

THE REBELLION

December 2014

Walpole High School

275 Common Street

Walpole, MA 02081

Volume 17, Number 2

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Proposed Foxborough train line serves as alternative to Franklin Line

By Annie Gallivan
Class of 2015

The Executive Director of the Office of Transportation Planning for the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), David Mohler presented about the potential for Gillette Stadium's platform to transform from a special event-only platform to a weekday commuter rail station at the Foxboro Board of Selectmen Meeting on Tuesday, November 18.

The proposed schedule runs five trains a day Monday through Friday — two morning, two evening, and one midday. The commuter rail change extends the Fairmount Line to Foxboro via the current Franklin Line tracks that run between Readville and South Station. However, unlike the Franklin commuter rail line, the proposed service does not have any stops between Readville and Foxboro. Once the new train reaches the Walpole commuter rail station, it switches to the tracks currently used solely for freight trains and special event trains to Gillette. Therefore, this line serves as a faster alternative to the commuter line that runs through Walpole (the Franklin Line).

Speaking during the public comment part of the meeting, Foxboro resident Stephanie McGowan said, "I think you'd be surprised at the amount of people that would use that train. I just think before we sit back and say I don't want the train or the commuter rail in Foxboro, we really need to find out all the information."

If the Foxboro service plans go through, the state has to upgrade the train lines. The future improvements intend to account for the commuter rail trains, which will travel at speeds of up to forty miles per hour. Additionally, due to safety regulations, the station requires new gates and signal systems to replace the current equipment. The improvements allow the trains to travel from Walpole to Foxboro in 7 minutes, as opposed to the 33 minutes that it takes currently.

However, some people in Walpole — especially South Walpole where the train goes — do not see this new proposal as a positive change.

Walpole Selectman Chris Timson said, "More trains [that run] at much faster speeds can create safety hazards on our roads where the trains cross and [can] be a significant detriment to property owners along the rail line."

At the Foxboro Board of Selectmen meeting, one question kept popping up: Who determined this need? Is this proposal coming from Foxboro residents, the Kraft Group, state officials, or the MBTA? The answer is unclear. In 2010, the Jacobs Engineering Company prepared a report for the MBTA and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development called "The Foxboro Commuter Rail Feasibility Study." When they discussed the plans with the Board of Selectmen from Walpole and Foxboro at that time, they did not advance any further. Foxboro and Walpole Boards of Selectmen — and many of their residents — both agreed that more information was neces-



Before the Patriots game on November 23, the event-only MBTA train passes the South Walpole Post Office.

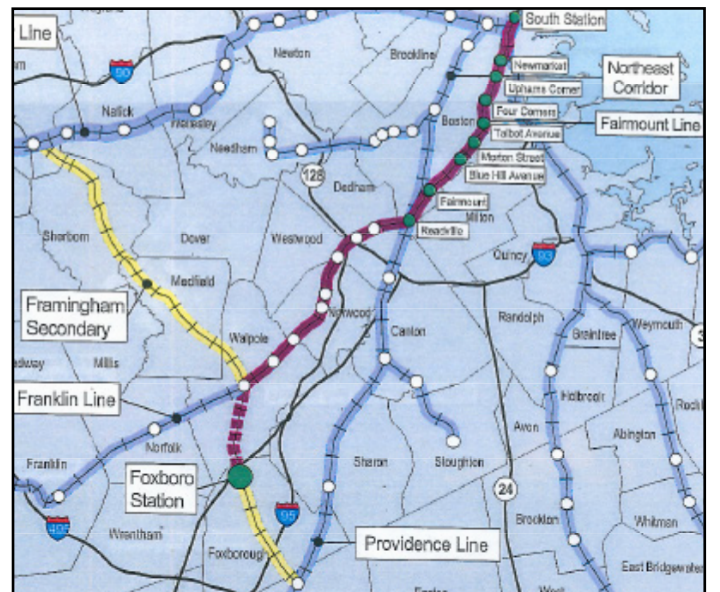
sary before any plans are implemented.

However, the decision is legally not up to the residents. There are not any votes or agreements that need to take place in Foxboro or Walpole in order for this to happen. Thus, the MBTA and the Kraft Group can move forward with their plans if they choose to do so.

"The state is not bound by local zoning or local decisions," said Mohler, "however, if the town of Foxboro overwhelmingly doesn't want a train station, [they do not] necessarily have a veto but we care what [they] think and we are not in the business of shoving our infrastructure down peoples' throats."

In addition to the potential new Foxboro Station, MassDOT recently made a significant purchase that would allow the commuter rail service to reach Foxboro. They purchased the Framingham Secondary Line from the CSX Corporation for \$23,000,000.00. This line (highlighted in yellow in Graph A) connects the Worcester Line in Framingham to the Providence Line in Mansfield. Currently, freight trains run along this route, but the potential Foxboro Station also lies along this route. Therefore, this rail purchase enabled the state to pursue the option of having a station at Gillette.

"We did not buy the Framingham Secondary because it lets us extend commuter rail to Foxboro," said Mohler, "but having bought the Framingham Second-



The potential commuter rail line would travel along the Fairmount Line from Foxboro all the way to South Station, but it would only stop at the stations labeled in green.

ary allows us to extend commuter rail to Foxboro."

The Foxboro Board of Selectmen submitted an official letter to Mohler expressing their wishes that the MassDOT holds off on any official Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) until the Foxboro and Walpole officials and residents receive sufficient information. Representatives from the MassDOT will present information and answer questions at the Walpole Board of Selectmen meeting December 2 at 7 p.m. in the Boyden Elementary School cafeteria.

Municipal Facilities Planning override fails despite large turnout

By Julia Sandquist
Class of 2016

On November 4, Walpole voters voted to reject the \$21.1 million Municipal Facilities Planning Override by a 55 to 45 percent margin—a difference of 1043 votes.

There was a large turnout town-wide for the override; overall, the percent of people who casted a ballot was 64%. The override lost in all precincts except Precinct 4, which contains the South Street Superfund site — the site of the proposed new buildings.

Walpole Town Meeting Representative Sam Obar said, "The main reason why the override failed was that people saw it as too much money and too many projects. Voters favored a much more

modest approach to our facilities problem: one that did not involve tax hikes."

Given Walpole's unsuccessful track record when trying to pass a form of this override, the recent override failure is nothing unfamiliar. In 2006, an override to raise \$10.5 million to fund a new police station lost by a 50.9 to 38.4 percent margin. Again in 2012, the Robbins Road Police Station override to raise \$7.9 million for the project and increase taxes by \$78 per family per year (declining each year over 20 years) lost by a landslide: 77 percent of citizens rejected it while only 19 percent approved.

In the future, the Board of Selectmen plans to reassess the building situation and is likely to develop another plan for voters in the June town election.

"The override failed because a lot of

people thought we were trying to do too much at one time," said Selectman Mark Gallivan. For this reason, selectmen have come up with one possible option for a future plan that is more appealing to voters: passing an override to fund a police station and senior center and to then focus on building a new fire station at a later date.

According to Obar, the new plan should create more reasonable approaches to gather funds for the new buildings. He said, "I hope selectmen consider the results of this resounding override defeat and instead propose construction of new facilities without raising taxes. It is feasible to do this, and has been done in other communities such as Carver, Bellingham, and Dedham."

For now, however, voters have made

their final decision not to fund the building of a new fire station, police station, and senior center. People are in support of new public buildings, but they want a plan that is better suited for the financial needs of the town and its residents. Walpole's history with past override failures indicate that in order for voters to approve new construction, selectmen and taxpayers need to come up with a solution that does not significantly raise taxes. Gallivan suggests that a streamlined number of proposals will promote a more positive response from the community.

Throughout this year, Selectmen will continue to modify and resolve issues in the old override plan to better fit the public's needs, hoping to start public construction in Walpole in the near future.

Porkers lose first round after successful regular season

By Ben Brownsword
Class of 2016

The Porkers came into the 2014 season as defending state champions, and had the potential to repeat. However, with the loss of nine seniors, they were hard-pressed to replace the key pieces that helped their championship run. “At first it was hard for everyone



Junior Sarah Rockwood pushes the ball past Norwood's defender.

to adjust to their new roles on the field, especially with the seniors from last year gone,” said senior Captain Lauren Hirshom, “but as the season went on people got used to their new positions and we saw a lot of improvement.”

Walpole began the season 7-0-1 until their marquee matchup with Herget rival Norwood. At the time, the two teams were battling for first place in the Herget division. The game ended deadlocked, 1-1, which left both teams wanting more. Senior goalie Jenna Alessandro scored Walpole's goal on a penalty stroke.

The second matchup with Norwood was a bigger spectacle, as the victor took the Herget title. Walpole

jumped to an early lead and won 3-1, retaining their Herget crown.

Walpole finished the regular season 15-0-3, and had the #1 seed in the Division I South.

Their first matchup was the winner of #16 Wellesley and #17 Nauset, but misfortune had it that Wellesley won and faced off against Walpole. Wellesley had been tough for Walpole the two times they played previously, tying 0-0 the first time, and falling only 1-0 the second time.

Wellesley went into defensive lockdown against the Porkers, and their strategy worked to perfection as they won 4-3 on penalties, ending Walpole's season in the first round.

Bay State League All-Stars:
Senior Captain Lauren Hirshom
Senior Captain Molly Lanahan

Honorable Mention:
Senior Ania Egan
Sophomore Melanie Weber

Girls XC wins third consecutive Herget

By Colleen O'Connor
Class of 2015

Going into the season, the 8-3 Walpole Girls Cross Country team had one big goal for their season — to win the Herget Championship for the third year in a row, the longest Herget Championship streak in Walpole Cross Country history.

However, on September 27, the team was dealt a crushing blow when a broken foot befell junior Kyra Arsenaault, the number four runner for the team. This loss widened the gap between the third and fourth runners, but this step backwards came with a few steps forward later on.

For the Rebels, beating Natick, 19-44, and placing all seven of their top runners before Natick's second runner provided the morale they needed. Big races from juniors Tess Lancaster and Molly Rockwood, sophomore Mikaela McSharry, and freshman Danielle Borelli catapulted the team back to the top and into a showdown with Wellesley for the Herget title.

Despite losing to Wellesley by a mere three points, 26-29, Walpole still clinched a share of the Herget title with a win over Framingham, bringing the program their third title in three years.

“This is definitely the most athletic team that I've ever coached,” said Head Coach Jamie Farrell. “I am super proud of how the team did this year.”

At the Divisional meet on November 8, senior Captain Allie Morris placed fourth overall for Division III, finishing the 5k course in 18:39, and junior Alyssa Murphy took 17th with a 19:30. Despite personal bests from Lancaster (20:41), McSharry (20:45), and Borelli (20:47), the Rebels only sent Morris and Murphy to All-States, as they finished seventh overall after sophomore Stephanie Forester could not finish due to illness.

“Taking into consideration all of the injuries the team had, I am very happy with how the team performed this season, especially the freshmen,” said Morris.



Allie Morris leads the way against Wellesley.

Bay State League All-Stars:
Senior Captain Allie Morris
Senior Alyssa Murphy
Sophomore Stephanie Forester
Honorable Mention:
Junior Tess Lancaster



Freshman Matt Conti follows through at States.

Bay State League All-Stars:
Senior Captain Mike Mazzotta
Senior Captain Andrew Abbott

Honorable Mention:
Senior Captain Jack Donnelly



Junior Ben Lucas battles for the ball in the game against Catholic Memorial.

Boys Soccer end season 11-5-4

By Ben Brownsword
Class of 2016

Going into the 2014 season, Walpole Boys Soccer knew that they had a lot of work to do. Last year's team, who lost in the DII State Championship to Masconomet, had 16 seniors who had to be replaced.

However, the Rebels had new players to fill the gaps left by the departing seniors. The team certainly stepped up, going 10-4-4 in the regular season, and losing in the South Sectional quarter-final to Hingham.

The season started tough, with Walpole playing #1 Needham in their 3rd game, but shockingly, Walpole led 2-1 for a stretch in the 2nd half. Although the game ended in a 4-2 loss, junior Captain Ian Fair said that the team learned “how to play as a team and play strong as a team.”

Photo/ Ellie Kalemkeridis

The team certainly came out strong after the loss to Needham, going 5-0-2 in their next 7 games, until things took a turn for the worse in their next matchup.

In the second half of a scoreless game against Weymouth, Fair was hit and suffered a fracture in his hip. At the time of the game, he was the Rebels' leading scorer and defensive anchor. Even without Fair, Walpole kept the game tied until a Weymouth winner in the last minute.

After the Weymouth loss, Walpole went 3-2-1 to end the season and finished with a 10-4-4 record. They were given a #7 seed in the Division 2 tournament and drew Canton for the opener. The game went into PK's, where Walpole won 5-4 after a big save from junior goalie Dillon Knight.

After the win, Walpole faced off against #15 Hingham. Hingham went up 2-0 early in the second half, but Walpole scored two late goals to tie the game with five minutes to play.

Even with everything going Walpole's way, Hingham got an open run down the left side, and a close-range shot by a Hingham player deflected off of Knight and junior defenseman Nick Randall on its way into the net.

