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Class of 2016 graduates WHS



By Julia Sandquist
News Editor

On a rainy Sunday afternoon on June 5, the 142nd graduating class of Walpole High stepped out onto the John B. Turco Memorial Field together for the last time.

This year, the procession of students looked drastically different from years past, as both male and females wore blue gowns in an attempt to be more inclusive to students who may have felt uncomfortable wearing the gender specific gowns—white for females and blue for males—that Walpole High graduates have worn in the past.

The ceremony began with the presentation of the senior class gift, and Principal Stephen Imbusch then introduced Salutatorian Mike Sullivan and Valedictorian Kaitlin Porter. In his speech, Sullivan focused on the future of Walpole High School graduates, and he expressed that graduation was a commencement rather than an ending. He also acknowledged that following one's heart is what will ultimately lead a person to success. Porter, on the other hand, reminisced on her memories of growing up in Walpole, and she explained how these experiences in her hometown have shaped her into the person she is today. She encouraged her classmates to work hard in the future, but she also reminded them to never forget the teachers and friends in Walpole who have helped them along the way.

After Porter concluded her speech, Mr. Imbusch presented academic and athletic awards, in addition to several scholarships, to many deserving students. He then welcomed Superintendent Lincoln Lynch and Chairperson Nancy Gallivan to the stage to distribute the diplomas.

Once the final diploma had been handed out, Senior Class President Ian Fair led the class in the turning of the tassels, which symbolizes one's transformation from a student to a graduate. Immediately following the formal announcement of their graduation, the Walpole High School Class of 2016 threw their caps in the air at the excitement of starting a new chapter in their lives, all while parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, and friends cheered ecstatically in the stands.

Seniors visit old elementary schools

Graduates of the class of 2016 stroll the halls of their former schools

By Emily Martin
Editor-in-Chief Elect

When kindergarteners embark on their first day of school, they seldom think about what their graduation will look like, who they will be as a person when they graduate, and what work they will have done to wear the cap and gown. And when students finally get to the end of their senior year, they rarely take a second to look back.

On May 23, seniors got that chance. At 1 p.m., seniors left their classes to go to their respective elementary schools and walked down the student-lined halls filled with clapping and cheers. During the walk, many seniors recounted that they had the chance to spend time with friends from their elementary school days.

"The senior walk was super fun not only because we could literally take a walk down memory lane, but also reminisce with kids that we haven't talked to in awhile" said senior Molly Rockwood.

After the walk, many students had



Senior Stina Cofsky high-fives younger students at the elementary school she attended, Old Post Road.

the opportunity to visit their former teachers. "It was good to see all the old memories we had and where we all started from together as little kids," said senior John Jingoian, who visited many of his old teachers.

The idea for the walk came from English teacher and Student Council Advisor Kerry McMenimen when she saw

one of her friends on Facebook doing a senior walk at her school. In light of the positive feedback from both students and faculty, McMenimen hopes to make the senior walk an annual event. McMenimen said, "I want to do it again, I want to make it better, and I want to try to do it so that more people at the school can participate too."

Imbusch institutes drug search on prom day

Police officers and K-9s search Walpole High for drugs and alcohol



Graphic/Angela Pyne

By Andrea Traietti
Editor-in-Chief Elect

Police officers entered Walpole High school with canine units and conducted a drug sweep on May 20, the day of prom. Since then, Walpole High students and Walpole community members have discussed the implications of the sweep and many have struggled to understand what actually happened during the search.

"The intended goal [of the search] was twofold," said Principal Stephen Imbusch. "One was to send a message that we can't have drugs and alcohol at school, and the other goal was to try and get drugs and alcohol out of the hands of kids on prom day." In the morning, Imbusch came over the school intercom and announced that students and faculty were to go into a

"lock and hold" procedure, meaning that doors to classrooms should remain locked and students should not be permitted to leave their rooms. During this time, police officers from Walpole and other towns used canine units to search within the school and around the school parking lot for drugs and alcohol.

"Students were taken out of the class, sent down the hall, and then the dog went in and just sniffed bags," said Imbusch. According to Imbusch, no individuals were searched during the sweep, only "inanimate objects." Imbusch noted that the search was not conducted throughout the entire school, and that rooms that were picked to be searched were chosen randomly.

"[The idea for a drug sweep] started with a conversation I had with the police when drugs and alcohol just seemed to be consistently found either in school

or at school-sponsored events," said Imbusch. "I have an obligation to keep drugs and alcohol outside this school." During the drug sweep, alcohol was found in cars in the parking lot, but nothing was found within the school building. In terms of the community's response to the search, Imbusch said that he has received mixed reviews.

"I understand the negative piece, and I understand the positive piece," said Imbusch. "I do understand the thought that perhaps this was an infringement on people's rights; I understand that [students] don't leave [their] constitutional rights at the door of the school house." Imbusch clarified that the WHS handbook specifically states that cars can be searched if deemed necessary.

"[The police] don't need a search warrant here as long as I've invited them in, which I did," he added. Imbusch confirmed that as of right now, he is not sure about what is to come in the future in terms of drug sweeps. "At this point I have no plan for another drug sweep," said Imbusch. "If the next school year starts and everything's clean, we find nothing and no one is drinking and no one is doing drugs, we don't need to do a drug sweep." Imbusch plans to explore the community's reaction to this drug sweep and discuss the search with the school superintendent and school committee before making any decisions concerning the future of drug and alcohol safety at Walpole High.

THE 14TH ANNUAL WALPOLE FILM FESTIVAL

Photos/ Brenna Manning & Maeve O'Connor

The Film Festival shows new depth and artistic ability in high school film making

By Devin McKinney
Staff Writer

The fourteenth annual Walpole High School Film Festival did not fail to impress with its ten diverse and entertaining movies this year; however, there were many new behind-the-scenes influences that brought new dimension to the festival as a whole. For one, this year, the crews transitioned to a new dual audio system that bettered the audio quality of the films, which required a greater time commitment than in past years. Additionally, there were three documentaries featured in the festival, “Loss and Love,” “Pride” and “We are Strong,” which all covered powerful topics and portrayed their messages meaningfully.

“[These three movies] opened up a new avenue for documentaries in the future; traditionally we have made documentaries on sports, yet these three explored very different and relevant topics as well as emotions that everyday students deal with,” said Michael Alan, Film Festival advisor.

Junior Liv DiPasca co-directed one of this year’s documentaries, “We are Strong.” “We made this movie with the intention to hopefully eliminate some of the negative stigma that surrounds mental illness and open up the discussion about mental health,” said DiPasca.

Two of this year’s documentaries, “Pride” and “We are Strong,” were featured alongside the movies “Static” and “RuFiske Cube” at the ever-anticipated red carpet awards ceremony, which took place on Thursday, May 19. The ceremony was orchestrated differently this year because awards were

presented in between films as opposed to in past years where they were distributed after the conclusion of the movies.

Another new aspect of the festival was the distribution of awards. This year, the awards were given out by Walpole High School alumni who attend or attended film school and work in the film industry.

The awards ceremony included the announcement of ten awards which included the following: Best Art Direction: Felicia Romeo, Katie McGovern for “Static”; Best Music: Rishab Mathur for “RuFiske Cube”; Best Cinematography: Felicia Romeo for “Static”; Best Screenplay: Kristin Mich, Emma Lochhead, Drew Morrier, Katie Fenton for “Poetic License”; Best Editing: Dan Mullen, Lisa Regan, Tyler Barry for “RuFiske Cube”; Best Supporting Performance: Tess Lancaster for “RuFiske Cube”; Best Lead Performance: Katie McGovern for “Static”; Best Director: Felicia Romeo, Katie McGovern, Matt Moriarty for “Static”; Best Faculty Performance: Michael Alan (who respectfully refused his award) for “Poetic License”; Best Film: Static.

“Seeing all the hard work everyone put in throughout the year shine on screen was truly mind blowing,” said senior Katie McGovern during the acceptance speech for the Best Picture award. Played between movies, there was a multitude of Top Secret Trailers

(TSTs). Among them was “Mad Max,” which cleverly cut together scenes of senior Max Simons yelling and arguing. In addition, “The Redenant”—a play on “The Rev- enant”—featured junior Nathaniel “Red” Kelley’s journey into the woods and encounter with a “man-bear” played by junior Ryan Betro.

Nathaniel Kelley, the lead actor in “Adventure Club” and the star in the TST “The Redenant,” said, “I think that the film festival is a really great thing because [having] something that students, faculty and the community as a whole can get behind and be a part of really shines a light on how great Walpole High really is.” Whether with these cleverly named trailers or with senior Rich Me- neide’s signature and strategic consumption of Utz chips in most of the movies, the film festival proved to be an event that kept audiences engaged throughout the course of the night.

