



JUNE 2015

WALPOLE HIGH SCHOOL

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Walpole High Graduation marred by plagiarized speech

Photo/ Max Simons



ABOVE: Valedictorian Vivian Ling receives an academic subject award for French from Assistant Principal Bryan Hand.

By Annie Gallivan and Julia Sandquist
Classes of 2015 and 2016

As a tradition at Walpole High School, the graduating class of seniors processed onto the John Turco Memorial field as the Walpole High concert band played the traditional piece “Pomp and Circumstance” on June 7. Along with the awarding of scholarships and diplomas, three members of the senior class - the senior class president, the salutatorian, and the valedictorian - represented their fellow classmates by providing the graduates with closure and inspiration for the future.

While the seniors left the graduation ceremony on Sunday feeling inspired, Principal Stephen Imbusch emailed

the Class of 2015 on June 9 to confirm rumors that Valedictorian Vivian Ling plagiarized her address. Ling’s speech, which centered around the Chipotle Mexican Grill, was plagiarized from an address given at the Wootton High School graduation in 2006.

On June 8, the day before Mr. Imbusch sent his email, Ling published her own statement via her Twitter account where she apologized for her actions.

In her apology, she said, “I have no excuse for plagiarizing my speech, and my actions are completely my fault. I understand that apologizing does not remedy the situation, but I am truly sorry for associating such an important milestone in our lives, graduation, with my personal lack of moral character.”

Since that apology, she has contacted the university she plans on attending in the fall in order to notify them of the situation.

In his email, Mr. Imbusch said, “on behalf of Walpole High School, I want to apologize to the Walpole community. In addition, we will reassess our practice for choosing the students who speak at graduation, and to vet those speeches in a manner that will never allow this to happen again.”

Besides the plagiarized speech, the graduation ceremony itself continued the usual traditions on June 7. Senior Class President Mike Mazzotta commenced the afternoon’s agenda with the presentation of the senior class gift, a monetary donation for the school’s

student activities fund and two new flags. Junior Class President Matt Moriarty accepted the gift and thanked the seniors on behalf of the junior class.

Salutatorian Joe Burke then took the podium to speak to the Senior Class about his interpretation of success and about his future path after high school. Burke warmly welcomed the Seniors to the ceremony which he described “the crossroads of our lives” and the “gateway to our future.” He presented graduation as an exciting new beginning and a fresh start for his fellow classmates, rather than a somber ending to a chapter in their lives. As he closed his speech, he urged his fellow classmates, “Cling to what inspires you, for life is too short to live it any other way.”

Selectman Eric Kraus then stood to honor Coach William Tompkins and Coach Ralph White. In honor of both coaches’ success, the Bird Middle School field complex has been renamed the Ralph White-William Tompkins Athletic Complex.

Mr. Imbusch then turned to recognize the students. Deserving seniors received academic awards that ranged from accomplishments in the arts to successes in the sciences and mathematics. After Mr. Imbusch presented the academic awards, he gave out several honors to the outstanding athletes of the senior class.

Finally, Superintendent Lincoln Lynch and School Committee Chairperson Patrick Shields distributed the diplomas. After Mr. Imbusch stood to give his congratulations to the seniors, Mike Mazzotta led the class of 2015 in the turning of the tassels.

While the Senior Class threw off their caps in a final farewell to end the proceedings, the plagiarized speech marred the community’s memory of the graduation ceremony.

Admired faculty members to retire after decades at Walpole High

By Julie Moser
Class of 2015

This spring, the members of the Class of 2015 will not be the only ones walking the halls of Walpole High School for the last time. Mrs. Gail Cunnane, the Principal’s secretary at WHS, will be retiring at the end of the school year after 27 years in the Walpole Public School System.

Mrs. Cunnane, a Walpole High School alumna herself, has worked in three different schools in the town of Walpole during her career, accumulating experience in various departments and positions. After working for two years at Old Post Road, she

transferred to Boyden Elementary School in 1990 where she went on to work for 5 years. She began at WHS in 1995, working in the Attendance Office for four years, before moving to the Guidance Department in 1999.

“I really got to know the kids working in the attendance office, but when I moved to Guidance, there was so much to learn there and I enjoyed it very much,” said Mrs. Cunnane.

It was not until 2011 when Cunnane began working in the main office of Walpole High. Upon Mrs. Cunnane’s transition to a new job in the high school, Mrs. Marianne McCann took over as secretary of the Guidance Department.

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By Olivia O’Brien
Class of 2015

For the past 42 years, Coach William Tompkins has been involved in Walpole High School’s athletic programs as a physical education teacher, a soccer coach, a baseball coach, and, most recently, as Walpole’s athletic director. Throughout these years, Mr. Tompkins has accomplished milestones both on the field, in the office, and in his personal life.

Mr. Tompkins started at Walpole High as a physical education teacher in 1973. As a teacher, he got to the opportunity to get to know his peers and become a good communicator. Mr. Tompkins be-

gan coaching boys baseball that spring.

“I was hired as a teacher first then a coach, and I hope my greatest memory is that I was a good teacher,” said Mr. Tompkins.

Then in 1981, he continued his coaching career as a girls soccer coach until 2002. Under his leadership, a previously losing team won three Bay State League titles in the span of 12 years.

In 2009, Mr. Tompkins became Walpole High’s athletic director, and he continued to coach the baseball team as well. As the athletic director, he communicated his expectations of student athletes in a way that gave him a respectable image in Walpole High School.

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Photo/ Ellie Hilty
Film Festival p. 9



Senior Profiles p.10-11



Photo/ Max Simons
Senior Assassins p.23



Photo/ Annie Gallivan
Prom p.24

CLASS OF 2015

JENNA
ALESSANDRO



COLLEEN
O' CONNOR



RACHEL
SPANG



BRENDAN
WOHLER



Favorite teacher quote?
“It is what it is” - Señora Sprague

What is the meaning of life?
Find what speaks to your soul and makes you happy and go do that for the rest of your life

Most embarrassing moment?
Getting my Latin book stolen five times in a year and moving lockers three times

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

Best advice you can give to incoming freshman?
Get involved and have a bunch of different friend groups

What did you hate about high school?
The workload and being treated like a child

Which faculty member had the biggest impact on your life?
Mr. Jean. He made me realize I didn't want to pursue nursing as my career



What TV show or movie best describes your high school experience?
Arrested Development, minus the “light treason”

Biggest regret?
Freshman soccer

What is your favorite memory from high school?
Seeing the looks of disgust on the faces of the St. Sebastian's kids after we beat them in the chariot race at Classics Day

Favorite teacher quote?
“I am a doughy, sedentary gentleman who does little to no exercise. This is my half-way point in life, I'm giving myself another 33 years.” - Mr. Bakale on his birthday

Dumbest reason for getting in trouble?
Alan accused me of Googling everything about some short story and called me Wiki for most of the year

Which teacher will you miss most?
Ms. Farrell

Favorite subject?
English



Favorite teacher quote?
“Can someone play Monster Mash?” - Conor Cashman

Biggest regret?
Not doing film

Favorite memory?
Playing tennis in Junior English while everyone was taking the APUSH exam

Most embarrassing moment?
Tripped UP the stairs during the first week of freshman year

Favorite female celebrity?
Lauren LoRusso

Best advice you can give to incoming freshmen?
RUN

Which faculty member had the biggest impact on your life?
Ms. Culliton because I want to be her when I grow up

What will you miss most about high school?
The Un crustables©

Dumbest reason for getting in trouble?
Drinking coffee



Biggest regret?
Not going to the Walpole-Natick football game this year

Most embarrassing moment?
Every presentaion I've ever done in high school

What is the meaning of life?
Filling out surveys for *The Rebellion*

What concert are you most looking forward to this summer?
One Direction

Favorite subject?
Science

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

Which faculty member had the biggest impact on your life?
Mr. Strick, for being a laid back teacher who makes the stuff he's teaching interesting and enjoyable

Favorite female celebrity?
Lorde

SENIOR PROFILES

SAMANTHA
CORCORAN



CAROLINE
FALVEY



KODY
MCCANN



LAUREN
LORUSSO



What is the meaning of life?
I think it means something different to everyone.

What is your favorite high school memory?
When Mr. Cashman was absent for five days because of jury duty.

Favorite teacher quote?
“Altoids are my heroine”
-Mr. Symanski

What will you miss most about high school?
I will miss my teachers and the familiar faces.

Favorite school event?
Dance Company performance.

Which faculty member had the biggest impact on your life?
Mrs. Tobey because she taught me that it’s okay if you’re not everyone’s favorite person.

What did you hate about high school?
The cattiness

Favorite book read in high school?
To Kill a Mockingbird

What is your favorite memory from high school?
The final performance of “Magnum Opus”.

Most embarrassing moment?
Tripping down the stairs at least once a year (including falling down the front steps of the high school at freshman orientation).

What TV show or movie best describes your high school experience?
Parks & Recreation

What will you miss most about high school?
Snack time.

Best advice you can give to incoming freshman?
There’s always money in the Banana Stand.

What did you hate about high school?
Risking my life everyday in the parking lot.

Which faculty member had the biggest impact on your life?
Ms. Culliton because she loves her job and hates the snow.

What is your favorite memory from high school?
Honestly, the last day: the senior tailgate.

Most embarrassing moment?
On the third day of freshman year my backpack ripped open and my new books splattered all over the hallway.

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

Dumbest reason getting in trouble in high school?
Having too many cap erasers.

What did you hate about high school?
The teachers that spend more of their time being policemen rather than teachers. Staff that follows every rule when they do not make sense in the real world.

Favorite teacher quote?
“If you cut corners in gym class, you’ll cut corners in life. Cut corners in life, and you will end up at Cedar Junction”
-Mr. Kampper

What TV show or movie best describes your high school experience?
Captain America: The Winter Soldier

Biggest regret?
Caring so much about stupid stuff.

What is your favorite memory from high school?
Film fest with Wax Jambu

Most embarrassing moment?
My eighth grade spray tan.

What will you miss most about high school?
The sandwiches at lunch. Good stuff.

Favorite male celebrity?
Scott Disick.

Favorite teacher quote?
“Girl... life sucks, then you die” -Mr. Kim

Which faculty member had the biggest impact on your life?
Ms. Culliton and Mr. Kim because they both taught me I should just do me and not care about what anyone else thinks and that whatever I feel is best for me.