The goal proved to be a clincher for Hingham, who won the game 3-2, and eliminated Walpole.

Bay State League All-Stars:
Senior Captain Joe Delaney
Senior Captain Chris Gallivan

Honorable Mention:
Junior Nick Randall

2014 Rebels Fall Sports Seasons

Conti represents Walpole Golf at States

By Olivia O'Brien
Class of 2015

With a 10-4 record, Walpole Golf missed qualifying for the State Tournament because Catholic Memorial (300) and Oliver Ames (303) narrowly edged Walpole (304) by a single shot. Although the team score was not enough to advance them in the tournament on October 20, one standout player earned the opportunity to continue his season individually: freshman Matt Conti.

Conti scored the lowest of the Rebels with a score of 74 to ensure his advancement in the tournament. “I felt awesome but nervous for the next round because I'd be all alone,” said Conti.

Conti represented the Rebels at Glen Ellen Country Club in Millis on Thursday, October 27. Although Conti made it further than any other Walpole player, he shot a score 83 — 11 over par at Glen Ellen.

“[Conti] was nervous at the beginning of the year,” said senior Captain Jack Donnelly, “but then came on as a very strong sixth player.”

Donnelly added, “Even though [Conti] is a freshman, he's a great player and will continue to be an asset for Walpole golf as he gets older.”

However, Conti was not the only one who achieved success this year. The senior captains — Donnelly, Mike Mazzotta, and Andrew Abbott — attended the Bay State All-Star Tournament where they came in second overall.

Also, earlier in the season, one of the Rebels' nest matches was against Braintree when Walpole was losing by one with only one group to go. But Mazzotta and freshman Bryan Kraus rallied for the team, shooting 34 and 37, respectively. With the outstanding play from the final group, the Rebels won the match by nine.

“The underclassmen's consistent ability to get low scores really proved to be a valuable asset for our team this season,” said Mazzotta, “and it will also lead them to success in the upcoming years.”

Smith takes two state titles for Rebel Swimming

By Helen Hinton
Class of 2015

Rebel Swimming and Diving wrapped up their season not only with an improved dual meet record of 11-5, but also with two Individual State Titles.

Although boys and girls compete on the same team for dual meets, Walpole Boys Swimming and Diving competes separately for Conferences, South Sectionals, and Division II States. For their postseason, Girls won both the Conference and South Sectional meets on November 2 and November 9 — a first for the Rebels.

“I was very happy with everyone's performances at conferences,” said Head Coach Cheryl Cavanaugh. “Our boys really came through to win that meet.”

As for the girls, eight individuals qualified for Sectionals and three qualified for the State Meet.

The team's greatest accomplishment this post-season came from senior Katie Smith. At Conferences, Smith won the 100-yard breaststroke and just missed the win in the 100-yard freestyle.

At Sectionals, Smith continued her winning streak as she won the 100-yard freestyle, and finished second in the 100-yard breaststroke.

Last year at States, Smith won the 100 yard freestyle. However, she got second place in the 50-yard freestyle by .3 seconds. This year, not only did Smith repeat as the State Champion in the 100-yard freestyle, but she also won the 50-yard freestyle. Now, Smith holds three state titles for Rebels Swimming and Diving.

“I really wanted to win the 100-yard freestyle again to defend my title,” said Smith. “Winning the 50 was an extra bonus.”

Cavanaugh said, “I was thrilled with the outcome of this season. Many of my non-club swimmers qualified and placed at Sectionals and States. On top of that my boys won both the Conference and Sectional meet, and Katie Smith won both her races. I could not be happier.”

Photo/ Max Simons



Emily Luong competes in the 100 Butterfly.

Bay State League All-Stars:
Senior Paul Ferraro

Senior Captain Joe Burke
Freshman Bobby Burke
Sophomore Padraic Curran
Senior Katie Smith
Honorable Mentions:
Junior Julia Muller
Freshman Conor McMahon

King sets school record with 1000 career kills

By Olivia O'Brien
Class of 2015

Walpole Volleyball ended their regular fall season (15-7) with a #8 seed for the Division I South State Tournament. On October 30, Walpole defeated the #9 Mansfield on the Rebels' home court with a 3-1 win in the first round of the state tournament. However, the Rebels lost 3-2 against #1 Bishop Feehan on November 3 in the quarterfinals.

For the first round of the tournament, Walpole pulled through winning 3 out of 4 close sets.

One player in particular added to the excitement of Walpole's win. Senior Captain Summer

King earned her 1000th kill of her high school career to make her the first player to set this record for Walpole High School.

“It was an awesome feeling to get my 1000th kill and set the first record, but more importantly, it was a great team win, and we were all excited to move on,” said King.

After their last home game, Walpole took on Bishop Feehan in a close match, that went to 5 sets.

The Rebels got off to a strong start in the first set but fell short 25-23. However, King and fellow Captain Morgan

McLenan led a 25-13 win in the second set with their offensive play. Walpole came up with a 25-22 win in the third set. Feehan swept

the last two sets to move onto the quarter finals against Brockton.

“We had a lot of momentum early on but Feehan's offense was really strong and the odds just weren't in our favor this time,” said King. “It was especially hard to lose that game because we were able to play with them the whole game, but overall we had a successful season and I'm proud of how far we came.”



Walpole Volleyball celebrates their victory.

Boys XC wins State Title

By Colleen O'Connor
Class of 2015

Walpole Boys Cross Country (8-3) had not won a Herget title since 2011, a berth to All-States since 2010, or a Divisional Championship since 1992. Last year was particularly heart-breaking for this team, for they missed a bid to All-States by two points (or less than one second in terms of race time).

In addition to winning the Herget Division, the team also qualified for the All-State Meet by winning the Division III State Championship. Despite a slow start, the Rebels proved they were contenders for the Herget title. “We proved throughout the entire season that our whole crew was strong,” said senior Captain Billy Heiberger. “We were dedicated from the start.” Two of the biggest meets of the year — Natick and Wellesley — proved to be the deciding factor in winning the title.

Both meets ended in decisive victories for the Rebels, with Walpole's rotating pack of Heiberger, seniors Nick Hayden, Mike Orsi, and Nick Bjornson, and sophomore Luke Berardinelli negating top finishes from Wellesley's Thomas D'Anieri and Natick's Graham King and Dylan Jones.

After winning the Herget, the Rebels' next challenge was the Divisional Championship. Going into the meet, the team knew that they had the potential to win or, like the year before, to place 5th and miss the All-State Meet. Their success depended on how well they raced as a team.

Top ten finishes from seniors Brendan Wohler and Joe Keough (5th and 6th, respectively) and a huge personal best from Heiberger helped seal the victory for the Rebels.

“It was a really full team effort,” Head Coach Tim Giblin said. “We knew we had a chance to contend. There were about seven teams competing for four spots, and we thought we could be anywhere in there.”

Photo/ Kaitlin Brown



Senior Joe Keough outkicks the Wellesley runner.

Bay State League All-Stars:
Senior Joe Keough
Senior Brendan Wohler

Senior Mike Orsi
Honorable Mention:
Senior Captain Billy Heiberger

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ENTERTAINMENT

Taylor Swift ignites debate over music industry's future

By Jamie Ferguson
Class of 2015

The Eagles' album *Greatest Hits 1971-1975* made music history in 1976 when it became the first platinum album in history — a numerical value of success in the music industry attributed to albums that have sold one million units. Every year, a few standout releases receive the certification and join the elite group that includes a wide range of artists spanning across multiple genres. In 1984, Bruce Springsteen's *Born in the USA* sold 15 million records in just over a year; similarly, NSYNC's *No Strings Attached* sold 11 million copies in 2000.

Recently though, this trend changed. Physical album sales declined 18% in 2014. Even iTunes saw a decline in digital sales, as Apple confirmed that their sales dropped between 11-15% in the first six months of 2014 alone.

Instead of purchasing albums, modern age listeners utilize streaming applications such as Spotify in order to listen to their music, an outlet that is technically legal but barely contributes to the music industry (as artists receive a mere \$0.007 per listen of their songs on Spotify).

Due to the drop in album sales, 2014 was poised to be the first year ever with no albums going platinum; that is, until Taylor Swift released *1989*, her fifth studio album and first official pop release.

Selling 1.287 million units in its first week, *1989* was a landmark achievement because it not only became 2014's first and only platinum release, but it also marked Swift's third album to sell over one million copies in its first week of release. The only artist in history to ever achieve that feat, she also became the first woman in history to beat herself on the Billboard charts with "Blank Space" replacing "Shake It Off" at the number one spot.

But will Swift be 2014's sole platinum artist? And despite her success, is the concept of an album becoming obsolete in the digital age?



Taylor Swift's 1989 made music history in spite of a declining industry.

Swift made headlines on November 3 when she removed her music catalogue from Spotify due to her personal objections with streaming programs. In an op-ed in the Wall Street Journal months before she pulled her music from the streaming site, Swift said that "it's [her] opinion that music should not be free." To her, streaming is no different than piracy and file sharing due to listeners' ability to get music for free.

Although many people objected her bold move, Swift is not wrong in her assessments; while streaming is an easy and cheap way for people to listen to a virtually endless catalogue of music, artists' sales are hurt by the miniscule amount of profit they make off of each listen.

"I'm not willing to contribute my life's work to an experiment that I don't feel fairly compensates the writers, producers, artists and creators of this music," she said to Yahoo Music.

Spotify has not responded well to Swift's move, and their dissatisfaction with her decision does have grounds — according to a blog post written by Spotify CEO Daniel Ek, the company pays artists a total of \$2 billion annually. Although Swift is right in her beliefs that music should be paid for, people who do not want to pay for music will find other ways to access it. Even if a listener does not pay for their Spotify subscription, the art-

ist is still getting paid more than they would if the listener pirated the music.

"That's two billion dollars' worth of listening that would have happened with zero or little compensation to artists and songwriters through piracy or practically equivalent services if there was no Spotify," said Ek.

Additionally, although smaller artists do not receive money through streaming, they do receive an arguably more important reward: recognition. If listeners like an artist they discover through streaming, they might be inclined to then purchase the artist's album in the future.

Swift's decision is a bold statement about her desire to preserve the music industry. For any other artist, the decision would have been extremely risky; however, as her incomparable album sales have suggested, Swift operates on a completely different level than other artists of her caliber. Shockingly, as album sales continue to fall, her sales continue to rise, and each of her albums has had a higher opening week than its predecessor.

Regardless if Taylor Swift decides to bring her music back to Spotify or not, Billboard Magazine editor Bill Werde noted perhaps the biggest reason why no other artists sell albums quite like Swift does is: there simply are not a lot of other artists out there who "are dedicated to and willing to work the way Taylor Swift does."

From doing free 13-hour meet-and-greets to sending her fans on Tumblr Christmas presents, Swift knows exactly what she has to do in order to maintain her charmingly humble image. She knows that by treating her fans well, she creates a loyal fanbase of people who are willing to shell out money for concert tickets, t-shirts, and physical albums regardless of whether or not she streams her music.

For many, Swift's fight against piracy and Spotify seems ridiculous; as a multi-millionaire, what does she have to worry about? But her actions are not just self-serving. As noted by country singer Blake Shelton, "It's easy to say 'That's Taylor Swift — why is she so worried about money?' But when you talk about other writers and songwriters on the album who aren't Taylor Swift, it hits them pretty hard." Swift has an incredible platform that smaller artists do not, and by advocating for the protection of paid music, she acts as a voice for all of the indie bands and singer/songwriters that are hurt by the system but lack the power to change anything.

With a Twitter follower count approaching 50 million, three sold out tours under her belt, and her fifth consecutive platinum release, the future looks bright for Swift. She knows that as long as she treats her fans like her friends and not like faceless customers, she will continue to sell well. But for the rest of her fellow artists who are struggling to even sell one million albums, the future of the music industry will be determined by the trends that emerge in the following years.

Perhaps Spotify will emerge as a positive alternative to piracy; on the other hand, artists are already considering following in Swift's footsteps in order to preserve the value of album sales. What the music industry needs is more artists like Swift who are not only dedicated to producing genuine music, but are also dedicated to preserving the integrity of music for future generations.

One Direction displays newfound maturity with release of *Four*

By Rachel Spang
Class of 2015

While many artists lose the appeal of their style over time by adopting a more commercial, pop sound, One Direction's newest album *Four* proves that they plan to achieve the opposite. *Four* marks the English-Irish boy band's achievement of reaching an individual, unique sound that sets them far apart from other pop groups. The boys who belted out bubblegum pop ballads in their first two albums are almost unrecognizable in the folk and indie influenced tracks of *Four*. The transformation has also affected the boys' public images, as the members have adopted an edgier style than their previous clean-cut image. After experimenting with several different genre influences in their previous album *Midnight Memories*, One Direction seems to have finally settled on a mellow pop style that heavily depends on vocals and lyricism.

Although the album's first single "Steal My Girl" is not exactly a lyrical marvel, it does introduce the overall tone of the album. The song, while not upbeat, maintains a catchy, pop vibe that shows off the band members' impressive, developed vocals. *Four*'s second single, "Night Changes," gives a better view of the band's maturation. It combines all of the best elements of the album: advanced lyricism, smooth vocal harmonies, and a soothing, slow sound that characterizes the majority of the album.