“Seeing all the hard work that everyone put in throughout the year shine on screen was truly mind blowing.”

Page design/ Abby Hile

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STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

SENIOR

NICOLE BOGRETT

Nicole would not typically be nominated in this category, but I am nominating her now because of her much improved work ethic in history. Maybe this is really more appropriate for May SOM, but I am considering this a late April/early May submission. Nicole has really turned on her perseverance in the last month or so to make sure she does well in the course and hands everything in that is required. In my experience, a complete 180 from most seniors during this time. Nicole has pressure to finish the research paper this year, due on the last day of class for her. This is something most seniors do not have to worry about in their last few days of school. She has been staying after, seeing me during homeroom, and checking in with me during her free periods to make sure she is staying on track. She is determined to make sure she does not have to take the final, and is doing everything in her power to make sure that she accomplishes this. Again, at this point in the year, that is the opposite work ethic of most seniors. I am proud to nominate Nicole; she deserves this for her work in history class. Ms. Rafferty

JUNIOR

CATHERINE ALEX

It is a pleasure to have Catherine in my Spanish class. She takes pride in her work, always asks questions to make sure she is completing assignments correctly, and is thoughtful about her writing. Catherine puts in the effort to learn from her mistakes and improve her work. Additionally, Catherine works well with all students in the class. She is flexible, inquisitive and motivated, which makes her a “go to” student in the class when it comes to collaboration. I’ve enjoyed getting to know Catherine this year. Mrs. Osborne

SOPHOMORE

ANA SULLIVAN

Geometry does not come easily to Ana, but rather than throw in the towel she works even harder. Ana is one of the few students who regularly take advantage of math lab and extra help. She is always prepared for class and ready to work. Ana is more concerned about understanding concepts than she is about the grade, which is refreshing to see. She is hard working and dedicated, trying to make sense of the Geometric concepts. In the month of April, Ana’s perseverance paid off, yielding some of her best assessment scores of the year. She earned a grade in the B range on a chapter test that covered numerous concepts about polygons, and she had one of the highest scores in her class on the first similarity quiz. Ana is respectful and kind in class. She has offered on multiple occasions to erase the board for me. Ana is a pleasure to have in class. I proudly nominate her for April student of the month. Mrs. Kathleen Milne

FRESHMAN

MATTHEW SPRINGER

Matt is currently in his second semester of freshman PE. Usually, students take one semester of PE and then move on to health or another elective. Matt had a scheduling conflict and was forced to take the same PE class with the same teacher for consecutive semesters. Instead of being negative about the repetitive lessons, Matt had a cheerful outlook and excelled in all units. Matt has a great attitude and brings a tremendous amount of optimism to the class. I would like to recognize Matt Springer for staying upbeat and positive, accepting all challenges and choosing to live a healthy, active lifestyle. Mr. Kampper

ACTIVITY AWARD

EMILY BALL AND ELIZABETH FOLEY

MS. KAY

I needed help in serving refreshments at the NHS Induction Ceremony and asked if any of my students would be able to come and help me out. Libby and Emily volunteered and gave up their time on a school night to cut cake and serve it to the NHS students and their families. There were a couple hundred people there and it was hot in the Science lobby, but Emily and Libby were cheerful and helpful, and it put my mind to rest knowing this was one less thing I had to think about on Wednesday night.

CLASS OF THE MONTH

US HISTORY II

PERIOD 6

MR.SZYMANSKI

It’s always great when you can have teaching and learning and a lot of fun all in one class. The kids in this class make me laugh daily. They enjoy history and are inquisitive. The class has a personality all its own that is hard to describe. When I tell a personal story or give an anecdote, they are especially attentive. If someone fails to do something (take notes, bring a pencil etc.) there are a chorus of kids that will say, “kids these days Ski; hell in a handbasket.” It’s funny every single time. It is noteworthy that I almost never have to wake anyone up—always a nice feature of a class. This class performs well academically and is motivated, and I so look forward to seeing them each and every day.

CITIZEN OF THE MONTH

ARCHANA APTE

MRS. JORDAN

Archana is a shining example of an outstanding WHS student and citizen of our school community. She brings a high degree of intelligence, skill, and enthusiasm to all her endeavors. At the end of April, Archana volunteered to bring together a diverse group of student poets and friends by creating the first annual Student Poetry Night in the Media Center. It was one of the most fun and enjoyable events the library has ever hosted. Because of her commitment to advertise the event, encourage participation, host several planning meetings, and even bake some delicious homemade chocolate chip cookies, nine student had a lovely evening around the fireplace sharing their innermost thoughts, fears, hopes and dreams with one another via their personal poems. Archana herself is a brilliant writer who composed a poem on the spot. Archana respects everyone and makes everyone feel genuinely welcome. It was her idea to invite the lone student who was waiting for a ride by herself in the hallway to join in. She and others made the student feel part of the group which was especially nice. Thank you Archana for all of your hard work and enthusiasm!



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Beloved teachers retire after years at Walpole High

JOANNE SPRAGUE



27 years at Walpole High

Spanish teacher Joanne Sprague prepares to leave Walpole High

By Grace Sewell
Assistant Business Manager-Elect

After twenty seven years of educating students at Walpole High School, Spanish teacher Joanne Sprague will retire at the conclusion of the 2016 school year.

As a first generation American, her father encouraged her to keep her Italian language skills intact at home, while only speaking English at school.

"I believe [the encouragement from my father] fostered my love for languages and learning about other cultures," said Sprague.

Sprague's early involvement with foreign language ultimately sparked her interest in educating young people with her vast knowledge. When a teaching job opened in the Walpole High School foreign language department, Sprague was thrilled to have an opportunity to teach in the community where she had

attended school. In her near three decades of teaching here at Walpole High, Sprague coached the girls varsity tennis team for seven years with an overall record of 117 wins and 35 losses.

When the school year comes to a close, Sprague plans to travel Europe with the company of her husband to kick off her retirement. She also hopes to have time to read, walk, cook and learn how to ride a bike again so she can ride the Cape Cod Shining Sea bikeway of Falmouth.

Recently, Sprague and her family welcomed their first grandson, Charlie, with whom she looks forward to spending quality time during her retirement. Sprague will miss not returning in September with her coworkers who have become like family.

After teaching over 4,000 students, Sprague will miss helping teenagers to learn and the supportive parents she has met along the way.

History teacher Karen Sullivan retires from teaching at Walpole High

By Anna Van der Linden
Editor-in-Chief

After spending two decades in the Social Studies wing of Walpole High, Karen Sullivan will be retiring at the close of this school year.

She hopes to work part-time teaching a continuing education class and also become involved in various community service projects.

"I hope to take the time to appreciate the simple things in life and be open to new experiences," said Sullivan.

Sullivan started student teaching at the age of 42 and has had hundreds of students under her tutelage. "They have had a tremendous impact on me. They have humbled me with their intellect, inspired me with their creativity, made me laugh at myself, and want to be better," said Sullivan.

In her twenty years at Walpole High, Sullivan has taught Economics, So-

ciology, Psychology and all levels of US History. During her years in the Social Studies wing, she has formed close bonds with her colleagues who she described as passionate, devoted, emotional, and hilarious. Sullivan also shared a memory of her time with her fellow history teachers:

"It will be impossible to recreate our lunches where the topics can range from the most intense political debates to who is most deserving of the Social Studies 'Ass of the Month' award, an award for which I am a multiple recipient—most recently for falling down when attempting to sneak out of a Faculty Meeting," she said. "My hope for WHS is that it can prepare students for a changing world and remain true to the core strengths that I found when I arrived in 1996 — a supportive administration, a passionate faculty and a student body that values scholarship and integrity," said Sullivan.

KAREN SULLIVAN



20 years at Walpole High

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1984 Walpole High School Graduate: John Ricci, Owner and Operator

Commencement speeches should be open to all seniors

Administration needs to create a process for selecting speakers at future graduations

By The Editorial Board

A staple of Walpole High School’s graduation ceremonies has always been the speeches. Each year, the valedictorian and salutatorian of the graduating class write and deliver speeches that they believe represent their grade honorably. The controversy of last year’s valedictorian speech, however, where the valedictorian plagiarized a speech about Chipotle, has brought to light whether limiting the speakers to valedictorian and salutatorian is the best choice. Last year’s scandal proved that the top students in the class are not necessarily the best writers or speakers.

Walpole High needs to create a process to select speakers for commencement. Currently, since the top two students are typically self-sufficient, there is little review that is necessary in the writing process. Students have the opportunity to contact Lauren Culliton, the sole reviewer of the speeches and head of the English department, if they are struggling with speech ideas or lacking confidence in their writing. The speakers and reviewer only meet to finalize the speeches the day of graduation practice, which provides a limited amount of time to make major changes or adjustments.

