Diversity an issue at HHS

by CAT TACOPINA and SAMUEL SAINTHIL

It's something teachers have noticed on their first day walking through the cafeteria. They walk through, say hi to the security guards, glance inside the two cafeterias, and can't believe what they see. There's a clear distinction between the two. On one side sit all of the minority students. On the other, the majority. Maybe they suddenly stepped into the past. The 1960's?

No. It's just the way things are at Huntington High School. Diversity is yet unintentionally segregated. Huntington High School is one of the most diverse schools on Long Island. In fact, it's something that school officials like to boast about to colleagues, but when you take a look around, are we really that diverse? In population, yes this is true. However, if you look at the cafeteria and more importantly the classrooms, this isn't exactly the case. The most disturbing and apparent example is the lack of diversity within the Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) classes.

The Huntington High School student body is comprised 2.7% students of Asian descent, 13.4% of students who identify themselves as African American or black, 23.9% students who are Hispanic, 7% who are of multi-racial heritage, .08% pacific islander, and 59.2% Caucasian. These percentages were taken out of the grand total of 1,253 students at Huntington High School. When we asked Dr. Leonardi what percentage of minority students make up an Honors or AP class, she gave us a grim smile and said, "Well you both already know. The Honors AP classes are 99% Caucasian." One of the school's AP teachers, Mr. Graber, agrees.

"On average, I have a hundred and fifty students in my AP classes," he said, "I'm not sure exactly how many, but clearly I do not have many students that are of the minority."

But how does this happen? Should we really believe that all of those minority students aren't smart enough to be in an Honors/AP class? Or is it just that they don't want to be? Most likely, it's the latter of the two.

Blu Devil marching band celebrates 75th

Blue Devil marching band celebrates 75 years of excellence

by KATIE PETROZZO & MARK DROBIANI

The Huntington Blue Devil Marching Band (HBDBM) has entered an exciting new season, along with the highly anticipated 75th anniversary of the program. The marching band was founded in 1934 by James Cloyd Doty along with Principal Robert L. Simp-son, whose passion and love of the band program helped to make it a proud tradition. Ms. Linda Shoemaker, a retired band director, also greatly contributed to the program by directing top-notch groups that played incredible shows. Many of the band alumni, including Ms. Shoemaker, came together on Homecoming weekend. On the day of the Homecoming parade, the alumni had their own section and proudly marched through the streets of HUNtington expressing all the pride they felt during their own high school experience, as well as the joy of reuniting the people that contributed to such a fine band. The entire event was run by the parent alumni association. On the popular social networking site Facebook, a group was created for the Huntington Alumni Marching Band Alumni, which consists of 557 people as of today. However, the festivities and excitement don't end after Homecoming weekend. Planned far in advance, an end of the year concert is scheduled for June 5th, 2010, consisting of a jazz ensemble, wind ensemble, orchestra, band, and various other musical groups that normally play in school concerts. This performance will consist of both current and past members of the Huntington High School music program. With all of the exciting organized events in mind, Jason Gachem, a current band director at Huntington, is very pleased. He told us, "The most exciting part of this whole thing is seeing the tradition of so many years coming together to celebrate." On October 4th, the HBDBM had the honor of hosting their biannual home show. The underclassmen were able to experience the thrill of competing on home grounds for the first time as the juniors and seniors enjoyed their last competition at home. Huntington became the site of competition for 13 bands (including the HBDBM), to which more than 5,000 spectators attended and around 170 parent volunteers lent a helping hand. Huntington came in 2nd place with a score of 77.90, five points higher than the score reviewed at the first show at Sachem High School East. Tommy Monks, a senior and section leader of the pit (percussion section), stated, "The home show was amazing this year and it's cool how it has grown since my first home show in 2003. I was really impressed when 12 bands showed up at our school, making our competition one of the largest in the state." Sophomore Niki Shah told us that, "Marching band is a great thing because we take it and make it what we want it to be, with our own music, our own visuals, and our own way of entertaining a crowd of 4000." Junior member Corina Antonucci commented, "I really loved the home show this year. I'm proud to be in the Huntington Blue Devil Marching Band." Band's show this year, "Strength and Honor," is a collaboration of music from the motion picture, Gladiator. The 2009 marching season ends in Syracuse, New York at the Carrier Dome, which is where championships are held. It has been a quite busy yet thrilling season with the 75th Anniversary and the gathering of bands from all over New York State. Yet, the adventure never really ends as the 2010-2011 season is just around the corner...
Where in the world is Jarrett Stein?

by Amy Eisen

Mr. Stein was one of the familiar faces seen around the hallways of Huntington High School. He was assistant principal, and was always walking around, keeping the peace.

However, when looking around the hallways of Huntington High school today, Mr. Stein is nowhere in sight. Many ask, “where is he?” Do not worry, Mr. Stein is not too far away. He has taken over the role of principal at Woodhull Intermediate School, where he deals with students in grades 4-6.