Written by Ed Sheeran, "18" follows in the foot-

steps of "Night Changes" as a simple, acoustic love ballad. Although the track was written by Sheeran for the boy band, it is only one of two songs in which the members of One Direction had no involvement in the writing process. In the past, One Direction wrote only a few songs on each album; for example, their debut album *Up All Night* contains only three songs written by members of the band. However, tracks such as "Fool's Gold" and "Spaces" show that the boys themselves can back up their vocal talent with writing skills. Both songs are more lyrically advanced than the trite pop ballads of their previous albums, and they also sustain a folk-influence that they discovered in their previous album. For example, "Ready to Run" and "Fireproof" exemplify this folk-pop sound, with the latter's emphasis on tight harmony making the song stand out as one of the best.

Although the boys have moved away from their huge pop anthem days, *Four* still has a good amount of upbeat songs that manage to maintain their advanced new sound. "Girl Almighty" develops an interesting blend of indie-sounding pop and acoustic guitar empha-



With the release of their album *Four*, One Direction sheds their bubblegum pop image.

sis, and "No Control" provides a dance-worthy anthem while preserving lyrical integrity. The last two tracks of the album, "Stockholm Syndrome" and "Clouds," round out the album with huge choruses that define the two as the biggest, most stand-out tracks of *Four*.

Perhaps the only true disappointment of the album, "Where Do Broken Hearts Go" shows a struggle for the boy band to let go of its clean-cut pop roots; the song is littered with clichés and an uninteresting melody that is reminiscent of one of their earlier hits. While it may have been a fitting track in one of the band's first two albums, it is jarring and out of place among their new, more mature tracks.

While *Four* marks a great leap forward in terms of the musical quality for One Direction, one can only hope that they will continue on their positive trend of furthering the development of their sound and image in the future.

Interstellar pushes limit of science fiction cinema



Matthew McConaughey stars in Christopher Nolan's ambitious *Interstellar*.

By Marc Sheehan
Class of 2015

For audience members who have never seen a Christopher Nolan flick, this film might leave them a bit discombobulated. Nowadays, there is a fine line in the cinema world: On one side are entertainment blockbusters, and on the other side are “artsy” insightful films. Directors belong to one side or the other: Michael Bay is on the blockbuster side of the line, Darren Aronofsky is on the “artsy” side of the line. Christopher Nolan is the line.

Interstellar tells the story of the future, when the world is on the brink of extinction. In due time, the world’s population will suffocate, unless Cooper (Matthew McConaughey) and a team of NASA scientists can find another planet on which to sustain life. However, in order to do so, Cooper must leave

his family on Earth for an extended period of time. *Interstellar* is a tale of heroism and love, but its message doesn’t seem to be resonating sufficiently. Instead, audiences are focusing on the scientific elements of the film, and responses to the film’s science are mixed.

Interstellar has its visually-appealing, highly intense action scenes for entertainment purposes, no doubt. But there is a reason that *Interstellar* is three hours long. No smart producer would release a three hour blockbuster. A lot of people doubt the science of *Interstellar*, saying everything is too unrealistic. The fact of the matter is that cinema is literature, and thus the unrealistic nature of the stories plays a part in the overall moral of the film.

Nolan did his research for the movie, checking in with renowned physicists time and time again for conceptual, theoretical, and visual ideas. For example, a large part of the story is rooted in the concept of travelling through a wormhole. To ensure that the science was correct, Nolan enlisted in the help of physicist Kip Thorne to perfect the complex scientific concepts that Cooper and his team discuss throughout the film.

Just one year after Alfonso Cuarón’s *Gravity* won the Academy Award for Best Cinematography, many questions have been brought up regarding how Nolan will progress upon the standards set by last year. Wally Pfister, Nolan’s longtime cinematographer, parted ways with Nolan last year for his own directorial pursuits, so Nolan got Hoyte Van Hoytema—the man behind the camera for *The Fighter* and *Her*—as a replacement. However, the cinematography is different than *Gravity*. While *Gravity* was beautifully claustrophobic, *Interstellar* is hugely ambitious and has a much larger scope than Cuarón’s film.

One of the most stunning visuals in the film is the image of the black hole, which Thorne ensures is the most accurate representation of a black hole in cinematic history. The black hole does not only look realistic; in addition, it also acts exactly as a black hole would in response to the situations throughout the movie.

But aside from the ambitious effects and lofty philosophical questions of the movie, at the heart of the film is a story of family. McConaughey’s Cooper is a heartwarming realistic father who will do anything to see his children again. The sacrifices he has to make are particularly apparent when Cooper watches video messages left by his children while he is away. The conflict between his professional goals and his personal struggles force the audience to wonder what is more important — preserving personal relationships or making sacrifices for humanity as a whole?

Additionally, Chastain’s Murph is a brilliant but reserved young woman who grows callous and cold after her father abandons her family for his mission. She portrays Murph’s conflicted emotions with tenderness but her performances are never overly exaggerated, which makes the story much more believable.

Although her character is not given as much development as Cooper and Murph, Anne Hathaway’s Dr. Brand adds another layer of depth to the story due to her relationship with her father.

Though many critics condemn the film for its long length and lofty goals, Nolan’s latest masterpiece is a film worthy of acknowledgement and praise in spite of its recent criticism. The film balances a complex scientific story, stunning visual effects, and a tender familial story to create one of the most ambitious and Oscar-worthy films of the year.

YouTube personalities find fame outside of digital world

By Emily Luong
Class of 2016

In today’s society almost everyone, especially the youth, perceive YouTube as a source of music, movies, television shows, beauty advice, cooking tutorials, and so much more. The massive popularity and convenience of watching quality videos for free has sparked the careers of many YouTube content makers, better known as ‘YouTubers’. The rise of YouTube personalities has been growing to the point where they can be compared to Hollywood celebrities. Forget about the movie premieres, the fashion shows, and the award ceremonies, YouTubers redefine what it means to be a ‘celebrity’ through the accumulation of large fan bases worldwide all from the comfort of their homes.

Since YouTube’s founding in 2005, millions of talented content makers have been putting up their videos for the entire world to see. Some receive little results while others are greatly rewarded by their efforts. One by one, across the globe, these lucky YouTubers gained scores of subscribers every day.

The reactions to this newfound phenomena were mostly positive among the scores of YouTube users. Everyday millions of people tune to their favorite channels and perpetuate YouTubers’ successes. Starting off as timid teens using YouTube as their creative outlet, YouTube personalities quickly found fame on and offline. YouTubers are now winning awards, gracing front pages of magazines, hosting radio shows, and making cameos on national television just like any superstar would. Bethany Mota, a beauty and fashion YouTuber, is currently on this season’s *Dancing with the Stars* and has her own clothing line at Aeropostale. Joey Graceffa, Meghan Camarena (Strawburry17), and Kevin Wu (kevjumba) have been on past seasons of CBS’s *The Amazing Race*. YouTubers prove to their fanbase that suc-



YouTube beauty guru Bethany Mota poses at the 2014 MTV Music Awards.

cess is indeed possible just by turning a simple hobby into a full-blown career.

In addition, major consumer companies have noticed how much influence these young people have on the masses and have signed deals with them to promote their products. Product promotion is a major part of beauty and fashion channels who often suggest a certain product they like to their subscribers. Ingrid Nilsen (Missglamorazzi), an American beauty and fashion personality, has recently collaborated with beauty company “Yes To” to create the skincare line “Ingrid Nilsen x Yes To Cucumbers/ Blueberries Cleansing Facial Wipes®”.

Although being a viral YouTube sensation can be a lucrative career, ranging from two million to seventeen million dollars a year, many viewers accuse YouTubers of selling out and focusing on making money more than making creative and enjoyable content for their loyal subscribers. For example, Michelle Phan has a popular makeup line called Em Cosmetics, while Elle and Blair Fowler pub-

lished the novel *Beneath the Glitter* in 2012 and its sequel the following year.

Just like any other social media site, YouTube is susceptible to YouTuber “scandals.” A noteworthy case that arose this year centered around Sam Pepper, a British comedy YouTuber with over two million subscribers. Famous for prank videos in which he films himself jokingly pranking unsuspecting strangers, Pepper came under fire when several women announced that they have been sexually harassed by Pepper in his videos. These claims were validated when Pepper uploaded a video of him inappropriately touching people’s behinds with a fake hand in public. Receiving lots of backlash and complaints, Pepper quickly took down his video.

Other YouTubers faced similar allegations regarding sexual abuse. Musician Luke Conard received lots of unwanted attention when his ex-girlfriends revealed a whole different side to the YouTuber. YouTubers Kristina Horner and Whitney Milam claimed that he was sexually abusive, manipulative, and a cheater. Fellow musician Alex Day

faced the same accusations when his ex-girlfriends came forward to speak up against his volatile behavior. Despite that YouTubers put themselves on the Internet daily, viewers only see various ten minute edited clips and do not have an entire insight on these personalities’ private lives and their attitudes off-camera. As a result, the reality of YouTubers’ lives is often extremely different than the carefully edited portions of their lives that they choose to share.

The public has a tendency to attack people who have found success and fame in modern culture. Negative images aside, the majority of YouTubers are indeed good people at heart. Some use their influence to advocate for humanitarian charities and promote awareness for countless numbers of societal issues. For example, Zoe Sugg is the digital ambassador for the mental health awareness program Mind. Suffering from anxiety herself, Sugg launched her #DontPanicButton campaign to create awareness and support for those who suffer from anxiety and panic attacks. In addition, Tyler Oakley has worked with The Trevor Project, a program that focuses on suicide prevention among LGBTQ young adults.

From instant stardom, to overwhelming support, and not to mention controversies, YouTube personalities have easily taken over social media and the entertainment scene.

Perhaps the biggest reason why YouTubers are so successful is because viewers see themselves in the personalities they watch online. Before the award show appearances, million dollar homes, and lavish lifestyles, YouTubers were once ordinary people expressing themselves online. In a society that often criticizes the youth for following their passions in place of pursuing realistic professions, YouTubers act as a hopeful reminder that one’s passion can be more than just a hobby — it can also be a career.

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SPORTS

Rebels fall to Dartmouth in playoff stunner, 20-16

By Benjamin Brownsword
Class of 2016

Gillette Stadium. The home of three Super Bowl titles courtesy of the New England Patriots, it is a hallowed ground for high school football players as well. Gillette is the venue for the state championship “Super Bowl” for every division of the MIAA. On November 22nd, Walpole went to Marciano Stadium in Brockton in search of their first Super Bowl berth since 2006, and came heartachingly close to success.

The Rebels were in the midst of a fantastic season when they ran into Dartmouth in Brockton, going a perfect 10-0 in their previous games.

The week before their matchup with Dartmouth, seven Walpole players were named Bay State all-stars, including juniors Tyler Berkland and Steve Cuqua, along with senior Captain Jack Lavanchy and four other seniors.

Even with all the impressive statistics over the previous two months, none of that mattered in Brockton.

Early on in the game, everything looked to be going Walpole’s way. Two beautiful throws by Berkland put Walpole up 14-0 at the end of the first quarter. Walpole’s defense shut down every Dartmouth drive, and the offense picked apart Dartmouth’s defense like it was child’s play.

The momentum swung little in the second quarter, and the only scoring came from a Dartmouth running touchdown. At halftime, the game still looked like it was going Walpole’s way.

Trying to cement their win in the



Photo/ Bryan Kelleher

Junior Lovevindy Salvant out runs a Milford player during their win earlier in the season

second half, Walpole went to defensive lockdown in the third quarter. Junior defensive end Nate Porack gave Walpole a two-possession lead by tackling the Dartmouth running back in the end zone for a safety.

"I thought it sealed the win by increasing the difference to two scores," said Porack, "Honestly, it was the biggest play of the year for me."

The third quarter was a showcasing of pure dominance by the Rebel defense, with Dartmouth unable to move the ball, and the safety put Walpole up 16-7 with just eleven minutes to go. With the way the defense had been playing, the possibility of Dartmouth

coming back looked remote at best.

With 4:38 to play, Dartmouth drove 57 yards to the Walpole 20, until the Rebels locked up the Dartmouth offense down on three consecutive plays to give Dartmouth one last chance on a 4th and 7. Shockingly, they not only converted the 4th down but also scored a touchdown on the play. On the next play, the extra point was blocked.

After Dartmouth’s 73-yard scoring drive, Walpole just had to burn clock and secure their trip to Gillette. That is, until the impossible happened.

A Dartmouth player caught the ball cleanly off the onside kickoff. Then, on the very next play, Dartmouth

hammered the ball into the end zone and converted the extra point to give Dartmouth a 20-16 lead with 42 seconds left.

Needing 74 yards in just thirty-seven seconds, Walpole finally looked beaten. They were able to get the ball up to their own 45-yard line, but an incomplete pass from Berkland to Papirio on the last play of the game sealed the Rebels’ loss and gave Dartmouth one of the most stunning wins in the high school football season.

