



The Lion's Roar



Middletown High School North

Middletown, NJ

June 2013

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You will Find

Who's Going Where?

Find out where your fellow classmates are going next year. Page 4 & 5

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Commerative Issue: The Year In Review

What A Year!

by Nick Rozzo
Originally posted
12 June 2013

What a year to be a student at Middletown high school North. It has been a year of experimentation, of great loss, great reward, overall a year of great change. The day to day norm of school was mundane. However, with constant computer issues, effects of natural disasters, block scheduling, etc. the school year as a whole was never boring. Like all years there was plenty to complain about, and many times to celebrate. At Middletown North, the sense of camaraderie we share as a school is shepherded through the unity and respect we have for each other. Whether we like it or not, we all experienced Middletown North for the school year 2012-2013. This school year was much anticipated. The controversy of block scheduling built anxiety, and suspense as we all waited last summer to see how or even if the adoption of Block Scheduling would work at Middletown North.

When we all walked into school on that fateful day, September 9th, when this school year began, the first "A" day in Middletown North History. From that day forward it didn't matter if you were a returning upperclassman, a teacher, or administrator we were

all freshman again. Transported to a foreign environment the normal functioning of Middletown North drastically changed and all the skills and habits that one acquired to get through the school day or stay successful had to be thrown away and relearned.

Some are still adjusting to it. However as soon as the school year began to get started, and students and teachers began to get in a rhythm, near the end of the first marking period, the Northeast, the Jersey Shore, and Middletown were hit by a Super Storm. A hurricane by the name of Sandy, combined with a mixture of two different powerful weather systems, a Nor'easter approaching from the west, a low pressure system to the north, super storm Sandy was a historic weather occurrence. On October 29th 2012 Hurricane Sandy made landfall on the Jersey shore devastating shore landmarks, and coastal areas of Middletown. High winds and heavy rain affected the entire

community. Many Students and teachers, lost everything, and if it was not you yourself who were afflicted, it was your neighbor, relative, or fellow classmate that lost everything and needed support.

After Sandy made landfall, school was canceled for two weeks. Returning to school on November 12, 2012, we lost half of November, and class curriculums already behind because of the difficulty adjusting to block scheduling were behind in many circumstances beyond repair.

The combination of both plagued many classes the entire year, with many AP classes for instance unable to fully finish their curriculum. After Sandy's devastation the months that followed were slower and more solemn. Lucky to even have a school, the schools attention was focused on the recovery efforts with nearly every club and activity raising money, and donating time to aid in the cleanup effort.

After Winter break came and went, it was a long, cold, and dry time at Middletown North. With the loss of so much school due to

Sandy, not only were all snow days used up but several scheduled days off were eliminated. Holidays such as Martin Luther King Jr. Day as well as Presidents day, students had to come in for regular instruction. This long hall of school lasted from January to Late march, when a much deserved spring break would be the only resolve for a cold snowless winter. Warmer weather came with a variety of field trips, a visit from European Students, as well as the occasional town hall style meeting with Dr. George and fellow administrators on how to improve the school in light of its major overhaul.

As AP exams came and went, upperclassman enjoyed their proms and a more relaxed school environment with course work coming to a quick close. The limbo that is the fourth marking period at North had new meaning this year. As the 80 minute block period's meant more computer time and projects to fill the void of class work material and student effort, the closing of this long school year could not come any quicker.

For those returning to this humble place of learning, good luck and for those leaving for greater endeavors remember the good times, and learn from the not so splendid. Have a great summer, we all deserve it.

From that day forward it did not matter who you were... we were all freshman again.

On October 29th 2012 Hurricane Sandy made landfall on the Jersey shore devastating shore landmarks, and coastal areas of Middletown.

2012 Election: Right Back Where We Started?

by Mike O'Sullivan
Originally posted
12 November 2012

The 2012 election was as highly anticipated an election as there has been in recent memory due to the current economic crisis in the United States. Democrats supported their candidate, the incumbent president Barack Obama, while Republicans clamored for their nominee, Mitt Romney, to unseat Obama and implement his new policies. After months of campaigning and debating, Election Day did not go as planned for the Romney campaign and Republicans in general, as Obama was elected to a second term in office and the Senate remained in control of the Democrats.

The one positive from the Republican side is that they maintained control of the House of Representatives, although they had hoped to win the presidency, as well. As is customarily the case, the election results

have produced both positive and negative responses from American citizens.

Middletown North senior Matt Pozai is someone who was very disappointed with the Obama presidential victory, saying, "I am extremely disappointed and upset by the way



people voted." Pozai attributes Obama's victory to people voting based on "social issues over economic issues."

While Pozai and many others are clearly upset by Obama's reelection, many more share exuberance over his victory.

Brian Hayes, 32, was quite pleased with the results of the 2012 Presidential Election. Hayes, a strong supporter of Obama, said of Romney, "Mitt's views on social issues were similar to those from the 1950s, and he was unable to connect with voters because his stance on policies resonated only with older white voters."

While pointing out his believed flaws in Romney's policies, he praised President Obama by saying, "Obama overwhelmingly connected with younger voters, Latino voters, African American voters, and female voters. Obama deserves a second term because the economy is improving and healthcare is now a right and not privilege."

Despite differing opinions on both candidates policies, Pozai and Hayes were able to agree that the results of the 2012 election races will not only affect

them in the short-term, but also long-term.

What remains to be seen, however, is how much our government's policies will actually change. With Democrats remaining in control in the Senate and Republicans retaining their control in the House of Representatives, there is no real indication that both sides will be able to agree on most issues.

The elections generated billions of dollars in campaign spending, yet the American people were right back where they started.