The former principal of Woodhull, Dr. Ken Card, got the job, stating his responsibilities over “everything.” As assistant principal, and former principal, Mr. Stein dealt with student discipline, clubs, testing, and transportation, among many things. Now, his role is less restricted. He makes sure that everything is running smoothly at Woodhull, and embraces the new challenges that come along with his position. His main responsibilities lie in the students, dealing with the curriculum, observations, and testing, to name a few.

While he likes his new job, he loved his old one. “I loved it, loved it. I miss the kids terribly. And all the faculty,” Mr. Stein stated. He noted how different the two schools are, but that didn’t come as a surprise to him, as high school students are very different from those in elementary school.

Rest assured, this will not be the last Huntington High sees of Mr. Stein. He promises to attend as many plays, sports games, concerts, and other school events as possible. He’ll still visit, but our hallways will never be the same.

Be here or be square

by Liz DeMaio

Alterations and changes have been made to Huntington High School’s policies and physical appearances this school year. These include brand new lockers, which have been a topic of controversy over, and the newly enforced attendance policy. The policy has not been as strictly imposed on students in past years, but this year the school has buckled down to ensure that students are present and on time for class. Attendance has always been a dominant issue for students and their body, yet the school has been somewhat lenient in letting students who showed up late or didn’t show up at all to school remain undisciplined for their actions. With this policy coerced, 2009-2010 may be a rough year for several students, especially the seniors. The attendance procedures are published in the pages of every Huntington High School agenda book in explicit detail and were gone over with the students the day agenda books were distributed.

Every year, teachers who hand the books out dutifully go over the rules and regulations, but for the most part, no one takes these procedures to heart. This year, however, it couldn’t be stressed enough about how important it is to maintain a balanced attendance record. Attendance can now effect students’ participation grade in classes (a minimum of 10% of quarter averages is now composed of attendance and punctuality). This can and potentially will lead to a GPA downfall for many students. Seniors will feel the effects of this new policy the most, for it is somewhat typical for last year students to experience ‘senioritis.’ This also puts senior cut days up for debate. The majority of students do not find the attendance policy to be very helpful, but instead very stressful. The new attendance policy is unnecessary,” says senior Haley Garofalo. “It’s too much pressure! I just want to relax a little, it’s senior year!” The class of 2010 is ultimately displeased with the new additions to the policy. The seniors have put in an immense amount of hard work over the past three years, yet they feel they will not be alleviated of any of the stress. However, some students remain unaffected by it, because they simply do no not care about their grades. “Honestly, I don’t really think it affects anyone all that much,” senior Arron Ramchandran comments.

“People are still going to be late and cut class because the people who do that are the type of people who aren’t really concerned with their grades.” Maybe this is the case, that the ongoing lack of presence in class will continue to exist, but that could only lead to more events and privileges taken away. The Junior/Senior prom was scheduled for the night before graduation due to attendance issues surrounding this even in previous years. On top of this, more attention will be drawn to the e-School service which allows parents to locate and view their child’s attendance record. This may catch students off guard, and some find this intrusive. Perhaps this may influence parents to encourage their kids to make it to school on time and be a wake up call for some students.

Furthermore, with the attendance policy in full effect, this year may be a rough turn out for students at Huntington High School.

Budget Cuts 2009-2010

by Kiki Thompson

As you may or may not know, the school budget for this year has passed. This means that a number of teachers, programs and sports were cut to maintain that budget. For instance, the position of Director of Guidance was lost. The Director of Mathematics was given two periods to teach and Director of Humanities was given only one. Some students even lost the chance of being in certain courses because every class that contained less than fifteen students was removed from the budget. Some of these programs include the GED for bilingual students through BOCES and Secondary Study Hall & Hallway Assistance (SHHA). The hours available to finish or make up schoolwork in the school library were cut in half. We also lost a percentage of equipment money and gait’s varsity cheerleading was cut from the athletic budget.

Even though the school is saving money by cutting these teachers, programs and sports, the budget has repercussions beyond the obvious. Where, and the teachers with only a few periods to teach are not benefiting as many students. Guidance counselors are now complying to the Board of Education that there isn’t a director for them. The bilingual students can’t receive their GED through BOCES, and students who wish to use the resources of the library are now limited. For the school and other school activities that use a lot of equipment, they now have to use what they have or find other ways to get equipment without going over the amount of money they can spend. There will also be plenty of disappointed girls in the school since cheerleading is cut from the athletic budget, and it may not be able to change into a club. The question is, how many people is the budget really helping?
New iPod Nano 5G gets hot raves

by MARK DROBNJAK

The new iPod Nano 5G generation recently came out with some delightful new features. The built-in camera and a larger screen are exactly what Apple customers find useful, but how well does this device match the taste of avid music listeners? Video playback, photo viewing, the music library, and general design of the 5G Nano are admittedly the same as older versions. Battery life has of course been prolonged by about an hour and a half due to the inclusion of the camera and the modernly welcomed movie watching abilities of almost all screened iPods. However, 5 hours of battery life is nowhere near the standard for devices with the ability to play full-length feature films. If the camera is being utilized by being taken on a trip, the more special memories you save, the more battery charge you lose. On a lighter note, this version boasts a “polished anodized aluminum finish in nine electrolyzing colors” as stated on Apple’s website, where half of the links on the home page are for their newest Nano.