Walpole looked to have a win and a Super Bowl well within their grasp, only to let it be snatched away in just under four minutes. The Rebels’ season ended with a record of 10-1, almost a perfect season.

Athletic Trainer Antigone Matsakis joins Walpole High Faculty

By Meagan Sundstrom
Class of 2015

Joining a completely new faculty and student body is a difficult task in itself, but adjusting to the fast-paced schedule of high school sporting events before the school year even begins presents a challenge. Meeting the coaches, attending as many athletic events as possible, and providing athletic training to injured players are just a few of an Athletic Trainer’s wide variety of responsibilities.

With the departure of previous Athletic Trainer Mike Belanger, who worked with Walpole athletes for 11 years, Walpole High hired Ms. Antigone Matsakis as the new trainer for the 2014-2015 school year. Originally from Glenview, Illinois – a small town near Chicago – Dr. Matsakis attended Glenbrook South High School. It was during these four years that she first became interested in athletic training and physical therapy. Her experiences working with a strength and conditioning coach throughout her time playing high school basketball initiated her passion for learning about body movement. “My strength and conditioning coach transformed the way I moved, which improved my strength and made me a better athlete,” Dr. Matsakis said. “I was so impressed with the body and the fact that you can improve it and change its capacity, so I wanted to learn more about it.”

Following high school, she further pursued her interest in physical therapy during college. Ms. Matsakis attended Boston University, where she earned her bachelor’s degree in Athletic Training and her doctorate degree in Physical Therapy. Her current position at Walpole High is her first full-paying job after college, but she previously held per diem athletic training jobs in Boston.

Given the many tasks that she must handle, Dr. Matsakis endured multiple difficulties during her transition

into the school. “Getting used to the schedule, communicating between athletes, parents, coaches, nurse and the team physician, and learning people’s names while managing communications was challenging,” she said. Otherwise, her entrance into the school was greeted with appreciation from students, coaches, and parents.

Dr. Matsakis’ passion for helping student athletes facilitated her entrance to Walpole High, and she enjoys the school’s emphasis on physical therapy for athletes – an asset not found at every high school. She said, “I like the support that the school gives for athletic training. My favorite part is being there in those critical moments.”

At the school, Dr. Matsakis holds a multitude of responsibilities; for example, responding to emergencies both on the field and within the school, managing communications, providing rehab for injured players, and preventing future injuries amongst student athletes. So far, she has already worked to reduce the amount of injuries through regenerative stretching and core work with Walpole High School’s football team.

More recently, Dr. Matsakis organized a “Yoga for Athletes” class, in which students could participate in an hour-long yoga session for a one dollar fee. She believes that with the fast growth of young athletes’ bodies, yoga offers flexibility and coordination that minimizes injury risk. “I think that yoga is really powerful for the body and the mind,” Dr. Matsakis said. “It helps you move within your own body, which prevents injuries and makes you a better athlete. It is a really easy thing that can help anyone.”

The main reasons behind her avid interest in physical therapy are her abilities to be a part of the change in adolescents’ lives and to assist people in recovering and returning to their activities. “In both athletic training and physical therapy, I like having a powerful influence in someone’s life and making them re-



Photo/ Max Simons

Walpole High School warmly welcomes new Athletic Trainer Antigone Matsakis

cover to do what they love to do,” Dr. Matsakis said.

Her love toward athletic training and physical therapy has also incited her desire to improve Walpole High’s program. Dr. Matsakis hopes to make the school’s system of documentation more efficient by transferring to an electronic system as opposed to the current handwritten one.

“I want to improve the system by going on to electronic records versus paper and improving the organization and efficiency of the communications and documentations,” she said. Additionally, she hopes to bring in a few speakers to inform studentathletesabouttheimportanceofathletictraining. Dr. Matsakis’ enthusiasm toward athletic training and her desire to improve the school’s documentation system characterize her passionate personality.

Despite the few challenges of adjusting to an entirely new schedule and school, Dr. Matsakis’ upbeat and youthful personality promises a positive future for Walpole’s athletic training program.



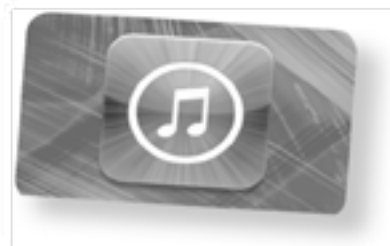
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Senior Summer King signs for Division I Basketball at Colgate

By Olivia O'Brien
Class of 2015

Senior Summer King officially committed to play Division I Women's Basketball for Colgate University on November 12 in the WHS Media Center.

"I've been playing basketball since I was in the fourth grade and I can't imagine doing anything else," said King.

In the fourth grade, King began her club basketball career on an AAU team called the Mass Destruction Elite. In her younger years of playing AAU, King was given opportunities such as playing in national tournaments against top competition.

King said, "Playing with so many different players from all over definitely gave me the experience and confidence I needed to play at more competitive levels."

Standing over 6 feet tall as a freshman and averaging about 10 rebounds per game her freshman year, King made an immediate impact on the Walpole Girls Basketball.

She has played in 12 national tournaments throughout her career. Last summer, King and her current AAU team, the Bay State Jaguars, placed 2nd in the nation in Washington D.C. King gives all her thanks to the Bay State Jaguars head coach, Sam Doner.

"Sam Doner knows so much about basketball so being coached by him was an amazing experience which led me to where I am today," King said.



Senior Summer King poses with friends after signing her National Letter of Intent to play basketball at Colgate.

King was also a four year starter and a junior and senior Captain for Walpole Volleyball. This fall season, King set the first ever record as the first Rebel Volleyball player to earn 1000 kills throughout her career. King is also an avid member of Walpole High School's track team where she does high jump and throws shot, discus, and javelin. Despite all other athletic achieve-

ments, basketball has always been her true passion.

After finally signing her national letter of intent to play for the Colgate Raiders, King could not be more excited to move on to the Division 1 level.

"Basketball has created so many opportunities for me and I cannot wait to keep improving at Colgate over the next 4 years," she said.

Abby Wohler signs with University of Alabama for Division I Crew

By Lucy Lynch
Class of 2015

Senior Abby Wohler signed her National Letter of Intent for Division I Crew for the University of Alabama on Tuesday, November 18 in the Walpole High School Media Center.

During her junior year, Wohler began her crew career with Community Rowing, Incorporated — a non-profit organization that practices and competes on the Charles River.

In addition to competing in several regattas with her team each year, Wohler has become a dedicated member of Crossfit Florian in Norwood. Often attending CrossFit twice a day — once before school, once after — Abby owes much of her strong, physi-

cal condition to her gym commitment.

"It's more about Division I shape than Division I skill because rowing is all about strength," said Wohler.

Upon her most recent visit to the school, Wohler confirmed her desire to be the newest member of the University of Alabama's Class of 2019 Rowing Team.

"It felt like home when I got there," Wohler said. "I could see myself becoming best friends with the girls on the team."

Abby's twin brother, senior Brendan said, "Abby is truly committed to her newly found sport. She puts about 4-5 hours every day by going to Crossfit every morning before school, driving to Boston for practices, and then more Crossfit after practice. All of her hard work has paid off, and she fully deserves her success."

Senior Captain Allie Morris commits to UMASS Lowell

Photo/ Bryan Kelleher



Senior Allie Morris sits with her parents, coaches, and Coach Tompkins after signing her National Letter of Intent to run at UMass Lowell.

By Brianna Conley
Class of 2015

Senior Allie Morris officially committed to run Division I Cross Country and Track for UMass Lowell on November 14 when she signed her National Letter of Intent in the Walpole High School Media Center.

Morris began her running career her freshman year for Walpole Girls Indoor Track and Field where she ran the mile at junior varsity meets at Milton High School.

That spring, she received her first medal at the South Shore Principals Meet in the Mile for placing 6th.

"I will always remember how brave and hardworking she was in those earlier meets," said Head Girls Track Coach Conor Cashman. "Her current success is a testament to the success an athlete can have if he or she works hard."

During her sophomore year, she suffered from Rhabdomyolysis — a

condition which sidelined her for the majority of both track seasons. When she recovered, she transformed herself into an elite runner who not only ran track but also Cross Country.

"After sophomore year, I was extremely motivated to work hard and get faster," Morris said.

For Cross Country, Morris currently holds the Walpole High School Course Record (2.57 Miles) with 15:11, while for both Indoor and Outdoor Track, she was a part of two record-holding relay teams (9:53.82 for Indoor Track 4x800M; 10:02.91 for Spring Track 4x800M).

Her Indoor Track time of 11:25.82 ranks second to Ellen Dwyer's 11:02.87 from 1998. As for Spring Track, her 2 Mile time of 11:38.20 ranks fourth. With only two seasons left at Walpole, Morris knows her running career has only just begun.

"I look forward to continuing my growth at UMass Lowell," said Morris.

COLLEGE ATHLETE ALUMNI INFO

Below, Rebellion sports writers have collected information on 2014 athlete alumni. For the next paper, we want to include a comprehensive list of college athletes (not just freshmen). So, if you have any information about Walpole High School athlete alumni, please e-mail Rebellion sportswriter Brianna Conley at whsathletealum@gmail.com so we can include updates in our next paper and online.

CROSS COUNTRY: Jackie Applin (Roger Williams University): 4 Meet Appearances 123rd at NCAA Division III Cross Country Regional Championship; Jon Kelland (Westfield State University), 5 Mile (29:23.07 at UMass XC Invite), 8000M (30:00.53 at James Early Invite), 5000M (18:23.98 E. Conn. Invite). **FIELD HOCKEY:** Caroline Feeley (Amherst College), 16 Game Appearances, 10 Shots, 1 Goal; Brooke Mathereson (Boston College), Forward, 16 Game Appearances, 8 Shots, 2 Goals; Ashley Waldron (Brown University) Defensive Back, 14 Game Appearances.

FOOTBALL: Myles Cofield (Worcester State University), Defensive Back, 1 interception, 23 tackles. **SOCCER:** Anthony Chauvin (Assumption College) 1 Game Appearance. **SWIMMING:** Lexie Riggott (Rhode Island College), 100 Fly (1:12); Danielle Sauve (RPI), Liberty League Swimmer of the Week, 1000 freestyle (10:55.72), 100 free (54.06) and 500 free (5:19.89), Jessica Sauve (RPI), 200 freestyle (2:00.03), 200 breaststroke (2:34.28). **TRACK AND FIELD:** Olivia O'Hara (Loyola University), 1 Meet Appearance, Triple Jump (33'4").

EDITORIALS

Sexist “Secret Psych” tradition needs to stop



Walpole Cheerleaders decorate the football players' lockers with encouraging posters.

By Emily Massarelli
Class of 2015

Many sports teams throughout the school participate in “secret psych”: a tradition in which players are assigned to another player through their captains and must decorate their lockers with posters, leave encouraging notes, and purchase food of the recipient’s preference. While all other sports teams and clubs at the school practice this tradition among themselves, varsity football and cheerleading intermingle their two teams for the occasion of home games. Typically, football players attend the cheerleaders’ Bay State Conference Meet as a form of repayment for a season’s worth of “secret psych” decorations. If properly reciprocated by both sides, outsiders perceive this transaction as one that is fair. Unfortunately, that balanced reciprocation is not the case.

This year, Walpole Girls Cheerleading won the Hergert Division at the Bay State Conference Meet and were named Best Overall; however, the football players were unavailable to attend because their practice conflicted with the schedule. If this schedule conflict was solely a schedule conflict, if the football players truly appreciated the seasons worth of decorations, this tradition should continue with some type of fairness.

If not, then this sexist tradition should stop, indefinitely.

The sport of cheerleading—and yes, it is a sport—originated during a time where girls were subordinate, sexualized objects who simply stood on the sidelines to serve as motivation for the football players. Since then, cheerleading has grown into a competitive sport which requires immense conditioning, hours of practice, and a great deal of strength. In 2014, attending sports games is the secondary necessity of cheerleaders, while preparing and competing is their primary purpose. In the Walpole High School lobby, there are numerous trophy cases for sports and extra-curricular clubs that extend into the hallway outside of the gymnasium. Do you know who has the most trophies in there?

The Porkers?
The Walpole Rebel Football Team?
No.

In fact, Walpole Cheerleading currently has over 40 trophies in those cases – the most of any organization. In second are the Porkers. Why then are the cheerleaders treated as second-class citizens who subordinate themselves to the game-day appetites of the football team? Why then do they arrive at school at ungodly hours to decorate the lockers of people who do not even appreciate their artwork? Within the last few years, Walpole High has increased the strictness of its anti-hazing policy. Sport’s team captains are required to sign a paper which signifies that they and the rest of the team have read and will comply to the school’s anti-hazing rules. Said policy is enforced by coaches and school administration, while acknowledgement of the blatantly sexist dynamic of football and cheerleading has yet to occur. The lack of backlash for these sexist traditions only foment the building of character of young men and women who follow such gender roles. If not acted upon, this harmful tradition will simply continue for generations to come.