Photo Courtesy of USA Today

The Great Experiment Begins

by Nick Rozzo
Originally posted
11 September 2012

The great experiment began at Middletown North. On September 10th, after the longest summer vacation in recent memory, Middletown High School North went back to school. However the 2012-2013 school years will be different from all the others prior. The adaptation of Block scheduling to Middletown North, some argue to be rushed into, has redefined the school day. As periods are replaced by blocks, and lunch is trans-

formed into "high school recess", students and teachers have quickly adapted to the new norm. Moreover, many seniors particularly have asked the question, "Why?", "Why this year?". In a sense, we are all freshman again. As the day to day activity of students is altered, those who are enrolled in vocational education as well as Dual enrollment at Brookdale community college are facing difficult challenges with their schedules. Ultimately, Block scheduling is new, and as the year progresses, the adaptive policies of school officials should ensure the well-being of students.

A Hidden Agenda

by Lauren Szewczyk
Originally Posted
16 April 2013

As the weather gets warmer, students can once again expect to hear the yearly reminder issued by the school on how to appropriately dress. While it is agreeable to most that no private parts should be visible (i.e. anything discussed in health class), I find the word "private" takes a new meaning when walking through these hallowed halls.

I never once considered my shoulders to be of public concern, nor my knees. I'm flattered that they're appealing enough to be considered a "distraction." The million dollar question is who exactly am I distracting? Surely it cannot be my female classmates, who compliment me on my clothing frequently. If it is, rather, my male classmates then I'm disappointed in what this place of learning is really teaching us. Rather than instructing their young pupils how to correctly address a young woman, this dress code is telling the male students they should give respect solely on appearance and any inappropriate behaviors on the part of the boy are deserved, for it is the girls fault for daring to dress so "inappropriately." If this is the case, perhaps our young learners should be taught self-control, for there are no dress codes beyond these walls, and I'm tired of having to carry pepper spray in my purse.

Dear reader, please do not misconstrue my message. I am not for anyone running around half naked. Frankly I don't think my mother would let me out of the house if my clothing was too scant. But I have certainly had my run-ins with the long arm of the so called law. It is humiliating and degrading to hear "your shorts are too short" and to be pulled from the halls. It reduces one's self image to feel as though one was standing on street corners rather than walking down the halls in the latest fashion. Blame the fact that my shorts do not reach the desired length on the possession of genetically improper fingers and bean pole arms, but please remember that (contrary to popular belief) I'm a human being and treating me as though I

work street comers simply because I do not comply is not and will never be okay.

You may be asking why I dress the way I do. Simply, it's because I do. I like the way a certain shirt caresses my shoulder or a skirt flows when I twirl. I can guarantee that all of my pieces are covered all of the time; I'm conservative enough to constantly fear a wardrobe malfunction. There is no intense meaning behind my clothing choices; truth be told, most clothes on the market are inappropriate. For the last time, I'm not trying to attract anyone, as is so often implied. If any male believes the length of my shorts directly correlates with my interest in him, I can assure them they simply suffer from an inflated ego. I've got more important things to do than to devote time in the morning thinking of the best way to attract my classmates.

My intelligence is not related to the length of my shorts or the width of the straps on my tank top; nor my self respect. I respect myself well enough, and I do not consider showing my shoulder blades as a cry for attention. If I dressed based on my intelligence and personality I would be in a long black cloak for the rest of my life. Unfortunately that outfit is so 15th century Salem Witch Trials.

I am in no way against a dress code. I'm not a fan of having health class parts revealed to me, either. I am, however, not offended by a few bare shoulders. If my clothing is offensive, it is no more so than the sagging pants I am subjected to each day (a dress code violation so frequently ignored and rarely punished). For some reason, my male counterparts are allowed to wear tank tops, but I am not. I don't particularly enjoy seeing a classmate's newest pair of boxers, but I tolerate it, and it is by no means diminishing my level of concentration.

Though I will not be here next year, I sincerely hope the above writing is considered when the dress code announcements are being made. Until then, please alert me when colonial fashion is back in style.

Block Scheduling- Why it's Great

by Alex Halligan
Originally Posted
21 September 2013

Middletown High School North has recently delved into the foreign world of block scheduling during this 2012-2013 school year. Since June when the rumor of the new scheduling was unearthed, students at MHSN have had much to say about the change. Many find this change to be overwhelming and prefer to return to the traditional seven period days. From my own observations, the amount of students that actually like the eighty minute class periods is very slim. However, there are many aspects of this new scheduling that unwilling students are choosing to overlook.

One of the age-long complaints that students have had is homework and not having enough time

for their grueling assignments. With the new block scheduling, students now have two nights to complete one class' homework. In my opinion, it helps control my stress level and gives me more time to learn a lesson.

Another advantage that some consider to be chaos is the extra "period" for lunch. During the first two weeks of school, students are confined to their advisory rooms but after the 21st of September, students are given free rein to receive help from their teachers, catch up with homework, attend club meetings, or simply extend their lunch. This extra 26 minutes give students time to rest their minds and relax until their proceeding two classes.

Block scheduling does have its downsides but ultimately, it is very beneficial to students in MHSN providing them with extended periods for classes and, in my opinion, a more relaxed school day.



Inconsistent Internet

by Nick Rozzo
Originally Posted 1 May 2013

For as long as I can remember, the quality of the computers as well as internet services at Middletown High School North has never been exemplary, however recently this year incompetence and inconsistency has plagued North's computers. Internet and computer issues have affected not just day-to-day computing, but let us not forget issues with scheduling, grades and calculating the senior class ranking which was delayed by several weeks. Unfortunately, it is not uncommon to wait several minutes to log on to a computer, it is the norm at North for teachers to not be able to access their email, and it is normal that "all call" announcements are made that interrupt every classroom, because those who work in the main office or guidance cannot access student's schedules. The quality of Middletown North's computers are pitiful. At one point several weeks ago, the faulty internet left the newspaper staff unable to conduct a meeting because every computer in the 2100 wing computer lab was either unresponsive or unable to connect with the internet. For a school district which does recognize the necessity of a more technology driven curriculum, the sta-

tus of computing power at Middletown North high school is years behind. Not only is internet connectivity, broadband capability and computer information storage horrifically insufficient, but also the state of the physical hardware is not adequate. Computer monitors are constantly being damaged; computer keyboards and mice are also constantly stolen. In this regard the responsibility falls not on administrative policy but on the students. This juvenile, dirt-bag behavior has burdened the entire school; it is because of the irresponsible students that the entire school has suffered. Computer labs are not available at all times and the CRC room, once a relaxed study room during block 3, has been closed permanently. In this discussion let us not forget all of the empty promises from school officials. The proposed doubling of bandwidth, the promise of new and modern equipment never seem to happen. This issue of computer health, maintenance and internet connectivity will continue to disrupt the quality of education provided at North. Everyone has experienced an inability to load a presentation or has been unable to conduct research in school because of this incompetence. Everyone has suffered: everyone would benefit from a major overhaul.