The camera is placed on the bottom left of the back face of the iPod, which may feel odd, but is easy to get used to with the vibrant color display, now .2 inches bigger. The screen may be a bit small for movies, but it gives great quality pictures or videos, which wouldn’t be complete without a wide variety of special effects, also.

For those of you who like to get outside, the Nano is compatible with the Nike+iPod RunDometer/training program that certainly puts a skip into your step with an updated and more user-friendly interface that doesn’t keep you rummaging through the settings every 15 minutes. Another innovative addition is the microphone that can be used for voice memos, sounds you want to record, or changing songs without even going to the menu. With the push of 2-3 buttons, you can simply state the name of a song and it will start playing. However, don’t rely too much on this listening mp3 player, because complicated and simply unusual songs most likely won’t be recognized. Also, if you’re working out in a gym, out for a jog, or are exposed to excessive ambient noise, this may not promote proper function of the microphone either.

This iPod is certainly an advancement in Apple’s technology. With a touch screen, longer battery life, and application compatibility, the iPod Nano 5G is comparable to the iPod touch, but it checks in at a more than reasonable price. The 8GB version starts at $149.99 while the 16GB version starts at $169.99, both with free optional engraving. When ordered from the online Apple store, your iPod can say “I belong to Kevin” on the back, or “Have fun in college. Dad” on additional engraving. When all is taken into consideration, the bottom line is this: if you have an iPod already, you may be comfortable enough with that, but owning any other type of mp3 player or none at all makes the new Nano the perfect reason to upgrade.
To club or not to club

by Emily McGoldrick

A lot of people wonder why they should bother joining clubs and teams during the school year. There’s tons of school work to get done, and everyone craves free time. So why do people involve themselves with extracurricular activities?

The first reason is pretty obvious: you get to be with your friends. The second you bite into it, you’re going to have twenty crumbs fall at lightning speed. The third is that it’s the morning. Or the afternoon. It could be midnight for all you care, but you feel that undying nerve for something sweet. Thankfully for all of us, Huntington has a plethora of bakeries, each alike and different in their own ways, to satisfy your sweet tooth. Whether it’s Italian sweets or a simple cupcake, you can always find what you crave. However, that isn’t to say you are going to be completely satisfied where you go. Some of these sugary eateries in Huntington are, for lack of a better word, utterly disturbing and disgusting. Here’s our consensus:

Reinwald’s:

It’s the number one bakery in Huntington. By number one, we mean that in terms of popularity. Don’t get us wrong, it was one of our favorites, but not exactly the best. Of course, they had the widest selection out of any place we went to throughout our bakery expedition. The M & M cookie was extremely yummy. Then we noticed that our lags were covered with crumbs. The second you bite into it, you’re going to have twenty crumbs fall at lightning speed.

Fiorello Dolce:

Our favorite bakery, Fiorello Dolce, is located at the end of the village. It’s perfect. It’s right by the movie theater in the village. This only made it more special, because we all like having our little well-kept food secrets. To begin, it’s not a traditional bakery like Reinwald’s or A Rise Above. However, it was the only one of the day that actually had that warm bakery smell. This got us right away, along with the intimate, yet inviting atmosphere. And don’t get us started on the croissants. They were better than perfect, as was everything else. Fiorello was, by a long shot, the best of the day, earning a whopping five cupcakes.

10 ways to make cash

Short on money? Try one of these odd jobs.

by Nathan Smith

With the busy schedules many students juggle to manage, securing a job can be a difficult task, but everyone needs money to have a social life. Next time your wallet feels a bit too light try one of these odd jobs that can be completed right here in school.

1. Have your parents buy you lots of candy (Qbz work best) and sell it for a little bit more money than what you got for it. You’ll make all the profit. Plus, your parents will be proud of you, now that you’ve become a true entrepreneur.

2. Offer to carry students’ backpacks for a price. Once you get 10 or 20 of them piled up you’ll be making a real salary.

3. Start a valet service for sororities who don’t want to walk from a nearby street or far parking space to the school.

4. Sell copies of movies that you film in video class.

5. Begin a waiter service in the cafeteria.

6. Offer to photocopy exams for the teachers, but don’t get any ideas.

7. Help students memorize their locker combinations by documenting them in a notebook.

8. Bring coffee to teachers for a price higher than what the store offers.

9. Rent a few go-karts and charge students to race them around the track.

10. Claim every item from the lost-and-found and resell them on eBay.

Tour de Bakery

by Cat Tacopina, Kevon Pekchi, and Alex Reinertsen

It’s the morning. Or the afternoon. It could be midnight for all you care, but you feel that undying nerve for something sweet. Thankfully for all of us, Huntington has a plethora of bakeries, each alike and different in their own ways, to satisfy your sweet tooth. Whether it’s Italian sweets or a simple cupcake, you can always find what you crave. However, that isn’t to say you are going to be completely satisfied where you go. Some of these sugary eateries in Huntington are, for lack of a better word, utterly disturbing and disgusting. Here’s our consensus:

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Our favorite bakery, Fiorello Dolce, is located at the end of the village. It’s perfect. It’s satisfying. It’s Italian. You probably didn’t even know it existed. It’s located at the end of the parking lot next to Bistro Casis right by the movie theater in the village. This only made it more special, because we all like having our little well-kept food secrets. To begin, it’s not a traditional bakery like Reinwald’s or A Rise Above. However, it was the only one of the day that actually had that warm bakery smell. This got us right away, along with the intimate, yet inviting atmosphere. And don’t get us started on the croissants. They were better than perfect, as was everything else. Fiorello was, by a long shot, the best of the day, earning a whopping five cupcakes.

Stop by your favorite bakery on November 10th to celebrate National Vanilla Cupcake Day!

FEATURES
DataStream Surfing: The net nerd takes on Google

by David Levin

I’m sure in the past you have searched for something on Google, but did you know you can also use Google to check your email, collaborate documents, and chat with your friends? Google offers many great services that I have been using for years. Be-
One of the first things that many returning students immediately noticed when they arrived at school on September 9th were the new lockers. These new lockers are dark blue and more spacious, although shorter than the old lockers. Immediately, they received mixed reactions. Those fortunate enough to get a top locker liked the extra space, while those who received bottom lockers often have a different opinion on the matter. Nevertheless, the process of getting these new lockers is something that most students are unaware of. Mr. Gruckin, the Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Management, was kind enough to answer my questions on the subject and outline the process which the district had to undergo. It was first decided the old lockers would be upgraded all about two years ago. The Central Administration had to present a five-year capital plan to the Board of Education. Once the Board of Education approved the project, it was then submitted to the New York State Edu- cational Department for further approval. To get the project up into effect, it needed to be approved by the taxpayers, who, after all, would be the ones providing funding for this upgrade. The project was approved at the annual school budget vote. Once the school dis- trict received the “go ahead,” the architectural firm BBS Architects and Engineering was commissioned to design the new lockers. The firm was then responsible for overseeing the bidding process on the school’s behalf. This simply means that BBS Architects and Engineering is responsible for specifying what type of lockers and services are needed. Based on the cost and services of each company, a recommendation is made to the Board of Education as to who the job should be given to. Nickerson Corp-oration, the company that won the bid, was chosen based on cost and design. The cost of this entire project was $177,304, plus architect fees. This in- cludes the cost of the new lockers, trans- 2009/2010 Staff
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The Dispatch is Huntington High School’s of- ficial student publication. Written for the 1,200 students attending HHS, The Dispatch is dis- tributed to all students, staff and school com- munity members at the school free of charge.
The Editorial Board is the newspaper’s deci- sion-making body, organizing and directing its operation. The Dispatch staff has adopted the following editorial policy to express the rights, responsibilities and philosophy of the newspaper for the 2009-2010 school year.
The Dispatch of Huntington High School is a public forum, with its student editorial board making all decisions concerning its content. Unsigned editorials express the views of the majority of the editorial board.
Letters to the editor are welcomed and will be published as space allows. Letters are pre- ferred signed, but may be published by request. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit letters for grammar and clarity, and all letters are subject to scrutiny by accuracy, label, privacy, and disruption of the school process, as are all contents of the paper. Questions, comments, and letters to the editor should be sent to hhsdispatch@gmail.com or submitted to The Dispatch mailbox in the main office.
Opinions in letters are not necessarily those of the staff, nor should any opinion expressed in a public forum be construed as the opinion of the administration, unless so attributed.
The Dispatch’s goal is to provide readers with interesting content in a wide variety of areas. Such areas include the news coverage of school and community events, as well as features on relevant topics. In addition, The Dispatch will provide opinionated editorials on controversial topics, as well as provide previews and reviews for upcoming school and professional sports seasons and other forms of entertainment.
The Dispatch accepts advertisements from lo- cal businesses and student organizations. Re- quests for specific pricing, and examples of past advertising may be requested via e-mail through hhsdispatch@gmail.com. The Edito- rial Board reserves the right to refuse any ad- vertisement deemed inappropriate.