Some may claim that this article is an outrage due to its lack of school spirit or support. However, the outrage should come from the truth about how school spirit and blind loyalty to athletes are used

to overshadow the condemnable sexism and faults of its teams. The secret psych traditions of the football and cheerleading teams are merely a front for the sexist dynamic of the two teams which begs to be finally acknowledged. Perhaps to start the resolution of said dynamic (if showing respect to the cheerleaders is too strenuous for the football players), football players could spend a few hours of their day at one cheer competition to compensate.

Or, if it isn’t such an incomprehensible notion, they could break their “tradition” and reciprocate the secret psych. Could you imagine that? Football players decorating a cheerleader’s locker? Is that really that incomprehensible? In a world where many wives may make more than their counterparts, why are we falsely reinforcing the belief that men are better?

One might question why the cheerleaders themselves do not choose to boycott the tradition too. Technically, any one of the girls could follow the inaction of the stubborn football players, but they are then inherently subject to harassment and taunting from the then perturbed football team. The captains of this team simply do what the captains before them did, and those captains did what their captains before them did – a trend which seems to have extended back to the 1980’s.

However, most cheerleaders probably do not see the sexism behind their actions; “secret psych” is just something cheerleaders do. It is that mentality (the naive mind that cannot even perceive the sexism) that is the most dangerous to the teenagers in this school.

Although the very institution of cheerleading is intrinsically sexist — the idea of girls in skirts cheering on the strong football players — the way the two teams treat each other does not have to be.

Just as cheerleaders have evolved from objects on the sidelines to strong, athletic competitors, perhaps football players can shed some of their fiercely protected masculinity in order to show respect to their fellow classmates and acknowledge the validity of cheerleading as a sport. Walpole High School may be known for its athletics, but unless all sports are treated equally, it will also be known for its inequality and sexism.

“Secret Psych” article sparks online debate about value of tradition

Remy Love (former cheerleading captain): I usually spent about \$10 per game. There are 10 games in a season, and high school lasts 4 years. So, a total of \$400 comes out of my own wallet by the end of my high school career. In return, the football team attends merely one competition of ours. Additionally, they booed us at one pep rally, rarely gave a simple “thank you”, and even egged us and our cars.

Bill Cullinane: As a former football player, I firmly believe that most seniors truly appreciate the efforts put forth by cheerleaders during secret psych. Of course, this is not true in every case. [...] With that being said, the generalizations made about male athletes in this piece are entirely unfair. As a senior, my teammates and I all attended the Bay State cheerleading competition and found the athletic feats displayed by the Walpole (and other) teams extremely impressive.

Matt Ordway (current football captain): I have not seen any football player disrespect any of the cheerleaders in any way. If any of the captains saw that, we would make sure it stopped.

Senior Christian DeCelle: I read your article, and congrats for stirring up such a controversy and I do truly believe in a lot of the things you said, but in my opinion, opinions don’t change when someone feels like they are being lectured. [...] Shaming people is not a good way to get them to believe you; Shame only serves to put people down.

Andie Moore (former cheerleader): Cheerleading is a competitive sport just as much as football is and they deserve just as much respect. If the cheerleaders are going to be spending their time, energy and money on the football players every home game, the football players should also spend their time, energy and money on the cheerleaders. I am not saying that the supporters of the tradition are purposely upholding sexist beliefs, I am simply saying that the tradition itself keeps unwanted and untrue stereotypes and gender roles alive.

WHS Senior: This perpetuated tradition among the football players is something that should have been righted a long time ago. As a soon to be graduating senior, it pains me to see that such a controversial and morally backward problem is still sully the image of our football team and consequently our high school. Avoidance of the issue is only adding fire to the flame, so it means so much that such an article as this could finally be published so that we can face this issue head-on and progress as a town.

Former Player: Applied in a larger context, the relationship between the average cheerleader and football player is inherently sexist. I think it’s great that you have people on each side [...] but it only perpetuates something that is bigger than the bubble WHS goes on in. [...] You’re part of a larger institution that collectively devalues women to roles of entertainment that sexualize their images.

Amanda Acavedo (current cheerleader): We are cheerleaders for the football players, the football players are not cheerleaders for us.

Cheer Parent: If I could take all the ramifications of speaking out against the “secret psych” traditions without [my daughter] being affected I would have spoken out much sooner. [...] Somehow disrespect has been allowed to happen right under their noses in a disguise of a tradition within one of the most treasured sports organizations.

WHS Alum: Don’t cheer for a high school football team if you don’t want to be there for the players. You’re there to make their game better and that’s it. They aren’t there to help you, they never have been.

Mike Curran (current football player): Every year the Walpole football team organizes a pasta dinner for all those involved in the football program the night before the Norwood game, and the cheerleaders are recognized for all their efforts throughout the season. Every cheerleader’s name is called and she is thanked, applauded, and given a gift bag by one of the senior football players.

Vanessa Dorransoro (current cheerleader): We’re told by our coaches and captains to get gifts for the players, and this year some girls chose not to but were yelled at by their players. Personally, it upsets me that we do so much for the players and in return, we don’t even get respect from them.

Ms. Skwar (WHS English teacher): Criticism of something close to your heart is tough to endure, as anyone who has ever been passionate about anything knows. But when a call-to-action piece like this is well-written, it can bring a community to a better place. I think that is the lesson here.

Chris Bender (current football captain): We have the utmost respect for the cheerleaders and appreciate everything that they do for us. We did not have the field until later that night, and considering it was the day before our playoff game we have to practice. Therefore, we were unable to attend the cheer competition.

Full comments are available on our website at www.whstherebellion.com

Photos/ Kaitlin Brown

GIRLS HOCKEY



Captains: Olivia Knight, Lauren Hirshom
2013-2014 Record: 2-15-2

Strengths: Sophomore goalie Francesca Bonanno is very strong in net, and the Lady Rebels also have a strong defense. **Weakness:** The biggest problem is scoring goals. "The team lacks natural goal scorers and scoring all together," Head Coach Joe Verderber said. "The team is weak with depth and game experience." **Goals:** Senior Captain Olivia Knight said, "Our plan is to come out strong and to prove people wrong." **Influential incoming players:** Coach Verderber requested waivers to call up 8th graders Meghan Hamilton and Audra Tosone as wings and also expects freshman Amanda Janowitz to have an impact on the forward line. "All new additions hopefully will be in position and able to positively contribute to team's growth and success," said Coach Verderber. **Coach's Outlook:** Coach Verderber said, "We are looking to make our record better than .500 so we can make it to tournament."

Reported by Sophia Giovaniello, Cameron Johnson, Melanie Weber

BOYS HOCKEY

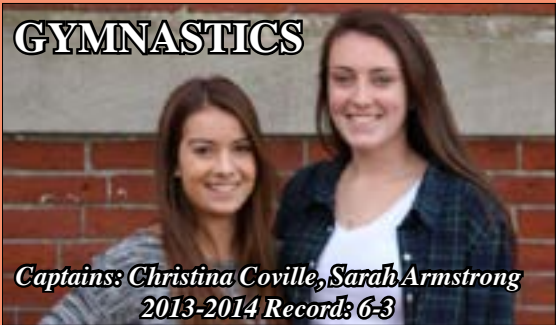


Captains: Kevin Quinn, Danny Hamilton, Kevin Ivatts
2013-2014 Record: 13-6-2

Strengths: "Our strengths include depth at forward for the offense," said Head Coach Ron Dowd. In addition, senior Captain Kevin Quinn said, "Strengths of this year will be our goaltending and defense." **Weakness:** Coach Dowd said, "We need to find someone that is going to consistently score goals." With ten varsity players graduating in 2014, the Rebels have a lack of experience on the offensive end. **Goals:** "Goals for the team are obviously to make the playoffs and make a deep tournament run," said Quinn. "We want to have a better record than last year." **Influential incoming players:** Senior Captain Kevin Ivatts said, "Sophomores Cam Martin and Owen Hunter could be great factors in generating offense this year. With quick hands and feet, hopefully they will be able to find the net."

Reported by Margaret Conley, Luke Donovan, Brenna Manning, Nicole McNamara

GYMNASTICS

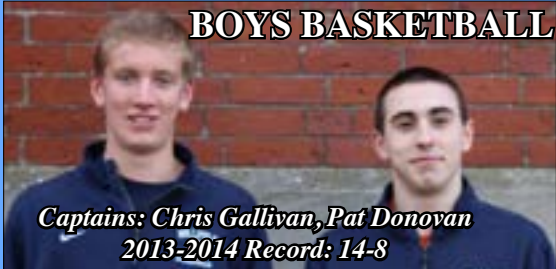


Captains: Christina Coville, Sarah Armstrong
2013-2014 Record: 6-3

Strengths: Head Coach Kady Sullivan said, "we have some very talented girls, and as everyone gains experience, I believe they gain confidence." The team this year has a lot of experience especially because no gymnasts graduated last year. **Weakness:** Numbers are a big weakness for gymnastics, as they do not have very many people on the team. Coach Sullivan said, "We don't have a very large team, which means your lineups can't go very deep in case of injury." **Goals:** One of the big goals of this year is for the Rebels to beat Wellesley and Newton North. **Influential incoming players:** Sophomore Megan Hibbard, a newcomer to Walpole Gymnastics, may have little experience with most events, but is expected to do well at tumbling because of her experience with Walpole Cheerleading. **Coach's Outlook:** Coach Sullivan said, "I want to teach [the team] how to work together and trust each other, and I think they do just that."

Reported by Rebecca Boyajian, Kayla Frost, Hannah Mouradian

BOYS BASKETBALL



Captains: Chris Gallivan, Pat Donovan
2013-2014 Record: 14-8

Strengths: Because of the excess of tall players, the team should have strong defenders and rebounding. Senior Captain Chris Gallivan said, "[The team] can run the floor well and [we are] unselfish" when it comes to moving the ball around. **Weakness:** "After losing so many seniors last year, it leaves a lot of room for younger kids to step up," Gallivan said. This season, the Rebels need someone to offset the losses of graduates Adam Quinlan, Ryan Fogarty, and Scott Arsenaault. **Goals:** The Rebels hope to win Herget Division, win the Bay State Conference, make a run in the tournament, but most importantly, Head Coach Dave St. Martin said, "We want to win a lot of games." **Influential incoming players:** Based on their success last year on the junior varsity team, juniors Noah Miree and Nate Porack and sophomore Luke Esty should make an impact. **Coach's Outlook:** "[The team] needs to focus on defense, execution, rebounding, and running," said Coach St. Martin.

Reported by Dane Michel, David Moser, James Randall

CHEERLEADING



Captains: Kendall Johnson
2013-2014: Went to States, but missed Nationals.

Strengths: The varsity cheerleading squad has a lot of new tumbling skills and high jumps to make their routines more complex and better executed. **Weakness:** "The girls lack the ability to be confident," said Head Coach Courtney Doherty. "They don't perform to the best of their abilities at their competitions." **Goals:** The team wants to place at the state competition and go on to Nationals in Florida in the winter. **Influential incoming players:** Sophomore Chloe O'Hara, a former gymnast, joined the cheerleading team this year with a good base in tumbling. Freshmen Kristine Udahl and Bella Campobasso, two tumblers, are expected to make an impact as a base and a flyer, respectively. **Coach's Outlook:** Coach Doherty said, "[The team plans] to do well at both Regionals and States in hopes of taking them to Florida to compete at Nationals"

Reported by Caitlin Cooper, Katie Mazzotta, Maeve O'Connor

WRESTLING



Captains: Kyle Kilroy, Ryan McWeeney
2013-2014 Record: 9-7

Strengths: Head Coach Sean Petrosino said, "Last year we had to rely on our seniors, while this year I think top to bottom we have a more solid lineup." **Weakness:** With only a few upperclassmen in addition to the captains, the team lacks upperclassmen leadership and experience. **Biggest Game:** Natick and Framingham are traditional powerhouse rivals. **Influential incoming players:** "We have a strong youth program that is sending in some tough freshman that may do more than crack the varsity lineup," said Coach Petrosino. Freshman Luke Wassel, brother of Trevor Wassel, is a perspective wrestler who will pose as a threat based on his performance in middle school. **Coach's Outlook:** "Every kid that steps on the mat will be tough. I have high hopes that this will be a successful season," said Coach Petrosino.

Reported by Alison Foley, Audrey Lynch, Grace Sewell

GIRLS TRACK
2013-2014 Record 3-3



Captains: C. O'Connor, B. Conley, C. Campbell, L. Lynch, K. Carter, C. Rinne, A. Morris

Strengths: "This season, we have a diverse team of talent," said Head Coach Conor Cashman. There is also a large sprint potential as there are about 20 incoming freshmen on the sprinting team for sprinting. For distance, since the Cross Country team tied Wellesley for the Herget, there is an impressive set of influential distance runners. **Weakness:** With the loss of graduate Anna Orfanidis, the throwers need individuals to step up and become point scorers. **Goals:** The Rebels hope to win the Herget League championship and to have as many of their athletes qualify for divisionals as possible. **Influential incoming players:** Sophomore Emily Martin and junior XC-standout Kyra Arsenaault are expected to be major point scorers for the indoor team this winter. Martin qualified for Nationals with her freshman mile time from Spring Track.