The Lion's Roar

TheLionsRoarMHSN.com

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The Lion's Roar is the school newspaper of Middletown High School North. We are dedicated to providing the student body with up-to-date, factually correct information. Our staff strives for excellence in all of our publications.

If you are interested in joining us, please feel free! We welcome new members at any time throughout the year. Our meetings are Tuesdays after school in the upstairs computer lab, room 2122. No experience necessary!

If you have any questions please email thelionsroar@ gmail.com

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Sandy's Far Reaching Destruction

by Lauren Szweczyk
Originally Posted
10 November 2012

In the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, many continue to struggle with the devastation caused by the super-storm. With the storm hitting the coast, our community was severely affected. Areas like Pier Village and Seaside were decimated, the roller coast now floating in the water. Atlantic Highlands and Union Beach were two areas hit the hardest. The iconic spy house's surrounding area is now depressingly bare, it's once beautiful scenery completely destroyed. The beach itself is very narrow, with very little sand left. Kearsburg was also severely affected, with game machines from the boardwalk landing in residents' yards. Many who chose not to evacuate described the water rushing down the street as similar to a river. New York City was seriously damaged as well. Many buildings were corroded by the salt water and are now under construction. Low lying buildings and shops were completely submerged. Some residents of the city took to scuba diving in the subway tunnels. Things will take long time to get back to normal. School did not return to normal scheduling for a record breaking two weeks. The storm has been recorded as a historical event, the likes of which has never been seen before in this region.



Photograph courtesy of Nick Rozzo, From The Spy House park in North Middletown on the 2 November 2012

Sandy Stole My Candy

by Nick Rozzo
Originally Posted
13 November 2012

Sandy stole my candy and my grandmother's beach house. This is unfortunately a common complaint after super storm Sandy, which made landfall on Monday evening, October 29th, blew through the New York-New Jersey area. That previous week, it is fair to say that no one anticipated this storm's severity and lasting impact. I specifically remember telling my friends and teachers, "See you Monday" on Friday October 26th, not realizing the danger that the school, New Jersey, and I were about to experience.

After the storm hit, and everyone was still shell-shocked, the last thing on my mind was Halloween. The destruction across the state led Governor Christie to reschedule the joyous holiday to later in the week. However, for the residence of Middletown Township, with sidewalks and roads still in disrepair, Halloween would again be rescheduled to Sunday November 11th, with the festivities to be celebrated in the parking lots of local schools. This is where the term "Trunk or Treating" was born.

A mixture of three different powerful weather systems, a Nor'easter approaching from the west, a low pressure system to the north, and a hurri-

cane approaching from the south, super storm Sandy was a historic weather occurrence. The devastation was widespread, and many families and students in the community were displaced. Downed power lines left everyone stranded without power, the lucky ones a few days, and others up to two weeks and counting. Many Students, specifically seniors who were left electronically crippled by these power outages panicked about November 1st deadlines that passed by. Thankfully, most colleges have extended them.

However, if those whose biggest worry was college application deadlines, they were the lucky ones. Students who have lost their homes and parents who have lost businesses will feel the impact of Sandy for years to come. This school year, permanently scarred by a two week break, spanned by a state of emergency will have lasting implications. Already the effect of seven unscheduled days off has been experienced. With half days eliminated and previously scheduled days off canceled, the ramifications are just beginning. As Middletown High School North and the rest of the Northeast try to transition back to some form of reality, I am positive it will be an event that will never be forgotten.

Photo Below: The Spy House park in North Middletown Courtesy of Nick Rozzo 2 Nov 2012



Sandy's Impact – Our Community

by Paige Padla and Andrea Price
Originally Posted
15 November 2012

The Jersey Shore was impacted greatly from Hurricane Sandy. For the lucky ones power was simply lost but for others who were not so fortunate their belongings and homes were destroyed. During the two week break High School North endured due to Sandy many students and their families where effected in different ways. The streets were littered with fallen trees, water, live wires hanging from poles, and even remains of resident's homes. Wayne White and Maggie Degroot are seniors at North. White's neighborhood is one of the most impacted neighborhoods in the area. DeGroot was fortunate enough to not be as severely effected. The only thing that happened to her was that she lost power for 5 days. Her neighborhood suffered minimal amounts of trauma because there were so many trees and wires down.

Although White's house is still standing, many other houses and families weren't so fortunate. He explained that, "A lot of people's houses are completely gone... People won't be able to live in their houses for months on end."

Luckily for Wayne his house is on higher ground than most of the other homes surrounding him. The water got to about one foot in his home until it started reseeded, although his basement is completely destroyed, his house remain livable.

In that same week Wayne and his family started to work to save their house, or what was left of it, ripping up carpets, tearing down walls, and cleaning debris from the yard. Other houses where marked with orange papers meaning "condemned." Among the



Seniors Cross Siclare and Kristen Hassenkamp with Governor Christie in Bayshore at a relief center.

things his family lost where appliances, important paperwork and photos. When asked if he was able to save anything he replied, "All my guitars, musical equipments, and other electronics."