To replace the current process, or lack



Graphics/ Angela Pyne

thereof, Walpole High should create a committee designated to specifically choose speakers for the graduation. Any student in the graduating class should be made eligible to be a commencement speaker. Though the valedictorian and salutatorian are the top two students academically, that does not mean they are either the best writer or speaker in their grade, let alone both. A student can be a phenomenal writer and lecturer while remaining at average standards in classes. Not succeeding outstandingly in all subjects puts them out of the running for valedictorian and salutatorian.

Aside from opening up the opportunity to be a class speaker at graduation to all members of the graduating

class, Walpole High should institute a strict application process to find the most qualified students. Each applicant should have to submit their speech to a committee of teachers who will then determine the best speeches. The school should also invest in software with the capability to scan for plagiarized work in order to prevent the issue that occurred with the speech in 2015. The remaining hopefuls should then have an audition in which they read an excerpt of their speeches for the board to demonstrate their public speaking ability. After seeing a person’s speaking and writing talent, the board should choose two people to perform at graduation in the slots that were originally desig-

nated for salutatorian and valedictorian.

Even though the salutatorian and valedictorian may not be the selected speakers for the address, they should still receive special recognition at the ceremony. Both top students should either be called up first to receive their diplomas or be mentioned with the award-winning students and recipients of scholarships.

In order to make this process worthwhile and possible within all the chaos of senior year, applications to be a speaker at commencement should be due in January of the graduation year so that committee members have enough time to review all speeches and find the best representatives of the graduating class.

Graduation speeches are supposed to be relatable and memorable. If a more qualified student is not a contender for valedictorian or salutatorian, they should not be barred from speaking simply because they do not have the GPA. Writing and public speaking are skills that even the smartest people may struggle with, but Walpole High is full of capable students: numerous students have won national awards for their skills in writing and speaking. So why not utilize these impressive assets of the school to make graduation a truly unforgettable experience?

Walpole High needs to improve its gap year process

Faculty needs to do more to explore the gap year options for interested students

By Andrea Traietti
Editor-in-Chief Elect

The concept of taking a gap year was recently brought to national attention after President Barack Obama announced that his oldest daughter, Malia Obama, would be taking a gap year following her high school graduation. Malia will be graduating this year, but she will begin college a year later than her peers, enrolling at Harvard University in the fall of 2017. Malia, though a prominent figure, is far from an anomaly in terms of her post-high school plans. Her choice raises a few important questions: What exactly is a gap year, and should more students consider taking one before college?

A gap year is a period of time (typically one year) when some post-high school students take a year off before entering college or joining the workforce. Most students who choose to take a gap year do so in order to travel, take a break from the stresses of school, or gain work and personal experience. In terms of the Walpole High community, students and faculty should continue to make improvements in terms of understanding and exploring gap year options. These improvements could help students who may benefit from the break of a gap year, and they could also help to instill a sense of confidence in students who are looking for a more non-traditional post-high school experience.

In a survey conducted by The Rebellion, many students said that they

would consider taking a gap year for various reasons. “If I took a gap year, I would consider doing volunteer work in a developing country,” said senior Julia Bagley. Senior Matt Moriarty similarly said, “I would have liked to take a gap year to travel and learn about subjects not touched upon in school.”

One student from Walpole High actually has plans to take a gap year. “I absolutely do not want to go right back into school after 12 years of it,” said senior Kyra Arsenaault. “I think gap years can give you a chance to find what you’re passionate about, or at least become mature enough to be ready to take on four years of college and take them seriously.” In regards to her post-high school plans, Arsenaault will be taking a gap year to volunteer with the Americorps. “What I’m doing is a dream come true,” said Arsenaault. “I get to work with kids in inner-city schools all year, and maybe I’ll have an impact on one kid who decides to work hard in school instead of dropping out, just by showing them love and belief in their potential.”

The option for a gap year has become a more viable option and many others have become more accepting of the idea in general. According to the American Gap Association, interest in gap years has steadily increased recently. AGA also reports that 90 percent of students who take a gap year enroll in college within a year. Therefore, the WHS community should understand the benefits of gap years and embrace them as a beneficial option.

“The option for a gap year has become a more viable option and many others have become more accepting of the idea in general.”

Letter to the Editor:

WHS PE teachers argue for the implementation of a four year physical education requirement

The PE department would like to respond to last month’s Rebellion article that questioned the one semester Physical Education graduation requirement. We respect the author’s opinions but wanted to highlight some inaccuracies in the article.

WHS PE’s goal is to foster lifelong fitness and physical activity. This is accomplished by creating a positive, safe judgement-free class environment where students are exposed to many activities. In 10th-12th grade PE classes, students are offered two activities per unit, then students decide which activity to join. Massachusetts law states, “Physical education shall be taught as a required subject in all grades for all students in the

public school (MGL Chapter 71, Section 3).” WHS’s PE requirement is under the minimum set by the Massachusetts Department of Education. Yet many schools in Massachusetts do require four years of PE and still have their students attend top colleges/universities.

Physical Education in the United States is constantly fighting to prove our worth and be taken seriously as a subject. The PE department works hard to break the negative “gym” stereotype and make our PE classes a positive experience for all regardless of athletic ability. Students considering taking PE classes should speak with a student who has already taken 10th-12th grade PE if unsure. -Walpole High School Health and Physical Education Department

Send a Letter to the Editor. Letters should be 200 words or fewer, and can be emailed to walpolerebellion@gmail.com

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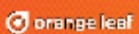
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Congratulations to the
class of 2016!!
Good luck in all future
endeavors!
-The Rebellion

SENIOR REFLECTIONS

DURING THE SPRING, THE REBELLION ASKED SENIORS TO SUBMIT REFLECTIONS ON WHAT THEY LEARNED OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS OF HIGH SCHOOL. MANY RESPONDENTS RECOUNTED HOW THE DRASTIC CHANGES THEY WENT THROUGH IN BOTH IMAGE AND CHARACTER AFFECTED THE PERSON THEY ARE TODAY.



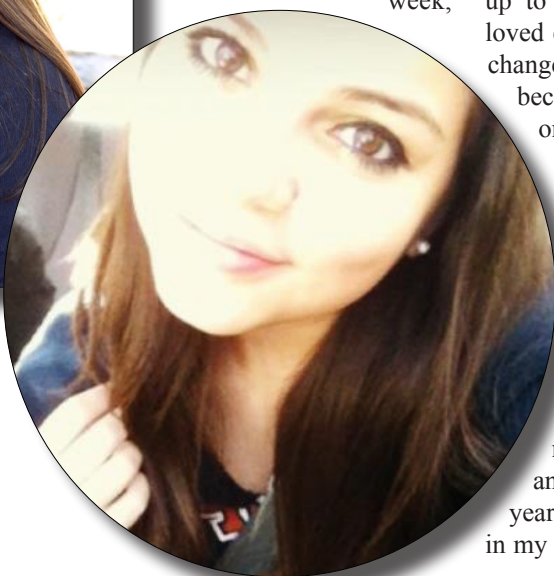
Alex's Journey:
 Boyden Elementary School
 Bird Middle School
 Walpole High School
 Fitchburg State University

ALEXANDRA OTERO

Senior year can be described in the wise words of our boy Drizzy Drake: "Man, what a time to be alive." Prom week, finals week,

walking up to get your diploma in that cap and gown, and your last day of high school: there just isn't anything like it. There is absolutely nothing better than the anticipation leading up to these exciting moments and I loved every minute of it. So much has changed; I'm proud of the person I've become and I'm grateful for everyone who helped me along the way. Freshman year, I would definitely have benefited from a survival guide. All I cared about back in the day was how to use Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat, and my only future plans included walking to Subway with my squad on the next half day. Nothing mattered more than my Pink yoga pants and Juicy sweatshirts. Also, as the years went by, the number of people in my friend group slowly decreased. I

learned to appreciate my real friends, and that quality is better than quantity. The squad, a solid six girls now, was always there for me, and two I have been close to since freshman year (shout-out to Jessie and Omac!). My parents got me through it all as my number one supporters and continuously replaced my cracked iPhone screen. Four years later, I've mastered what it means to not let anyone's words bring me down. My only advice to the incoming freshman (good luck to my lil' sister Jasmine) is to not let anyone make you feel like you are worth less than you really are. And if you think a class might be cool, take it—even if your friends aren't taking it—because you might become close to a whole new group of people. Take chances and live your life for YOU. Here's to the class of 2016 and to making the next four years of our lives unreal.



