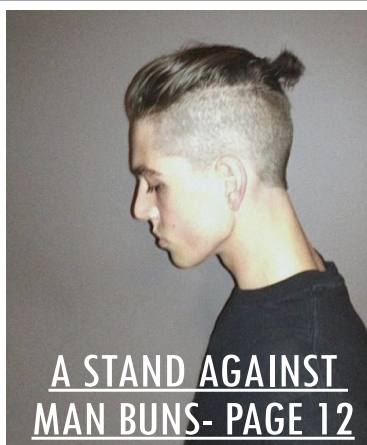
The spotlight isn't just on the seniors, however. In fact, many of the top performers are sophomores and juniors, like Nicole Abondondalo (10th grader), Ryan Gaffney (11th grader), Louise Koepele (11th grader), Alexis Pastorelli (11th grader), and Marina Ruzic (11th

grader). All of the girls went to counties last year. A few of them attended Penn Relays, states, and nationals. The girls are ecstatic for the season and expect to do amazing this year.. Sophomore hurdler, Mardnie Mentor said, "I can't wait for this winter season, I'm hoping for big things will happen for both myself and the team."

The girls are training hard to get ready for their first meet. They had a scrimmage the first week of December against Whitman. Their first official meet is just days after that. Assistant coach Shawn Anderson said in an article on Huntington's website, "So far, from the few days of tryouts, we have seen some excellent progress from the veterans and newcomers alike. There is some huge excitement on the team."

The team is expecting great things to come. Even with the loss of some of their top performers, they're ready to step it up and work together to make this season an amazing one!

HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE



A STAND AGAINST
MAN BUNS- PAGE 12



GUN ISSUES IN AMERICA-
PAGE 8



INDEX

- 2 Editor's Page
- 3 La Página in Español
- 4-6 School News
- 7 World News
- 8 Controversial Topic
- 9 Editorial
- 10 Pop Culture
- 11 Art Section
- 12,13 Fashion Section
- 14 Entertainment
- 15-17 Music
- 18 Puzzle Page
- 19-20 Sports

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