Another problem that has been seen due to the storm is looters. Although White has seen no incidents there have been some reported about a block or two away.

In the end, DeGroot realized how fortunate she truly was that nothing had happened to her house, so to show her recognition and sympathy for everyone else, she lent a helping hand. She gladly helped collect and sort through clothes and toys for those who lost everything in Kearsburg and Union Beach.

Aside from that she and many other students donated and bought new things for her cousins who had lost everything. As if that weren't enough, she accompanied her mother to Sandy Hook to help clean up the wreckage there.

Perhaps one of the better sides of this storm is the positive effects. When it comes to the community Wayne hopes nicer and better homes will be built that will be able to withstand strong storms like Sandy in the future. The community has also joined together to help one another out. Now the question is; when will things get back to normal?



Photo Courtesy of Nick Rozzo The Seaside Roller Coaster in the Ocean on the 3 April 2013

6 Months After Sandy

by Nick Rozzo
Originally Posted
15 April 2013

Still 6 months after Super Storm Sandy ravaged New Jersey, its effects are still being felt. The most obvious and prudent to school are the changes to the school schedule. With two weeks off in November all extra days off were eliminated. The only scheduled days off for the second semester of school were Spring Break and Memorial Day. Thankfully harsh winter weather eluded us, and did not result in any snow days which would have eliminated even more days off, potentially pushing the last day of school further back and taking of days from Spring break.

As New Jersey, and Middletown specifically attempts to recover quickly, many areas remain devastated. Scars from Sandy are evident everywhere. From the beaches and shore landmarks that have changed forever, to abandoned properties and damage in North Middletown.

Many individual students, as well as student clubs working inside North have organized beach cleanups and other initiatives to raise funds and awareness for the continued devastation. The struggles have not ended; many are still not back in their homes. Although locations such as Sandy Hook gateway National recreation area will reopen on May 1st, the rebuilding process will be slow and the effects of Sandy will stay with us for many beach season and school years.

Pennsylvania

<p>East Stroudsburg University</p> <p>Christina Borghese Danielle Goodbody Paul Petrucci Steven Sparono Brian Williams</p> <p>Bloomsburg Univeristy</p> <p>Lauren Thompson</p> <p>Art Institute of Pittsburgh</p> <p>Scott James Drexler</p> <p>St. Joseph's Univerisy</p> <p>Ryan Miller</p>	<p>Eastern University</p> <p>Emily Lavin</p> <p>York College of Penn.</p> <p>Allison Dobsetter</p> <p>Penn State University</p> <p>Craig Abbes</p> <p>Elizabethtown College</p> <p>Zac Cannock</p> <p>Temple University</p> <p>Albert Recierdo Annabelle Recierdo Madison Ulczak Stephany McDonald</p>	<p>Kutztown University</p> <p>Danielle Donato Samantha Marcotte</p> <p>Delaware Valley</p> <p>Shea McDowell</p> <p>Lehigh University</p> <p>Kelly O'Neill</p> <p>Neumann University</p> <p>Jillian Richards</p>
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R.I.

Roger Williams

Alex Halligan

Virginia

Virginia Polytechnic Institute

Thomas Klemm

Liberty University

Sarah Meade

James Madison

Kassie Gesuelli

Old Dominion

Matty Bujnowski

Florida

Daytona State College

Ally LaBelle

Maine

U. of Maine

Chris Stark

Louisiana

Tulane University

Stephen Hogquist

Mississippi

U. of Miss.

Kyle Gebhardt

West Virginia

West Virginia University

Charles Dунzello

South Carolina

Coastal Carolina University

Shawn Chesek

Univeristy of South Carolina

Connor Campbell

California

Berkeley City College

Lars Nordgaard

Colorado

University of Colorado

Danielle Farrant
Michael Galluccio

Ohio

Bowling Green

Emily Cohen

The Ohio State University

Samantha Provenzano



New York

<p>New York University</p> <p>Ashley Chicola</p> <p>Hofstra University</p> <p>Laura Bellini</p> <p>Pace University</p> <p>Zaineb Aitbenbella</p> <p>SUNY New Paltz</p> <p>Sequoia Stone</p>	<p>Cornell University</p> <p>Carly Gibbons</p> <p>Mercy College</p> <p>Julie Gross Vanessa Soler</p> <p>Wagner</p> <p>Emily Newman Nicolette Tomasetti</p> <p>Stony Brook</p> <p>Damien Bryan, Jr.</p>	<p>Manhattanville College</p> <p>Paige Gregorio</p> <p>LIM College</p> <p>Karleigh Corridon</p> <p>SUNY Buffalo</p> <p>Emma Laffey</p> <p>American Musical and Dramatic Academy</p> <p>Samantha Torres</p>
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Delaware

Univ. of Delaware

Haley Nelson
Kyle Engelken

Conn.

Univ. of New Haven

Grace Galligher
Monique Powers

Mass.

