

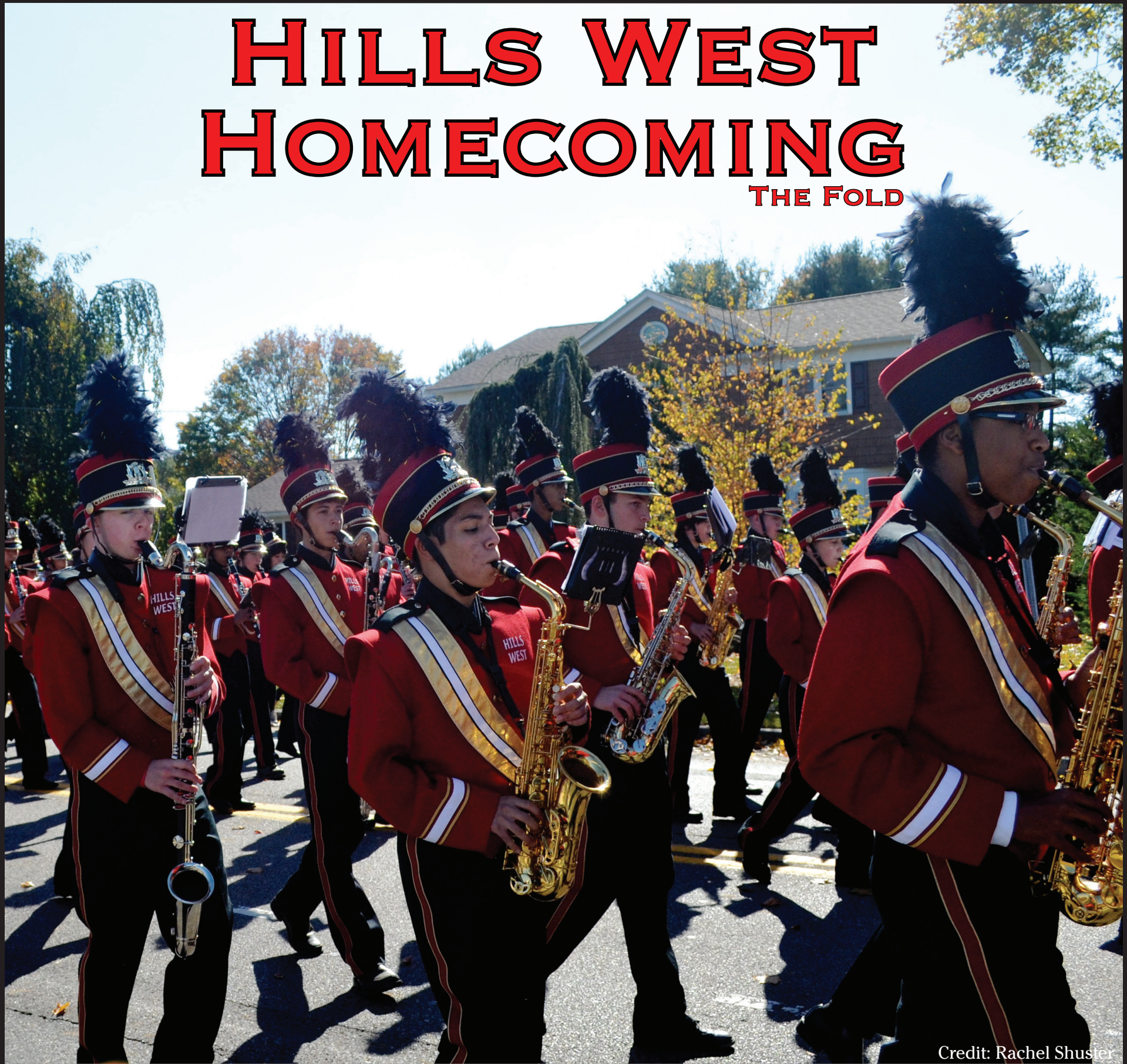
THE ROUNDUP

HILLSWESTROUNDUP.COM

BY AND FOR THE STUDENTS OF HALF HOLLOW HILLS HIGH SCHOOL WEST

VOLUME: 36 ISSUE: 1

HILLS WEST HOMECOMING THE FOLD



Credit: Rachel Shuster

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What is Senior Experience?