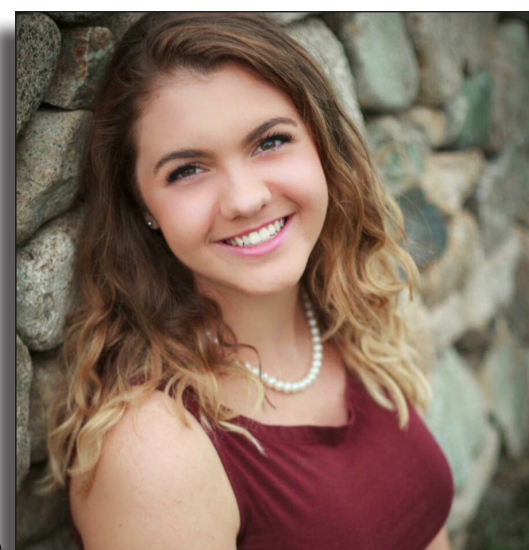
MAD ELYN SMITH

Packed into my mom's Honda Pilot, my seven middle school best friends and I went to freshman orientation while blasting "Fifteen" by Taylor Swift. I was so nervous to finally be going to high school. All my knowledge of high school was based on my two older brothers, My Super Sweet 16 on MTV and the "Hit Me Baby One More Time" music video; so, my freshman year was a hot mess. I cared too much about what people thought; I didn't treat high school as school; it was just a social place. I wish I could tell my freshman self that doing well in school does matter and that it's okay not to straighten your hair everyday. Luckily I joined Dance Company freshman year and it really changed my way of thinking. It taught me what it really means to dedicate all you have, and I take serious pride in being a four-year member. Although it sounds sappy, through Dance Company and just Walpole High in general, I have met some

amazing people and made memories that I'll never forget. I have also learned to appreciate the people who have been there for me through it all: my friends, my classmates and my Dance Company sisters. To those people, I say thank you. High school is a time to grow and learn and I have definitely done both.

My senior year taught me to be myself. I can now appreciate my years in high school, and have learned to enjoy the small everyday things: my dad insisting I give him a hug every morning before I left for school, saying hi to the kids I've known for so many years, and coming home to the cutest boy in the world, my dog. It is hard for me to comprehend that this important time of my

life is ending. Although it's sad, I am excited for what's next. At least I'll always have TimeHop to keep these memories alive. Thanks Walpole High for keepin' it classy.



Maddie's Journey:
 Elm Street Elementary School
 Johnson Middle School
 Walpole High School
 Franklin Pierce University

TYLER BARRY

I feel like the only word accurate enough to describe me as a freshman is "noodle." I didn't own a single pair of jeans; I insisted on wear-

ing sweatpants every day, wore a few American Eagle shirts, and was just an utterly bland person. I performed below-average in my classes, and felt no connection to the class material. I had no interest in sports or clubs. It wasn't until the middle of sophomore year that I realized just how bad the situation was that I had put myself in. I took a big step back and decided that I needed to switch things up. By senior year, I felt as if I had managed to pull myself out of the pit I was in. I had been improving my grades, taking classes that fit my interests, spending a lot of time after school at film or robotics, and focusing more on my image. I went out more, picked nicer outfits, and even

decided to dye my hair pink (which was basically a spontaneous decision I made, without knowing how it would turn out). These decisions gave me a lot of self-confidence, and I encourage others to listen to their gut and make spontaneous decisions for themselves. Although these decisions may seem insignificant, they still felt really great when I went through with them. I guess the take-away from this would be that if even I can find self-confidence during high school, then anyone can. Doing things spontaneously tends to feel really rewarding, and can give you a lot more confidence than you might think. If I hadn't made some of the impromptu decisions that I did, I would probably still be that same noodle from freshman year. My time at Walpole High has definitely been an interesting ride, and I'm anxious to see what kinds of spontaneous decisions I'll end up making later in life.



Tyler's Journey:
 Fisher Elementary School
 Johnson Middle School
 Walpole High School
 Wheaton College (MA)





Senior Profiles



ANGELA PYNE

What TV show or movie best describes your high school experience?
Trainwreck

What's your favorite school event?
Film Festival

What's your favorite book you read in high school?
The Catcher in the Rye

What's your favorite class you took?
AP Design

If you could do high school over again, what would you do differently?
Meet the people I'm friends with now sooner.

What advice would you give incoming freshmen?
Be outgoing, be daring, be yourself, and don't care about what anyone else thinks.



HIROMI KONDO

What was the dumbest reason you got in trouble?
I got a detention for being late three days in a row because I had double pinkeye and a ripped toenail.

What TV show or movie best describes your high school experience?
That 70's Show

What was your favorite part of high school?
Getting a good parking spot.

If you could do high school over again, what would you do differently?
Sleep more

What's your favorite class you took?
Journalism



MEAGHAN KRATZ

What was the dumbest reason you got in trouble?
The better question would be all the dumbest ways I got OUT of trouble.

Which faculty member has had the biggest impact on your life?
Ms. Kay or Mr. Bakale. I don't know if I'd be pursuing Classics in college if it weren't for them.

What's your favorite teacher quote?
"Country is just rap music for white people." - Mr. Giblin

If you could do high school over again, what would you do differently?
I would join more clubs earlier on. I met so many wonderful people and had so little time left with them.



MEG O'MEARA

Which faculty member has had the biggest impact on your life?
Pamela O'Meara

What's your favorite teacher quote?
"I can't get you a boyfriend, but I can improve your grammar." -Ms. Lauren Culliton

What TV show or movie best describes your high school experience?
Orange is the New Black

What was the dumbest reason you got in trouble?
I only display model behavior.

What advice would you give incoming freshmen?
Don't give College Board your contact information.

What was your favorite part of high school?
Snack time

How much money have you spent at Dunkin'?
Approximately my freshman year college tuition.

Favorite school event?
Rebel Rave '16



MIKE SULLIVAN

What's your most embarrassing moment from high school?
I got a nosebleed in the middle of an IR socratic seminar and had to run out of the class and got blood all over my papers.

What's your favorite class you took?
AP European History

What will you miss most about high school?
The snacktime donuts

If you could do high school over, what would you do differently?
Go to all the Dance Co performances.

What's your favorite teacher quote?
"You're an academic farce." -Mrs. O'Leary



MATT MORIARTY

What's your most embarrassing moment from high school?
Performing at Pops Night only to find out later that I had a rip down the entirety of my pants' crotch.

What was the dumbest reason you got in trouble?
Having to pee too much.

What TV show or movie best describes your high school experience?
Another Gay Movie

If you could do high school over again, what would you do differently?
I would have joined Dance Company freshman year.

What was your favorite memory from high school?
Seussical DUH

What advice would you give incoming freshmen?
Everybody else is just as self-conscious as you; you just have to be good at hiding it.

What was your favorite part of high school?
Getting weird looks when I went over the top on spirit days.



AKIN STREET

What's your most embarrassing moment from high school?
My first day of school, I couldn't open the side door because it was too heavy. A senior behind me was like "are you kidding me?" and slammed the door open.

What was your favorite memory from high school?
Breaking the Freshman record for the 100m.

What will you miss most about high school?
All the freedom without responsibility.

If you could do high school over again, what would you do differently?
I'd stop caring what other people think

What did you dislike about high school?
Everybody vaping ALL THE TIME



KEVIN XIA

What was the dumbest reason you got in trouble?
I got a B+ on a test.

What's your favorite memory from high school?
Noah and James Daitch dancing in English class.

What was your favorite part of high school?
My asian squad

What was your favorite field trip?
Mock Trial field trips

What TV show or movie best describes your high school experience?
One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

If you could do high school over again, what would you do differently?
I would do more extracurriculars.



NICOLE TOBIN

What was your favorite part of high school?
Winning the State Championship for field hockey my sophomore year.

What was the dumbest reason you got in trouble?
Too many tardies...that's absurd

What was your favorite class?
Psychology because I had Mr. Jean

What was your favorite book you read in high school?
The Great Gatsby

What will you miss most about high school?
Getting to see my friends everyday

What advice would you give incoming freshmen?
Actually try in your classes so you can get into the school you want to.



SEAN HAYDEN

What was your favorite part of high school?
The friends that I made and some of the teachers that I met

What was your favorite class?
Computer Programming

Which faculty member has had the biggest impact on your life?
Wendy Thornton/Ron Dowd

What's your most embarrassing moment from high school?
Showing up to picture day for tennis in the wrong uniform.

What was your favorite memory from high school?
Shooting the potato gun with Mr. Fiske.

What's your favorite teacher quote?
"You never want to puke in your mom's shoes." -Mr. Jean

What did you dislike most about high school?
Some of the teachers' unrealistic expectations



ALEXANDRA OTERO

What was your favorite part of high school?
The football games by far

What did you dislike most about high school?
The lack of Mr. Jean, like why did I JUST meet this man this year?!

What's your most embarrassing moment from high school?
When Max Simons called me out for wearing Aeropostale, I'll never get over it.