Merrimack College

Catherine Hill

Northeastern

Christina Micolo
Michael VanSeveren

Emerson

Lindsay Pacheco

Massart

Jill Carlock

MA College of Pharm. and

Kelly Travis

Springfield

Jared Mosier
Rob Spinelli

Vermont

Champlain College

Phil Nesci

U. of VT

Caroline O'Kane

Maryland

University of Maryland

Dante Immordino
Nicholas Rozzo

Towson University

Jay Sobel

Arizona

University of Arizona

Tara Genovese

Armed Services

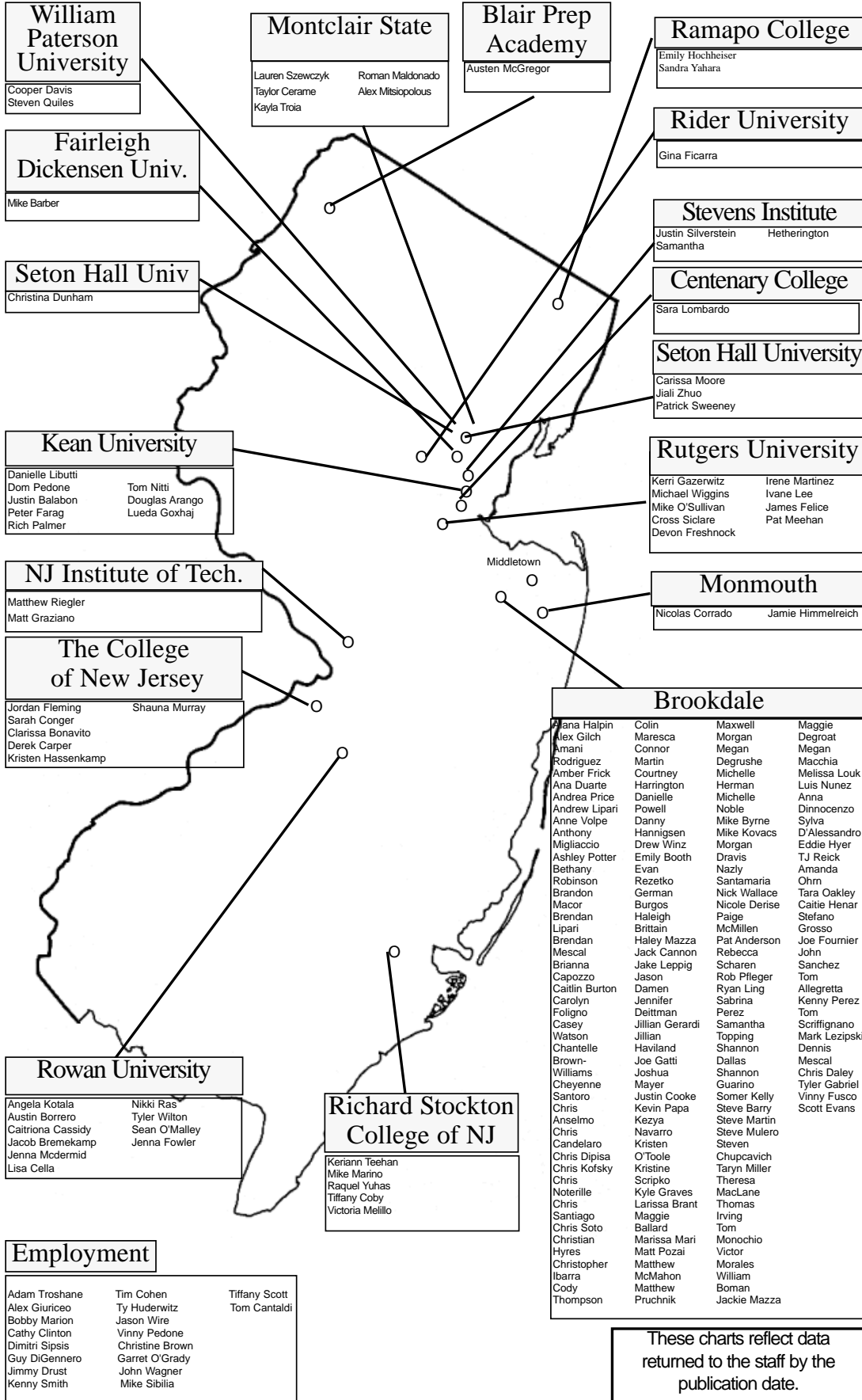
Kyle Talley - USN

Meredith Parleman - USN

D.C.

Catholic University

Nicole Tollefsen



Arts & Entertainment

Remembering the plays

by Alex Halligan
Originally Posted
19 Mar 2013

With uplifting music and a colorful plotline, *Seussical the Musical* impressed everyone in the crowd. *Seussical* opened on the night of March 15th. With two shows already completed during the day, the cast and crew was very excited to put on a great opening show and it showed. Opening night attracted a great crowd who were all excited to see High School North's spring musical.

The play followed the main character, Horton, who was defending a little world on top of a clover. The play was based off of the Dr. Seuss story, *Horton Hears a Who*. Along with this plot line the iconic character, Cat in the Hat, played by Mike Gwiazdowski, was used in the play as a the story-teller. His performance brought smiles to

everyone's faces with his great delivery of witty and childlike humor. Along with Mike, the rest of the cast did a wonderful job making this musical the best that it could be. Other members of the cast include: Sam Fox as Horton, Juliet Gallagher as Gertrude, Sam Torres as Sour Kangaroo, Nichole Bemko as Mayzie, Derek Carper as Mr. Mayor, Laura Bellini as Mrs. Mayor and Dan Enoch as the Grinch.

Anyone could tell that this musical was enjoyed by everyone. After every song was finished, the applause in the crowd was tremendous. Even during the intermission, I could hear everyone talking about how much they were enjoying the show. The last number in the musical was so uplifting that as soon as it was over the crowd was on its feet giving a standing ovation to the wonderful cast and crew that made a great show possible.

Photo Courtesy of Nicholas Rozzo



Who's Who in Drama Club

Graduating Seniors:
Derek Carper, Sean O'Malley, Laura Bellini, Rebecca Scharen, Shayna Flynn, Samantha Torres, Steve Hoquist, Maggie Degroat, Caitrina Martinez, Iretriona Cassidy and Emily Swiger

2013-14 Officers: *Julia Terranova (President), Chris McGee (Vice President), Erin Toomy (Secretary), Samantha Fox (Treasurer), Joseph Breen (Diplomat), and Antonia Deliso (Historian)*
Council Members:
Juliet Gallagher, Mike Gwiazdowski, Sabrina White, Michele Reno, and Griffin Gallagher



Photo Courtesy of Nicholas Rozzo

By Alex Halligan
Originally Posted 21 Nov 2012

The Middletown North Drama club kicked off the holiday season with their annual fall play on November 16th and 17th. This year, the club performed the play, *Barefoot in the Park*. Even though Hurricane Sandy delayed the play's opening night by two weeks, the performance was still excellent.