Alex Eichenstein



Credit: Alana Kessler

The Senior Experience class visiting the Tenement Museum on the Lower East Side in New York City. (September 25, 2013)

For those of you unfamiliar with “Senior Experience,” it is a unique learning opportunity for students who are interested in garnering additional work experience at an internship of choice. The course combines English 12 with Government/Economics to form a specific curriculum. The class meets three days a week to explore the “real world” through literary and historical perspectives in a classroom setting.

The goal of the course is to give students a new perspective of the world where they live and interact. That goal is attained through the study of new materials with interesting points of view using movies, readings, field trips, and guest speakers. In addition to the class meeting three days a week, an internship also takes place the other two days. On the day of the internship, the students are excused from school after 6th period. In place of an internship, some students work with a mentor on a project that requires critical thinking and the expression of clear and developed ideas.

In order to be accept-

ed into the program, grades or averages are not taken into account, but an established panel must approve the student during an interview process. Students must also write an essay concerning their interest in the program. “Unfortunately, not all who apply are accepted into the program. Cuts had to be made,” stated one of the Senior Experience advisors, Mrs. Crowe.

Mrs. Crowe serves as the English teacher in the classroom aspect of the program, along with Mrs. Arabian who covers social studies. When asked how she feels about the benefits that the program offers, Mrs. Arabian stated, “It’s a beneficial program because students are able to create their own curriculum and become more educated on topics they’re most interested in. Students can definitely benefit from learning about what they feel is most appealing to them.” Unlike the regular senior curriculum, in this program students have the ability to study what they feel is necessary in achieving a successful future.”

Some positive results

of the course include interaction between people of varying ages and backgrounds, exploration of possible career choices, interesting field trips and guest speakers, and a respectable experience to add to your resume. The course also explores time management and teamwork skills in both the classroom and internship environments. Most seniors partake in the program to gain real world experience and skills, while still being able to attend high school.

Miya Jones, a student involved in the senior experience, claimed “The senior experience is definitely different than any other class. It allows students to practice different skills that most classes don’t.” Miya chose to pursue her internship at the Long Islander Newspaper in Huntington, and has enjoyed her experience with the program.

The students involved in the program recently went on a field trip to Suffolk Community College, where a speaker informed the students of the unfortunate death of his brother due to racial prejudice. Logan

Bordiga, a senior who pursues his internship at the Long Island Newspaper, stated “The field trip was a really great experience, because it opened my eyes to the racial hate that exists everywhere, whether we believe it does or not. I’m grateful that the Senior Experience allows me to be more knowledgeable about my environment.”

Alana Kessler, a fellow student involved in the senior experience, chose to intern with StandWithUs-MZ.

Her internship allows her to be a part of a network in which she will learn about Israel as well as how to properly advocate for Israel. Kessler will also learn how to plan and execute programs for her community. Over the summer, Kessler was selected from approximately fifty students to participate in the internship program. “Senior Experience allows me the time and resources to become a stronger activist for this country, and that is so important to me. Deciding

to participate in the program was the best choice I have ever made, and I love the class. The Senior Experience allows myself and other students to make a difference,” said Kessler.

The Senior Experience provides a unique departure from the regular senior curriculum, and is considered beneficial in many aspects by the students and teachers involved.



Credit: Mrs. Arabian

Alana Kessler and Israel’s Consulate of Media Affairs.

How to Succeed in High School

Monica Chen

I won't lie, high school isn't as glorious as it is in movies, but it certainly isn't as brutal as it is usually portrayed either. For many of you, it will seem like a lifetime before you embark on your journey to college. However, everything you do from this point on is to prepare you for that next chapter of your life.

Stress is clearly inevitable in high school, especially in regards to maintaining a GPA that you are satisfied with. As for academics, choose classes that will challenge you, but won't overwhelm you. Also, often enough, we find ourselves furiously flipping through a textbook and gulping down gallons of coffee the night prior to an exam. The best advice I can give to anyone in high school is don't procrastinate. Whatever distraction you have is not worth staying up until three a.m., or even worse, pulling an all-nighter, to finish studying.