Reported by M. Foley, E. Martin, D. McKinney, E. O'Connell, D. Salmanullah

BOYS TRACK



Captains: Joe Keough, Tommy Helm, Ben Sacco, Ryan Nordstrom, Billy Heiberger
2013-2014 Record: 2-1-3

Strengths: The distance squad has a strong group of runners, particularly as the Cross Country team won the Division 3 Championship this year. The team depth is also better all around than it has been in past years. **Weakness:** The biggest hole for the Rebels comes in the field events. Head Coach Kevin Butera said, "We have bodies [at high jump and long jump] but getting kids acclimated to jump indoors is a lot different than outdoors." **Goals:** "Improve indoors right away. The last couple record hasn't been great at the end of the year, so I think it's really important that we get off on a good foot the first month of the season and that will hopefully lead us to a better overall season," said Butera. **Coach's Outlook:** Coach Butera really looks to get the team off to a stronger start this season by winning early-season meets. He also wants to continue to grow the mid-distance squad, as he had started to implement this new training group last season.

Reported by Jack Bushway, Christian Carr-Locke, and Delaney Murphy

GIRLS BASKETBALL



Captains: Summer King, Julie Moser, Olivia O'Brien, Abby Wohler (not pictured)
2013-2014 Record: 13-9

Strengths: The team's height, experience, and depth this year should put them at an advantage. Specifically, four year varsity athlete and Senior Captain Summer King, who recently signed her National Letter of Intent to play basketball at Colgate University (a Division 1 school), will play a major role in the team's success this season. **Goals:** Head Coach Jim Gallivan said, "We would like to win the Bay State Herget league and advance even farther in the state tournament than last year." **Influential incoming players:** Sophomore Kelly Fogarty transferred from Bishop Feehan at the start of this school year. Her shooting abilities could help offset the loss of outside shooters such as graduates Nell Sandvos and Elizabeth Ryan. **Coach's Outlook:** "I'm very excited about this season as the sky is the limit for this group. I hope the seniors have their best year yet," said Coach Gallivan.

Reported by Jess Giffen, Abby Hile, Mandy Scully, Andrea Traietti

Why is Chemical Health Night only mandatory for athletes?

By Helen Hinton
Class of 2015

Every athlete at Walpole High School is required to attend Chemical Health Night every October. Although parents and students groan as they pack the hot gym for this standing-room-only event, everyone in the audience — even the most reluctant students — usually has a positive, engaging experience. While the prominent speakers have all been athletes, their message and raw truths extend outside of the realm of athletics. Instead of the cliché “don’t do drugs” lecture, these speakers deliver powerful life-long lessons about complex life decisions and the consequences of weak choices.

These speeches were so powerful that many in the audience pondered one main thing: Why wasn’t the rest of the school community present? Why was this event only mandatory for athletes and one parent? Are athletes the only people who make poor decisions? Are the life lessons of these speakers unnecessary to Walpole’s artists, dancers, Roborebels, film students, or couch potatoes? Or, have they just been ignored by a community that is too focused on curbing the negative behavior of only athletes?

This year, ex-Patriots player Anthony Collins enthralled the Walpole High School athletic community with his warnings about the consequences of drug use on October 1, 2014. After he failed his third drug test because of marijuana, he was released by the Patriots and sent to the Miami Dolphins. His speech about how his use of drugs ruined his athletic career and almost ruined his life engaged the audience with realistic details.

Similarly, two years ago ex-Celtics player Chris Herren enthralled the audience with his stories about his near-fatal heroin overdoses. Herren engaged the audience with details about being arrested in the parking lot of a Dunkin Donuts in Rhode Island. His downward spiral — one which included oxycontin, crystal meth, and heroin — hit rock bottom when Herren overdosed on heroin and crashed into a utility pole. According to paramedics, he had been dead for thirty seconds.

While the speakers were both athletes whose success has exposed them to negative consequences, their speeches clearly extend outside the realm of sport to appeal to adolescents and parents. Doesn’t that message mean anything to non-athletic students?

Chemical Health Night originated twelve years ago after the Walpole School Committee worked with the Athletic Department to improve the education of student athletes about the consequences of substances abuse. Although there is no place in the school to hold every student and parent, people could report to homerooms where they could watch the presentation on televisions. This solution obviates the cramming of the entire athletic community into our undersized gymnasium, and more importantly, this solution extends the speaker’s message to the rest of the community. With this solution, every student can hear the message.

Americans should combat rape culture in society

By Anna Van der Linden
Class of 2016

When Katie Koestner visited the Senior Class on October 15, she introduced a difficult issue to Walpole High School students: rape. She framed her presentation around the night she was date raped, and explained how even though she had just experienced a traumatizing event, she received little to no support from her family and friends. In one of the most tragic moments of the assembly, she told the audience how her father blamed her for the rape. Due to the lack of support from her college and community, Koestner brought national attention to the injustice. She is the first woman to legally sign the release of her name on a rape case and the first to speak publicly and nationally on the issue of rape. Following the presentation, the boys and girls in the audience were separated and each group talked about the assembly. The discussion prompted difficult questions about the definition of rape.

In her presentation, Koestner suggested that the effects of rape influence more than just the victims; rather, the crime has changed the opinions and mindsets of our entire culture. You might think our culture as Americans, in a country of justice and equality, has nothing to do with rape. Everyone agrees that sexual assault is one of the worst societal evils. We agree that rape is wrong. So does rape culture exist in America?

The term rape culture was coined by feminists in the seventies who defined it as a culture where sexual violence is extensive, normalised, and even dismissed. In our society, we have clear evidence of rape culture: sexual objectification, victim blaming and the daily normalization of sexual inequality all contribute to the very real rape culture of our society.

The secret culprit: sexual objectification. We see it everyday and everywhere. Take a glance at the magazines in the checkout aisle of any grocery store and you’ll see women’s bodies being used to sell everything from burgers to cars. What message do these pictures send to society when a person becomes merely a prop to tempt customers? Additionally, many video games perpetuate objectification by emphasizing feminine physical features and reinforcing notions of male dominance. In *Grand Theft Auto*, a player earns money by completing a challenge that includes violence against an innocent woman, specifically, beating up the “boss’s girl” for no reason other than proving the player’s own authority. A sign company in Texas recently designed a truck decal that portrays a woman tied up and gagged. The sticker is meant to look like the driver of the car has a woman held hostage in the back of the truck. How has our society let such sick, violent actions become acceptable? This is not to say that those who flip through a magazines or dare to play video games must be per-

secuted for barbaric, cruel beliefs. Rather, the underlying tone in these ads, games, and decals is one that normalizes female inferiority and sexual violence.

The more serious side of rape culture happens when a victim is shamed or attacked after an incident occurs. This victim blaming is an example of rape culture that worsens already horrifying assaults. According to the National Crime Victimization Survey from 2008-2012, 60% of sexual assaults were not reported, most likely out of embarrassment or fear. In Silicon Valley, California, a girl committed suicide after she underwent intense bullying for speaking up against the people who assaulted her. In the famous Steubenville High School gang rape case, CNN sympathized with the offenders who lost their college careers rather than the traumatized teen victim whom they attacked. And of the rapes that are reported, only about 3% of rapists actually face jail time. In the recent Bill Cosby scandal, as more women have come forward with their personal stories of sexual assault, they are now facing claims that their accusations are false. On CNN, host Don Lemon questioned one victim as to why she didn’t bite Cosby in order to prevent the assault.

Perhaps one reason why this mindset exists is because law enforcers are shockingly callous about rape. In a study in Turkey, 33% of police officers agreed with the statement that “some women deserve rape.”

While I wish to avoid casting the issue into a male versus female debate, the fact is that girls are the more common victims in sexual assault. The U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics states that 91% of United States people whose rape accusations resulted in convictions against the accused were female and 9% were male. Why is there such an majority of female victims and male perpetrators? This incongruity may be caused by the longstanding societal views of gender roles within relationships. Sexual inequality in our society puts males in a position of power within relationships: they ask the female out on a date, or for her hand in marriage. Our society has come a long way, and women no longer have to rely on or wait for a man; thus, the thought of women having to seek the attention of a man must be eliminated. How is it possible that saying, “She was asking for it,” in defense of assault is a reasonable justification?

Now, think about what this mindset means for us, living in Walpole. Think about that well known, specifically female set of social guidelines that all girls must follow. We are expected not to dress in revealing clothes, not to wear too much makeup, not to walk outside after dark, not to travel in unfamiliar places alone, not to drink, not to have sex, not to flirt, lest we risk getting assaulted or shamed. Think about Toronto police constable Michael Sanguinetti, who stated that “women should avoid dressing like sluts in order not to be victimized.” Think about how girls text each other after parties to make sure they made it home, or use the buddy system to a void leaving a friend behind. Think about health classes that teach girls about how to stay safe, with tips like “never leave your drink unattended” or “never go off with a strange guy alone.” Think about school dress codes that remind girls that their bodies are distracting and must be kept covered. Think about how one in six women will be assaulted, and girls ages 16-19 are four times more likely to be victims of rape, attempted rape, or sexual assault. Who can say that this is not a culture where sexual assault is prevalent?

Society must be reminded that what we are wearing, or how much we drink, or even how many people we have slept with does not justify nor have anything to do with an assault. Instead of trying to stop people from hurting us, we must teach people not to hurt.

To make a change, we need to fix the flawed way that society thinks about rape. We must teach people not to violate or assault or abuse other people. Why put a person in a bulletproof vest when you could remove the bullets from the gun?

We are done sustaining and even encouraging this underlying societal mindset that trivializes sexual assault. We are done laughing at ignorant sexual abuse jokes. We will not be shamed into hiding wrongs done to us. And no, we are not asking for it.

THE REBELLION

Walpole High School’s newspaper is committed to informing the public, reflecting the students’ views, creating a public forum and serving as an educational medium.

Check out our website whstherebellion.com

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The Walpole High School Students and Class of the Month

SEPTEMBER

SENIOR	ANDREW DROGAN
At this early point in the school year, Andrew has quickly shown himself to be a strong calculus student. Andrew has one of the top grades out of 51 students. His lowest quiz grade to date is a 90% and his homework shows terrific attention to detail and conscientiousness. He actively participates in class on a daily basis by both asking and answering questions and works well with his classmates. Andrew is an extremely polite and hardworking student who is deserving of the student of the month recognition.	
	Ms. Lerner
JUNIOR	NOAH MIREE
This is my second time as Noah's Spanish teacher and though he has matured, he has not lost the genuine curiosity for the Hispanic culture that he brought in his freshman year. Noah is always asking insightful questions, which helps move the class forward. He is a very mindful student who is deserving of this award.	
	Mrs. Bacon
SOPHOMORE	AILEEN COEN
Even though it has only been 1 month, I am already impressed by Aileen's motivation, maturity, and kindness. Academically, she has illustrated keen insight and attention to details. In class discussions, she works to move the discussion forward and bring up new ideas. No matter whom I have grouped her with; she has worked with them and made sure that they have felt included both in the process and in the final product. I would like to acknowledge Aileen for her dedication to the academic and social environment of the class.	
	Ms. Gould
FRESHMAN	BRYN KILROY
Bryn's homework is always complete and organized. She is always helpful to others during group work, constantly participates during class lessons, volunteers to work out answers on the board from the homework and has one of the highest grades in her class.	
	Ms. Cannon

ACTIVITY AWARD

ARCHANA APTE	GREEN TEAM	MRS. BAUMGARTNER
Archana has been the most active member of the Green Team for the past two years. She always has had a positive attitude, great ideas, and has done more than her share of recycling. This year she has played a major roll as Green Team President. She is planning for and running meetings, has written individual members regarding projects, for which they have signed up, and wrote an impressive document for members outlining project goals, problems, and how to proceed. She keeps on task, gives positive feedback and provides motivation. Archana is growing into a fantastic leader, and she is incredibly valuable to this team.		

CLASS OF THE MONTH

PRE-CALCULUS	PERIOD 3	MS. LERNER
This is a mixed grade class with 8 seniors and 13 juniors, and they blend well together. Each and every student worked collegially with his/her tablemates, whether they knew them or not. For the first month, every student in the class demonstrates diligence and comes to class prepared and ready to work. They have mastered right triangle trigonometry, which includes many concepts that are brand new to them. The overall class average is close to 90% (after 3 quizzes, 2 graded assignments and several other homework assignments). This group of students is a pleasure to teach and I look forward to working with them every day.		
GEOMETRY	PERIOD 4	MRS. K. MILNE & MR. MORTALI
This class is off to a great start. Students are engaged and enthusiastic and come to class prepared and ready to participate. After some initial struggles with all of the vocabulary and notation of beginning Geometry, the class really aced a quiz on angles and angle pairs with many students earning an A and nearly every student getting at least a B. What was particularly impressive was the performance on the problems, which required setting up algebraic equations to solve Geometric problems. In the past, this type of problem has been a stumbling block for many students, but these students showed a solid understanding. They are meeting the challenge of our first year of common core Geometry with a new textbook and an increased level of rigor. The students work well together being respectful of each other and the teachers.		