After watching the play, audience member had a good laugh and left with a smile. *Barefoot in the Park* was full of strong monologues, witty jokes, and cunning enthusiasm. Among the cast was Derek Carper, Juliet Gallagher, Laura Bellini, Brian Lindner, Sean O'Malley, Guy Rose, Michele Reno, and Mike Gwiazdowski. Each member gave the production their own unique acting style due to their individual personalities. Also, an interesting aspect to the title of this

play is that the audience members did not know what the significance of the title was until towards the end of the show.

Senior Derek Carper, who played the main male role, had much to say about his cast members and last fall play. "Doing *Barefoot in the Park* was really interesting. I can't believe that it's my last fall play but honestly, I couldn't have wished for a better show. *Barefoot in the Park* was a really interesting show and I really enjoyed all the cast members and the small cast. Even with the time constraints and delay, we put on a phenomenal show, and I am so proud of my cast members and crew as we all helped each other pull through."

After a successful fall play, members of the drama club are excited for the spring musical which has been announced to be the Dr. Seuss inspired, *Seussical*.

Twilight Saga ends, but their love lasts forever <3

by Lindsay Pacheco

This year has brought great change to the United States between the presidential election and Hurricane Sandy, and numerous other ups and downs that kept the nation on its toes.

However, what we as a nation failed to recognize as a climactic day in history was the sixteenth of November, back in old 2012, at around 2 o'clock in the morning, Team Edward

and Team Jacob fans finally reached a consensus, releasing foreboding sighs, and walking their separate ways.

Breaking Dawn: Part II marked the end to the glorified Twilight Saga that has been reigning supreme in the world of teen literature and cinema



The three protagonists of the Twilight Saga.

since 2008. It was hard for every girl between the ages of 12-22 to not jump on the bandwagon of Stephenie Meyer's supernatural love story.

I was 14 at the time and I remember making all of my friends read it with me and seeing all the movies together became a tradition,

so *Twilight* holds a special place in my heart.

It was the first book that made me want to read, as it did for thousands of teenagers all over the world, and something can be said for that at the least.

While it's over-commercialization can be attributed to its mocking status, its mark on our generation will never be forgotten.

North's Art Show brings together students and parents alike

by Lindsay Pacheco

Originally Posted 16 April 2013

The talented art students of Middletown North put forth their work for the Art Show last week from April 9th to April 12th. The library was off limits for the week, as it housed the dozens of art pieces from students in the Fine Arts courses, as well as in Functional Design. The annual Art Show provides a great opportunity for our students to showcase the art that they've cultivated throughout the year and give them a sort of reward to see the

improvements they've made since the beginning of the school year.

The library was open all week for classes to come down and view the work, so many teachers took advantage of the opportunity to admire the various pieces that were displayed. But on Thursday, April 11th, the library opened once again for all the students, teachers, and parents to come see the artwork if they had not been able to previously. Baked goods and refreshments were served as the curious spectators looked over the works and complimented their artists.



Senior Jillian Carlock captures the Seaside roller coaster in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy in a chilling pencil portrait, among many other magnificent works of arts showcased by the Middletown North art students.

Summer Jamz as chosen by our staff

BEST HITS SO FAR

I LOVE IT BY IONA POP
THE TITLE SAYS IT ALL, HOW CAN YOU NOT? ★★★★★

GET LUCKY BY DAFT PUNK
DAFT PUNK HAS RETURNED WITH A HIT TUNE TO KICK IT OFF! ★★★★★

SURFIN' USA BY THE BEACH BOYS

IT MAKES YOU WANT TO GO TO THE BEACH AND JUST PUTS YOU IN A GOOD MOOD. (O'SULLIVAN) ★★★★★



LUCKY BY TAME IMPALA

AUSTRALIA HAD A SOUND, IT WOULD BE TAME IMPALA: BEACHY, CATCHY, AND SUNNY. (PACHECO) ★★★★★



LOOKING FORWARD TO:

LADY GAGA
ARTPOP
SIGUR ROS
KVEIKUR
BEYONCE
MRS. CARTER
MGMT
MGMT
KANYE WEST
YEEZUS

UPCOMING CONCERTS

FIREFLY FESTIVAL FEATURING:

RHCP, TOM PETTY,
6/21-6/23/13 DOVER, DE

FLEETWOOD MAC
6/22/13 WANTAGH, NY

RUSH
6/23/13 WANTAGH, NY

WRAPPED TOUR
7/7/13 HOLMDEL, NJ

TAYLOR SWIFT
7/13/13 EAST RUTHERFORD, NJ

BON JOVI
7/27/13 EAST RUTHERFORD, NJ

MAROON 5
8/7/13 CAMDEN, NJ
8/10/13 HOLMDEL, NJ

KENNY CHESNEY
8/10/13 EAST RUTHERFORD, NJ

North Track Team Sets Multiple School Records At East Coast Relay

TRACK

By: Mike O'Sullivan, Sports Editor

May 21, 2013

MORRIS COUNTY - The East Coast Relays were held yesterday at Randolph High School, and it proved to be a successful day for the boys and girls of Middletown North's track team.

Many school records were shattered by the athletes, both on the boys and girls side. Nicole Ras and Alexa Barriero finished third place in the girls long jump and broke a school record with a total of 32-11.75.

The girls sprint medal relay team of Devon Freshnock, Jen Dietzman, Jen Dulin, and Ras broke the school record by 11 seconds with a time of 4:07.23 while taking fourth place in the race. Ras and Dietzman each ran the 200 meter portion of the relay, with times of 25.79 and 26.85, respectively.

Freshnock ran a 57.39 in the 400 meter portion, and Dulin ran a 2:16 in the 800 meter

portion. The team is also currently ranked #15 the country and has qualified for Nationals. As for the boys, they also had their share of record-breaking.