In order to mitigate your stress, it is imperative to find the right group of friends.

Remember to be open to making new friends and meeting new people, regardless of grade. Join clubs to meet new people with similar interests, and give yourself a chance to get to know the person before you judge. Be yourself because there is nothing worse than pretending to be someone you know you are not.

As a senior, I can promise you that these four years will pass by quicker than you would expect. I didn't believe it when I first heard it in my freshman year either, but senior year will arrive soon.

These four years are the beginning of your future. However, they are also the last four years you will live at home, the last four years you will see the same faces everyday, the last four years you can call High School West your second home.

So make these four years memorable by surrounding yourself with people and experiences that you will love.

iDon't Understand the Computer Budget

Emily Feigenbaum

The drama regarding the addition of new computers to our school district was a particularly hot topic this school year. Many students and parents wonder why classrooms keep receiving new Macs and PCs despite the fact that strict fiscal measures have been executed in Half Hollow Hills schools and district employees have been laid off. I spoke with Ms. Anne Marie Marrone Caliendo, the Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Facilities, about this controversial issue.

Ms. Caliendo stated that part of the technology budget, although not all, is funded through State Aid. Computers and other technology components are checked annually in order to determine if they can support the needs of the classrooms. The computers must be compatible with specific software such as Infinite Campus Student Management System, Shockwave, and Flash. Through this study, the district must determine what is more economically ef-



Credit: Photo Journalism

ficient: to upgrade the computers or replace them altogether.

Money is set aside each year for the sole purpose of making sure that each and every class has the tools for academic success. The Instructional Technology department, though observing budgetary constraints, is starting this year's "refresh cycle" by replacing the 2005 PCs and 2006 Macs.

Nonetheless, the limited availability of funding has put immense stress upon students, teachers, families, district employees, and Dix Hills taxpayers. Unfortunately, the quarreling about the district budget will not cease as long as economic turmoil prevails.

The Roundup Word Search

C	L	T	K	Q	R	X	Y	M	A	G	W	S	B	K	Z	G	O	C	G	P	A	K	J	O	O	W	H	A	W	H	Z	E	N	F	R
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- Colts
Red
Gold
- Senior Experience
Gravity
National Merit
- Hills West
The Roundup
Marching Band
- Homecoming
Decades
Computer Budget
- Joanna Ramsay
Cody Cao
Queen

What is the Homecoming Court?

Josalie Quiwa



Credit: Rachel Shuster

Homecoming Court members face the crowd after the parade.

As many of you know, Homecoming week recently passed, and as usual it was a success. Homecoming festivities began on Monday, October 7th, when the Hills West Class of 2014 Homecoming Court was officially revealed. For those of you that may be unfamiliar with what this term signifies, it is a notable High School West tradition.

Every year, students of the senior class choose three boys and three girls from their grade who they feel are worthy enough to be nominated into the court. The top 20 girls and the top 20 boys are then announced.

"For homecoming court, I voted for genuinely nice people who I believed truly deserved to be in it," homecom-

ing court member Starr Edghill commented.

Mrs. O' Grady, who counts the homecoming ballots, stated, "There are no restrictions concerning those who are eligible for homecoming court. The potential students are based completely on the votes of their fellow students, and then narrowed down in a second election."

On Friday October 11, seniors voted once more to narrow the nominees down to their top 10 boys and top 10 girls, who proceeded in the running of the Homecoming Court. Once the top 10 boys and top 10 girls were selected, the members of the court were able to choose their partners, who escorted them in the future proceedings of Homecoming.

Homecoming Court member Julianne Nicolette said, "I did not expect a nomination or even [to be in the] court! I never once voted for myself. I think there are a lot of other people that deserve it, but it is an honor and I'm really enjoyed embarrassing myself at pep rally."

On Friday, October 25th each member of the Homecoming Court was formally introduced during the third period assembly, which was held in the gym. During the Pep Rally on Friday evening, each duo prepared and performed a skit for their fellow students. In the past, the skits have been embarrassing and, of course, extremely entertaining. Every year, seniors find the skits to be a wonderful opportunity to make a fool of themselves as

well as past and present trends and people. They usually involve ridiculous costumes, singing, dancing, and acting.