Which faculty member has had the biggest impact on your life?
Mr. Mullaney, he showed me how far an act of kindness can go.

What advice would you give incoming freshmen?
Make the most out of these four years, they fly by.

What was your favorite class?
Psychology with Mr. Jean



JIMMY MCKENNA

What was the dumbest reason you got in trouble?
Getting tossed out of study for singing "Hollaback Girl" by Gwen Stefani.

What's your most embarrassing moment from high school?
Getting a 24 out of 100 on a chem test

Which faculty member has had the biggest impact on your life?
Ms. Mac

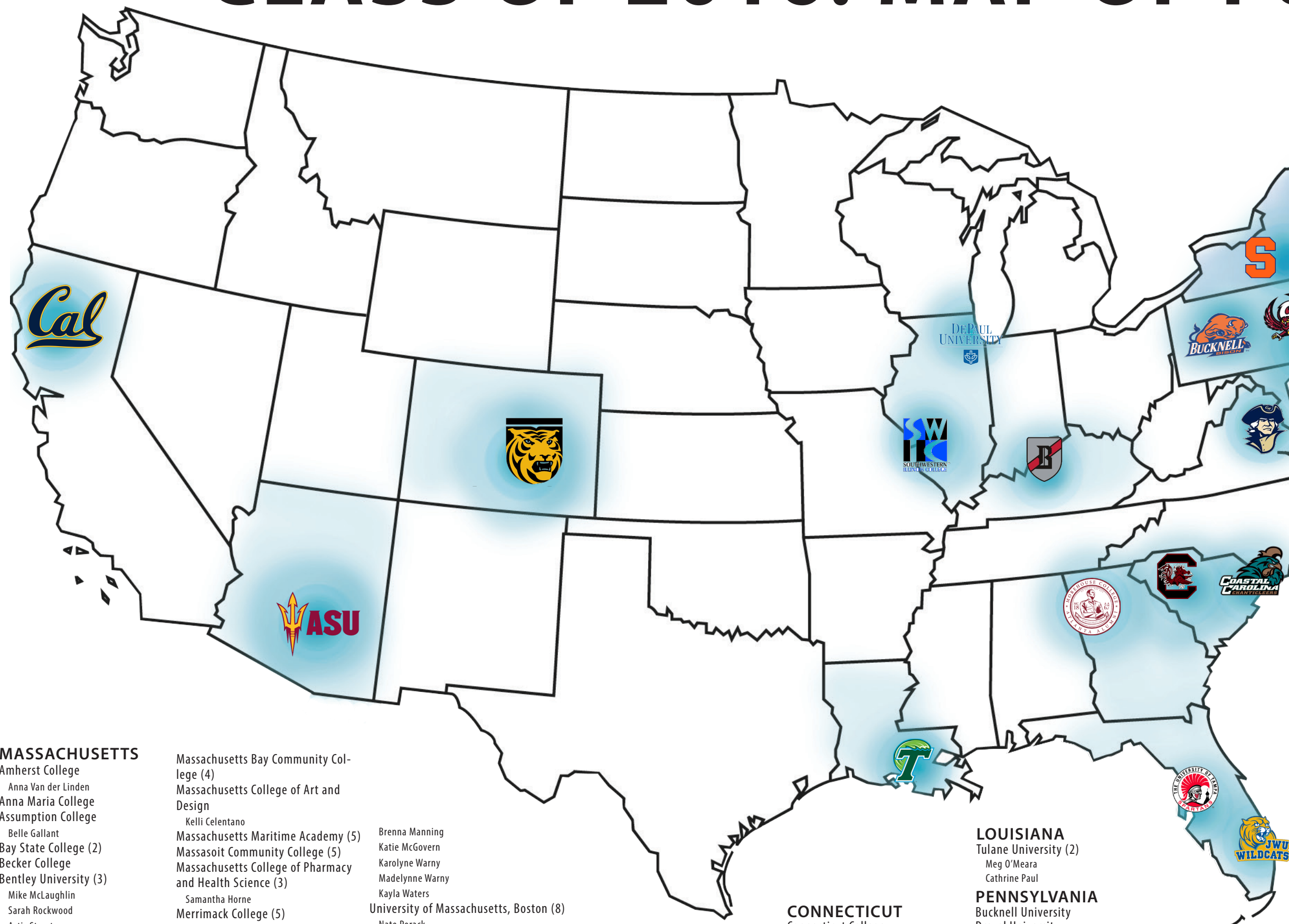
If you could do high school over again, what would you do differently?
Study more and value every practice and game I ever played.

What was your favorite school event?
Pink Dance



FUTURE PLANS

CLASS OF 2016: MAP OF FUTURE PLANS



MASSACHUSETTS

Amherst College
Anna Van der Linden
Anna Maria College
Assumption College
Belle Gallant
Bay State College (2)
Becker College
Bentley University (3)
Mike McLaughlin
Sarah Rockwood
Artis Street
Boston College (5)
Katie Houser
Ellie Kalemkeridis
Julia Sandquist
Kevin Xia
Boston University (4)
Mary Healy
Erin Kahaly
Sarah Perkins
Brandeis University
Jeanine Bell
Bridgewater State University (11)
Carlos Andujar
Madison Kelley
Kathryn King
Nikki McNamara
Luis Yumet
Clark University (2)
Dalton Grady
Meaghan Kratz
College of the Holy Cross (2)
Ben Brownsword
Curry College (3)
Brandy Marshall
Dean College (2)
Elms College
Emerson College
Bridget Connell
Emmanuel College
Fitchburg State University (2)
Alexandra Otero
Tatiana Rodriguez
Framingham State University
Lasell College (2)
Katie Conroy
Taylor Langmead

Massachusetts Bay Community College (4)
Massachusetts College of Art and Design
Kelli Celentano
Massachusetts Maritime Academy (5)
Massasoit Community College (5)
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Science (3)
Samantha Horne
Merrimack College (5)
Sarah Kelly
Middlesex Community College
Newbury College
Northeastern University (9)
Ian Fair
Natalie Luongo
Nicole Marvas
Rishab Mathur
Eamon McCarthy
Hannah Nadeau
Alyssa Rosen
Kaylana Sareen
Regis College
Bridget Colburn
Salem State University (2)
Emma Lederman
Simmons College (4)
Samantha Magraw
Elizabeth Saunders
Stephanie Valiquette
Lauren Wigren
Smith College
Emily Luong
Springfield College
Stonehill College (6)
Julia Adams
Kaitlin Brown
Jacqueline Davis
Jimmy McKenna
Suffolk University (2)
Angela Pyne
Tufts University
Dillon Knight
University of Massachusetts, Amherst (15)
Alyssa DiCenzo
Emily Gotthardt

Brenna Manning
Katie McGovern
Karolyne Warny
Madelynn Warny
Kayla Waters
University of Massachusetts, Boston (8)
Nate Porack
University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth (4)
University of Massachusetts, Lowell (10)
Shannon Baker
John Gillon
John Jingoian
Liam McCabe
Alyssa Murphy
Amanda Vasil
Wentworth Institute of Technology (2)
Westfield State University (3)
Wheaton College
Tyler Barry
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Emily Schneider
Worcester State University
Emily Terpstra

RHODE ISLAND

Bryant University
Erifli Sfakianakis
Johnson & Wales University
Providence College (5)
Caitlin Killeen
Roger Williams University (2)
Joe Smith
Rhode Island College
Salve Regina University
University of Rhode Island (3)
Marina DeCelle
Catherine Formica

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Franklin Pierce University (3)
Alex Caskie
Madelyn Smith
Keene State College (5)
Victoria Ilaqua
Jenny Salvant
Nicole Tobin
Plymouth State University (6)
Jessie Connolly
Charlie Harrington
Olivia MacMillan
Dan O'Donnell
Southern New Hampshire University
University of New Hampshire (10)
Julia Averill
Vanessa Dorransoro
Angela Hurley

ILLINOIS
DePaul University
Grace Hoegler
Southwestern Illinois College
KENTUCKY
Boyce College

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut College
Eastern Connecticut State University
Jenna Swanson
Fairfield University (3)
Samantha Chauvin
Quinnipiac University (3)
Meghan Coakley
Alicia Ricci
Sacred Heart University
Tori Lynch
University of Hartford (2)
Catherine Shivers
Yale University
Kaitlin Porter

MAINE

Bates College
Julie Hinton
Husson University (2)
Kevin Riley
Saint Joseph's College
Andrew D'Ovidio
University of Maine Orono (3)
Meaghan Cullen
University of Maine Presque Isle
University of New England
Alexa Mulroy
University of Southern Maine (3)
Sean Greeley

VERMONT

Norwich University (4)
Nick Campobasso
Steven Cuqua
Mike Curran
Saint Michael's College
Allison Cullen
University of Vermont (2)
Macy Chutoransky
Stina Cofsky

LOUISIANA

Tulane University (2)
Meg O'Meara
Cathrine Paul

PENNSYLVANIA

Bucknell University
Drexel University
Muhlenberg College
Temple University (2)
Ellie Hilty
Max Simons

GEORGIA

Morehouse College

HAWAII

Chaminade University of Honolulu

CALIFORNIA

University of California, Berkeley (2)
Sarika Pokala
Mike Sullivan

FLORIDA

Johnson & Wales University North Miami
Tim Bender
University of Tampa
Brooke Carde

ARIZONA

Arizona State University
Amani Albadawi

COLORADO

Colorado College
Hiromi Kondo

CANADA

Concordia University
Rich Meneide

WASHINGTON, D.C.