The boys 4 x 1600 team of Justin Lippert, Paul McCartney, Mike Marano, and Tom O'Neill shattered the school record by over one minute with an impressive time of 18:05.20 in a fourth place finish. Lippert ran a time of 4:28, McCartney ran a 4:39, Marano a 4:41, and O'Neill a 4:17.

The boys 4 x 200 team also broke a school record by running a time of 1:32.27. Chad Freshnock ran a 22.9, Nick Welsh a 23.4, Jake Betkowski a 23.3, and Shea McDowell a 22.5.

Overall, it was a historic day for North's track program, as four combined records were broken.

Former NFL Assistant Steve Bush to Coach North

FOOTBALL

By: Mike O'Sullivan, Sports Editor

March 19, 2013



Steve Bush

It was learned on Monday afternoon that Steve Bush, a former NFL and college assistant, has been selected to be

Middletown North's new football coach. His hire was made official at Wednesday night's Board of Education meeting.

Bush, a former Miami Dolphins assistant (2009-12) and Syracuse University assistant (2000-04), will attempt to turn around a program that has faced many challenges in recent years.

He also has experience on the high-school level, coaching Manalapan to a 36-30-1 record along with three Class A North

titles during his tenure from 1993-99.

He joined the Syracuse staff following his tenure at Manalapan and signed on as defensive backs and quarterbacks coach. Following his stint at Syracuse, he returned to the high-school ranks and coached West Genesee High School (NY). He also achieved success there and won the New York State Class AA Title in 2007.

It was then after his time at West Genesee that Bush landed a big-time gig as the offensive quality control coach, and eventual wide receivers coach with the Miami Dolphins. Now, he is back on the high-school level and is ready to take over as North's next head coach.

Bush's hiring results from former coach Joe Trezza's resignation in January after seven seasons with the Lions.

Thanksgiving Game Provides Last Hurrah for More than Just the Players

By: Mike O'Sullivan, Sports Editor

The annual Thanksgiving Day football game played between Middletown North and cross-town rival Middletown South is a highly anticipated event in the Middletown community each year.

From the players' preparation for the



Thanksgiving 2012

game, to the band members, cheerleaders, and dance team getting ready for their final football game performance, even to students

looking for bragging rights over their friends from the opposing school, the game is a big deal to many people.

Senior offensive tackle Nick Corrado understands the enormity of the game and says it will deeply impact him. "As a senior, we want to leave it all out on the

field on Thursday. It's going to be the game that I remember for the rest of my life. Going against South is a Middletown tradition and we

want to show the town and ourselves what we are capable of," Corrado said.

While the football players will be the main

MISCELLANEOUS

November 21, 2012

attraction of the game, there are many other facets involved, including the school band. Drum Major and senior Steve Quiles also feels the importance of the game, saying, "It's a sad time, but hopefully we leave on a good note. I wouldn't want to play for any other school."

The players and performers are ready, and it is nearly time for all of their hard work to be displayed in front of many people from Middletown.

North Finds Winning Ways

BASKETBALL

By: Greg Lenzi, Staff Writer January 16, 2013

Middletown North won its first showdown of the season with its crosstown rival Middletown South on Monday with a score of 49-42. North came in losers of its last three and a 5-6 overall record, compared with a surprising Eagles team at 7-4 on a winning streak.

Middletown North had one of its hot first quarters, racing out to a 9-6 lead. Entering the second is where North has struggled this season in the middle quarters of the game. This was not the case though as North had a double digit lead

at 24-14 at one point before ending the half up 8 at 24-16.

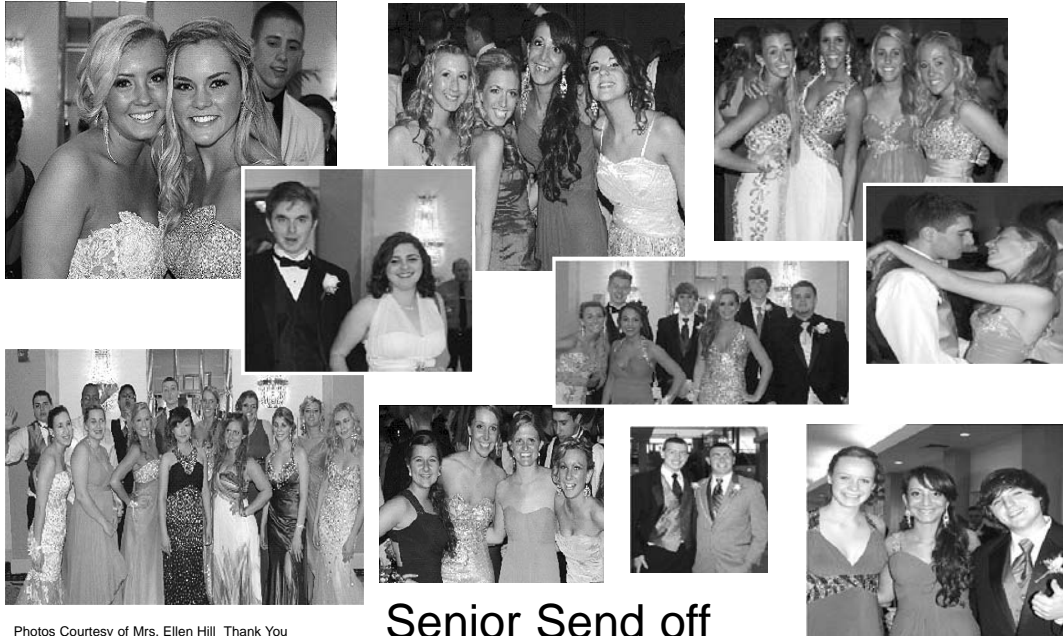
The dreaded third quarter showed its ugly face again as North was outscored 13-7 and was a 31-29 game entering the fourth. North's last loss to Colts Neck was due in large part to a 2 point third quarter, they scored less than 6 against CBA in that third quarter.