"The Homecoming nominee skits are one of the best parts of Homecoming. They are always so hilarious, and a great way to get the students pumped up for pep rally. I find that the more embarrassing [they are], the better," expressed Student Executive Council Vice President, Sabrina Kim.

Several days before Homecoming, seniors voted for their final homecoming king and queen. Each member of the court, along with his or her partner, was ushered in the Homecoming Parade on the morning of Saturday, October 26th, along with the float and banner of each grade level. At the end of

the homecoming football game, the Homecoming King and Queen were announced.

The Homecoming Court of the Class of 2014 includes:

Girls:

Lizbi Bosua
Starr Edghill
Madison Lee
Bria Martone
Gina Mayes
Julianne Nicolette
Pooja Pandya
Jennifer Park
Joanna Ramsay
Renee Russo

Boys:

Kevin Ateniese
Christopher Baransky
Arthur Bosua
Cody Cao
Connor Duenas
Jacob Jaworowski
Opata Mate-Kole
Jason Rahimzadeh
Alex Rosenzweig
Jamal Starling

Congratulations to the Class of 2014 Homecoming King, Cody Cao, and Homecoming Queen, Joanna Ramsay!

Monday – Pajama Day

Asad Marghoob

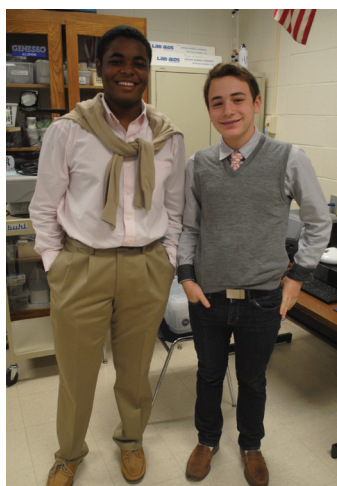


Brook Camarda

Let's face it: every student wants to stay in bed on any given Monday morning. Although we do have school and have to get up after a lazy Sunday, it would be nice to come to school without having to get ready and treat Monday a little like the day before. Luckily for us, to kick-start our Spirit Week here at Hills West, "Pajama Day" allowed both students and teachers to remain in the comforts of their pajamas on a gloomy Monday morning. Overall, I'm sure everyone hated this Monday a little less than any other one. Hills West Junior Brooke Camarda shared her thoughts on Spirit Week in general: "Spirit Week has to be one of my favorite weeks of the school year, not only as a student government officer, but also just as a student. I think it's great to make an effort to foster so much spirit and excitement for the upcoming pep rally and homecoming."

Tuesday – Preppy Day

Asad Marghoob



Drew Tucker and David Kaplan

In contrast to Monday, Tuesday consisted of students making the extra effort to look nice for the day. The student body showed off an impressive variety of styles, complete with khakis, boat shoes, v-neck sweaters, skirts, and much more. The day stood as an exciting spirit-building experience for all to show off their own clothes as well as to see how their friends looked in their thoughtfully prepared outfits. Hills West Sophomore Drew Tucker said, "I dressed up for preppy day because I think the clothes make everyone look nice. In my opinion, days like these are a great opportunity to show school spirit and create fond memories that will stick with us for years to come." David Kaplan also commented on the appeal of preppy day: "Spirit week is important because it shows that school isn't just studying, [it's also] about being yourself and having fun with it. Preppy day is just another way to show school spirit and enhance the high school experience."

School Spirit Wednesday - College A



Danielle Carley, Hanna Chan and Alana Kessler

On Wednesday, students showed their college spirit by wearing sweatshirts and jackets from various colleges. Danielle Carley, Hanna Chan, and Alana Kessler were among the students who participated in the event.

Marching Since September

Miles Essner

Homecoming is an exciting time of year for the Hills West Marching Band. After countless periods of practice since September 10, the time has finally come to spin our tireless weeks of preparation into one memorable performance. Crowds gather as we march from Caledonia Park to the formal cadence of the percussionists. Through the sirens and the excitement of the spectators, we march. We march for our school, we march to celebrate our school spirit.