The George Washington University

SOUTH CAROLINA

Coastal Carolina University
University of South Carolina (4)
Rebecca Lucia
Kendall Shea



Students enlisting in the Military:

William McLaughlin



William McLaughlin will be enlisting in the Marine Corps in the Fall following Graduation.

Madison Ledford



Madison Ledford will be enlisting in the Navy in the Fall following Graduation.

Kaitlin Porter

Yale University



U.S. AIR FORCE ROTC

Kaitlin Porter will be participating in the Air Force ROTC at Yale University in the fall. She received a full scholarship for her efforts, and will be studying chemistry.

Students studying abroad first semester:

Eamon McCarthy



Melbourne, Australia

Northeastern University
The N.U.in Program

Kaylana Sareen



Berlin, Germany

Mike Sullivan



London, England



Gap Year:

Kyra Arsenault



Kyra Arsenault will be taking a Gap Year and will be participating in the AmeriCorps program. In this program, Arsenault will mentor inner-city youth in the Boston Public Schools, helping them with academics and extracurricular activities.

*Students granted The Rebellion permission to publish their names through a survey for this year's edition of the college map. All colleges attended by the Class of 2016 are listed as reported to the Guidance department, but those students who did not report their college to The Rebellion names remain anonymous.

Walpole athletes commit to play in college

Tim Bender



Johnson and Wales University (North Miami)
Golf - Division I

What is your favorite part of playing high school sports?
The competition and always wanting to win every match.

Favorite high school sports memory?
Coming in 3rd in the state senior year in golf.

What will you miss most about Walpole sports?
Being able to play with my friends everyday.

Kaitlin Brown



Stonehill College
Soccer - Division II

What makes Walpole's sports programs unique?
Even if everyone isn't best friends, we all come together because everyone just wants to win.

What advice would you give to other high school athletes?
Always give your sport everything you have. You'll regret not giving it everything when it's over.

What coach inspired you the most?
My club coach James

Nick Campobasso



Norwich University
Football - Division III

What is the hardest part of playing high school sports?
Managing the time between school and sports.

What coach inspired you the most?
Coach Greener.

What is the hardest part of playing high school sports?
Making friends you'll have forever.

Alex Caskie



Franklin Pierce University
Lacrosse - Division II

What will you miss most about Walpole sports?
Playing for the Rebel Jersey.

What advice would you give to other high school athletes?
Work harder than others every single day.

What makes Walpole's sports programs unique?
Tradition.

Christian Carr-Locke



Connecticut College
Track and Field - Division III

What coach inspired you the most?
Coach Giblin. He really cares about the input of his athletes and that's always been really reassuring.

Favorite high school sports memory?
Cross country team winning the D3 championship.

What will you miss most about Walpole sports?
I'll miss being part of such a close-knit team with coaches that truly care about their athletes.

Melissa Cochrane



Massachusetts Maritime Academy
Softball - Division III

What will you miss most about Walpole sports?
I will miss the girls and Coach Sprague. I will also miss playing on our home field because that is where I grew up to become the player I am today.

What coach inspired you the most?
Coach Sprague has inspired me the most because she played college softball and she taught me so many things about softball.

Michael Curran



Norwich University
Football - Division III

What is the hardest part of playing high school sports?
Staying consistent in the off-season with your training.

What is your favorite part of playing high school sports?
The relationships you make with your teammates, my friends from the football team will be my friends for life.

Steven Cuqua



Norwich University
Football - Division III

What is your favorite high school sports memory?
Beating Natick at their home field.

What makes Walpole's sports programs unique?
We have dedicated athletes who put a lot of time into their sport.

What will you miss most about Walpole sports?
Suiting up with my best friends.

Andrew D'Ovidio



Saint Joseph's College of Maine
Baseball and Track and Field - Division III

What makes Walpole's sports programs unique?
Energy among teammates and sense of pride.

What advice would you give to other high school athletes?
Take care of your work off the field and make wise choices.

What will you miss most about Walpole sports?
The unity and relations I have with my coaches and teammates.

Ian Fair



Northeastern University
Baseball - Division I

What will you miss most about Walpole sports?
The sense of community within each of the teams.

What makes Walpole's sports programs unique?
The coaches are dedicated and the players are hard-working.

What advice would you give to other high school athletes?
Work hard in the off-season.

Tori Lynch



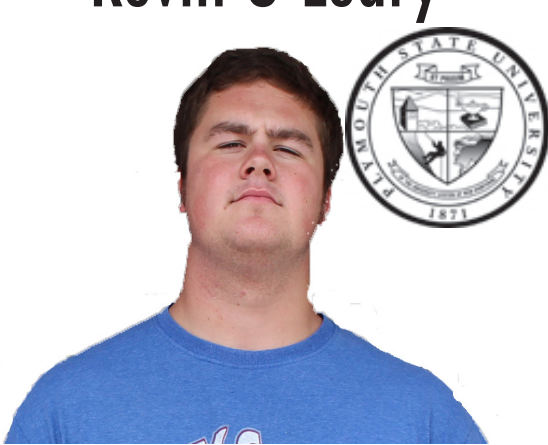
Sacred Heart University
Track and Field - Division I

What advice would you give to other athletes?
Don't give up no matter how bad you lose a game or how discouraged you get because sports make school so much better.

What is the hardest part of playing high school sports?
Time management.

What coach inspired you the most?
Coach Butera.

Kevin O'Leary



Plymouth State
Football - Division III

What is your favorite high school sports memory?
Junior year playoff run.

What is your favorite part of playing high school sports?
Relationships with my teammates and coaches.

What will you miss most about Walpole sports?
Tradition.

Nate Porack



University of Massachusetts, Boston
Baseball - Division III

What advice would you give to other high school athletes?
You have to earn everything.

What is your favorite high school sports memory?
Natick football games.

What coach inspired you the most?
Coach Costello.

Nick Ricci



Westfield State University
Track and Field - Division IV

What makes Walpole's sports programs unique?
The fact that we all might not be the most skilled, but we give it our all and play hard.

What is your favorite part of playing high school sports?
Feeling like I am part of a solid team and Athletic Program that has been successful for many years and is known throughout Massachusetts.

What will you miss most about Walpole sports?
The Coaching staff and being a big fish in a small pond.

Sarah Rockwood



Bentley University
Field Hockey - Division II

What is your favorite part of playing high school sports?
Being part of something bigger than myself and playing in the postseason because the games are so intense and always memorable.

What makes Walpole's sports programs unique?
We play with pride.

What advice would you give to other high school athletes?
Enjoy every practice, sprint, game and chance to hang out with your team because it flies by.

Nicole Tobin



Keene State College
Field Hockey - Division III

What advice would you give to other high school athletes?
Don't wish the long, hard practices away because in the long run you are going to miss even those.

What makes Walpole's sports programs unique?
Our competitiveness and school spirit.

What is your favorite high school sports memory?
Winning the Championship my sophomore year.

Kayla Waters



University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Cheerleading - Division I

What is your favorite high school sports memory?
UCA nationals in Orlando freshman year.

What coach inspired you the most?
Courtney Doherty.

What will you miss the most?
I will miss the close knit community of rebel cheer.

Andrew Wheeler



Hamilton College
Track and Field - Division III

What advice would you give to other high school athletes?
Respect hard work, regardless of what it is.

What coach inspired you the most?
Eric Flaman.

What is the hardest part of playing high school sports?
Maintaining a good balance between school and athletics.

By Devin McKinney
Staff Writer

Unique COLLEGE majors

MARY HEALY

ACTING



Mary Healy will enroll in Boston University's Performance Core Program this fall. This program, like many other acting or theater programs around the country, requires a 20-minute audition in which the candidate must memorize various songs and monologues. The Performance Core program does not

require students to declare a major until the end of their freshman year, in which they have to choose between either Theatre Arts or Acting.