OCTOBER

SENIOR	JENNIFER SAINT JEAN
Jennifer had a terrific first term in Algebra 2. As a non-native English speaker, she has the added burden of understanding the language of math taught in a "foreign" language. However, the language barrier does not slow her down. She is one of the most active participants in everything we do in class. Something as routine for most students as using a scientific calculator is new to her and she works hard to learn both the math and the technology. Most impressively is her ability to phrase questions so that I can immediately pinpoint where she is having difficulty and try to clear up any confusion or misunderstanding. Jennifer is a pleasure to have in class and is worthy of student of the month recognition.	
	Ms. Lerner
JUNIOR	PETER BILODEAU
Peter works extremely hard in every PE class, no matter what the activity and no matter what his skill level is. He is always eager to participate. However, this past month in Soccer, Peter has been an absolute standout. His determination to help his team means that he will pursue an opponent when others have given up. He is willing to challenge even the most talented student on the opposite team; often surprising them with his defensive ability and foot-skills. Peter is both skillful in Soccer and determined to achieve. He is a great teammate and enthusiastic class member. I am so happy for Peter to have the success that he is having in this unit, and for him to have pride in himself for his accomplishments amongst his peers. He has worked extremely hard for this to happen, and he is definitely worthy of the title "Student of the Month."	
	Mrs. Terri Thornton
JUNIOR	NOELLE BORCHARDT
Noelle has been amazing so far in Latin I CP 2. She has the highest grade in the class, with little adaptation of the course material and assessments. Despite the many challenges she faces being in a regular education classroom, Noelle has responded very well and is always happy and engaged in class activities. Noelle has traveled widely with her family and loves to share pictures and stories of those places she has been that relate to our Latin curriculum. She is an inspiration to me on a daily basis and truly worthy of being "Student of the Month".	
	Ms. Kay
SOPHOMORE	HENRY ROSE
Henry shows an excellent grasp of the concepts of trigonometry which were covered in Pre-calculus this term. His work on every quiz was flawless, which has earned him a phenomenal grade of 100% for term 1. Henry always has his homework completed. Henry handles his responsibilities, completes his work methodically, and exhibits mastery of concepts. In addition to his outstanding work in class, Henry has also made valuable contributions to the math team. I proudly nominate him for student of the month.	
	Mrs. Kathleen Milne
FRESHMAN	KAYLA CONNOLLY
It is my pleasure to nominate Kayla for this month's freshman Student of the Month. Kayla is a student in a very competitive Spanish II Honors class. She has the highest average in this hard working class. More important than the grades, is her help everyone attitude and her enthusiasm. I count on her to lead the class with her intelligence, her desire to learn more in addition, her willingness to help anyone in need of assistance. Please consider her for the month's freshman Student of the Month.	
	Mrs. Joanne Sprague

ACTIVITY AWARD

PROJECT CLOSE-UP	MS. KAREN SULLIVAN
It is a pleasure to nominate the students who participated in Project Close-Up for the Extracurricular Activity Award. Project Close-Up is a rigorous academic program that immerses students in discussions, seminars and workshops related to government and citizenship. Whether participating in debates or asking questions of representatives from Senators Markey and Warren's offices, Walpole participants distinguished themselves from others with their thought provoking questions and insightful observations. I was most proud of the way that they interacted with students from other schools and looked out for one another. This group is truly deserving of recognition for their commitment to learning, interest in citizenship and concern for others.	

CLASS OF THE MONTH

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY	PERIOD 7	MS. WALLESTON
My period 7 Anatomy & Physiology class is so fun to teach. They are inquisitive and love to interact with each other and me. Before each test this term, they have been diligently studying and know how to have fun during review games. Thanks for all your hardwork, Period 7!		



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Town of Walpole to purchase Sharon Country Day Camp

Photos/Max Simons



Sharon Country Day Camp's manmade beach is a potential location for a Walpole Recreation Camp.



The beach remains deserted after the closing of the camp this past summer.



The cabins at the vacant Sharon Country Day Camp remained unused.

By Anna Van der Linden
Class of 2016

With the sadness that comes with the close of the Sharon Country Day Camp, a camp enjoyed by many students in the community, there also comes excitement with the possibility of a Walpole Recreational Camp facility.

The Walpole community voted to approve the purchase of the Sharon Country Day Camp in order to protect the nearby town aquifer on November 4. Town Meeting members subsequently finalized the \$4.5 million purchase of the 24.7 acre property.

After their beloved Camp Director Charles Herschman died this past January, the Common Street summer camp made the decision to close its

doors. Later, the Herschman family put the valuable property up for sale — a property that appeals to numerous housing developers as well as the town.

The Herschman family, led by founders Charlie and Corrinne, created a loving “summer home” for many children throughout their five decades of service.

The former archery teacher at the camp and a current physical education teacher at Walpole High, Quinn Geary said, “Although I only worked there for one summer, it was very clear that the camp meant a lot to many people.”

The Sharon Country Day Camp has an abundance of facilities already, such as many cabins, a man-made waterfront lake with swimming docks, and a zipline. The property also has a baseball field, bas-

ketball court, and other large field areas.

Because the camp is located close to a main aquifer for town water, the acquisition of this land is meant to preserve the integrity of the water source.

The payment for this purchase will come from Walpole Water Department funds and a gradual increase in water rates over the course of 20 years. Before they finalize the transaction, the Department of Environmental Protection still has to approve the purchase made with water department funds.

Although the Department of Environmental Protection has not written a permit yet, many citizens speculate the land will most likely be used for recreational purposes.

This equipment could be utilized by the Walpole Recreation Department.

The land could be used for a Walpole Recreational Camp with plenty of activities to choose from, or as a space similar to Adam’s Farm, with large areas for passive recreation.

“I would love to see another camp there rather than it be turned into a neighborhood,” said Mr. Geary.

Although selling the property to housing developers might have yielded more money for the Herschman family, the Herschmanns wanted to work with the Town of Walpole. A long-established part of the community that provided safe and happy summer experiences for children for 51 years, the camp will be missed, but the purchase by the Town of Walpole can perpetuate the original purpose of the land—a place for children to have fun.

New tardy policy spurs mixed emotions among student body

By Erin Pitman
Class of 2016

At the start of the 2014-2015 school year, Walpole High School introduced a new tardy policy to address the late arrival times of students both in the morning and during the school day. No longer forced to go to the Attendance Office when tardy to homeroom, students now proceed to homeroom as usual, and the teacher marks them tardy.

This new organization solves the Attendance Office issues of last year: lines were normally out the door of the Attendance Office everyday, causing tardy students to have to wait for long periods of time and sometimes miss part of their first block class as well.

“Last year, there was a lot of confusion on days when the line of kids was backed up all of the way down to the gym,” said Attendance Office Secretary Ms. Janet Clinton. “This year, the policy change has made everything smoother and more efficient when dealing with tardy students, which makes my job easier.”

When inclement weather conditions like rain or snow hinders their trek to school, more students are driven, which in turn, leads to more traffic in the

drop-off; therefore, more students are tardy. Last year, despite the extenuating circumstances of inclement weather, students were automatically forced to wait in the long lines at the Attendance Office.

“We could have as many as 16 people standing outside the attendance office, and [that process] was counterproductive,” said Walpole High School Principal Stephen Imbusch.

The new policy also brings changes to the amount of times a student can be late before receiving a detention. Unlike last year, students now no longer have four chances per semester to get to school on time.

Instead, students only have two times per semester to be tardy-to-homeroom before receiving an hour of detention after school on the day of their third tardy. After attending the detention, students will have another two free chances to arrive to school on time before receiving another hour.

Another major part of the policy remains in how many chances students receive for unexcused tardiness-to-school (tardiness that extends beyond homeroom). As of this year, students only get one chance to come to school tardy after homeroom; on their second unexcused offense, students also receive an hour.

“While the policy prevents lazy tardiness, it is also somewhat unfair because if you’re late to class you only get one chance before you receive a detention, and some kids can’t control if they’re late or not,” said junior Molly Rockwood.

Throughout the school, there are still mixed emotions regarding the new policy. Several students and teachers believe that the policy is beneficial, while others are still undecided on whether or not the new policy will be helpful in the long-run.

On the subject, science teacher Edward Leitz said, “I think so far it’s hard to tell if the policy is working, but it seems to be going pretty well in homeroom, as there are less people with tardiness and definitely less interruptions of late students in homeroom.”

Despite some criticism, Principal Imbusch hopes that the policy will positively affect the school and its students in the years to come. While the policy may be tweaked, students must adapt to new protocols and arrive to school by the 7:15 bell in the morning.

“We’re just trying to train kids to be on time,” Principal Imbusch said. “Even adults are late now and again, but if you’re late a lot there’ll be consequences even as an adult.”

School Community embraces “Extended Passing Time” despite allergy-risk

Photo/ Bryan Kelleher

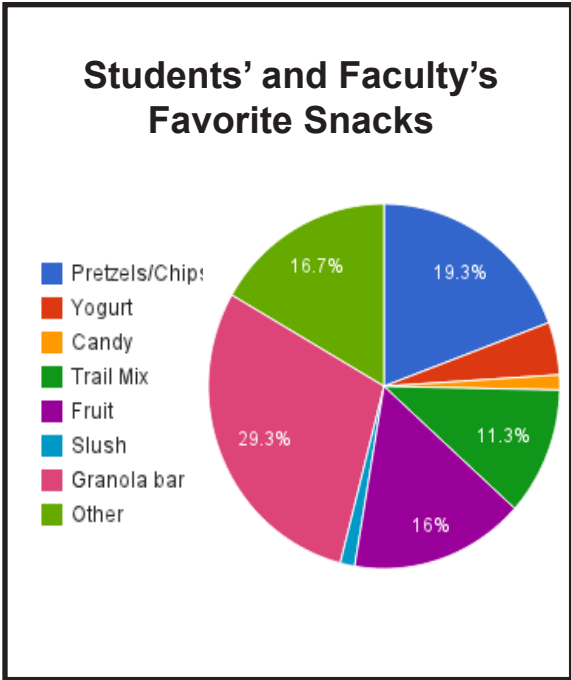


Although snack time caused a positive reaction in WHS, it poses a potential threat to allergy-prone students.

By Brianna Conley
Class of 2015

Of the appoximatley 1,159 students in Walpole High School, 59 students have food-related allergies — which is less than 5% of the student population. While the community largely approves of the addition of the “Extended Passing Time,” for those students with allergies, this change has been somewhat unsettling. “I think I am a little more at risk because I am exposed to potential allergens in the classroom now more than before, forcing me to be more cautious,” said sophomore Delaney Murphy, a student allergic to all nuts. In a recent survey administered to 150 students and faculty members of the school, an overwhelming 97% of participants agreed that they like the “Extended Passing Time” in this year’s schedule. More than half of the participants, 59%, agree that it is fair for students to eat in a classroom where another student may have a food allergy, largely due to the small number of students who have food allergies. After almost three months of school, most students favor the new “Extended Passing Time,” as they no longer have to wait hours to eat during the designated lunch block. While students are now bringing allergens into classrooms throughout Walpole High School, many teens with food allergies are aware of what they can and cannot eat, and how to react in the event that an allergic reaction occurs. As of November 3, there have been zero cases of food-related allergic reactions in the school. “Allergies have not been an issue so far, and kids

with allergies are old enough to know their surroundings,” said Principal Stephen Imbusch. However, students with allergies now have to be much more aware of the risks around them. Even if the student is aware of his or her surroundings, traces of old food can still trigger an allergic reaction. “I had a reaction in the school last year when I wasn’t exposed to any food at all, and snack time can increase the risk of another, said sophomore Delany Murphy.” Some food allergies are more serious than others, only increasing the saftey concerns for some students. “Even though my allergy is only dangerous when I ingest certain foods, I still think it is important that students and staff are being conscious of those with food allergies during snack time,” said senior Kristen Mich, a student with a tree nut allergy. Although snacks are now allowed anywhere in the school, Walpole High School has taken initiatives to cut down the risk of food-related allergic reactions. Administrators have provided some classrooms with a pail containing cleaning supplies and a washcloth. A district wide initiative, the cleaning pails are available in classrooms for the use of students and staff to clean desks following the “Extending Passing Time,” when students are able to enjoy a snack. Since the implementation of snack time, the cleaning pails have been the main precaution to prevent allergic reactions from occurring. Additionally, the cafeteria is open during snack time for students to eat, offering a new option to help decrease the exposure of food throughout the school. While Adminstrators have taken steps to minimize



“To help people with food allergies, we could just encourage students not to bring things that have airborne allergens.”
- Junior Jeanine Bell

“I find my students very good about cleaning up after themselves in the classroom and I see much less sneaking of snacks.”
- Ms. Laura Kay

“I feel that [snack time] is one of administration’s best policies.”
- Junior Dillon Knight

the risks of accidental allergic reactions, some students remain concerned with the addition of the “Extending Passing Time.” Yet, with no reports of any incidents this year, the schedule change remains favorable to the majority of the Walpole High Community.

Walpole attends Third Annual Bocce Tournament

Photo/Sarah Rockwood



Michael McCarthy pepares for the next round of Bocce.