As we proceed onto the football field for the halftime show, the red and black uniforms stand out boldly from the crowd. In our well-rehearsed configuration, we march forward a precise 32 steps to perform for the spectators. From the evening rehearsals in the beginning of the school year to three-period rehearsals in the biting cold, the hard work finally pays off as we perform our selection of songs: “Beauty and a Beat” by Justin Bieber, “Shout it out Loud” by Kiss, and “Love Lies Bleeding” by famous recording artist Sir Elton John.

“[Each song] represents different styles from different artists and it also goes with the decade theme of homecoming as well,” explained marching band conductor, Mr. Foti. “This is one of the best sounding bands I have ever had and our attention to detail makes us look and sound great.”

The positive comments from Mr. Foti are truly indicative

of the hardworking group of talented musicians at High School West.

Everyday rehearsals are the typical 40-minute daily period practices; sometimes we nail it and other times we falter. Earlier in the year, it would take longer to play through a song as we first began to sight read the pieces. However, as time went on, we became more familiar to the accidents and dynamic markings on our scores as our playing dramatically improved over the course of two months. The week before homecoming, we took the music outside to the field to practice incorporating our performance with our presentation. Walking in a perfect straight line may sound easy, but marching in synch with over 100 other people and carrying instruments makes the task a daunting challenge.

Coming from a member of the marching band, the opportunity to represent your school in such an important way during homecoming is an experience like no other.

“Marching band is an incredible experience especially because of the impact it has on the homecoming event itself,” said senior percussionist John Sammis.

Although this experience comes once a year, we cherish the opportunity to play our hearts out for the students and people who represent our school.



Credit: Photo Journalism

John Bae playing the trumpet in the Homecoming parade.

Spirit Week

Apparel Day

Thursday - Throwback Thursday

Andrew Baker

Andrew Baker

Wednesday, students in to school wearing the apparel of their college. Coincidentally, Wednesday was the day of the college senior Alana Kessler. “A lot of seniors wearing myself will not any college apparel schools that we are interested in applying to use it might jinx our chances of getting in”. Students, however, to wear the apparel colleges that they attend or that their friends attend. Either way, still a day that students take to express their opinions for their future.



Credit: Photo Journalism

Stephanie Drinkwater

Last Thursday was “Throwback Thursday.” Each grade represented a different decade: freshmen were the 80s; sophomores were the 70s; juniors were the 50s; and seniors were the 60s. Each grade demonstrated its devotion toward school spirit and overall pride in themselves. Hills West Junior, Stephanie Drinkwater stated, “I have a lot of fun during spirit week because I’m a creative person. I like expressing myself through the clothes I wear, and that’s why I wanted to dress up.” Students really went all out for this day, dressing in their tie-dye, jeans, and leather jackets. Like the rest of the days of spirit week, Throwback Thursday was a success!

Friday - Class Color Day

Andrew Baker



Credit: Photo Journalism

Jenna Marinis, Jennifer Casadante, and Katina Cokinos

The last day of spirit week was “Class Color Day.” On this Friday, the Freshmen came in dressed in blue; sophomores wore yellow; juniors wore white; and seniors wore red. This day was perfect for the students in each grade to truly show off their pride in their grades and overall school spirit. People came to school with their colors on and face paint to show their excitement for the Homecoming Weekend. Junior Jennifer Casadonte said, “I love homecoming and being in the spirit of the week. I absolutely love my grade and going all out.” Also on Friday, the Pep Rally assembly kicked off the Homecoming Weekend festivities with Homecoming Court skits and various competitions between the four grades

Gravity

A 3D Revolution

Miles Essner

Few movies transcend the art of filmmaking, as we know it. The blockbuster movie industry has entered a 3-D dominated age where pure visuals provide high box office buzz. 3D was once a rarity in theaters, as talented filmmakers really paid attention to detail while certain objects would seem to pop out of the screen. Nowadays, 3D is an overused concept that is attached to every movie seeking high praise at the box office. Director Alfonso Cuarón's new film *Gravity* has trumped our preconceived notions of the dying art form and turned it into a must see visual experience.