"Ever since I was in fourth grade I have been involved in musical theater and plays; then, during sophomore year, I really got into the acting portion and really fell in love, and I cannot imagine myself doing anything else," said Healy. In addition to acting, Healy will be minoring in Education, possibly going on to either teach musical theater or in musical training programs. "I want to be an actor and an educator because I also love working with kids," said Healy regarding her minor.

NICOLE MARVAS

BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE



Nicole Marvas will be pursuing a degree in Behavioral Neuroscience at Northeastern University. Originally, Marvas thought she would be a Biology major; however, after reading Northeastern's program of studies, she was intrigued by classes that this major required.

"It's a combination of psychology and neuroscience,

and conveniently, a lot of the classes required for the major overlap with those that I would need to take along the pre-med track," said Marvas.

Furthermore, Marvas is hoping to take her education into the direction of medicine, which she is set up for with her Behavioral Neuroscience major. To anyone who is unsure of what they want to do, Marvas suggests that others should explore their options.

"Even if you think you know what you want to do, read through the entire program of studies at each school you're interested in. Something might pop out at you that you did not even know existed, and be open to try that," said Marvas.

MARINA DECELLE

OCEAN ENGINEERING



This fall, Marina DeCelle will be attending the University of Rhode Island as a part of the integrated engineering program. She is majoring in Ocean Engineering and Spanish, which she chose based on her established interests in both subjects.

"I've always been interested in STEM [Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics] and when I heard about Ocean Engineering

I thought it was really cool. Also, my favorite subject in high school has always been Spanish, so I thought it would be fun to try both," said DeCelle.

DeCelle decided on Ocean Engineering because she attended a meeting about the major and found it interesting. As for those who are unsure about what major is right for them, DeCelle suggests exploring the variety of classes that are offered at WHS.

"Go to different info sessions about the different majors they have at schools that interest you and see what you like the most. That's what helped me," said DeCelle.

With a degree in this field, DeCelle would like to go on to work with coastal cleanup or pursue an occupation related to shipbuilding.

MOLLY ROCKWOOD

DANCE



Molly Rockwood will be attending Bard College to major in Dance. She will take courses in modern and ballet technique in the hopes of studying dance from an academic standpoint.

"I chose to major in dance because I cannot imagine a life where I didn't dance, and where I couldn't share my love [of dance] with others like I do now," said Rockwood. Rockwood has known ever since sophomore year that she

has wanted to go to college for dance, and in the future, she would like to explore various career opportunities that come with majoring in dance.

"Ideally, I would love to dance professionally here in the U.S. or even across the world in Europe or South America. Realistically, I will most likely own my own dance company or study and become a dance therapy educator," said Rockwood.

MATT MORIARTY

DANCE & EXERCISE SCIENCE



Matt Moriarty is going to Skidmore College to major in Dance and Exercise Science. Skidmore has one of College Magazine's top 10 dance programs, and what sets this school's program apart for Moriarty is the fact that he is able to easily continue his recently discovered passion.

"What's unique about its program is that it doesn't require an audition which is really helpful, I think, too because I don't have very much experience but can still pursue something I love," said Moriarty.

However, Moriarty is not aiming for Broadway, rather he is hoping to delve into the other career paths that dance has to offer. "I hopefully would like to pursue a career in dance, not as a technical entity, but rather as a form of expression, perhaps in the field of holistic health," said Moriarty.

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Walpole prom showcases popular new dress styles

Cut outs and two piece dresses offer a modern edge to this year's prom dresses

By Natalie Luongo
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Prom is, in many ways, the culmination of high school; it has been portrayed in countless movies and has existed as a scholastic tradition for over a century. Parents, grandparents and even great-grandparents share the experience of attending their high school prom. However, in recent years, the main focus of the event has shifted from dancing to the pre-prom experience. These days, if you ask most female and some male attendees what the most important part of prom is, they'll tell you it's taking pictures before the event. Girls wear long, formal dresses, sport updos or curls and choose complex make-up, whereas boys dress in tuxedos and buy flowers for their dates. The pictures, taken outside at friends' houses or in public spaces like Bird Park, summarize many teenagers' memories of high school and serve as mementos for



the post-grad years to come.

The most important part of the prom façade, despite costly spray tans, scheduled manicures and carefully engineered hairstyles, is the dress.

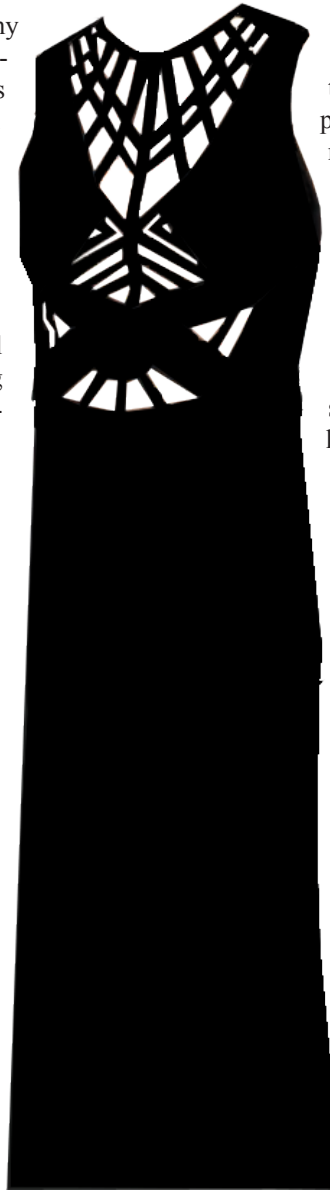
These days, girls travel to other states and spend hundreds of dollars on dresses, sometimes buying multiple if they are attending other schools' proms.

Some chose to buy online or get their dresses custom-made.

Others took a different approach and looked to save money on second-hand dresses or ordered pre-worn dresses online. Despite

the range of sources, many dresses share common features. Trends like cut-outs or two-piece dresses that make long dresses a little cooler in the warm May weather were popular at this year's prom, as were dresses both simplistic and ornate. Lace or sparkly bodices and floral prints stood out among the more complex dresses, while the color white was a popular choice for more simple gowns.

Cut-outs and two-piece dresses offer a modern edge to the traditional gown. Both trends make long dresses appear edgier and less matronly, frequently showing skin around the midriff. In addition, short-sleeved or sleeveless dresses are popular, while few students opt for short dresses. At other schools, short dresses are more common, which proves that Walpole High fosters its own unique prom trends. These trends speak to the culture of the school itself; more and more girls are challenging the sta-



tus quo by purchasing edgier dresses and attempting to stand out on prom night—something not as frequently seen in day-to-day fashion at school or out in public.

Also helpful are administration's lax rules on dresses, as many news agencies recently detailed the suppression of sleeveless or otherwise "risque" dresses at other schools around the country. This year, girls were kicked out of their proms in Tennessee and Pennsylvania for outfits their schools deemed inappropriate; guidelines dictating what straps, length or coverage a dress must have are found in schools all over the country. However, Walpole High does not follow the trend of having such strict rules, allowing freedom of expression for prom attendees to choose ever-changing trends.

Cutouts/ Daanya Salmanullah

Blink-182 remains true to their sound despite lineup change

Rock band Blink-182 releases a new album that leaves both new and old fans satisfied

By Emily Luong
Arts & Entertainment Editor

After a successful career spanning from 1992 to 2005 and several years of an on and off hiatus since 2009, iconic punk rock band Blink-182 released single "Bored to Death" in anticipation of the upcoming release of their seventh album titled "California."

"California," scheduled to be released on July 1, is their first album since the 2015 departure of founding guitarist Tom DeLonge and instead features Alkaline Trio frontman Matt Skiba. The album's single, "Bored to Death" showcases the band's loyal adherence to their trademark punk rock anthemic sound, despite a significant lineup change that initially made the band's future endeavors uncertain.

To long-time Blink-182 fans, "Bored to Death" is reminiscent of the band's prime; energetic drums and guitars, coupled with memorable lyrics reassure fans that the band will not sacrifice their unique musical style for a more mainstream sound—a trend that bands such as Paramore and Fall Out Boy have succumbed to in the past several years. Because of its classic Blink-182 sound, "Bored to Death" could easily find its place in mid-career, more polished albums such as 1999's "Enema of the State" and 2003's "Blink-182".

While Blink-182's music style has remained relatively unchanged, "Bored to Death's" pensive tone and message showcases the band's maturity as all three members are now in their forties.



Blink-182 returns from their hiatus with their newest album "California." The single "Bored to Death" from the new album was already a big success, and the album is set to be released on July 1. "California" is already shaping up to be one of the most anticipated releases of the summer.

"Bored to Death" reminds listeners of times of adolescence through a recount of a teenager's awkward experience with his or her first love: "And it's a long way back from seventeen/The whispers turn into a scream/And I'm, I'm not coming home...I think I met her at the minute that the rhythm was set down/I said I'm sorry I'm a little bit of a letdown/But all my friends are daring me to come over." This touch of nostalgia is expected to be a prevalent theme throughout the rest of "California," as the title of the album itself is a nod to Blink-182's place of origin.