By Lucy Lynch
Class of 2015

On Saturday, November 15th, Walpole High School attended the third annual Massachusetts Association of Student Councils (MASC) Bocce Tournament. Held at Whitman-Hanson Regional High School, MASC continued their partnership with Special Olympics

ment and had an array of fans in the cheering section. The Rebels first team, led by Career in Education student Michael McCarthy came away with two wins versus Middleboro and Rockland, and was supported by senior Annie Gallivan, sophomore Audrey Lynch, and junior Cathrine Paul. Career in Education student Katie DeBlasio was the Rebels other cap-

tain and her team of Liam McDonough, Stina Cofsky, and Shannon Baker also obtained several wins. The day began with the Bocce Special Olympics opening ceremony. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem, a Special Education student, led by a Hanson police officer, descended from the top of the auditorium to complete the lighting of the Olympic torch. Next to speak was Courtney Adelman, a senior from Middleboro High School, recently crowned the 2014 Miss Massachusetts Outstanding Teen. Adelman, as part of her service as Miss Massachusetts Teen, selects an organization to aid in community service – she chose Special Olympics. Adelman was inspired to participate with Special Olympics as she has seen how they have positively impacted many people’s lives – including that of her younger brother who has Down Syndrome. Lastly, final remarks from Middleboro and Massachusetts State Adviser Paul Branagan thanked students for attending and reminded them of the tournament’s goals. Despite lacking playoff rounds, each bocce team participated in four

20 minute rounds in which they competed against another town’s quartet. Unlike traditional beach bocce, this tournament is played entirely indoors on Whitman-Hanson high school’s gymnasium floor. The indoor bocce set still consists of four bocce balls and the small, white pallina, however, they are significantly lighter than the traditional bocce set. While teams played their matches, other teams and fans flocked to the school’s cafeteria that was magically transformed into the “Olympic Village.” Here, they were treated to lunch and were able to replenish and return to their next match. Overall, the tournament was a success and an event Walpole High School Student Council returns to every year. “This is one of my favorite statewide events,” said Assistant Secretary junior Stina Cofsky, “because not only do I get to see my student council friends from all around Massachusetts, but the Career in Education students get to compete.” In the future, Walpole hopes to host the MASC Bocce Tournament and have the opportunity to create a lasting impact with Special Olympics.



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Community Rallies to Help Support Local Family



Students and faculty wear their Walpole Strong t-shirts to support the Donovan family. From left to right: Kody McCain, Terry Thorton, Mark Demarais, David St. Martin, Jack Young, Karen Gibbs, and Chris Gallivan.

By Julie Moser
Class of 2015

The Walpole Community has rallied around a common purpose before, and this year is no different. Joining forces, the friends of the Donovan Family have recently organized various fundraisers and upcoming events to support a family in need. One event took place at Texas Roadhouse on November 17, while December 6 marks another night to support the family. Along with the events, countless members of the community – including faculty, families and students – have purchased “Walpole Strong” t-shirts to raise money for the Donovan Family Fund. As a collective effort, members of Walpole High School and the town as a whole hope to come together to the lighten the burden of one family.

People did not hesitate to take part in “A Night for the Donovans,” an event sponsored by Texas Roadhouse two weeks ago, which generated significant participation. For every group who ate dinner after 4

p.m. on November 17, 15% of the total food purchases were donated to the fund. Countless families, as well as faculty decided to dine at the restaurant in support.

“It was great to see that many people there to take part in the fundraising,” said Ms. Jamie Farrell, a history teacher at Walpole High.

The involvement in athletics at WHS also inspired various sports’ captains to spread the word to their teammates to eat dinner at the Roadhouse. The night of the event, athletes and their families filled the tables and contributed to the fundraising.

“It was really a no brainer to encourage everyone to help out. The whole team was on board and wanted to donate to support the Donovans,” said senior Kevin Quinn, a captain of the Walpole Boy’s Hockey Team.

Members of the town will again come together in a few weeks to raise more money in an even larger event held at Finnegan’s Wake Pub in Walpole. Beginning at 6 p.m., admission is 20 dollars per person, with all profits directly benefitting the Donovan Family. With raffle and silent auction items up for grabs to attendees, organizers hope for another large crowd.

Taking place throughout the evening, 10 live auction items will be available. Some of them include the following: A Las Vegas Super Bowl Weekend Package, a Summer vacation in New Hampshire, 4 Bruins tickets vs Nashville Predators, a Bruins Luxury Suite vs The Sabres on December 21,

and a Tom Brady autographed football. Additionally, countless golf outings are present in the silent auction, as well as sporting event tickets, sporting good items, travel opportunities and entertainment items. To win the Patrice Bergeron autographed jersey, the helicopter sightseeing ride, the \$500 certificate to Reebok, or any of the other numerous silent auction prizes, attendees must bid before 11 p.m.

Raffles include diamond earrings and scratch tickets. Also, several friends of the Donovans have donated regular raffle tickets with over \$5,000 in prizes for the event.

Not only have people provided great raffle and auction items, but generous donations have also come pouring in. The first to donate, St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center in Brighton, MA (a member of Steward Health Care) has contributed significantly to the fundraising, as Mrs. Donovan worked there for over 20 years.

Mr. Dave Thornton, one of the committee members of the Donovan Family Fund said, “The participation has been absolutely awesome. There are some great items, and I am so happy with the generosity of everyone involved in the fundraising.”

While Walpolians look forward to “A Night for the Donovans” at Finnegan’s Wake, they continue to purchase “Walpole Strong” t-shirts. The t-shirts, saying “We have your back” on the back and “Walpole Strong” on the front come in both orange and blue colors. Over 300 shirts were originally ordered, and already about 250 were purchased by students and teachers during school, as well as parents at events such as Parent-teacher Conferences. The remainder of the shirts will be sold at the upcoming event, where organizers anticipate the shirts will sell very quickly. The shirts, a symbol of Walpole’s commitment to helping one family, is just one step in a much larger goal to raise money.

With the next event to contribute to the Donovan Family Fund on December 6 at Finnegan’s Wake, the fundraising committee is still happily accepting any and all donations, as well as auction and raffle items.

While the community continues to take care of their own, the town remains united; it’s members, resilient. (If you would like to donate, checks are accepted, payable to “The Donovan Family Fund” and should be forwarded to P.O. Box 739 Walpole, MA 02081.)

Twin Peaks Club comes back in style

By Natalie Luongo
Class of 2016

The recent announcement of the Twin Peaks Club brought the 23 year old mystery-drama show into the spotlight. Around Walpole High School, the general mood regarding the club has been confusion. What, exactly, is Twin Peaks, and why is there a club for it? There is no easy way to explain Twin Peaks and its unique allure, but English and film teacher Mr. Michael Alan hopes students will experience it firsthand in the club—coffee and pie in hand.

The Twin Peaks Club is not a new creation. Initiated in 2000 by a group of sophomores in Mr. Alan’s English class, the club gained popularity due to the show’s engrossing nature. Mr. Alan was already a fan of the show (which originally aired from 1990 to 1991), while club members became familiar with Twin Peaksthrough reruns. “It was just different from anything else,” Mr. Alan said, explaining why he enjoyed the show so much. However, the club did not last and was dormant until earlier this year, when Twin Peaks creators David Lynch and Mark Frost announced a third season coming in 2016. The show’s revival was the impetus to restart the club; its first meeting was on October 23, with many students and teachers in attendance.

So what is Twin Peaks? The pilot of the show begins as Laura Palmer—the homecoming queen of a small, isolated Washington town—is found dead, wrapped in plastic. The show focuses on the search for the killer by local sheriff, Harry Truman, (Michael Ontkean) and eccentric FBI agent, Dale Cooper (Kyle MacLachlan). Part of the reason why the show keeps viewers’ interest is because each of the multitude of characters has a potential motive for killing Laura; therefore, the identity of the killer is an



Students in the Twin Peaks Club pose for a photo with faculty supervisor Mr. Alan.

unexpected surprise when it is revealed in season two.

The most polarizing aspect of the show—one that drives viewers to either keep watching or quit the show—is its peculiarity. Lynch is a surrealist filmmaker, so much of the show feels like a dream. He incorporates giants, supernatural forces, and ghostly visions into Peaks without hesitation. The show’s eerie music and the uneasy atmosphere of the town add to the show’s mysterious nature, making Twin Peaks a show unlike any other on the air today — or ever.

Up until its cancellation after the second season, Mr. Alan said, “Everyone had their own theory of who killed Laura Palmer and why.” In an age when Netflix and DVRs did not exist, everyone watched Twin Peaks during its Thursday night timeslot, so fans would discuss the show at work or school on Friday. Mr. Alan hopes that watching Twin Peaks as a group will stir up conversations about the episodes just as the show did when it was on the air.

The club’s first meetings have been a success, as many new viewers were intrigued by the strange show. Some students who did not join the club began watching the show on their own, interested by mentions of Peaks. The general mood is one of confusion at the bizarreness of the show, but many are drawn in and plan to see the next episode. Also, the mysteries of the black coffee and cherry pie were finally explained to the bewildered students who heard the morning announcement about the club. The “bring-your-own-mug” requirement is a reference to Dale Cooper’s obsession with “a damn good cup of coffee;” additionally, Cooper loves pie, which Mr. Alan also serves.

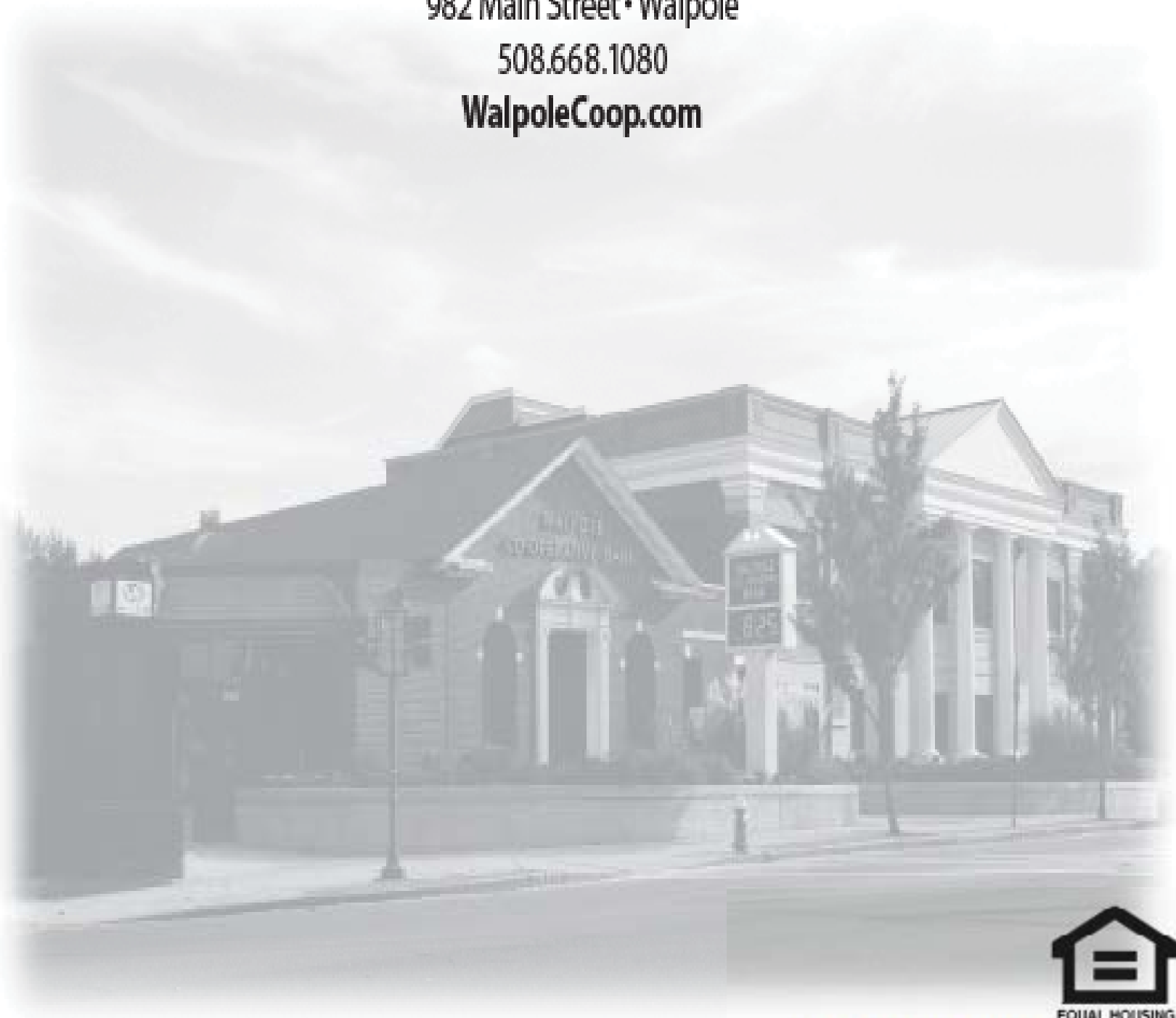
Although there is some controversy among the fan base concerning the making of a third season, Mr. Alan is hopeful that the season will be as good as the first two were. Airing in 2016, the new season will fulfill Laura Palmer’s prediction in the final episode: “I’ll see you again in twenty-five years.”

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