COLLEGE DESTINATION GUIDE

Biggest school:
University of Toronto

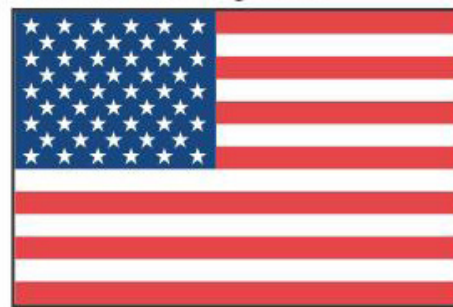


Toronto, Canada
64,962 students



Division 1 athletes:
7 students

**Graduates joining
the military: 4**



Closest to home:
Curry College



Milton, MA
12.4 miles

Most WHS students:
Westfield State University



Westfield, MA
20 students

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Franklin Pierce University
Keene State College
University of New Hampshire (11)
Plymouth State University (3)
Southern New Hampshire University (3)

VERMONT

University of Vermont (4)

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut College
University of Connecticut (2)
Eastern Connecticut State University
Fairfield University (2)
Mitchell College
Quinnipiac University (3)
Sacred Heart University (4)

RHODE ISLAND

Brown University
Bryant University (5)
New England Institute of Technology
Providence College (6)
Rhode Island College
University of Rhode Island (4)
Roger Williams University
Salve Regina University (2)

PENNSYLVANIA

Dickinson College
Muhlenberg College

MARYLAND

Loyola University Maryland (2)

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

American University
The Catholic University of America
The George Washington University (3)

VIRGINIA

George Mason University
Virginia Tech
Virginia Wesleyan College

NORTH CAROLINA

East Carolina University

TENNESSEE

Rhodes College

SOUTH CAROLINA

Clemson University

GEORGIA

Savannah College of Art and Design

FLORIDA

Lynn University (2)

ALABAMA

The University of Alabama (2)

MISSISSIPPI

University of Mississippi

MICHIGAN

University of Michigan

OHIO

Denison University

WISCONSIN

Marquette University
University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire

INDIANA

University of Notre Dame (2)

CALIFORNIA

John Paul the Great Catholic University

Furthest school:
John Paul the Great Catholic University



San Diego, CA
3,020 miles

MAINE

Husson University
University of Maine (4)
Saint Joseph's College
University of Southern Maine

MASSACHUSETTS

Amherst College
Anna Maria College
Assumption College (4)
Babson College
Bentley University (3)
Boston College (3)
Boston University (2)
Bridgewater State University (12)
Bunker Hill Community College (2)
Clark University
Curry College (3)
Dean College (2)
Eastern Nazarene College
Emerson College (2)
Emmanuel College (3)
Endicott College (2)
Fitchburg State University
Framingham State University (7)
Gordon College
College of the Holy Cross
Lasell College (2)
Massachusetts Bay Community College (11)
Massachusetts College of Art and Design
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences
Massachusetts Maritime Academy (5)
University of Massachusetts, Amherst (10)
University of Massachusetts, Boston (6)
University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth (5)
University of Massachusetts, Lowell (2)
Massasoit Community College (6)
Massasoit Community College, Canton (2)
Merrimack College (3)
Mount Ida College (3)
Newbury College (2)
Nichols College
Northeastern University (3)
Quincy College
Salem State University
Simmons College
Stonehill College (4)
Suffolk University (3)
Wentworth Institute of Technology (4)
Western New England University (2)
Westfield State University (20)
Wheaton College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Worcester State University

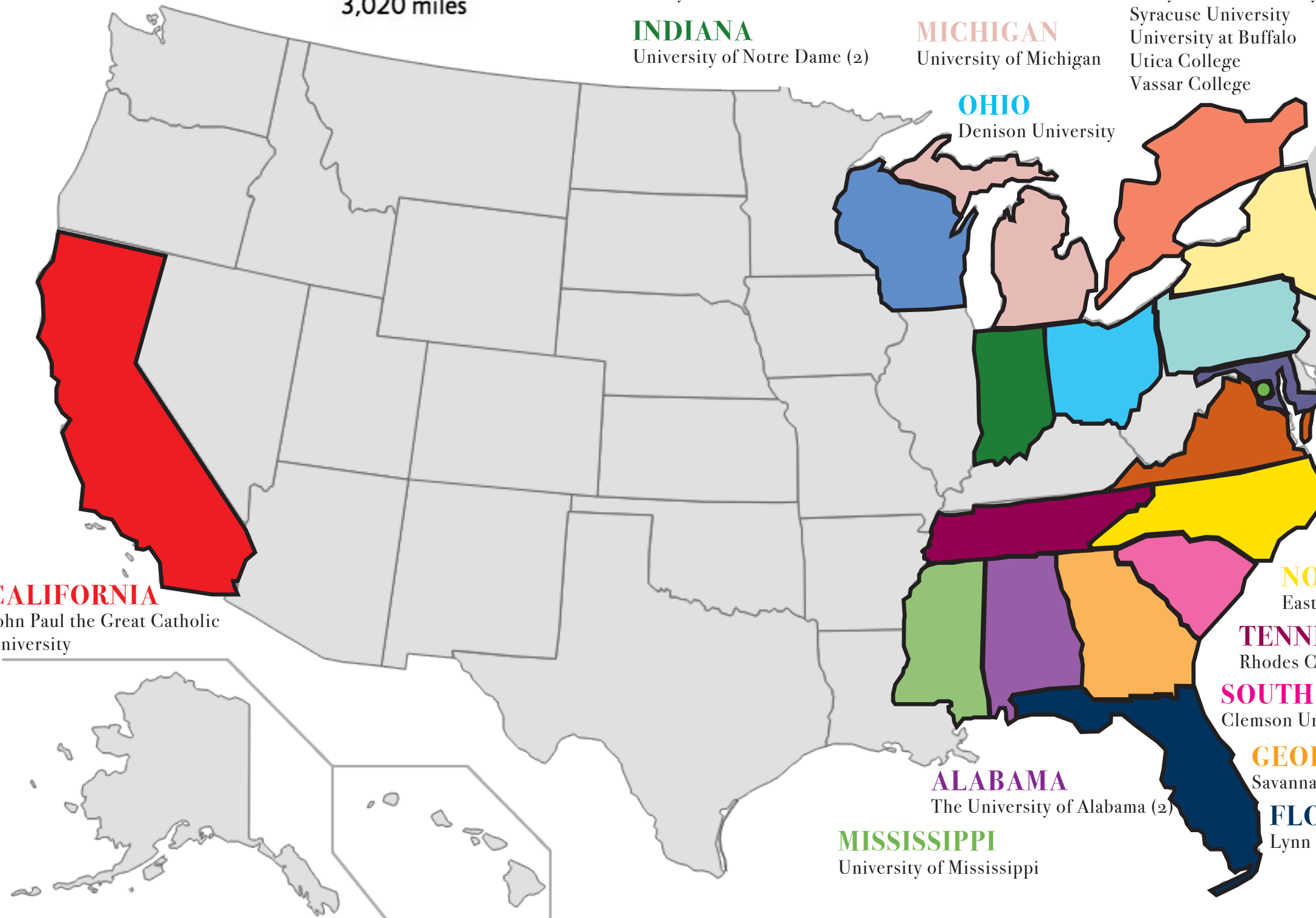
**Graduates attending
college: 262**



Smallest school:
John Paul the Great Catholic University



San Diego, CA
170 students



COLLEGE COMMITTS

Each year, some students are lucky enough to avoid the stressful application process and to know the college they plan to attend. These students are the exceptional athletes of Walpole High who will continue their sports career in college. This year, the class of 2015 has 27 college commits to a variety of schools across the country. Students will be playing basket, soccer, track and field, football, field hockey, swimming, hockey, cross country, and rowing. Athletes Abby Wohler (University of Alabama; Rowing), Summer King (Colgate University; Basketball), Allie Morris (UMass Lowell; Track and Field), Bryan Kelleher (Sacred Heart University; Track and Field), Nicole Suave (Sacred Heart University; Swimming), and Stephanie Lund (Holy Cross; Soccer) will compete at Division I schools. Three athletes will compete at Division II schools and eighteen athletes will compete at Division III schools.

CHRIS GALLIVAN  Vassar College Sport: Basketball	CAITLIN CAMPBELL  Bridgewater State University Sport: Track and Field	JACK DONNELLY  University of Southern Maine Sport: Baseball	JOE DELANEY  Keene State College Sport: Soccer	LAUREN HIRSHOM  Connecticut College Sport: Field Hockey
What advice would you give to other high school athletes? Always work your hardest.	What makes Walpole's sports programs unique? Our town is based around sports, and everyone supports the sports teams in Walpole.	What is your favorite part of playing a high school sport? Close relationships, being part of a team, making memories.	What is your favorite high school sport memory? Playing in the state finals my junior year.	What is your favorite part of playing a high school sport? My favorite part about high school sports is the people you meet and the things that you accomplish while playing the sport.
What is your favorite high school sport memory? Making two free throws against Westwood in the tournament to clinch the win.	What advice would you give to other high school athletes? My advice is to remember that practices are extremely important. And listen to your coaches. They are there to help you succeed and progress in your sports career.	What is your favorite high school sport memory? Senior year baseball tournament. #werollin	What makes Walpole's sports programs unique? There is a winning tradition in Walpole.	What coaches inspired you the most? Murph because she not only taught me about the sport, but she connected it to life lessons throughout the season.
What is the hardest part of playing high school sports? Having limited times to practice.		What is the hardest part of playing high school sports? Losing.	What advice would you give to other high school athletes? Always work hard in the offseason	
BRYAN KELLEHER  Sacred Heart University Sport: Track and Field	SEAMUS FORD  Merrimack College Sport: Lacrosse	ABBY WOHLER  University of Alabama Sport: Rowing	JACK LAVANCHY  Merrimack College Sport: Football	ANDREW PAPIRIO  Springfield College Sport: Football
What coaches inspired you the most? Coach Butera because without him, I wouldn't be running in college.	What advice would you give to other high school athletes? Stay out of trouble.	What is your favorite high school sports memory? Ice cream after races.	What is your favorite part of playing a high school sport? My favorite part is being able to play sports with friends that you grew up with.	What advice would you give to other high school athletes? The most important thing in sports is the content of your character and who you are as a person.
What is your favorite high school sport memory? Winning the Herget Title in Indoor Track against Natick.	What makes Walpole's sports programs unique? The pride in the town at all ages.	What is the hardest part of playing high school sports? The time commitment.	What is the hardest part of playing high school sports? The hardest part is knowing that the sport season will eventually come to an end.	What is your favorite part of playing a high school sport? Being able to glorify God with the gifts he has given me.
What makes Walpole's sports programs unique? The pride associated with being the Rebels. Our seasons are built on maintaining our Rebel Pride.	What is your favorite high school sports memory? Playing senior night after being injured for most of the season.	What advice would you give to other high school athletes? If you commit to it, it's worth it.	What makes Walpole's sports programs unique? The whole town comes together and is like a family.	What makes Walpole's sports programs unique? The coaching staff...and our state of the art gym facility.
	What is the hardest part of playing high school sports? The pressure.	What is your favorite part of playing a high school sport? Being with kids from different schools.		