by NICOLAS MAIARELLI

New lockers line HHS

by LEA FREED

Student complaints linger

I'm grabbing my calculus folder and book from my locker in the English hallway, having problems remembering my new combination as I hear my neighbor Lexi Gantumble yelling at her very own locker to open. I look at her, and she explains in a frustrated tone that she simply “hates the new lockers.” The recent installment of over two thousand new navy blue lockers in Huntington High School is only one of the many changes made for the 2009-2010 school year. Are all these changes really for the better? Lexi isn’t the only one who complains about the change of lockers. Senior Leif Drace tells me, “Because I was given a bottom locker, I was forced to move into my friend’s locker.” Similar systems of sharing have been occurring due to the inconvenient placement of the bottom lockers. Haley Garofalo says that she doesn’t find the lockers to be such a nuisance, and that she currently shares her locker with a good friend; she does admit that every time she passes the spot of her old locker she gets angry. It’s true that the best spot for a locker is right by the four corners, and a lot of seniors are frustrated that they weren’t given the lockers in this area. Instead of installing completely new lockers, the administration should have kept the same style of the old lockers, as well as having people in the same areas—it would have saved a lot of hassle in remembering new places and frustration with the placement. Another change that came with the new school year was the repaving of the parking lot. This is great, don’t get me wrong, but the only question I have is why not repave the senior parking lot as well? When they repaved the parking lot feels great driving into the school, but makes the student parking lot feel much worse in comparison. While trying to decipher the painted numbers on the parking spots which have almost faded completely, security guard Youlda tells me that she has been trying to get the numbers repainted over for the students for the seven years that she has been working at Huntington High. Huntington High School is doing well to spend money on the improvement of conditions, but maybe it should think more about what the students want and need to better their educational standards.

In the future it would be more helpful for the school to seek a student consensus before making another change. It would be a smart idea to conduct surveys where students can vote on a few possible changes that they want to see, and the majority could be held in mind when planning is made. It’s not that the school is doing a bad job in their repairs, it just isn’t minding the students’ interests when executing changes.
POINT / COUNTERPOINT

Prom on eve of graduation

by Natasha Stollmack

Upon being informed of the change in date for the 2010 prom, it was natural for students to immediately oppose the decision. The main arguments from the student body are that typical post-prom activities will be unable to take place this year, and that to schedule the prom and graduation on the same weekend will result in utter chaos. I myself was originally opposed to the idea of the change, however I’ve come to learn both sides of the dispute. Many of us think that the administration changed the date in attempts to eliminate drinking and other popular after-prom events that are deemed dangerous and as many like to disregard, illegal. I thought it best to speak with Dr. Leonardi, and she explained to me her standpoint. She told me how the change in date had not been a direct result of 2009 prom dilemmas in fact they had been considering changing the date for several years now. Unfortunately, it seems that everything is being linked to the high school’s growing attendance problem. Dr. Leonardi talked about the problem of students leaving or not even showing up to school the day of prom, which is how they came to establish a rule involving a minimum amount of periods of attendance required (for the past few years it has been four). Of course, a lack of attendance in a single day cannot be held accountable as a big enough reason to change the date; it isn’t, it’s the cumulative attendance of students during the school year. Although the school had given us permission to leave early, the district was still losing money. Every period that a student is absent, our school receives that much less funding from the state. It adds up quickly; between the state of the economy and negligence to attendance, the school year has been four. Of course, a lack of attendance in a single day cannot be held accountable as a big enough reason to change the date; it isn’t, it’s the cumulative attendance of students during the school year. Although the school had given us permission to leave early, the district was still losing money. Every period that a student is absent, our school receives that much less funding from the state. It adds up quickly; between the state of the economy and negligence to attendance, the school year has been four. Of course, a lack of attendance in a single day cannot be held accountable as a big enough reason to change the date; it isn’t, it’s the cumulative attendance of students during the school year.

...everything is being linked to the high school’s growing attendance problem.”

Keep prom in May

by Carrie Fante

As many students have already heard, this year’s prom will be held the day before graduation. This news was not taken well by most of the seniors or by the underclassmen, who worry that their prom will be on the same date. Nearly all students who are aware of the change of the prom date (which until this year was always in late May) believe that the sole reason behind the change is to discourage cutting school the day of prom, that does not change the fact that holding prom the day before graduation is a bad idea. First of all every student in the school has heard about the new attendance policy at least ten times this year. It is more than understandable that the school wants to decrease the large numbers of cuts and unexcused absences, but changing the date of prom to prevent students from cutting seems a little extreme, especially when the school has already instituted a policy that takes two points off a student’s average for every unexcused absence. The school already requires students to be in school a minimum number of periods on the day of prom if they are going to attend, so students who leave early for one day, really shouldn’t be that significant to the school. In addition to the issue of attendance, the fact that graduation is the next day will not stop many students from having parties and will not stop proms that involve drinking, and other illegal activities, and especially to stop seniors from spending the weekend following prom in Montauk, without parental supervision. While the main factor in changing the prom date was not to stop after-proms, but instead stop students from cutting school the day of prom, that does not change the fact that holding prom the day before graduation is a bad idea.

“...holding prom the day before graduation is a bad idea.”

Currently, prom is scheduled for Thursday, June 24 at 7pm. The graduation ceremony is scheduled for June 25 at 6pm.

the Dispatch examines . . .

What’s Hot

1. Glee- the new television show about a Glee Club has quickly become a favorite of many Huntington students. The Glee Soundtrack also currently tops iTunes charts.
2. Tropical Smoothie Fridays- With promises of free smoothies, seniors have been flocking to this eatery for lunch every Friday.
3. The Blueprint 3- Jay-Z’s new album featuring the hit song ‘Empire State of Mind’ can be heard in cars and on radios everywhere.
4. Michael Jackson- The late King of Pop is appearing everywhere on items ranging from tee-shirts to backpacks and school supplies.
5. Leather Jackets- The T-Birds would be so proud. This fall, everyone is pulling their leather jackets out of their closets for a stylish way to beat the chill.