Gravity is the proverbial superhero of the 3D age. The fact that the whole film was shot from space provided a meticu-

lous canvas for Cuarón to work his magic. The feeling of being able to reach out and touch the actors on screen was a concept once lost due to the abundance of three-dimensional films. As the audience felt closer to the actors, it made their terror more mesmerizing. The film was only 100 minutes with no wasted moments, no time to take your glasses off and go to the bathroom. Conceptually, the film lacks depth, but that only makes you more engrossed into what you're watching on screen.

While the 3D was the headliner for the movie's success, the overall tension caused by the action in the film makes it extremely gripping. Sandra Bullock is first seen repairing a broken satellite in space,



Credit: Warner Bros.

while George Clooney is whizzing about creating light humor that only his soothing voice could convey. After an astronomical storm, the team is lost in space and attempting to find their way to the Earth's

surface. This is a task that requires all the strength and endurance within the petrified characters present on screen.

Alfonso Cuarón understood the challenge of such a drastic film. One that demands

strictly visual expertise and impressive 3D. As a result, the finished product resulted in one of the most impressive movies of the last few years and the revitalization of notable three-dimensional filmmaking.

Hills West Horoscopes - Week of November 4th



Aries

March 21 to April 19

You are energetic, competitive, and eager, but you often are impatient. Make sure not get too annoyed with your friends this week as you decide on plans for this weekend. Let them choose what to do this time.



Taurus

April 20 to May 20

You like working with your hands and tend to be very practical. There will be a very sudden change this week that will catch you off guard. Use one of your natural born skills or hobbies to help you relax.



Gemini

May 21 to June 20

Gemini's often have two very different personalities. This week, your softer side will show. It might be strange to have to be so sensitive, but a friend will need you soon.



Cancer

June 21 to July 22

This is an emotional sign. You will do anything for those who you love. This week, someone will help you. Let them. Don't feel uncomfortable asking for help.



Leo

July 23 to August 22

You are one of the most generous signs! You have the ability to make everyone feel comfortable. Keep being you.



Virgo

August 23 to September 22

You are practical and loyal, but tend to be a bit shy. Try not to overanalyze things this week.



Libra

September 23 to October 22

You are a social sign, but often you avoid confrontation. This will be almost impossible this week. Try to be open-minded.



Scorpio

October 23 to November 1

Your passion surpasses that of all the other signs, but this means you make many decisions on a whim and based on emotion. Think big decisions through before you decide on something that can really change your future.



Sagittarius

November 22 to December 22

You are optimistic and extroverted. It is hard to keep you down. This week, you will feel an exhilarating freedom. Don't let the chance pass by.



Capricorn

December 22 to January 19

You are one of the most serious signs. You also tend to expect the worst in each situation. Smile a little more and study a little less. Embrace spontaneity.



Aquarius

January 20 to February 18

This sign is usually very independent. They are good friends, because they are good listeners. When it comes to the upcoming week, you will find it tough to listen to a friend and not say what comes to mind.



Pisces

February 19 to March 20

You are easygoing and understanding. This also means that you trust people too easily. You will meet someone new who you will trust automatically. Be more aware to how people act around you.

HALF HOLLOW HILLS HS WEST
THEATRE WEST PRESENTS:

The Philadelphia Story

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 8TH & 9TH
7:30PM

TICKETS: \$10 ADULTS,
\$5 STUDENTS/SENIORS
631-592-3200

Student Spotlight

Hills West Students Earn Awards

Michelle Kim

Although we are only two months into the 2013-2014 school year, several students from High School West have already been recognized for noteworthy achievements in academics as well as the arts.

Hills West is proud to have three semifinalists in the Siemens Competition. Siemens is a prestigious annual competition in the fields of mathematics and science and technology. This competition recognizes talents of high school students who take interest in challenging themselves through academic research. This year, Joshua Wende, Rose Bender, and Daniel Rudin received semifinalist honors, outcompeting students from across the nation. These juniors were the only three students to achieve this title in the whole district. Individual and team winners will be announced and these winners will

be presented with scholarships ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000 on Tuesday, December 10, 2013. After receiving this distinction, Rose Bender stated, "Being a Siemens semifinalist was probably the biggest surprise of my life. But when I saw my name on the list, I was so happy and proud that all my hard work with Josh had paid off." Junior Joshua Wende also commented on his proud reaction to the good news. "I'm honored to receive this recognition; I honestly could not have done it without Rose and Tyler, our partner from Minnesota." The trio's project was entitled, "Enhanced Tolerance to Fuel Impurities Demonstrated in PEM Fuel Cell Utilizing Nanoparticle Coated Nafion Membrane." Third semifinalist Daniel Rudin's project concentrated on "Engineering a Novel Cimex lectularius Trapping Mechanism Utilizing Elec-