SUMMER KING



Colgate University
Sport: Basketball

What is your favorite high school sport memory?

My favorite memory was getting 1000 kills in volleyball.

What advice would you give to other high school athletes?

Have fun. It goes by quick.

What makes Walpole's sports programs unique?

The hard work from all of the coaches and players.

TOMMY HELM



Plymouth State University
Sport: Soccer, Track and Field

What is the hardest part of playing high school sports?

The hardest part was managing my time being on a team, being a student and also having a relationship with friends and family members.

What makes Walpole's sports programs unique?

We never go down without putting up a fight against any team we play.

ASHLEY LEVYA



Westfield State University
Sport: Soccer

What is the hardest part of playing high school sports?
Having to balance games, practices, and school work.

What is your favorite high school sports memory?
Getting the winning PK against Oliver Ames in tournament.

What coaches inspired you the most?
Erin Kearney, definitely.

JOE KEOUGH



Bridgewater State University
Sport: Cross Country, Track and Field

What makes Walpole's sports programs unique?
Our sports are unique because of the amount of time and effort our coaches put into making our teams great.

What is your favorite high school sports memory?
My favorite memory was winning a medal at the 2012 Principals meet.

MATT ORDWAY



Plymouth State Univeristy
Sport: Football

What is your favorite high school sports memory?
Beating Natick senior year.

What makes Walpole's sports programs unique?
We are consistently good.

What is your favorite part of playing a high school sport?
Being on a team.

What advice would you give to other high school athletes?
Have fun.

KATIE SMITH



Amherst College
Sport: Swimming

What advice would you give to other high school athletes?
Balancing your time is everything. Make sure you're on top of your schoolwork because it's just as important as a successful sports career.

What is your favorite part of playing a high school sport?
The close bonds you build with people you otherwise wouldn't be friends with.

LAUREN VALENTI



Eastern Connecticut State University
Sport: Soccer

What is your favorite part of playing a high school sport?
The thrill of playing in games and improving as the season goes on and also being a part of a team would have to be my favorite parts of playing soccer in high school.

What advice would you give to other high school athletes?
Enjoy every season you have because you only get four.

NICOLE SAUVE



Sacred Heart University
Sport: Swimming

What coaches inspired you the most?
I think my club coach Sue Roycroft inspired me the most. She showed me how to work hard and balance school along with swimming.

What advice would you give to other high school athletes?
You can accomplish anything as long as you have a positive attitude. But most importantly just have fun! I know everyone says the four years will fly by but it is so true live in the moment.

RILEY TETREAU



Wheaton College
Sport: Basketball

What is your favorite high school sports memory?
My favorite memory is putting Norwood in my back pocket on senior night.

What is your favorite part of playing a high school sport?
Dominating.

What is the hardest part of playing high school sports?
The time commitment.

PAT DONOVAN



Framingham State University
Sport: Basketball

What makes Walpole's sports programs unique?
The bond and closeness of the teams and the brotherhood. Not to mention the close relationships with the coaches.

What advice would you give to other high school athletes?
Work hard on your sport. No one ever regretted working hard and winning. People only regret not working hard and losing.

JARED SPLAINE



Westfield State University
Sport: Football

What advice would you give to other high school athletes?
Enjoy the time you have with your teammates because before you know it, it's all over. When all is set and done, you'll remember your teammates more than your classmates.

What makes Walpole's sports programs unique?
The Rebel tradition began by Coach Lee. He established a culture that expected success and nothing less.

OLIVIA KNIGHT



Nichols College
Sport: Hockey

What advice would you give to other high school athletes?
Never take anything for granted. Each season goes by way too fast.

What is the hardest part of playing high school sports?
Never putting on the jersey again.

What is your favorite high school sports memory?
Winning the State Championship for field hockey.

ALLIE MORRIS



UMass Lowell
Sport: Cross Country, Track and Field

What is the hardest part of playing high school sports?
Dealing with injuries and learning when it is necessary to rest and when to push through it.

What coaches inspired you the most?
Cashman taught me how to be a smarter runner. He also was encouraging and helped me accomplish many of my goals.

JAMES MURPHY



Curry College
Sport: Football

What is your favorite part of playing a high school sport?
Playing with the kids you have known you're whole life.

What is the hardest part of playing high school sports?
Balancing sports, school and a social life.

What advice would you give to other high school athletes?
Live it up and enjoy every second of it because before you know it you'll be washed up.

NABIL CHAMOUN



Eastern Nazarene College
Sport: Soccer

What makes Walpole's sports programs unique?
The pride and heart that we play with.

What is your favorite part of playing a high school sport?
The things you learn that can't be taught in a classroom.

What is your favorite high school sports memory?
Scoring in a state championship.

STEPHANIE LUND



Holy Cross
Sport: Soccer

What is your favorite part of playing a high school sport?
My favorite part is being a part of such a close group of girls and playing sports with people I've been playing with since I was five years old.

What makes Walpole's sports programs unique?
Every sports team is so competitive, even sometimes with each other.

CHRIS BENDER



Merrimack College
Sport: Football

What makes Walpole's sports programs unique?
We are far beyond any town.

What advice would you give to other high school athletes?
Live up to the rebel name.

What is the hardest part of playing high school sports?
The hardest part is preseason.

What is your favorite high school sports memory?
Beating natick.

SENIOR REFLECTIONS

JACK SPRINGER

Freshman year, I was literally an ass. I wore my pants low, I was mean to girls, I didn't respect the people who had my best interests in mind, and lastly I didn't care about anyone but myself. It all changed when I started getting in trou-



ble. After that stupid stuff, I changed everything about myself. It was crazy.

Sometimes I wish that I played football because I'm telling you right now, I'd show up all these kids that think they're good. But I let some bad influences change my perspective forever. Those influences made me hate kids that played sports because they were all the same. They all had the same jokes, sayings, and clothes. That's my biggest regret though—I wish I stuck with football.

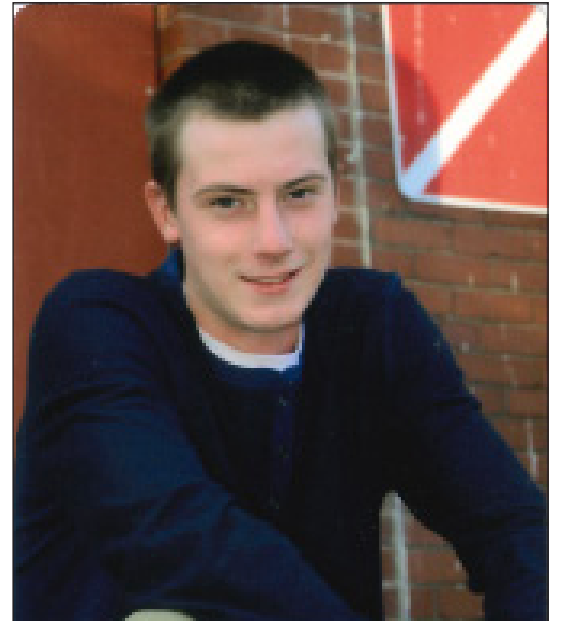
Although life after high school scares many people, it makes me happy. Realizing I won't have to change my clothes every day and take a shower makes me feel great. Seriously though, I can't wait to get out of here. Once I'm out, I'm never looking back. My life plans are pretty non-existent, but I'm working my ass off trying to find something that interests me. Finding a career is my main goal: I want a good paying job that doesn't suck. Is that too hard to ask for?

Looking back over my senior year, I loved when my old teachers came up to me and said that I've changed for the better. Even though I've changed,

I still strive every day to work on issues that I still have. I'm realizing that positivity is key in any situation. Before, if something bad happened, I'd be so negative, and I thought that negativity would fix the problem. If my car broke down, I'd flip off every car that wasn't broken down as I walked home. Now, when the car breaks down, I think, "Oh well, it's only 3 miles to my house." Essentially, when life gives me lemons, I squeeze them onto my salmon because it tastes good.

Seriously though, I want to recognize a few people.

There are many things and people that have influenced my "school life." My family has been a big part. They always motivated me not to drop out of high school. Without their help, I might have dropped out—school has been that bad for me. And while I'm beyond happy to be out of this



school, there were for sure, multiple experiences that happened here that have made me a better, smarter, and sensible person. And for that I thank everyone at this school that's helped me. It's awesome. If I could help SOME of these teachers back, I would.



If I could describe my freshman year in one song, it would definitely be "I'm a Slave 4 U" by Britney Spears. Starting off freshman year, I was your typical awkward teen trying to be super cool. There was no way I went to school without a North Face backpack.

I thought the quote "Livin' Young, Wild, & Free" by Wiz Khalifa was really cool freshman year, so being a non-pot-smoker, I simply wrote those lyrics on my wall (which shows what type of fake teenager I was). Before school every morning, I had to straighten my hair (or I would literally die). Pulling into the school, I made sure I was not caught dead getting out of my mom's maroon Honda mini-van. As for academics, I literally went to teachers and cried to get a "B" in their classes, so my mom didn't ground me from going to Pats Place with my friends.

A lot has changed about what I think is important since freshman year.

This year, I rolled out of bed and went to school in what I slept in without a care in the world. Since my old car (white Mitsubishi (aka "Sasha Fierce")) was crashed into a tree by ya girl, I whipped around in my mother's mini van like it was a Ferrari. I still begged for grades but only to somehow get accepted to college (which I did (I know right, shocker)), and I even became friends

with a lot of teachers (Mrs. Quann, Ms. Mac, Mrs. Bacon - my girls). For a senior year song, I definitely would pick "Nobody's Perfect" by the one and only Hannah Montana (even though I clearly am an exception to that song). Seriously though, I am still young at heart in some ways. I sleep with stuffed animals, so I guess I'm still a child, but I don't care because my pink monkey is probably cooler than you.

But yes kiddos I made it, and if I did, you can too! Just follow these simple words of advice: You're not cool and use a backpack (not a pocketbook). Also, remember that the smaller the shorts you wear equals the smaller amount of respect from teachers; the longer the skirt, the longer you will stay out of prison.

Xoxo, love YG Shley

ASHLEY LEVYA



BRENDAN JEANNETTI

Arriving at Walpole High as a plump, 5'3 (5'8 if you count the height of my afro), perfectly circular freshman was nerve racking. Not only did I have trou-



ble fitting in (both physically and socially), but I was also just down right scared of high school. I did not play any sports or do anything besides eating and refusing to comb my hair, so I figured my life would be like a high school movie where I'd either get shoved into a locker, locked in the girls' bathroom, or get a bucket of punch poured on me at prom.