What’s Not

1. Obama’s plan to make school days longer- Teachers hate it. Students hate it. Obama’s own children hate it. Let’s just not go there, Mr. President.
2. Bottom locker- enough said...
3. Twilight- Stephenie Meyer’s novel saga has been read by nearly every teenage girl in America. However, film portrayals produced with low budgets have weakened the appeal and magic of these books.
4. H1N1 (Swine Flu)- Nobody wants the flu; it’s not fun. Add the word ‘swine’ in front, and you’ve got a lethal combination. People across America are waiting to line up to get vaccinations in order to prevent the spread of H1N1.
5. Tight-fitting clothing- Tight shirts paired with form-fitting leggings prove to be an unflattering combination. For a better look, try a loose cardigan or sweater on top, with skinny jeans on the bottom.
Fall drama production preview: *Stage Door*

by CARLY GLOWACKY and MOLLY PREP

Friday the thirteenth doesn’t always have to be an unlucky day, Huntington. Why, you may ask? Because this year, it’s the premiere of our new fall drama, *Stage Door*.

Directed by Mr. Michael Schwendemann, *Stage Door* will be presented on Friday, November 13th, and Saturday, November 14th. Student tickets are only five dollars. Never heard of it? Don’t worry! In simpler terms, it’s a Playhouse in the Park style production of a play set in the 1930’s. It is the home of 16 aspiring actresses who come to the city to pursue their careers. The play takes you on their unpredictable journey towards stardom and fame. We spoke to Mr. Schwendemann and asked him some questions about the drama, as well as his advice for students looking to become involved in acting.

Q: Are you impressed with this year’s cast?
A: I’m especially impressed with this year’s freshman class. They all came to the audition ready and prepared for anything. They’re such an extremely talented and committed group of young people. Even though I had to cut people for the first time in a while, they all tried their hardest and are talented as well. Make sure you come back!

Q: Do you have a favorite character in the play this year?
A: I don’t necessarily have one, especially because this production is more of an ensemble piece. Each character speaks to me on a different level, and I see elements of myself in all of them.

Q: Do you like being the drama director?
A: Yes, absolutely. It keeps me sane, and it opens up students to me that I would have otherwise never known.

Q: When do you get sick of it all?
A: It depends on the show and the cast. Some shows have breaking points for me, others don’t. I’ve yelled, walked out of rehearsals, but I wouldn’t trade this job for anything else.

When asked for a reason as to why there is such an inequality between the students, we were given very specific, in-depth answers that identify themselves with natural human behavior.

“Minorities hesitate to enter challenging classes because they don’t see their friends there. They’re afraid of being accused of trying to ‘act white.’” Dr. Leonardi informed us. Mr. Graber has also seen this as a problem. A couple of years ago, he had a minority student drop out of one of his AP classes because she felt out of place.

A policy that other districts use that reflects a student’s desire to achieve is sometimes called the “open floodgates” policy. This is a policy in which students, regardless of grades or prior achievement, can enroll in an AP or Honors class if they choose to do so. When asked how feasible this policy would be if implemented in our district, Dr. Leonardi said that it all depends on the willingness of the district and community to put forth as much effort as possible to ensure the success of the students. It also requires the belief that all students, regardless of their background or circumstances, have the potential to progress as far as they want. “If the policy is implemented, our traditionally high AP test scores will stay the same. If the district cannot panic and scrap the program immediately, it will be up to me to implement a multi-year plan that would involve an extra-help style time for formal instruction in areas that a child is weak in.” Dr. Leonardi said in response to the question of what she would do if she had the ability and power to make some changes. Dr. Leonardi also spoke of establishing a partnership with parents to motivate goal oriented education in the student. These measures would ensure that the students are matching and even surpassing the bar put in place by AP and Honors programs, and the fluctuating test scores would be consistently high again. This all seems well and good, but how realistic are these measures if funds are taken away from public schools.

When we asked people what they thought about this article, her guidance counselor that she didn’t speak Spanish at all besides common phrases such as “Hello” and “Thank You”, she was turned away because the guidance counselor thinking she was looking for an “easy A”. So instead of this student being able to learn and progress naturally in a regular Spanish class, the student’s grades suffered because of the misconception. The student nearly failed. But how can the disparity be fixed? Mr. Graber informed us that the College Board has two philosophies about students taking AP classes. The first philosophy believes that AP classes are exclusive to those who have demonstrated outstanding results. The second philosophy however, states that open enrollment into AP classes should be an option, and that the only factor should be the student’s interest. “My only fear with the second philosophy is that parents of higher socioeconomic status would advocate for their children to be in AP classes, resulting in weaker Regents classes. This will cause even more disparity and result in de facto segregation.” Dr. Leonardi agreed with the second philosophy because it allows the district to take action to improve the students’ abilities instead of letting them fall by the wayside. She showed us data proving that even though the number of students admitted into AP classes was growing, the test scores were still rising, thus disproving the notion that the standards for admittance were being lowered. From May 2003 to May 2009 the number of total AP Scholars honors and recognitions given to Huntington High School students rose from 27 to 80. Also, averages in AP scores in a substantial amount of AP classes had an upward trend from 2004 to 2009. Unfortunately, racial issues are still a touchy subject that society is reluctant to discuss. Perhaps this is why we’re still dealing with the insidious problems of prejudice and unintentional discrimination.
Halloween takes on a new meaning at Bodies: The Exhibition