Although any chance of a loss was soon put to rest as a high scoring fourth gave Middletown North a 49-42 victory. The win moved North to 6-6 and South to 7-5.

Lacrosse in Middletown



2013 saw the inaugural season of Boys and Girls Lacrosse at North.



Photos Courtesy of Mrs. Ellen Hill Thank You

Senior Send off

Senior Editorial Farewell

During my tenure as Editor in Chief of The Lion's Roar, this school and its newspaper underwent tremendous change. Both trying to rapidly modernize, stumbling along the way. Two years ago it was decided that the newspaper would be solely online; this change meant a lapse in viewership and staff. I inherited both. The school, attempting to adopt block scheduling over the past year, has led to radically different school environment, as well as a fascinating topic to write about on the paper. The experiment that is Middletown North, is constantly evolving, and as we attempt to move through this critical stage in our lives, looking back on my four years as a student and four brief years as a member of the staff of The Lion's Roar I like to think that in that time I contributed to Middletown North leaving it a better place than the one that I inherited.

Contributing back to Middletown North does not just mean serving as Editor in Chief of the newspaper, being a council President, or serving in a leadership role. Being the best student you can be, mak-

by Nick Rozzo, Editor in Chief 2012-2013

ing lasting relationships with fellow students and faculty not only strengthens the school, but makes you a better person. I have benefitted greatly from the people I have met here at North. For every moment in which I have said, "I can't take it anymore." There is another in which I made a genuine connection with someone.

Middletown North is a school of tremendous opportunity: setting it apart from dozens of private and public high schools in the area. At North I had the opportunity to study with individuals drastically different than myself, the opportunity to be in a myriad of clubs/activities, sports, as well as the opportunity to be surrounded by teachers, faculty, staff, and other fellow students who care for my well being and intellectual growth.

Making connections with these individuals empowers the school, strengthening its unity therefore benefiting the entire campus. Get involved; discover your potential. Best of luck.

A Message from Last Years Editor in Chief

originally posted 13 June 2013

Dear Middletown High School North Seniors,

So it is June, and you are nearly done. You have almost completely given up hope on showing up to school on time and your senioritis is practically bursting out of you. You have stopped bringing a pen or a notebook to class because you already know where you are going to college, so who cares, right? Well do not be so quick to give up. College is coming, and it is going to be everything you have ever dreamed of, sure, but it is also going to be hard work.

Hard work that you, as an MHSN soon-to-be-graduate, can certainly handle. You are prepared. And even though you are certain that your English teacher did not know what he or she was doing and you think math is stupid and boring, you have been molded by an amazing staff and now you have the moxie to make it in college.

And college is just... well, it is meeting people, and learning new things you would never imagined you would ever consider, and going places, getting involved, having deep conversations, and acting a whole lot smarter than you actually are. And it is amazing. But terrifying. You might be scared. And understandably so. You have been in a little cocoon for your whole high school experience, coddled by parents and teachers who have helped along the way. You were told where to go and what time, when to eat lunch, and when to leave. College is freedom. And it is not for everyone. You can do what you want with your time, whenever you want to, or whenever you do not.

There is no one there pushing you to go to class, to read for your lectures, or to get some sleep instead of going out with friends the night before you

have an 8am class. All those times you said you could not wait until you were an adult and you could do whatever you wanted? Yes, well those times are coming soon, and you had better be ready and responsible for them. Manage your time well, and surround yourself with good influences. The kid who chills in his dorm room playing xbox all day may seem cool, but paying thousands of dollars a year and racking up loans, all to not go to class is an awfully expensive mistake. Go to class, even when you do not want to. Only permit yourself those skip days to do important things, like finish a paper. Because I'm fairly certain that you may put off an assignment or two a little longer than you should (it is a natural occurrence, just do not get sucked into doing it often, it really is more trouble than it is worth), and if you have to skip one class to complete an assignment for another class, it is not the end of the world. Get involved! Even for those of you who did not do anything in high school, go do something in college! There are so many more opportunities, and that is honestly how you meet your friends. Commuters, do not be afraid to get involved; if you do not, there will be an awful lot of awkward silences throughout your day.

Even making just one friend can boost morale and make you even more likely to attend classes. For people living at school, patience is key; Be patient with your roommate, suitemates, floormates, the people living above and below you, etc. There are an awful lot of different personality types that come together in college dormitories, and they do not always click. Speaking from personal experience, I understand what it is like to have an undesirable roommate; but staying positive and patient,

kind, and humorous will certainly help.

Enjoy the little things. Between schoolwork, extra-curriculars, friends, and making time to go out, not to mention if you have a job, you're going to be busy. And you can either let it break you, or you can master it. But in the meantime, enjoy the little things. It does not seem like much, but chicken strips getting served in the caf could make your whole day change for the better. Meet people! And be open. There is absolutely no way to make friends if you do not take chances. Go to a club meeting you are "sort of" interested in, and give the club three meetings to decide if you will stick with it or not. Talk to people. Even if you are just standing in line somewhere, small talk can be fun; not only do you sometimes get unexpectedly funny stories, but you can make some of the best friends, simply by reaching out. Yea, it is going to be awkward, but what is more awkward, saying hello or standing in silence for twenty minutes? Ask questions, and do not be afraid to look foolish. Some people will enjoy that fact and talk to you because of it. At college or university, you have to be open to opportunities, because they are everywhere. College is amazing, and it will be four of the most interesting years of your life. You will do things you have never done before, learn things you have never known, and meet people who will be in your life forever. Be kind to all, be open to opportunity, and do not eat your roommate's food. I have faith that all of you will be amazing and move on to huge, gigantic, successful careers and occupations. Good luck, even though you do not need it. Be yourself, and most importantly, enjoy!

by: Chloe Mullen-Wilson, Editor in Chief 2011-2012