While I may have been a 10 on the irrelevance scale my freshman year, my high school career did not go as I expected. When I was forced to take TV Production sophomore year, I finally found my "thing" that I belonged to. I stayed a part of the TV class and the morning news from sophomore year until the end of my senior year.

The class made me realize how social I actually could be and, most importantly, opened my eyes to how unattractive and gremlin-like I was. One drastic haircut and a couple of funny videos later, I had confidence and determination—something that I

never had experienced before. Because of this, I had the courage to run for Student Council and to direct a movie in the Film Festival despite not being in the Film class. If you had told me when I was a fat freshman that I would be confident enough to make these decisions, I would have laughed in your face and resumed my daily listening of Ke\$ha's discography.

If I had to use a quote to describe my change from freshman year to present day, I would easily choose the hook from "Metamorphosis" by my girl Hilary Duff. I completely changed from one weird kid into a moderately weird young adult. I look back and wonder, "How am I the same person now that I was then?" TV Production class and



the Rebel Report have changed my life for the better and have inspired me to pursue a career in TV. I will be forever grateful for Walpole High School for being the gateway to the rest of my life.

Next 1 Week Class – June 29th 8:45am-3:30pm

And 1 Week Class – July 6th 8:45am-3:30pm

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ENTERTAINMENT

Tina Fey's *Kimmy Schmidt* quickly gains large fan base

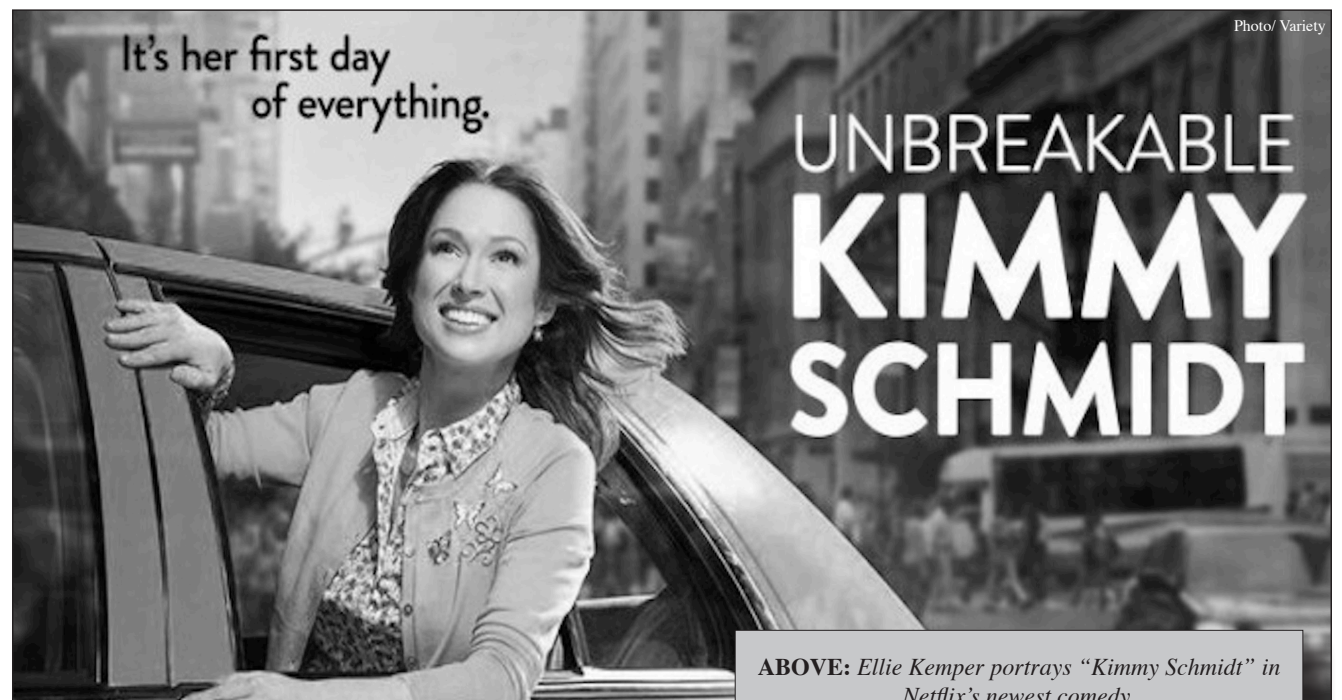
By Emily Massarelli
Class of 2015

Tina Fey, the first head female writer for *Saturday Night Live*, writer of *Mean Girls*, producer and writer of *30 Rock*, and now creator and writer for yet another hit comedy: *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*. Known for her blunt, honest comedic style, Fey may be called a comedic genius. Her insight into the harsh truths of society's flaws shines through in her writing and production.

Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt is yet another successful outlet for Fey's amazing creativity and comedic talent.

The title character, Kimmy Schmidt (Ellie Kemper), is one of the "Indiana Mole Women" who were taken into captivity by a Reverend who convinced them that the apocalypse had scorched the entire Earth, and only they were safe in his bunker. Fifteen years later, Kimmy and the other women are rescued, and exposed to a new society foreign to them. The plot's premise is taken from two short moments from Fey's show *30 Rock*, in which Kenneth, the NBC page, mentions his hometown reverend, who predicted the apocalypse, and when Liz Lemon (Tina Fey) sees a young, innocent girl getting off a bus who says she just escaped a cult after many years.

Perhaps the most interesting premise of the show is its connection to the Greek philosophy of Plato and Socrates. Socrates speaks of a group



ABOVE: Ellie Kemper portrays "Kimmy Schmidt" in Netflix's newest comedy.

of people chained in a cave. For their entire lives, they only gain a sense of reality from shadows upon a wall. Eventually, one escapes and must reinterpret his sense of reality, just as Kimmy must as she experiences an entirely altered world.

As Kimmy—clad in pastel yellow and light-up Skechers—plants her feet in the strange jungle that is New York City, she establishes a job as a nanny to rich housewife Jacqueline (Jane Krakowski), finds a best friend Dong (Ki Hong Lee) in her GED class, as well as finds an apartment

with a spunky, gay, African American roommate Titus (Tituss Burgess). And thus, the stereotypes begin.

Dong works part-time as a Chinese food delivery boy, while Titus mimics many of the flamboyant stereotypes of a flamboyant gay man aiming to sing on Broadway. A ridiculous looking, almost monstrous plastic surgeon Dr. Sidney Grant makes an appearance, and has a striking resemblance to the real Dr. Frederic Brandt, known as the "Baron of Botox." These are just a few simple examples of the innumerable moments of harsh comedy

within the show. Many viewers use these moments as fuel to say Fey is racist or prejudiced herself; however, to say this would be missing the point of Fey's comedy and personality entirely. In bringing to light society's bluntest topics by means of comedy, Fey highlights how ridiculous modern stereotypes are.

These instances of satirical comedy are what make *Kimmy Schmidt*, as well as many of Fey's other movies and shows, a hit. Available on Netflix, the show is widely popular and will be appearing for a second season in 2016.

Twenty One Pilots' *Blurryface* transcends duo's style



By Emily Luong
Class of 2016

As millions of young people nationwide are starting their summer vacations, what better way to celebrate the advent of summer than to release new music that will be played from countless car radios, pool parties, and concerts? A music duo consisting of vocalist Tyler Joseph and drummer Josh Dun, Twenty One Pilots kicked off the summer season by releasing a

fourth studio album titled *Blurryface* on May 17. Matching the creative ingenuity of *Vessel*, the band's 2013 major debut album with record label Fueled by Ramen, *Blurryface* continues to experiment with various musical themes to create a compilation of fourteen tracks that brilliantly transcends the notion that albums must adhere to a single consistent sound and be categorized into only one music genre.

Formed in 2009 in Columbus, Ohio, Twenty One Pilots was originally a three piece group consisting of Tyler

Joseph, Nick Thomas, and Chris Salih. However in 2011, Thomas and Salih left due to scheduling conflicts.

After their departure, Josh Dun joined the band as a drummer. Prior to their signing at Fueled by Ramen, Twenty One Pilots self released two albums, one self titled and another called *Regional at Best*. With Fueled by Ramen, Twenty One Pilots released *Vessel*, a musical and commercial success that set very high expectations for future albums.

Originally scheduled to be released on May 19, *Blurryface* was released two days ahead of time because Joseph and Dun were very eager to share the album with the fans. Despite the immense hype, fans already had heard several tracks of the album prior to *Blurryface*'s official release. Singles from the album were steadily released as the May release date approached. The first single, "Fairly Local", dropped in April and provided fans with a real sneak peek of what was to come. Following "Fairly Local", additional singles such as "Tear in My Heart", "Stressed Out", "Lane Boy", and "Ride" were premiered. Despite that these five singles consisted of a significant chunk of the album, fans were still in the dark about the remaining nine tracks.

Similar to *Vessel*, *Blurryface*'s mix of several different music styles creates an entirely new genre that could only be described as pop and alternatives' lovechild. Twenty One Pilots and fans alike describe the band's trademark sound as "schizo pop," a mix of different genres that sounds

"all over the place"—in a good way. Songs that accurately reflect this unique approach to music are "Ride", "Polarize", and "Lane Boy" for their experiments with reggae, "We Don't Believe What's on TV" for its ukelele undertones, and many others for Joseph's familiar frantic rapping. Although *Blurryface* is simply a motley of completely disparate styles that seemingly would not sound well together, Twenty One Pilots interweaves these themes in such a way that uniquely and brilliantly works.

In addition to the album's standout instrumental variety, the lyrics of these songs unveil vocalist and lyricist Tyler Joseph's vulnerabilities. The title of the album *Blurryface* represents Joseph's insecure persona. In song "Stressed Out", Joseph reveals that "Blurryface" is a part of himself: "My name's Blurryface and I care what you think." Throughout the album, Joseph battles with this side of him until the last song of the album "Goner" when he acknowledges "[he's] got two faces, Blurry's the one [he's] not." Coupled with creative and well put together instrumentals, *Blurryface*'s story-like narrative creates a whole new dimension to the already dynamic album. Moreover, these lyrics produce a record that fans can connect with.

Faced with immense pressure to match and even surpass the triumphs of *Vessel*, Twenty One Pilots delivers an album that continues to defy normal genre restrictions. As the band is becoming more popular, Twenty One Pilots continues to transform the music industry.



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NEWS

Walpole Police Department looks to change community's mindset towards opiate use

Photo/Ellie Kalemkeridis



ABOVE: Officer Carmichael holds the Narcan— a brand name for the drug Naloxne, which is administered to individuals who have overdosed on heroine.