by ANDREW KU

If you want to gain a profound and definitive understanding about the human body, or are just looking for an interesting and educational experience, go see Bodies: The Exhibition, located in the South Street Seaport of New York City.

Nickelodeon reports that Bodies “is a cleanly cool exhibit that features 22 real, whole human cadavers and over 260 body parts, all preserved using a liquid silicon process. The bodies themselves are not frightened and in some instances (the circulatory system, for example, in which veins have been tinted with red and blue dye) are actually beautiful. I went to see the show myself, and I agree with Nickelodeon’s assessment. For the first 10 minutes, the exhibit seems weird and gross, with all of the internal parts of the human body on display. But the show gets better as you continue. The exhibit gives an up-close and three-dimensional look at the human body, from the inside out. Each part of the human body – the skeletal system, muscular system, nervous system, the organ system, and much more – is on display in a series of rooms, with each display accompanied by detailed information about that particular body part. You learn about the human body by looking at the real thing right in front of you. It is both a truly revolutionary way to learn about something simply fascinating to look at. Many of the real body specimens were dissected in vivid athletic poses, allowing the visitor to relate to everyday activities. Perhaps the most amazing fact is that each human specimen is so thoroughly and carefully dissected, that they can display the entire network of blood vessels and arteries in a human body without anything else attached to it. In addition, authentic human speci mens illustrate the damage caused to organs by over-eating, smoking, and drug use. They show the result of heart disease, kidney dis ease, breast cancer, cirrhosis, and more on real organs of real people. A healthy lung is featured next to a black lung ravaged by smoking, in a vivid comparison more powerful than any textbook image. Parts of the show could even be considered art for their detail and beauty. You may consider going last year’s Bodies: The Exhibition as a Halloween treat, or to supplement the science class you are taking. Whatever your purpose, you will emerge with a fundamental understanding of the human body, an understanding unparalleled by reading a textbook or looking at pictures. Useful information: Address: 11 Fulton Street, South Street Seaport, NYC. Open Monday through Thursday from 9am-7pm, Friday through Sunday from 10am-10pm, with last admission one hour prior to closing. Phone: 1-888-9BODIES Websites: bodies@bodiesexhibition.com bodiesso.com

Ivy League a breath of fresh air

by EMILY FELDMAN

Before becoming members of the band Cobra Starship, Ryland Blackinton and Alex Suarez created a group of their own called This Is Ivy League. This is an acoust ic-based indie-pop band formed in 2005 in Brooklyn, New York. This is Ivy League has a very different sound from Cobra Starship, the group is often compared to Simon and Garfunkel. They released two albums called “This is Ivy League” and “London Bridges,” which include songs called “The Richest Kids” and “A Summer Chill.” The duo has a very calm and relaxing sound with a sixties vibe to it. Many of their songs are reminiscent of summer, causing memories to flood back to the listener. Their harmonies are a breath of fresh air from the generic songs on the radio. There aren’t many groups today that create music like theirs, which is something that I value them for. You can search this easy listening group through Google and Youtube.

Craving the Cave Singers

by CODY JACOBS

It was by accident that I came across the relatively new folk trio, “The Cave Singers” last Friday night, as I was idly occupying my time online, however, I am glad I did.

Hailing from Seattle, Pete Quirk, Derek Fudesco, and Marty Lund got together in 2007 with very little advanced buzz. Fudesco picked up a guitar and the other guys followed, all contributing to the acoustic folk oriented sound that they have made their own.

Although all of the band members come from a background of scarcely known bands, (most noteworthy being Derek Fudesco’s alternative rock band, “Pretty Girls Make Gravestones”), they have still been making waves in the indie folk scene. In June 2007, the band signed with Matador Records and recorded “Invitation Songs” in Vancouver which was met with critical praise. “Seeds of Night” became the trio’s first single during the production of “Invitation Songs,” and can easily be referred to as the primary example of the traditional melodic sound that is The Cave Singers.

Following the release of “Seeds of Night,” “Dancing On Our Graves” was released in February of 2008. Personally, when I heard “Dancing On Our Graves” I couldn’t help but listen to it over and over again because it had a sort of mesmerizing quality to it, sounding like an updated version of roots music. Check out the video for this single, it’s like a cross between a gospel church scene and MTV Unplugged. It’s easy to see how The Cave Singers are heavily influenced by Bob Dylan, Woody Guthrie and Modest Mouse. Other songs I’d recommend would be “Elephant Clouds,” a day-dreamy sort of tune, and “Helen,” which is similar to “Seeds of Night.” These are only some of the songs from their first album, but that’s not to say that Welcome Joy, which came out this past August, is equally pleasing to the ears. “Summer Light” is a good one to check out from the new album, as well is “At the Cut,” which is a little rough around the edges but sure to make you coming back for more. Although they may have not quite made it on to your favor ite alternative rock radio stations yet, be sure to keep an ear out.