Credit: Ms. Ievolo

The Hills West PSAT/NMSQT National Merit recipients.

trospun Recycled Polymers." Half Hollow Hills is proud to recognize these students who display dedication and intellectual potential through the Siemens Competition.

Another recognition rewarded to students of High School West is the All-County and NYSSMA All-State Conference in Rochester, New York for students who demonstrate a high level of musicianship and skill. Approximately 900 students are notified to participate in the NYSSMA Conference All-State. This year, Gene Chen, Tahra Friedman, Liana He, Simon Lee, Samantha Novotny, Wesley Ogata, Daniel Rudin, Jason Zelamsky were selected for All-County and/or All-State. Liana said in response to her recognition: "in early June of this year, as a sophomore, I invested countless hours into practicing my piece, rehearsing with my pianist, and perfecting the au-

dition. I was extremely pleased to find out that I received a 100 several weeks later. However, I was not picked for All-State, but rather for All-County, most likely because of the seniority preference when making selections for All-State. I will try again this year!" Daniel Rudin also expresses his excitement for taking part in the 2013 All-State Conference: "It's such a great opportunity that I get to perform alongside and be surrounded by so many talented and dedicated young musicians."

Sophomores and Juniors alike prepared for the PSAT/NMSQT on October 19th, 2013. Just this September, three students, Travis J. Swartz, Cody Cao, and Simon Lee, have been recognized as Semifinalists for the National Merit Scholarship Corporation of 2014. There are around 1.3 million entrants for this scholarship, but only around the top 4% with the high-

est PSAT/NMSQT index scores qualify for the recognition in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Hills West boasted a total of 14 students to be commended for their scores on the PSAT. These students are Swasti Meh-ta, Max Park, Monica Chen, Kevin Liang, Bailey Liao, Jake Weiner, Jason Rahimzadeh, Rohan Savargaonkar, Jason Zelamsky, Jackson Rubinowitz, Andrea Ramsay, Arthur Ramsay, Harris Durkovic, and Lea Silverman. Only approximately the top 1% of all students qualify as Semifinalists. Furthermore, the highest scoring entrants in each state and students who meet high academic standards and other requirements advance to be the finalists of the 2014 National Merit Scholarship program. Great job to all who were recognized.

Congratulations to the students listed above for their outstanding achievements!



Credit: Ms. Ievolo

Daniel Rudin, Rose Bender, and Josh Wende are Siemens Semi-finalists.

League Champs Once Again

Josh Wende

The Hills West Varsity Boys Soccer team had an exceptional season this year. They completed the regular season with wins over Hauppauge and Deer Park, bringing their record to a stellar 14-0-2.

"We are a very diverse team with a lot of talent all over," said Kory Fitzgerald, a junior on the team. However, the true strength of the team lies in its unity. All of the players are consolidated in their goal.

"This team is like family to me. I think we all feel that way," said Brendan Iris, a junior on the team. This talent

and collaboration won them the League IV title and clinched the second overall seed in the county for the playoffs. Led by senior midfielder Moosah Khanat, the high-flying Colts had their sights set on a county championship and beyond.

Unfortunately, their season was abruptly ended by Huntington in their first playoff match. They fought hard, and it was an intense match from beginning to end. However, they were on the short end of several questionable calls, and by the final whistle, the boys lost with a score of 0-1.

It was definitely shocking that the team had their first loss in their first playoff match, but there is no denying that the team is a real threat on the field.

Junior Nick Casazzone stated, "It was definitely upsetting for our season to end this way, but we are a strong and determined team and we will return next year fiercer than ever".

While the team may have been given a surprising defeat cutting short their championship chances, they are an extraordinarily talented team that will surely be in the running for first place next year.