By Anna Van der Linden
Class of 2016

In Norfolk County, drug overdose is the number one unintentional, non-health related cause of death. In the Walpole area, opioid pain relievers are the most widely used and abused prescription drugs. The town has averaged 14 overdoses each year between 2011 and 2013, and 15 lives have been lost in the past 4 ½ years due to opiate addiction.

"I don't think anyone's immune to it, it's so prevalent," said Deputy Chief John Carmichael, who also works on a drug task force. The Walpole Police Department works continuously to combat drug abuse in Norfolk County, and the alarming increases in opiates over the past few years have led the police to

ramp up their efforts. Gloucester, Massachusetts has also been trying to defeat the heroin issues in their town using Naloxne by the brand name Narcan.

"When Narcan is administered to an individual who has overdosed on heroin," said Carmichael, "they are essentially brought back to life."

Governor Deval Patrick permitted all emergency first responders to be equipped with Narcan so that it can be more widely used. The extraordinary effects of Narcan caught the Walpole Police Department's attention, and the drug is now in place in every Walpole police cruiser. In the one year that Narcan has existed in the Walpole community, it has been used 7 times by the Police Department, and 28 times by the Fire Department.

In addition to using Narcan, Walpole wants to help rehabilitate addicts. "Like Gloucester, we do not charge anyone with possession if they call to help a fellow addict experiencing an overdose," said Walpole Police Chief Richard Stillman, "and we would never charge someone willing to turn in their drugs to seek help." Each officer carries pre-printed cards with the contact information for different treatment centers and help lines that are given to drug users and their families.

"On the other side of that, we still have a relentless pursuit of the drug dealer, but we really want to provide resources, to make sure we can get them to the hospital, get them to a treatment facility, and then we still follow up after," said Carmichael.

Sometimes because of the stigma against opiates, a drug user is often afraid to ask for help. In addition to fighting opiate abuse, the Walpole Police Department is working to change people's mindset towards addiction.

"The goal is to see it as a disease, and that these are real people who need help," said Carmichael. The family has the ability to go to court and ask the loved one to get help, but sometimes the drug problem causes a rift in the family and no help is offered to the addict. "So then we can step in, act as the bad guy, we can do a Section 35 and usually once they are standing in court they decide on their own that they will go to treatment," said Carmichael. "Our goal is to help those addicted and their families get help with their problem," Stillman said.

The Walpole Police Station also has a drug drop off box for residents to drop off prescription drugs, as many can be gateways to heroin use.

"We take in about 200 to 300 pounds of medication every month," said Stillman. This can help to prevent opiate problems from developing in the first place. In a recent audit of the drugs being dropped off, many were opiates. "I was very happy to discover that we were bringing in the drugs that were killing people, the oxycodone

and stuff like that," Carmichael said.

However, the primary way to stop these opiate addictions in their tracks is by starting with the youth. "Alcohol, marijuana, whatever that gateway is that kids start out with, really puts these kids on a trajectory to an addiction later on in life, so part of the message is trying to educate kids and parents."

"What I don't want to see happening is for the Narcan to become a crutch, but I think it has to be available," said Carmichael.

Right now, the drug is available with a prescription, but it is necessary to go through a course to learn how to administer it. Quincy and Gloucester had the first pilot programs for Narcan years ago, but the DPA turned down Carmichael's requests for the medication in Walpole. It took 5 years for the WPD to obtain the medication by having a medical personnel prescribe. In theory, families could obtain it for a loved one with an addiction.

According to the department's statistics, the majority of Walpole's overdoses are between 19-30 years old. "If kids are using alcohol or marijuana or pills in high school and developing that pattern," said Carmichael, "that can lead to overdosing on heroin at 19, 20, 21." In the past 5 years, the average age of usage was around 30, so initiation to drugs in adolescence has affected opiate abuse. "It's a progressive thing," Carmichael said, "The early age is a huge factor."

The Walpole Strategic Drug Plan is created annually to outline Walpole's drug policy. The most recent document is primarily focused on opiates, and explains the use of Narcan. The plan is a work in progress and frequently refined. In addition, the WPD has hosted two separate Drug 101 information sessions at the town library, both of which filled the room with Walpole residents who wanted to learn more about drug use. "We just need to change the stigma towards someone with an addiction. It starts with getting the facts," said Carmichael. The Walpole Strategic Drug Plan is available on the Walpole Police Department's website.

Walpole Public Schools concludes Bridge Program

By Julia Sandquist
Class of 2016

The Walpole Public Schools system has made the ultimate decision to conclude the high school Bridge program next year. The program was originally designed for students who need a transition period before moving to a regular academic plan; it was meant to provide a bridge between the regular Walpole High curriculum instruction and the behavioral and academic support of a special needs program.

Back in November 2014, the Walpole School Committee recognized its growing deficit of \$400,000 and the low enrollment in the Bridge Program, which has impacted the district's budget.

The Bridge program currently costs about \$250,000 per year, and in the

past, students from nearby communities who paid tuition to use the service brought income to the district.

Walpole High used to have seven students from other communities, but other districts have either started their own programs or the students have moved out into these other programs, so the Bridge Program no longer has as many students enrolled in its program as it first did back in 2003.

Superintendent Lynch said, "The conclusion of Bridge was initiated due to fluctuating enrollments and a better opportunity to provide expanded opportunities for students"

When the program concludes next year, the Bridge students will have the option of being mainstreamed into the regular academic curriculum at Walpole High school with parental consent. If they are not ready for

this transition, the students will then have the option to enroll in the TEC High School Phoenix Academy. The TEC Phoenix Academy is similar to Bridge, for it allows students to work with a larger staff and work in group instructional settings but still maintains a therapeutic and behavior program for those kids need it.

Many of the current TEC Phoenix High School students are graduating this year, so next year is an appropriate time for the program to enroll the Walpole Bridge students who are not ready to be mainstreamed into regular academic courses at Walpole High.

The behavioral development portion of the TEC Phoenix Program provides support according to a student's unique and special needs. The program is designed to provide students with a safe learning environment that actively

engages them in the learning process and encourages each child to pursue personal goals and achieve success.

The TEC Phoenix Academy is also designed to have a strong academic program that prepares students to meet all the requirements for a high school diploma and in a career or college.

Assistant Superintendent Linda Mckelligan said, "A joint committee of the TEC and Walpole staff have been meeting regularly to evaluate curriculum and to review procedures. It is exciting to consider the many new ideas and opportunities being put forth to improve our programs for students."

The Bridge Program is scheduled to conclude this year, and the Bridge students will be able to embark on their new paths in the regular high school or an alternative academic curriculum next year starting in September 2015.



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SPORTS

Walpole competes at Unified Track Championship

By Meghan O'Meara
Class of 2016

After two regular season meets, Walpole Unified Track and Field competed in the Southern League Unified Track and Field Championship at Sharon High School on Wednesday, May 20. Ms. April Zyirek, the Special Education Department Chairperson and Program Coordinator, and Mrs. Mary Caine, worked together to implement the program this year for the first time ever. With approximately 24 students, Walpole Unified Track and Field had the largest team in the Southern League at the Championship Meet.

"We also had a large group of faculty and staff who volunteered, along with spectators who have come to the meets to support the team," said Caine.

The Unified Team practiced about once a week; however, Physical Education and Health Teacher Quinn Geary practiced all of the events with the students during their PE classes. The Educational Support Personnel in the Career and Education Program also worked hard to prepare students in PE.

WHS Junior Theresa Swindlehurst, an active member in the Best Buddies program and a student partner on the team—participated in the 100 meter dash and shot put. Swindlehurst enjoyed participating in Unified Track and felt that she benefitted from being on the team.

"It helped me have more patience and be able to better understand peo-



ABOVE: Senior Selene Henry and junior Courtney Waters participated in this season of Unified Track and Field.

ple with disabilities," she said. "It also made me realize they are just as good at sports as everyone else."

Special Olympic athlete Courtney Waters, who participated in relay races, javelin, and shot put, had a great experience with unified track.

"Amire Loftis and I were the best team—he was the fastest one out there, and I like to win," said Waters.

Both Waters and Swindlehurst plan on participating next year. To any WHS student interested in joining the team, Swindlehurst said, "Make sure you can commit fully and really bond with the students. That way, everyone in the group can grow to their fullest potential."

After the decision had been made in the fall of 2014 to bring Unified Track

and Field to Walpole High, Ms. Zyirek applied for a grant through Special Olympics to get the team started and received \$2000.00 grant money for the first year. Hoping to raise more funding, the Special Education Department also reached out to parents for donations.

Susan Cisternelli, a parent of a student in the program, reached out to local businesses and friends for donations. In addition, parent Jackie Groden donated snacks on the day of the meets. While Texas Roadhouse donated the team shirts, Walpole High School bought the supplies and paid for buses for the meet.

To prepare for the season, Ms. Zyirek and Mrs. Caine went to meetings and training through Special Olympics and brought two students to a leadership



ABOVE: Senior Michael McCarthy throws the javelin for the Unified Track team.

conference at Special Olympics Headquarters. Ms. Zyirek asked Ms. Teresa Canney, Science Teacher of the Special Education Department, to coach the team because of her experience with track.

Caine said, "It was amazing to see the athletes push themselves and succeed and the partners try their best in their events as well as encourage the athletes."

Wohler uses CrossFit to become Division I athlete

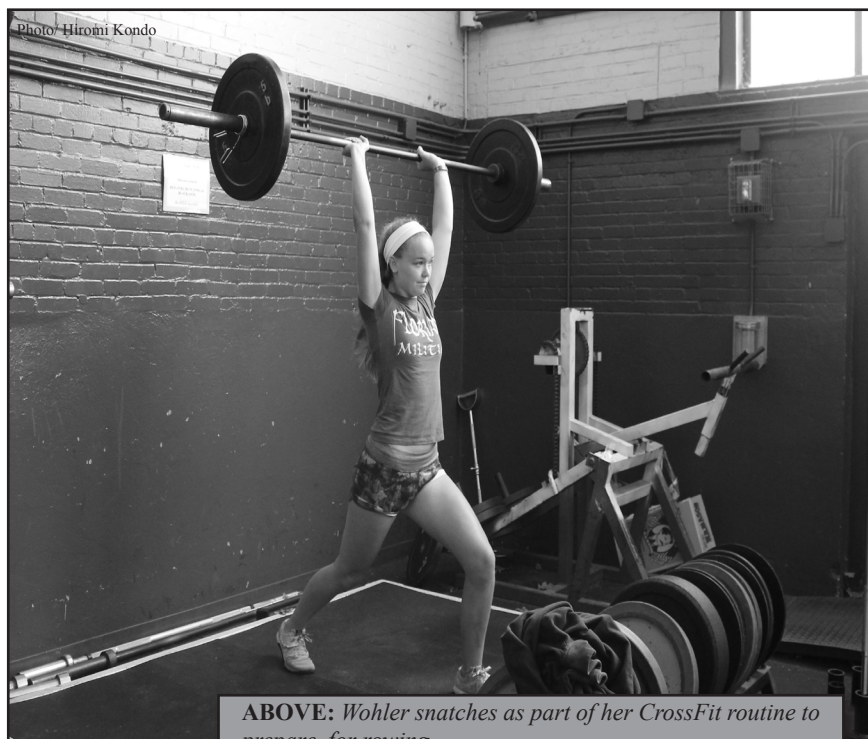
By Helen Hinton
Class of 2015

In the history of Walpole High School, hardly any students have graduated to attend a Southeastern Conference (SEC) university, and none have played a Division I Varsity sport at any of these schools -- until now. Senior Abby Wohler plans to attend the University of Alabama this fall as a rowing recruit, and she has a certain workout program to thank for this opportunity.