Entertainment

Reels Revisited

A look back at the classic flick ‘GoodFellas’

by NATASHA STOLLMACK

Based on Nicholas Pileggi’s non-fictional book Wise Guy, this Martin Scorsese classic explores the lives of Henry Hill (Ray Liotta) and the Lucchese crime family through the rise and fall of their exciting criminal pursuits. The film begins in Brooklyn during the mid 1950s where a young Hill drops out of school to become involved with the Mafia. He is mentored by the Lucchese capo, Paul “Paulie” Cicero, and his right hand man, Jimmy Conway (Robert De Niro). Henry is introduced to the glamour and dangers of the criminal world, meeting countless notorious people in the network and being given assignments from Paulie. With the help of fellow mobster Tommy DeVito (Joe Pesci), Hill executes the Air France Robbery in 1967 which becomes the debut of his criminal career. Hill and the Lucchese mobsters reap the financial and authoritative benefits of their scheming, allowing them to live comfortably and lavishly. Hill begins dating his future wife, Karen, who is at first flustered by his involvement with gangsters, but after he proves his fierceness she becomes attracted to his lifestyle.

In the midst of their unlawful success, Hill, DeVito and Conway realize their hubris has become a hindrance in a situation that puts themselves and the family in severe jeopardy. Scorsese puts themselves and the family in a hindrance in a situation that putting themselves and the family in a hindrance in a situation that putting themselves and the family in a hindrance. Perhaps the most amazing thing about that particular body are the real, whole human bodies illustrated by the help of fellow mobster.

Ph: 1-888-9BODIES

Website: bodies@bodiesexhibition.com

Open Monday through Thursday from 9am-7pm, Friday through Sunday from 10am-10pm, with last admission one hour prior to closing.
After weeks of struggle, the Huntington football team finally achieved victory in its homecoming game against Harborfields. Despite the chilly weather, the bleachers were packed with cheering students, alumni, fans, and a spirited pep band as the game began. The first quarter ended with the scoreboard reading 0-0. Soon into the second quarter, Huntington heated up the playing field and held Harborfields scoreless into the third quarter.

Highlights of the game included running back Calvin Bollatz, who went 4-for-7 with 25 yards and a touchdown, ran for 136 yards and a touchdown, and had five tackles as well as an interception at an outside linebacker. Ryan Mulligan ran for 101 yards and had two touchdowns on nine carries. Leading the defense were players Peter Knutson, Peter Kingston, and Ricardo Caballero. Knutson had 18 tackles, while Kingston made 3 tackles, one interception, and forced a tackle. Defensive end Caballero, also a kicker, had 10 tackles and a fumble recovery.

Altogether, the boys lead Huntington to a win with a final score of 27-7, giving Huntington a 1-5 record in Division III. Other memorable names include Luis Lopez and Tyree Brown on the receiving, with 2 receptions for 12 yards, and 2 receptions for 17 yards, respectively, and Nick Saputo on the defensive with one interception.

The varsity football players walked off the field holding their chins high, with applause from pleased spectators. The homecoming spirit and zeal seemed to shine with the players, and this positive energy was reflected in their outstanding performance.

The young Huntington JV football team is composed of a string of strong players who have contributed to numerous victories thus far in the season. Coaches R. Wilson, T. Janimion, K. Zaha-rios, and K. Thorbourne have conditioned the young men well and have prepared them to handle the rigors of high school football.

Huntington held its first game against Islip with a 20-20 score. The next two games against Eastport-South Manor and Kings Park were both victories for Huntington, leading to a 3-0-1 record. Huntington lost in a disappointing game against Sayville with a 22-34 score in its fourth game. Sophomore Brandon Campbell (#57) commented with "I don’t even want to talk about that game,” when asked about this loss. Despite this minor upset, the boys picked it up again in the team’s game against Harborfields with a 14-0 win.

Awards from winning games were as follows: offensive player awards went to sophomore Jared Thorbourne (#12), freshman Shaheem Lewis (#7), and sophomore Connor Reilly (#2), defensive player awards went to sophomore Dan McQuade (#81) and sophomore Frank Caravetto (#13), special teams player awards went to sophomore Joe Strab, sophomore Sharif Jarvis, and sophomore Dan McQuade, and Game MVP awards went to sophomore Connor Reilly (#2), sophomore Jared Thorbourne (#12), and freshman Josh Long (#17).

With such a good record, it will be interesting to see how the rest of the season plays out. It also makes future varsity seasons promising, with the wide-ranging talent and enthusiasm carried by the boys.

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**PHOTOS: WWW.HUFSD.EDU**

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