Although Matt Skiba had been un-

der intense scrutiny by fans and critics alike since announcing his collaboration with Blink-182, he integrates himself seamlessly in "Bored to Death." His guitar playing and alternating vocals throughout the single add depth to the music without stealing the spotlight from Blink-182 frontman Mark Hoppus. Skiba's influence does not take away from Blink-182's traditional sound, but rather invigorates it with a fresh perspective that allows it to adapt to the modern music scene and appeal to younger and newer listeners.

Despite having an extensive career lasting over a decade and undergoing

a rearrangement of band members, Blink-182 persists as an unforgettable icon of punk rock evident in the musical style of "Bored to Death." The single makes the perfect anthem for the summer with its simple and relatable message, along with its minimal, but effective guitar lines and instrumentals. Its praise among all fans, old and new, makes the band's upcoming album "California" one of the most anticipated releases of the summer. Blink-182 will embark on a North American summer tour with A Day To Remember, All-American Rejects and All Time Low starting in early June.

Page design/ Emily Martin

Next 1 Week Class – June 13th 8:45am-3:30pm

Next 1 Week Class – June 20th 8:45am-3:30pm

And 1 Week Class – June 27th 8:45am-3:30pm

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Under New Management

Leicester proves critics wrong

Huge underdog Leicester City avoids relegation to win Premier League title in surprising fashion

By Ben Brownsword
Staff Writer

If you have not been watching European soccer in the past nine months, you have missed one of the most stunning sport seasons in a generation.

A bit of explanation would help for anyone not familiar with the soccer system in Europe. Each country has its own league(s) with about 20 teams each and a promotion-relegation system. This system sends the worst teams from the top flight to the second flight, and the best teams from the second flight to the top. The five most watched leagues in the world, also known as the “Big Five,” are the Barclays Premier League in England, La Liga in Spain, the Bundesliga in Germany, Serie A in Italy and Ligue 1 in France.

Leicester is a city in the center of England, and their club is Leicester City. Leicester was promoted to the Premier League for the 2014-15 season, but their first season was almost disastrous. With nine games remaining in the season, they were in last place. However, the team managed to win eight out of those last nine games to stave off relegation.

Most respected journalists thought they would be relegated, and betting sites gave the club 5000-1 odds to win the Premier League. Despite these beliefs, on May 2, Leicester won the title when it became impossible for any club to overtake them in the standings.

Some perspective on how unlikely their season has been, in the other four of the “Big Five” leagues, the champions were Barcelona in Spain,

Bayern Munich in Germany, Juventus in Italy and Paris Saint-Germain in France. All four of these are repeat champions, and Juventus, Bayern Munich and

PSG’s wins meant that all three teams won their domestic league for the fourth consecutive year.

Another factor in Leicester’s shock title was the emergence of previously unrecognized players who became stars over the course of the season. For example, in 2006, then 19-year old Jamie Vardy worked in a factory. Flash forward to 2016, and 29-year old Jamie Vardy finished his season with 24 goals, and the Football Writers’ Association player of the year award.

The team’s other star, Algerian Riyad Mahrez, won the Professional Footballers’ Association player of the year award with 17 goals and 11 assists. Just two years before, Mahrez was struggling with the Ligue two (the second tier of the French League) side Le Havre. The team is full of unproven prospects, forgotten veterans, and middling talent, all of whom banded together to create the most surprising season in the history of English football. Next season, Leicester will be playing in the Champions League alongside the likes of Juventus, Bayern and PSG.

Many critics cite domination by the rich, the corruption within FIFA, and soccer players’ poor reputations as divers as reasons to not watch professional soccer. However, the aesthetic beauty of soccer, combined with the unpredictability of each game, makes the sport a spectacle unlike any other.



Girls Lacrosse wins Herget Division

Team wins Herget and clinches first seed in tournament

Photo/Maeve O'Connor



Rebels battle North Attleboro for a draw to start the second half of Thursday's DII East quarterfinal game.

By Emily O'Connell and
Sophia Giovaniello
Staff Writers

With a record of 16-3, Walpole Girls Lacrosse won their second Herget title under Head Coach Mike Tosone and clinched the first seed in the Division II East post-season bracket.

According to LaxPower, a website that ranks high school and college lacrosse teams, Walpole Girls Lacrosse had the toughest schedule in Massachusetts, including Needham and Cohasset, both teams ranked in the Top 10 ESPN MIAA poll. “After looking at the schedule for the first time, I knew we were going to have a bunch of tough games against very strong teams, but I think we handled these games extremely well,” said senior Captain Hannah Nadeau.

On Wednesday, May 25, the Rebels defeated Hingham 17-9 at Hingham to secure the Rebels the top seed of their post-season bracket. Throughout the season, the team had many notable victories, none bigger than their opener against Wellesley.

“It’s kind of cool to think that our first league game of the year, that 17-16 overtime victory over Wellesley, was a huge piece of us winning the league,” said Tosone.

With the number one seed, the team aims to make it deep into tournament. Last year, the Rebels fell to Medfield in the the East Sectional Finals. This year, the Rebels earned a bye in the first round of tournament, and they will play their first three playoff games—if they make it that far—at their home field. “My hope regarding the tournament is simply that we play the best lacrosse we can. If we do that, we have a shot to go deep. If someone were to beat us at our best, all the power to them. At our best though, it will take a really good team to stay with us,” said Tosone.

The Rebels kicked off their post-season on Thursday, June 2, with a 20-9 victory over the number eight seed, North Attleboro.

“As a team, we are strong in every part of the game and as long as we do what we can do, we will have a long and successful postseason,” said senior captain Michala Niden.

Dedham High School to move to Tri-Valley Conference

Bay State Conference has no plans yet to replace Dedham for 2017-2018 season

By David Moser
Sports Editor

The Bay State Conference—the league that every sports team in Walpole High plays in. It holds twelve towns, but on Thursday, May 26, Dedham High School Athletics decided to change conferences. Dropping out of the Herget Division and the Bay State Conference, Dedham High will now move to play in the Tri-Valley Conference. This move, however, will not happen until the fall of 2017 due to scheduling for the 2016-2017 seasons already being set.

Most towns that play sports in the Bay State Conference have a larger population in their high schools. For example, Walpole High has 1181 students enrolled, while Dedham High School has only 774. One of the determining factors that decides what conference or league a town plays in is school population. This factor is needed to ensure that each school has enough students to compete at the same level as other towns. Dedham’s enrollment is significantly less than Walpole, who already has a low population compared to other BSL

schools like Natick (1301), Needham (1522), Newton North (1871), Wellesley (1353) and Weymouth (1988).

“We want the chance to compete evenly on a nightly basis,” said Dedham Athletic Director Stephen Traister. “I am not saying we will win every night, but we will be able to better compete each night.”

Back in the 1970s and 1980s, Dedham High School was much larger. The graduating class of 1984 had 291 seniors alone. Unfortunately, that is no longer the case. Other towns in the Bay State Conference have more than enough students trying out for teams, so the level of competition on each team is higher. Dedham does not have that same luxury.

“It’s a numbers game,” said Traister. Bigger schools have higher competition because more kids are trying out

for the same team. Some schools have almost triple the amount as Dedham does which allows some students to specialize only in one sport; however, Dedham needs students to play up to three sports to be able to fill out their rosters.

Dedham is also one of the few towns in the Bay State Conference that does not have all sub-varsity (Junior varsity and freshman) teams for each sport. For example, there is no freshman boys soccer team at Dedham High school, so freshman are forced to play against older, more skilled and experienced, upperclassman.

In the Bay State Conference, this situation seems unusual; however, in the Tri-Valley Conference, schools have a similar dilemma. “We draw from the same number of students as schools in the Tri-Valley

Conference,” said Traister. The Tri-Valley Conference will be a better fit for Dedham High School’s athletic program as they were one of the smaller teams of the Bay State Conference. “We will fit right in the middle. There will be five towns smaller than us, and five that are larger,” said Traister.

The process actually started eight years ago when Dedham High School applied to and was accepted to the Tri-Valley Conference. The move was all set to be done until the Town of Dedham decided to stay in the Bay State Conference. That was until this winter, after enrollment continued to decline, when the discussion of a possible change was started up again.

“We knew they were applying [to the Tri-Valley Conference], so this [decision] is not a shock to us,” said Walpole Athletic Director Ron Dowd. “Dedham has been a member of the Bay State Conference for a long time so it is unfortunate.” As for what town will move into the Bay State Conference, it is undecided. “We are in the process of discussing how and where to go from here,” said Dowd.