Abby Wohler joined CrossFit Florian at the beginning of her junior year because she wanted to become stronger and faster for basketball and rowing. She started a beginners class at the CrossFit Florian through an off season training program with the basketball teams. After those first workouts, Wohler was hooked.

"I loved everything about it," she said. "Everything from the workouts, the coaches, and designs of the workouts."

However, Wohler also competed on the Community Rowing team during the fall and spring and during the winter, she was a captain of the Girls Basketball team, so she had to make sacrifices in order to continue her workouts. Many mornings, while most students sleep until the last possible minute, Wohler woke up at 4am to hit the gym before school. Later in the day, she tried to find some more time after her other practices to get back to CrossFit for another session at 7:30 pm. Wohler enjoys every moment of this busy and strenuous schedule.



ABOVE: Wohler snatches as part of her CrossFit routine to prepare for rowing.

"I try to spend as much time as I physically can at CrossFit," Wohler said. "I love the energy of everyone and all the coaches pushing me to be better. A typical CrossFit class is nothing like the classes one would find in a regular gym."

The classes try to build strength and conditioning through extremely varied and challenging workouts. Each day participants do the "WOD" or Workout of the Day, which are different workouts that changes daily with a skill or strength. The workouts test different parts of a person's functional strength or conditioning, not specializing in one particular thing, but rather

with the goal of building a body that's capable of practically anything and everything. These workouts include everything from Grasshoppers, ninja rolls, bodyweight deadlifts, box jumps, runs, squats, and cleans. After that workout Wohler usually finishes with some sort of Metabolic conditioning. "I think everything I do at CrossFit is some how connected to my success as a rower. The constant variation helps me with all aspects of athleticism needed for rowing," said Wohler.

Wohler does not love going to CrossFit just for its workouts, but she also loves the coaches and other participants.

"The community at CrossFit is unlike anything I have ever been a part of. I am especially thankful for my coach Melissa McManus for everything she has done for me to help me become a better athlete and person."

Even though the people in this community all vary in ages from 15 to 50, Wohler said, "we are a very close group of people and kind of like a family, and we love hanging out with one another."

Through her gym Wohler has competed in several CrossFit competitions. At these competitions, participants complete a series of exercises like doing squats with weights in an allotted amount of time, runs, and a series of WODs. The athletes are timed in all these events or their reps are counted. The athlete who wins the most events wins the competition. Last summer, Wohler competed in a CrossFit competition called CrossFit for Katie in Connecticut, and she won the competition for her age group. She hopes to do as well in her next competition, which is at No Risk CrossFit in Rhode Island on June 27.

Next year Wohler will be attending the University of Alabama and be a part of their rowing team. She said, "There is no doubt in my mind that my rowing career is where it is now because of CrossFit."

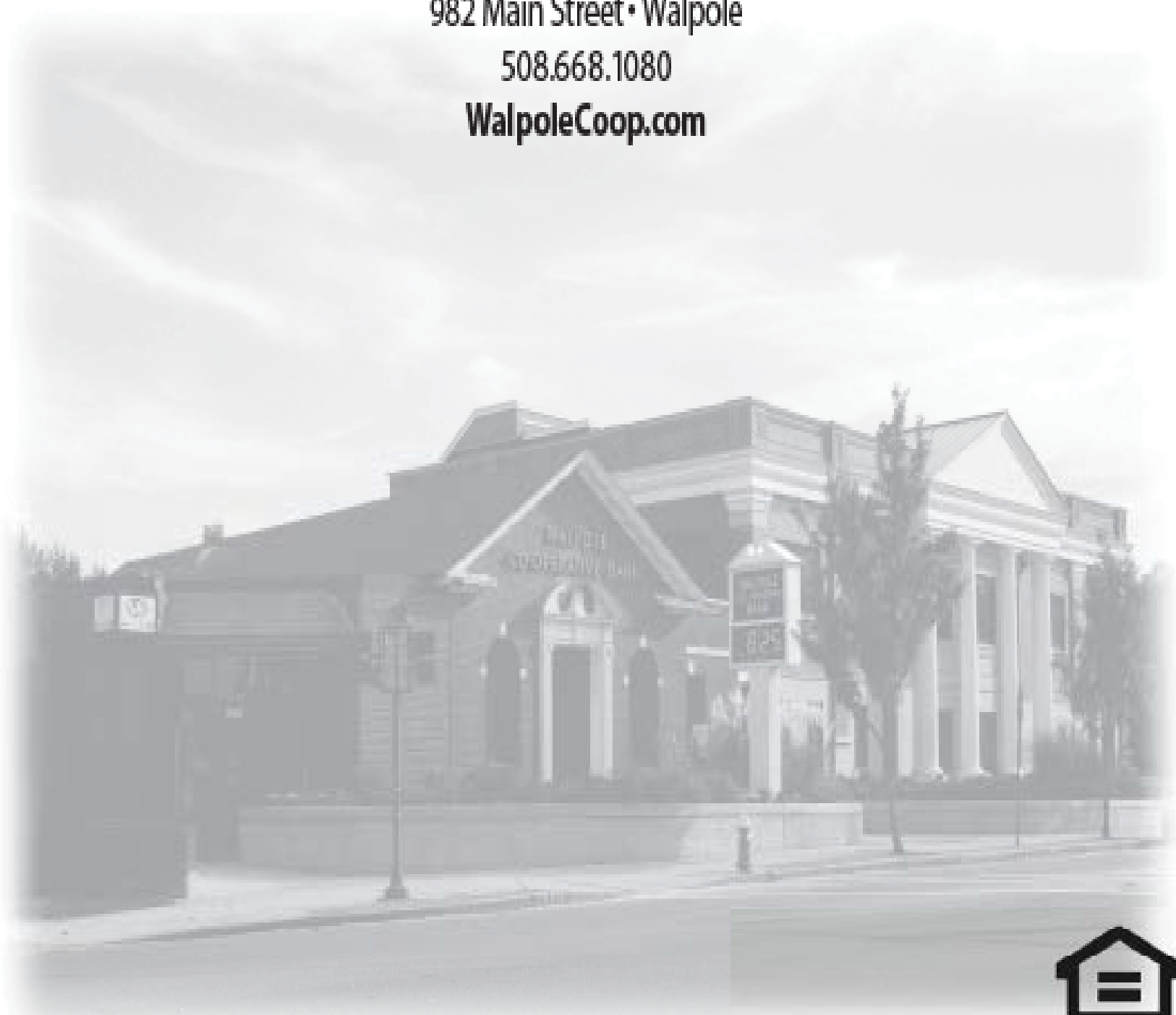
"I plan on taking time off in college to focus on my rowing career and academics," said Wohler when asked about the time commitment of both Division I rowing and CrossFit. "But I still plan on keeping up with strength programming through the athletic department at Alabama."

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SENIOR ASSASSINS

After weeks spent hunting down his targets and evading their opponents, one victor emerged from the 164 contestants in the race for \$550— Liam McDonough. Organized by Class President Mike Mazzotta, Senior Assassins has no affiliation with Walpole High School; in fact, the rulebook explicitly states that competitors cannot assassinate anyone on school property during the weekday hours of 7am-3pm. At the start, each competitor receives a target from Mazzotta. The object of the game is to assassinate each target in as little time as possible while avoiding other hunters. In order to assassinate, a player must hit their target with water, and a witness must also be able to confirm each kill for it to be valid. At the conclusion of the grueling competition, the lone survivor— McDonough— split the prize money with his ally, runner-up Annie Gallivan.



Photos/ Max Simons

LIAM MCDONOUGH CHAMPION

KILL COUNT: *3*
WEAPON OF CHOICE: *water gun*
FIRST KILL: *Rachel Spang*

“Don’t talk to anyone, and stay inside for a month.”

ANNIE GALLIVAN RUNNER-UP

KILL COUNT: *2*
WEAPON OF CHOICE: *Yellow handgun*
FIRST KILL: *Corey Lynch*
DATE ELIMINATED: *5/26*

“Listen, don’t talk.”



HELEN HINTON THIRD PLACE

KILL COUNT: *2*
WEAPON OF CHOICE: *water bottle*
FIRST KILL: *Molly Lanahan*
DATE ELIMINATED: *5/23*

“Trust no one, and always stab your friends in the back.”



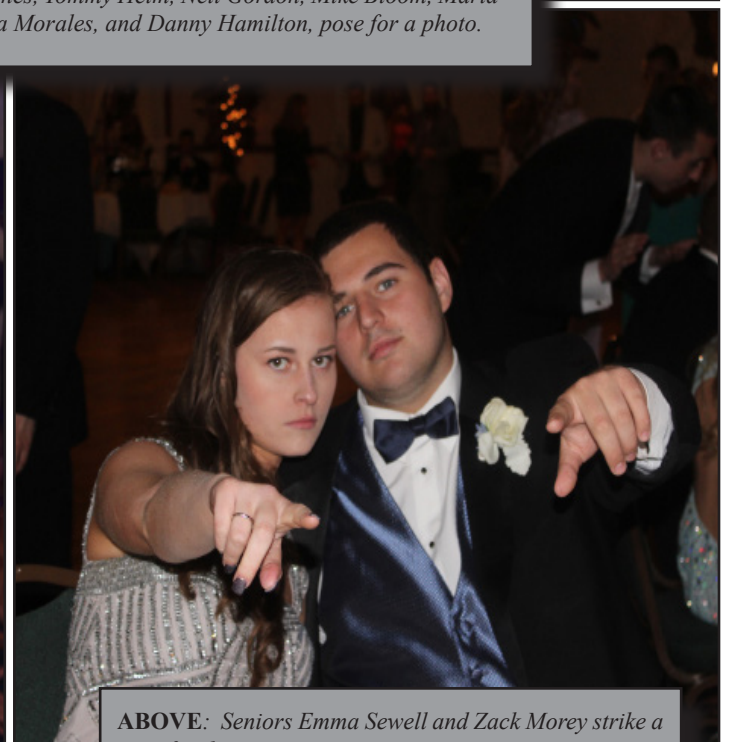
PROM 2015



FROM LEFT: The members of the newly elected Prom Court, Kevin Sullivan, Jessie Jones, Tommy Helm, Nell Gordon, Mike Bloom, Maria Konstas, Bergomi Francois, Nichole Venuto, Jack Lavanchy, Maureen Herlihy, Tatiana Morales, and Danny Hamilton, pose for a photo.