Credit: MSG Varsity



Varsity Boys Soccer huddles in between plays.

THE ROUNDUP

HALF HOLLOW HILLS
HIGH SCHOOL WEST

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Varsity Football's Roller Coaster Season

Darren Barnowitz

Credit: Photo Journalism



Varsity Football taking the field for their intense Homecoming game against West Babylon on October 26, 2013.

The Boys Varsity Football team has so far had an up and down season. They currently have a record of four wins and three losses, with one game remaining on the schedule. While many of their wins have been complete blowouts, all of their losses were very close games.

The Colts picked up a victory in their season opener when they beat Central Islip with a score of 10-6. They then went on a three game losing streak with losses to North Babylon, Bay Shore, and Smithtown East. The loss to Bay Shore was exceptionally painful, as

Bay Shore won by 2 points off of a field goal with less than a minute remaining in the game. However, that was the end of their losing streak. In their next game, they came out and dominated Copiague, 34-0. The team then went on to crush Centereach with a score of 35-0.

Most importantly, however, was their outstanding victory in the homecoming game. This win may have been the team's best game played all season. The Colts came up with big plays on both offense and defense throughout the entire game. In the first half alone,

Hills West put 35 points up on the board, mainly due to wide receiver, Jake Klose, and running back, Ray Lyte.

Klose caught two touchdown passes, both of which were over 40 yards, while Lyte broke off two big touchdown runs in the game. One of which was an amazing 72 yards. On both runs, Lyte was able to maneuver through multiple defenders and break a few tackles on the way.

The Colts' defense also played exceptionally well. Joshua Connor and Jabari Montalvo both intercepted passes from

West Babylon. In the end, Hills West came out on top with a score of 49-14.

When asked about the season so far, Coach Kyle Madden said, "We are a very young team who is slowly but surely finding our way. We are learning how to practice, how to prepare and recently how to finish out games."

It has been mentioned on numerous occasions that this team is young, so it is only fitting that the standout player of the season, thus far, has been sophomore Anthony Lucarelli. Lucarelli has shown great abil-

ity on the field as both a quarterback and a running back. As of now, he has compiled 1,242 passing yards, 15 passing touchdowns, 384 rushing yards and 3 rushing touchdowns.

The season has been a combination of dramatic wins and heartbreaking losses. The team may be young and in need of a little more experience, but in the upcoming years the team may also be leading the league with opportunities to bring home a championship.



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Bright future for Varsity Girls Soccer Team

Jayda Lisman

The Girls Varsity Soccer Team has encountered a surprising and intense season. The girls ended with a winning record of 7-1-4, winning more than half of their season games. Although the season did not end on the best note,

the girls can say with pride that they played exceptionally well throughout. Coach Strack, who is coaching the team for the third year, said, "The girls have a great camaraderie on and off of the field, which leads to their victories on the field. Their intensity is always high, and they are always ready and focused to play for every game."

It has been an interesting season for the girls due to the team's unique composition. The team mainly consists of juniors and sophomores, with only one senior and one freshman. The three captains,

Megan Iris, Angelique Chaptar, and Jenn Casadonte, are all juniors this year, which is unprecedented. Megan Iris commented, "Even though we are a very young team, we have been able to overcome many obstacles and bring home wins."

This season has been a tough one, and while the girls did not always receive their desired outcome, they always give their best effort. When asked about the collaboration of the team, Angelique Chaptar said, "We always give 150% from start to finish and we always stick together no matter what." Jenn

Casadonte agreed, stating, "The season has not been perfect, but we still always get along and have great chemistry."

The team started and ended their playoffs against East Islip. It was an extremely intense match where both teams put everything they had into it. In the end, the girls came up just a little short, losing 2-3. While this may have ended their season a little early, they have nothing to be upset about, as they are a very young team with unlimited potential. In a few years, this team will truly be an unstoppable force.

Credit: Photo Journalism



Gianna Cokinos: "I loved playing for Coach Strack and I made a lot of incredible friends. The girls on the team are amazing, and being the youngest, I really look up to all of them."



Scan QR to check out Season Recaps for Boys and Girls Volleyball