ABOVE: Senior Nichole Venuto, the soon-to-be Prom Queen, cheers for senior Bergomi Francois as he is announced Prom King.
BELOW: Seniors Carolyn Damish, Brendan Jeanetti, and Sashira Martinez pose for a picture in Demetri's.



ABOVE: Seniors Emma Sewell and Zack Morey strike a pose for the camera at prom.

BELOW: Junior Maddie Smith and Senior Andrew Nev-in snap a picture at prom.



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MARCH

SENIOR	KAITLIN CARTER
Katie Carter has shown tremendous improvement in term 3. She currently has the highest term grade out of both of my Calculus Honors classes (50 students in total). She struggled a bit during the first 2 terms, with her grade generally hovering in the low B/ high C range, but this term her grade has gone up 19 points above her term 2 grade. Katie has earned perfect scores on 3 of the 4 assessments we have had this term and earned a 90% on the fourth one. Additionally, I have found that her class participation has increased along with her confidence. She is very attentive to detail and extremely thorough in her solutions. I would like to recognize Katie’s efforts with this nomination. Ms. Sheryl Lerner	
JUNIOR	KATIE HOUSER
Katie has shown herself to be highly motivated and conscientious in a subject that is both demanding and time intensive. She is always punctual with all of her work and everything she does she applies her full attention and effort. She is an engaged participant in every class activity, offering intelligent thoughts to classroom discussions, and she shows team leadership skills in the way she guides her lab team through laboratory activities. Her sense of humor keeps things light, and she is well-liked by her peers. Her study skills are exemplary and I am very proud of her accomplishments thus far. Ms. Sue Wick	
JUNIOR	RYAN KOENIG
Ryan has been working consistently above average in Chemistry class. He always completes his assignments on time and with attention to detail. He prepares well for exams and consistently scores in the 90s. Ryan works well in class with others, and he is an active participant in all class activities. Keep up the hard work Ryan! Mr. Daniel Mullaney	
SOPHOMORE	BRIAN CONNEELY
Brian had done an outstanding job in Geometry this term. He has earned the top score in the class, and he shows an excellent grasp of Geometric concepts. He seemed to handle the two column proofs on congruent triangles with ease while many of his peers were having a difficult time. Brian is always polite and respectful, prepared for class, and ready to participate. He is willing to answer questions and to put problems on the board. I am proud of Brian’s achievement and participation. Mrs. Kathleen Milne	
FRESHMAN	MARCUS VICENTE
Marcus has put a lot of effort into improving his grades this quarter and currently has an 87% in history. His combined 1st semester grade was a 87%. When he was assigned an essay on the causes of World War I, Marcus stayed after for extra help on 3 occasions and ended up earning 48/50 points. As a whole, Marcus has brought his grades in most classes up significantly from 2nd quarter. He’s a good kid and has turned himself into a diligent student. Mr. Joseph Hanlon	

ACTIVITY AWARD

ANGELA HURLEY	SPEECH TEAM	MS. E. LOFLIN
I am nominating junior, Angela Hurley, who recently broke into two final rounds at the past two tournaments. She is a powerhouse Speechie and is representing Walpole very well. Her high scores have helped bring up the overall team score. She has already qualified for the state tournament; I’m sure she’ll do very well at that tournament on April 11. In addition to Angela’s awards, she should be recognized because she has been very dedicated and diligent all year long. Angela is definitely an inspiration to others on the team who aspire to win a trophy. Without a doubt, Angela Hurley should be the March “Extracurricular Activity Award” winner!		

CLASS OF THE MONTH

DRAWING AND PAINTING III	PERIOD 2	MRS. MCKEE
I would like to applaud my Drawing and Painting III/AP class for their investment in a recent charcoal animation project and the outstanding attitude they displayed during this project. Three days of class time were spent to prepare for an all-day drawing marathon. During those times all students were exceptionally engaged and worked together in ways that demonstrate the exceptional inclusive quality of this group. The students in this class remain committed to bringing the project to a conclusion. I could not be more impressed by the integrity and skills demonstrated by this class.		

APRIL

SENIOR	KYLE GAUGHAN
Overall, Kyle has been a good student throughout the year. He always does his homework and asks questions when he does not understand something. He still maintains the same level of effort and motivation as he did in September. Due to his strong work ethic, he is an asset to other students who work together with him in groups. Kyle is a pleasure to have in class and I highly recommend him for Student of the Month. Mrs. Vanessa Hackett	
JUNIOR	ELYSE BERARDINELLI
In a school year during which Elyse did not have a single “down” month, April was particularly spectacular for her in math. She is meticulous in both her note taking and in her classwork. Once a concept is explained to her, she “gets it”. Elyse always remembers how to do previous material. Elyse always arrives to class fully prepared, with a smile on her face and a positive attitude. She is very worthy of Student of the Month. Ms. Sheryl Lerner	
SOPHOMORE	EMILY MARTIN
Emily is a student in my Spanish III Honors class. For three terms, she has maintained the highest average. Emily is dedicated, highly motivated and an inspiration to all students. Emily received a Gold medal for the National Spanish Exam. However, more so than the wonderful grades in all that she does, Emily portrays all that is good in young people today. She is kindhearted, modest, and the most helpful young lady to everyone in the classroom. Please consider her for this month’s Student of the Month. Mrs. Joanne Sprague	
FRESHMAN	RYAN MURPHY
Within the last month, I have seen a huge change in Ryan. He has always been a great addition to the class, but he was a little distracted and not that motivated to take the extra step to improve his skills. He participates with energy, maturity, and respect. He has dedicated himself to improving not just his grades, but also his skills. On the last grammar quiz, Ryan scored above the cut off mark, but still got extra help to retake the quiz. During the review, he asked questions to come to a better understanding. It has been a pleasure working with Ryan this year. I can only imagine how far he can go. Ms. McKenzie Gould	

ACTIVITY AWARD

ALLISON CULLEN	SCIENCE OLYMPIAD	MRS. SCHWARTZ
I would like to nominate Allison Cullen for the Extracurricular Activity Award. Allison single handedly started the WHS Science Olympiad Team. She recruited enough students for a full team and has shown a lot of leadership in the process. She has organized meetings and fundraisers as well as organized the team into their events for competition. Having been the only student at WHS who had been to a SO competition, she taught the other students (and me!) what to expect. She has a lot of team enthusiasm and is already working on assignments for next year.		

CLASS OF THE MONTH

PRE-CALCULUS	PERIOD 3	MRS. KATHLEEN MILNE
This class has been high achieving throughout the year. However, during the month of April, there was one quiz on polynomials on which many of the students did not perform at their usual high caliber. Some students stayed for help following the quiz to fill in the gaps in their knowledge, and some students became proactive by staying for after school help prior to the next quiz. The rational functions quiz results were fabulous with every student in the class scoring at least 80%. The students did not let one quiz detract from their accomplishments. The class is back on track and ready to move forward, so I nominate the class for a second time for Class of the Month.		

CITIZEN OF THE MONTH

JOHN HENRI & CELINE HENRY	MR. MORTALI
John honors his commitment by coming to every meeting, event, and displays the values of Best Buddies at all times. He regularly socializes with his peer buddies at lunch and out of school, and they know he is someone who cares and is a true friend. Many of his friends have followed his lead and joined Best Buddies as well. Both he and Celine have been assets to the club for four years and Best Buddies would like to recognize their integrity, compassion, and commitment to making the school and the world a better place.	



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Cunnane steps down from position as secretary



ABOVE: Mrs. Gail Cunnane has worked at WHS for 27 years.

Continued from Page 1
Having known Mrs. Cunnane since 2000 when she first began volunteering in Guidance, Mrs. McCann had the opportunity to learn from Mrs. Cunnane.

“In her transition from Guidance to the Main Office, Mrs. Cunnane showed me patience and kindness,” said Mrs. McCann. “She is a true team player. Her work ethic and willingness to go above and beyond are qualities hard to find.”

With Mrs. Cunnane as his secretary for four years, Principal Stephen Imbusch knows her absence will be a significant adjustment. “I will really miss Mrs. Cunnane. She has kept me on track for many years, and she knows what needs to be done before ever being asked,” said Mr. Imbusch.

While she developed different relationships throughout her career, there remains one common thread according to her colleagues: her influence on those around her has always been a positive one.

Working alongside her in the main office as secretary for the last four years, Mrs. Janet Ferrara has been a close colleague and friend. “Mrs. Cunnane is one of the most hard working, professional people I have had the privilege to work with,” said

Mrs. Ferrara. “She has a great sense of humor and she makes me laugh every day. She is a very compassionate woman, always seeing the good in people...I will miss her more than she will ever know,” said Mrs. Ferrara.

While Mrs. Cunnane looks forward to her retirement, she will miss the Walpole High School community and all of the faculty she has worked with for several years. Mrs. Cunnane said she will miss “the people – I’ll miss the staff, the kids, everybody.”

As for retirement plans, Mrs. Cunnane plans on taking a cruise to Alaska next September with her husband. Additionally, she plans on helping all of her grandchildren as much as possible.

“I am excited to just be enjoying life,” said Mrs. Cunnane.

As the 2014–2015 school year nears its conclusion, Mrs. Cunnane will say goodbye to not only Walpole High School, but also to everything and everyone that has helped make Walpole High School her home for the past 27 years.

Reflecting on her career as a whole, Mrs. Cunnane said, “Right out of high school, one of the things I always wanted to do was work with kids, and I am forever grateful that I have gotten to do that over the years.”

Athletic Director retires after decades at Walpole



ABOVE: Mr. Tompkins will retire at the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

Continued from Page 1
“[Tompkins] treats student athletes fairly and consistently,” said Principal Stephen Imbusch, “yet he holds them to a high standard. You always know where you stand with Coach Tompkins. He is also one of the hardest workers in the entire school district. People see this and appreciate how hard he works.”

In 2013, Walpole Baseball—led by captains Johnny Adams and Cam Hanley—made a historic accomplishment on behalf of their coach: Tompkins’ 500th win. The achievement of perseverance and determination came at a time when he was as determined as ever not only in baseball, but in his personal life.

That same year, Tompkins became the epitome of strength and composure to all of Walpole’s student athletes as he battled with and overcame cancer. A popular slogan in Tompkins’ honor was “Strikeout Cancer.” Baseball fans gathered at the varsity games wearing t-shirts with “Rebels with a Cause” on the front and “Strikeout Cancer” on the back to honor Tompkins.

As his last season as athletic director comes to a close, Tompkins is still busy with spring sports. The heavy snowfall this past winter postponed the start of most spring sports

and left about 60 different games needing to be moved or cancelled.

“This spring has been very busy. This is the most difficult spring that I have experienced in 42 years,” said Tompkins.

Game postponement has been especially stressful for Tompkins, as he is still the head baseball coach. However, he finds time to attend other spring sporting events to watch as many Walpole High athletes play as he can.

“I’m very proud of being able to get around to all events and know what’s going on. That’s been the enjoyment [as athletic director] – getting to see all the kids play,” Tompkins said.

As for next year, Walpole will welcome current teacher and varsity boys hockey coach Ron Dowd as athletic director. Dowd is looking forward to updating resources regarding athletic programs to an online website. However, Tompkins’ traditions will not be forgotten.

“There are thousands of students whose lives he has touched,” said Principal Imbusch. “He believes that hard work and effort are keys to success, and he imparts this philosophy to everyone he works with—students, teachers, coaches, and parents. Walpole High School is a much better place because of a person like Coach Tompkins.”

Non-core elective requirement limits students

By Jacky Davis
Class of 2016

EDITORIAL

With about 90% of Walpole High School graduates pursuing higher education, many students focus more on their academic classes and question the importance of the three year non-core elective requirement: Why do non-core electives have no impact on Grade Point Averages? Why do some electives qualify as non-core while others do not? Do these classes actually expand students’ academic experience?

Although non-core electives are a crucial part of some students’ high school experience and should remain an option for those who enjoy them, Administration and Guidance should lift the three year requirement or at the very least broaden the definition of non-core electives to include more elective classes that WHS already offers. By simultaneously ruling that non-core electives do not affect GPA and setting a minimum year requirement, WHS Guidance and Administration send mixed signals to the student body about the importance of non-core electives in comparison to academic classes.

As a result of the competitive academic atmosphere, extrinsic motivation drives many high-achieving students; therefore, excluding non-core

electives from GPAs discourages some students from seriously pursuing elective opportunities—delegitimizing the value of these classes in the eyes of goal oriented students.

Since non-core electives hold no inherent value in improving students’ GPAs, Administration and Guidance may argue that non-core electives provide students with seemingly necessary exposure to unfamiliar areas of study and potential careers; however, the middle school curriculum has already introduced students to many of the Unified Arts that WHS offers including a three year requirement of art, music, and technology.

The requirements aim to accommodate the needs of all students and set standards that are attainable for low-achieving students but do not limit the success of high-achieving students; nevertheless, non-core electives are often an inconvenience that prevent high-achieving students from reaching their full academic potential because they devote a valuable slot in their schedule to a class that they may not value as highly.

Moreover, the requirement forces some high-achieving students either to sacrifice taking that additional academic class, or enroll in an online non-core elective over their summer break. The non-core elective requirement does not genuinely cater to any specific type of student, for if administration

was to remove the requirement, low-achieving students would still have the prerogative to take as many non-core electives as their schedules allow without forcing a minimum requirement on students who feel they have nothing to gain from these classes.

WHS Administration should consider if they want to force already stressed students to take online classes over the summer, if the value of non-core electives warrants

high-achieving students losing their academic edge, and if the current system really suits all students’ needs.

The elimination of the requirement or even the broadening the definition allows students to more effectively pursue their interests whether they are in non-core electives or Academics, and the freedom from the requirement ensures students the liberty to shape their future and personalize their education to meet their plans.

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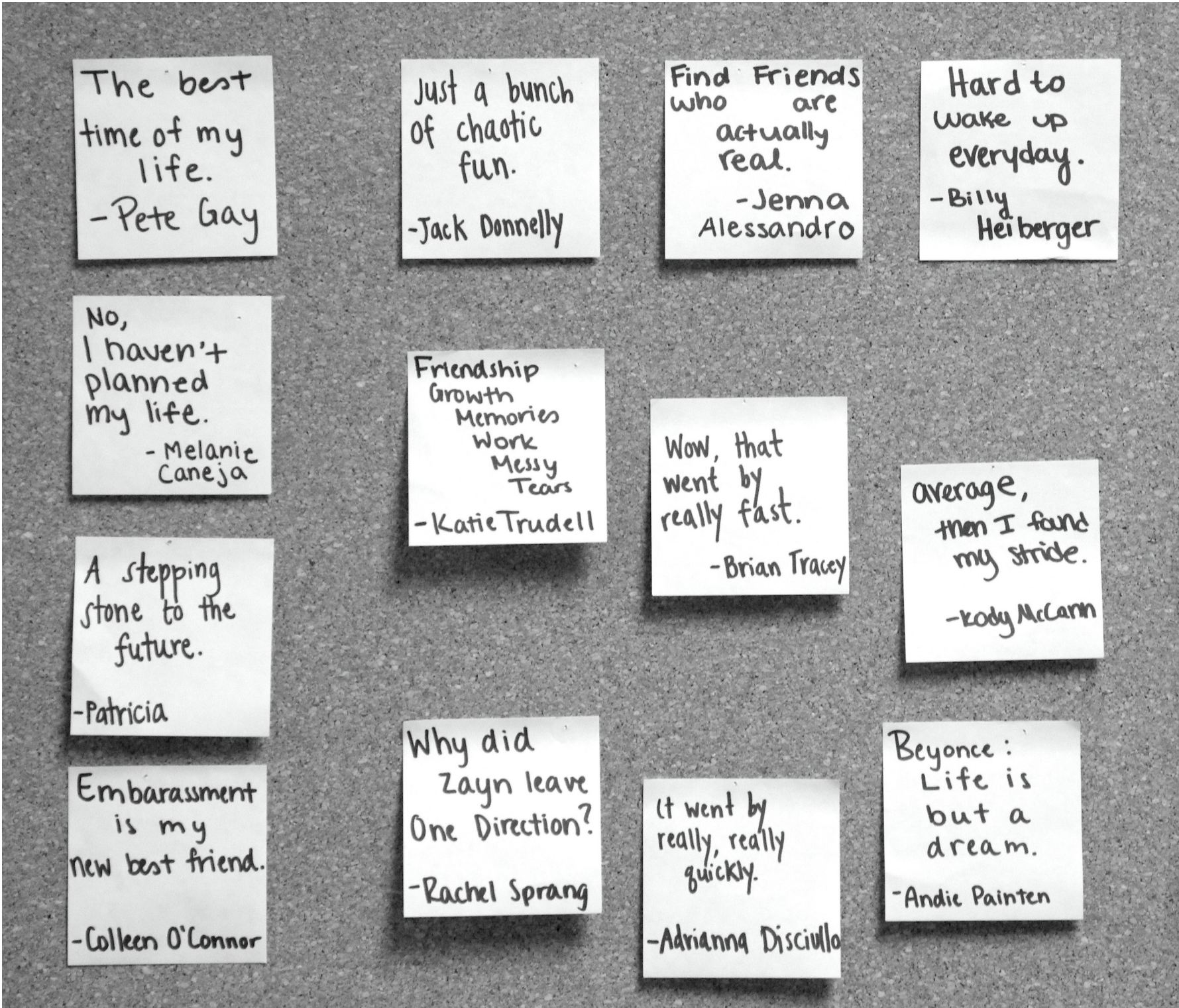
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6-word stories: The Rebellion suveyed 92 seniors and asked them to describe their high school experience in six words.




15

Things You Did Not Know About The Class of 2015

48% Played in a Playoff Game

46 % Had Detention

59% DRANK COFFEE DURING SCHOOL



83 % HAVE SKIPPED SCHOOL

29% Had a Concussion

29% HAVE BEEN KICKED OUT OF CLASS

39% Have Been Involved in Film Festival

22 STUDENTS ARE EXTREMELY EXCITED FOR TAYLOR SWIFT THIS SUMMER

70% Have a Job

75% Read the Rebellion

31% Been Pulled Over

43% Can Play a Musical Instrument

58% Failed a Test

67% Have Forged a Signature

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Walpole High School presents FILM FESTIVAL 2015



13th Film Festival wows audience at red carpet showing

By Jamie Ferguson and Anna Van der Linden
Class of 2015 and 2016

The 13th annual Walpole Film Festival on May 14 proved to be a record-setting night, as *Nemesis*, directed by Jamie Ferguson, Bridget Connell, and Brendan Jeannetti, won 8 awards in total. Following two showings of the films on May 5 and 7, the event kicked off with showings of the four Best Film nominees — *My Own Shrink*, *The Decrescendo*, *Nemesis*, and *The Tyler Problem* — as well as a documentary about the making of this year's Film Festival.

"Regardless if we won anything or not, I was proud of the work we did," said Jamie Ferguson, "so it was a really nice surprise to win those awards." *Nemesis* won the awards for Best Cinematography, Best Editing, Best Art Direction, Best Supporting Actor, Best Actor, Achievement in Music, Best Director, and Best Film, beating the previous record of 7 awards that was set by *The Maltese Falker*.

Other awards included Best Screenplay, awarded to Marc Sheehan. Although Sheehan directed and starred in *My Own Shrink*, it was his screenplay for *The Tyler Problem* that took home the award. In reference to his Best Actor speech last year, which set the record for the longest acceptance speech in Film Festival history, Sheehan joked, "I'll make this quick."

Faculty performances add a local twist on stories that make the movies more grounded in reality. But Film Festival regular Mr. Bakale took home the award for his hilarious starring role in *My Magic Ralph* as a deceased magician.

Additionally, two student-produced fake movie trailers (known as Top Secret Trailers, or TSTs) played — *AMoreyCan SwipeHer* (a parody of *American Sniper*), and *My Own Shrimp* (a parody of *My Own Shrink*).

With the conclusion of this year's Film Festival, students are already preparing for next year. Although every year gives students access to new advancements in equipment and software, the hard work and dedication is what makes the Film Festival one of Walpole's most popular events. Audiences can look forward to the 14th annual Festival next May.



Photos/ Ellie Hilty